

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Board Work Session Minutes
June 18, 2007

The Wyomissing Area School District Board of School Directors' work session convened at 6:00 p.m. with Acting President McCready presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge, the secretary called the roll of board members.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Barnett, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Hinsey, Dr. Shuttlesworth (arrived 6:15 p.m.), and Mrs. McCready

Board Members Absent: Mr. Deem, Mr. Larkin, Mrs. Sakmann, and Mr. Snyder

Administrators Present: Mr. McDonnell, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Babb, Mr. Hartman, Mrs. Mason, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Simyak, Mrs. Whye, and Dr. Larson.

Others Present: Dr. Brewer, Mike Mitchell, Sr., Reading Eagle Reporter D. Carroll, Amy Beadle, and Diane Schaeffer, recording secretary.

Mrs. McCready welcomed the visitors and announced that the Board met in executive session prior to the work session to discuss personnel matters.

Chris Nugent provided an Energy Education update to the board.

Dr. Shuttlesworth arrived at 6:15 p.m.

Liaison Reports –

BCIU – Mr. Hinsey reported that the IU Board would be meeting on Thursday.

Personnel –

Dr. Larson reviewed the personnel report briefly. She noted that Mr. McDonnell would be leaving the district on or about July 13, 2007, for Tredyffrin-Easttown School District in Chester County.

Curriculum –

Dr. Larson reported that approximately 50 professional staff members received training in the past few weeks in curriculum mapping.

Finance –

Mr. McDonnell presented the proposed final budget for 2007-08 and the remaining business office items on the agenda.

Dr. Shuttlesworth inquired how much the assessment changed in the past five years, and Mr. McDonnell said he check and provide an answer.

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Mrs. Barnett provided a copy of an article that appeared in the Reading Eagle on cyber school financing in Berks County school districts.

Facilities – No agenda items.

School Activities & Athletics –

Mr. McDonnell noted that the athletic supply bids would be opened next Monday, June 25, and hopefully a recommendation can be made at that evening's meeting.

Dr. Larson reported that the YMCA agreement has not been received and will not appear on the agenda for approval in June.

Superintendent's Office –

In Mr. Laubach's absence, Dr. Larson informed the board that he had investigated the contract with SchoolWord to host the district's website.

A motion was made by Mr. Hinsey and seconded by Mrs. Barnett to approve the following policies for a first reading:

- 210 Use of Medications
- 210.1 Possession of Asthma Inhalers
- 302 Employment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent
- 303 Employment of Administrators
- 324 Personnel Files (Administrators)
- 404 Employment of Professional Employees
- 405 Employment of Substitute Professional Employees
- 406 Employment of Summer School Staff
- 407 Student Teachers/Interns
- 424 Personnel Files (Professional Employees)
- 504 Employment of Classified Employees
- 524 Personnel Files (Classified Employees)
- 505 Employment of Substitute and Short-Term Employees
- 707 Use of School Facilities
- 805 Emergency Preparedness
- 806 Child/Student Abuse
- 807 Opening Exercises/Flag Displays
- 818 Contracted Services
- 912.1 Research Involving District Students, Faculty, & Staff (NEW)

Mrs. Barnett noted that procedures need to be written for Policy 707 Use of School Facilities.

Yeas: 5.
Nays: 0. Motion carried.

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Mr. Babb and Mr. Ashton, Assistant Principals at the high school, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the K-12 discipline reports for the 2006-07 year.

Mr. Hartman responded to questions on discipline and police involvement and what is and is not a reportable incident. He explained that the borough police departments volunteer their time to speak with the students and they routinely drop by to keep in touch. A good working relationship has been established and the ability to communicate with them on a walkie talkie exists.

Mrs. Whye noted that the majority of the West Reading Elementary's suspensions occurred in May.

Dr. Larson introduced Dr. Melissa Brewer who is assisting the district on a per diem basis during Dr. Riedel's leave and since Dr. Kennedy's retirement. Dr. Brewer explained the concept of the high school transition team that consists of staff and community members, and how the team has broken into sub-groups each with a facilitator, and her plan to gather the insights the groups provide to assist in the high school transition.

Dr. Larson reported on the following agenda information items –

- The number of participants expected in the marching band this year has increased by two to 27. Mrs. Barnett asked if that number included band front and Mr. Babb responded that he would have to check on an answer to her question.
- A district resident has requested permission to videotape in the high school chemistry classes as part of a project for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency related to the safe handling of chemicals. She noted information was in their packets, and the resident has a student in both 11th and 12th grade. She did not have information on the date and time for the taping but would get it for them.
- The possibility of providing the option to district office and building-level staff to complete the required number of hours each week in 4 ½ days rather than 5 days and close at noon on Fridays until August 10, two weeks before school re-opens.
- It was agreed that the Board would not meet in July and also that the August meeting dates would be moved to earlier than originally scheduled with the work session occurring on August 13 and the board meeting on August 20, 2007.
- The retirement dinner held at Casa Grande on June 5, 2007, was a big success with over 90 participants in attendance to honor the retirees.
- The district is working with other schools in the county as part of the health consortium and will continue looking for ways to control benefit costs.

New Business – None.

Old Business – None.

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Public Participation –

Mike Mitchell, Sr., asked if the policies that were approved for a first reading are available to the public so they could be reviewed before they are adopted.

Dr. Larson indicated the changes to the listed policies were very minor, but he could contact her and she would provide what he wanted.

The board adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Arthur J. McDonnell
School Board Secretary