

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2007-3828

## Minutes March 26, 2007

The regular meeting of the Board of School Directors convened at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School with Mr. Snyder, Board President, presiding.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

### Board Members Present:

Mrs. Barnett, Mr. Deem, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Hinsey, Mr. Larkin, Mrs. McCready, Mrs. Sakmann, Dr. Shuttlesworth, and Mr. Snyder.

### Administrative Staff Present:

Dr. Larson, Dr. Kennedy, Dr. Riedel, Mrs. Mason, and Mr. McDonnell.

### Attendees:

Mr. Socrates Georgeadis, Kozloff Stoudt; and recording secretary, Diane Schaeffer. Sign-in sheet included as part of these official minutes.

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

President Snyder welcomed the group and announced that an executive session was held on March 19, 2007, to discuss personnel and real estate matters, and the board took no action. He also stated the Board would meet in executive session for personnel matters at the conclusion of tonight's meeting. He announced the next scheduled meetings for April 16, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. and April 24, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Snyder commented on the agenda noting an addendum with one personnel item, a support staff appointment. He also noted that items II. and VII. on the personnel report would be voted on separately.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment on agenda items.

### AUDIT PRESENTATION

Pamela W. Baker from Barbacane Thornton & Company, presented information on the audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2006. She reported that one thing that was different in this year's audit was the fact that the district spent in excess of \$500,000 in federal funds, which put the district in another category for the audit. Ms. Baker stated that the district did receive a clean audit opinion. She also noted the district has a \$2.9 million fund balance and the capital reserves went from \$6.2 million to \$2.5 as expected with the building project. It was also noted that 74% of the revenue comes from property tax.

Mr. McDonnell thanked Ms. Baker for her flexibility in the scheduling of work for the district's audit.

### LIAISON REPORTS

No reports.

### APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion by Mrs. Barnett, seconded by Mrs. McCready, the minutes of the following meetings were approved and included as part of these official minutes.

- Minutes of February 26, 2007 Board Meeting

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2007-3829

## Minutes March 26, 2007

### ■ Minutes of March 7, 2007 Special Board Meeting

Yeas: 9.  
Nays: 0. Motion carried.

#### PERSONNEL

Mr. Snyder noted that Personnel Report item II. Professional Appointment, and VII. Support Staff Unpaid Leave Requests, would be voted on separately.

#### APPROVED PERSONNEL REPORT

Upon motion by Dr. Shuttlesworth, seconded by Mrs. McCready, the Personnel Report and addendum, with the exceptions as noted, for March 26, 2007, were approved and are included as part of these official minutes. Item VIII, the support staff retirement and resolution for Joan Brenner, was also voted on separately

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### APPROVED PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT MRS. BARRA

Upon motion by Mrs. Sakmann, seconded by Mrs. McCready, Cathryn Barra was approved as the Instrumental Music/Marching Band Director, effective the end of the 2006-07 school year, at B, Step 4, \$40,050 annual salary, as noted on item II.

Yeas: Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: Barnett. Motion carried.

#### APPROVED RETIREMENT RESOLUTION JOAN BRENNER

Upon motion by Mrs. Barnett, seconded by Mrs. Sakmann, the retirement and resolution, which was read by Mr. Snyder, for Joan Brenner, Substitute Caller, effective the last day of the 2006-07 school year was approved.

Yeas: 9.  
Nays: 0. Motion carried.

#### APPROVED SUPPORT STAFF UNPAID LEAVES

Upon motion by Mrs. Barnett, and seconded by Mrs. Sakmann, the request for support staff unpaid leaves as noted on item VII. on the personnel report were approved.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### CURRICULUM

Upon motion by Mrs. McCready, seconded by Mrs. Sakmann, the \$200 summer school program scholarship fund was approved.

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2007-3830

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Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

### FINANCE/BUSINESS OFFICE

Mr. McDonnell reported that PDE reviewed the referendum exceptions submitted by the district, and a letter was received from the Secretary of Education indicating that the exceptions were approved as submitted. The total amount of exceptions approved was \$415,384. A copy of the letter is included as part of these official minutes.

Upon motion by Mrs. Barnett, seconded by Dr. Shuttlesworth, the following financial/business items were approved:

### APPROVED PAYMENT OF INVOICES

Payment of approved vendor invoices for the General Fund, Food Service, and Athletic Fund and 2003 G.O. Bond.

### APPROVED PER CAPITA TAX EXONERATIONS

Per capita exonerations are given annually by the district to update the tax rolls. A complete list of the exonerations is maintained in the Business Office.

### APPROVED LOCAL AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING 6/30/06

Barbacane, Thornton and Company performed the district's local audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006. Due to the receipt of federal dollars over the threshold of \$500K, a single audit was required. This single audit includes more testing of federal programs. As a result, there are supplemental reports that have not been part of the final audit report in the past.

### APPROVED SP. ED. AGREEMENT/ALTER-NATIVE ED. AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT RATES

The agreement between the Wyomissing Area School District and the BCIU for special education programs and alternate education services is for the 2007-08 school year.

### APPROVED LAM SYSTEMS PURCHASE AGREEMENT

A multi-year lease purchase agreement for 25 laptop computers from LAM Systems, Inc of Mechanicsburg, PA, for \$42,250.

### APPROVED FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial reports for January 2007.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

### FACILITIES

There were no agenda items.

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2007-3831

**Minutes** March 26, 2007

## ATHLETICS

### DONATION ACCEPTED

Upon motion by Mrs. McCready, seconded by Mrs. Sakmann, the Board accepted a donation from Baseball Boosters and Little League Organizations in the amount of \$3,623 to purchase a batting tunnel for the ball field in accordance with Policy 702.

Yeas: 9.

Nays: 0. Motion carried.

## TECHNOLOGY

There were no agenda items.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Upon motion by Mrs. Barnett, seconded by Mrs. Sakmann, the Board approved the following policies for adoption. Copies included as part of these official minutes.

113.3 (revised) Special Education Evaluations and Requests for Independent Educational Evaluations

113.4 (new) Audio, Video, or Other Electronic Recording of Meetings

204 (revised) Attendance

Dr. Larson mentioned that the retirees were pleased to receive the resolutions honoring them that were read at the last Board meeting.

Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

The Treasurer's Report and Tax Collector's Report are included as information with no action required by the Board.

## NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Shuttlesworth asked that he be removed from serving on the Joint Borough/District Partnership Committee.

Mr. Snyder reported that at least two Berks County districts have adopted resolutions regarding the repeal of Act 1 and its unfairness and complexity. He asked the Board if they should consider doing the same.

## ADOPTED RESOLUTION TO REPEAL ACT 1

Mr. Larkin responded that he was not sure adopting a resolution would do any good. As head of the Act 1 Commission, he said the group believed they provided the citizens a choice by developing the proper question for the ballot; however, Act 1 is a poorly crafted piece of legislation that puts an undue burden on the district, and he would join the districts and support a resolution asking for the repeal of Act 1.

After further discussion by the Board, Mr. Larkin made a motion to approve a resolution urging the repeal of Act 1 due to its unfairness and complexity. Mrs. Sakmann seconded the motion.

# WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2007-3832

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Yeas: Barnett, Deem, Fitzgerald, Hinsey, Larkin, McCready, Sakmann, Shuttlesworth, and Snyder.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Snyder asked Mr. McDonnell to follow through in preparing the resolution from the sample he received from the other Berks County schools. A copy of the final draft of the resolution to be included as part of these official minutes.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Bill Murray stated he was glad the Board of Elections changed the wording for the ballot. He also stated there could be serious ramifications to property values if neighboring districts voted differently.

Mr. Shane Keller commented he was excited about the Board's personnel appointment of Cathryn Barra as band director. He also commented on the County Redevelopment Authority's new plans for the former Penn View Motel site. He sees it as a "bait and switch" and is displeased that the plans are to build another motel rather than the condominiums as originally proposed.

Dr. Larson asked him to provide her with additional information that she and the Board could review.

Mrs Elizabeth Hemmings informed the Board that she had requested a tape recording of an IEP meeting and was informed that the meeting would not be held if a recording were to be done.

Dr. Larson responded that it is the recommendation of Attorney Andy Faust that meetings are not to be tape recorded, and she agrees it is a good policy and one to be honored. Recording could take away from the dialog and discussion that occur in the meeting.

Mr. James Cardy asked if a recording is made unbeknownst to the parties involved, what would happen?

Solicitor Socrates Georgeadis responded that it would be considered a felony according to the wiretapping law.

Mr. Snyder thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. McCready and seconded by Mr. Hinsey to adjourn at 9:57 p.m.

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Arthur J. McDonnell  
Board Secretary

**WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

630 Evans Avenue  
Wyomissing, PA 19610

**March 26, 2007 Board Meeting**

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

- I. ~~Approve Administrator's Effective Employment Date – Aaron Roberts, Assistant Elementary School Principal, effective \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.~~  
(Mr. Robert's appointment was approved on March 7, 2007.)

II. Approve Professional Appointment –

- a. **Cathryn Barra**, Instrumental Music/Marching Band Director, effective the end of the 2006-07 school year, at B, Step 4, \$40,050 annual salary.

*Background Information: Ms. Barra held the position of long-term substitute music teacher at Wyomissing Area for the past year. She graduated from Duquesne University magna cum laude as a member of the honors curriculum. At Hudson Memorial School in New Hampshire, she instructed band class in grades 6 through 8. While there, she also worked for the Alvirne High School as Assistant Marching Instructor and Color Guard Supervisor. After moving to Prince George's County in Maryland, she taught band and strings at four elementary schools. She also performed for the Nashua Symphony Choral Society, the pit orchestra in two productions, and for the Prince George's County Teacher Jazz Band.*

- III. Approve Professional Resignation – **Wendy K. Merz**, secondary chemistry teacher, effective June 30, 2007.

IV. Approve Revised Position Guide for Energy Educator/Manager.

- V. Approve Change in Part-Time Library Aide Position at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center.

*Background Information: The position as Part-Time Library Aide will be a shared position with the total number of hours not to exceed the existing 29 hours per week.*

VI. Ratify Support Staff Appointments –

- a. **Athena Elzer**, part-time Library Aide at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, at \$9.10 per hour effective March 5, 2007, with shared hours not to exceed the existing 29 hours per week.

*Background Information: Ann Brugger, a current part-time Library Aide, and Ms. Elzer will share this position with the total hours per week not to exceed the existing 29 hours, following a schedule determined by the building principal.*

- b. **Shari Kelly**, part-time Food Service Worker, 4 hours per day at the Jr./Sr. High School, \$9.85 per hour effective March 12, 2007, pending receipt of all necessary documents.

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**Personnel Report**  
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- VII. Ratify/Approve Support Staff Unpaid Leave Requests –
- a. **Lauren E. Yelinek**, full-time Special Education Instructional Aide at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, leave from March 30, 2007, through the end of the 2006-07 school year.
  - b. **Kim N. Latino**, full-time Special Education Instructional Aide at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, leave from February 22-28, 2007.
  - c. **Karen Sichak**, Teacher's Instructional Aide at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center, leave from March 14-30, 2007.
  - d. **Creeda Kurowski**, Food Service Worker at the Jr./Sr. High School, leave beginning January 18, 2007, with return date to be determined.
- VIII. Approve Support Staff Retirement and Resolution – **Joan Brenner**, Substitute Caller, effective the last day of the 2006-07 school year.
- IX. Approve Supplemental Athletic Appointments –
- a. **Todd Zechman**, JH Softball Head Coach, 26.5 points, \$2,107.
  - b. **Andrew Siggins**, JH Softball Assistant Coach, 15.6 points, \$1,240.
  - c. **Keith Arnold**, JH Track Assistant Coach, 14.25 points, \$1,133.
  - d. **Peter Pellicano**, JH Girls' Soccer Assistant Coach, 15.6 points, \$1,240.
  - e. **Erik Uliasz**, SH Head Cross Country Coach, 46.5 points, salary to be determined in accordance with the point value established for the 2007-08 school year.
- X. Approve Volunteer Athletic Coaches –
- a. **Ronald Schaeffer, Jr.** – SH Baseball
  - b. **Steven O'Neil** – SH Track
  - c. **Daniel Schmidt** – SH Girls' Soccer
- XI. Approve District volunteer list.
- XII. Approve substitute list for professional/support staff.

Wyomissing Area School District  
**Addendum to Agenda**  
March 26, 2007 Board Meeting

**PERSONNEL**

- I. Approve Support Staff Appointment – **Leland D. Steinmetz**, first shift, full time Grounds/Maintenance Worker for 8 hours per day at \$14.22 per hour, 12 months per year, effective March 28, 2007, pending receipt of all necessary documents.