

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2017-5237

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The regular meeting with committee reports of the Board of School Directors convened at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School with Mr. Painter, Board President, presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, Mr. Painter asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. No one in the audience indicated their intent to record.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Larkin, Mr. Painter, Mr. Redner, Mrs. Reese, Mrs. Reilly, Mrs. Taylor, Mr. Zeppos and Mrs. Ziolkowski.

Board Member Absent: Mrs. Waxler

Administrative Staff Present: Mrs. Vicente, Mr. Boyer, Mrs. Waller, Mr. Arnst, Dr. Babb, Mr. Cafoncelli, Mrs. Johnson, Dr. Jones, Mrs. Kaag, Mrs. Lengle, Mrs. Mangold, and Mr. Redcay.

Attendees: Shelley Filer, recording secretary. An audience sign-in sheet is included as part of these official minutes.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following meeting schedules and locations were announced.

- School Board Business Meeting – February 27, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee Meeting – March 1, 2017, 8:00 a.m.
- Policy Committee Meeting – March 1, 2017, 3:30 p.m.
- Personnel Committee Meeting – March 2, 2017, 12:15 p.m.
- Curriculum/Technology Committee Meeting – March 6, 2017, 11:00 a.m.
- Facilities Committee Meeting – March 7, 2017, 8:00 a.m.

All listed meetings are held in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School unless otherwise noted.

RECOGNITION

Dr. Jones recognized BCTC Students of the Quarter for the second quarter of the 2016-17 school year. Allison Moser was recognized for Business Management & Entrepreneurship and Allisyn Walther was recognized for Painting & Decorating. Each received a proclamation, copies of which are included in these official minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance – Mrs. Ziolkowski said the committee met on February 1. The committee learned the District is in a good cash position. Revenues are higher than expected due to collection of delinquent tax payments. They also discussed the preliminary budget for 2017-18. Under New Business, a presentation was given outlining a proposed Senate bill to eliminate property taxes and the implications to the District and tax payers. The Board will vote on a resolution opposing the bill. Three purchase requests were reviewed: a zero turn lawn mower, an ice machine for the JSHS cafeteria, and a paper

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cutter for the Copy Center. The committee also reviewed donations for additional brick pavers for the Spartan Pride Fence Project and a donation for the football field sound system.

- B. Facilities – Mr. Zeppos said the committee met February 7. During public comment, Mr. Kiehne suggested a memorial plaque, possibly located on the football field, honoring those who graduated from the District and lost their lives serving our country. The committee will research as far back as they can how many graduates were lost. The Tennis Court project went out for re-bid on February 3, with the same scope as the first time it was bid. The bid will be posted for 60 days with advertising expanded to the Harrisburg and Lancaster areas. Twenty-two of the 27 pillars for the Football Field Fence project are substantially complete. Upon completion, ProMax will follow up with fencing material. The paver portion of the project has been advertised for bid. The occupancy permit for the facilities storage building has been received and materials are being moved into the new building. The new chiller has been piped into the building for the JSHS HVAC project and will be operational in March. The committee discussed ways to honor the memory of Anne Seltzer, a former Board member. Several ideas were suggested such as renovating the CBR, or a scholarship, bench or tree in her name. The project will be discussed further and the committee will communicate its intentions. The committee discussed a draft of the five-year capital plan. Repairs at the Flannery Field track were discussed. They also discussed renovation of the woodshop area and possibly using an architect that might have hospital design experience. Wilson will be contacted to find out who designed their area.
- C. Curriculum/Technology – Mrs. Waller reported the committee met on February 6. They discussed the English Language Arts instructional resources. Department chair Jim Comerford presented the resources proposed for the 2017-18 school. The committee reviewed the proposed 2017-18 calendar which was previously shared with WAEA. ESL teachers are reviewing three program resources to provide seamless ESL instruction for grades K-12. They hope to make a recommendation to the committee in March. The committee heard an update on the STEAM Innovation Design Plan about site visits to the Saint Thomas More School, the Downingtown STEM Academy and the Upper Merion High School. A recommendation was made to form an Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of guiding the STEM initiative district wide. Kindergarten registration is scheduled for March 22-24. Information is available online. The committee discussed a partnership with Alvernia University that will provide continued professional development for teachers at a reduced cost. They will be able to earn continuing

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education credit towards an advanced degree, a certification such as ESL, Special Education, or principal certification. Finally, they discussed a homebound instruction request and field trip requests.

- D. Personnel – Mrs. Reilly said the committee met on February 2 and discussed items on the agenda for approval. Administration made recommendations for 2017-18 staffing. Budgetary implications will be explored. Future conversations will be held in Personnel and Finance Committee Meetings.
- E. Policy – Mrs. Larkin said the committee met February 1. Two new policies are being recommended. Policy 251 – Homeless Students is a mandated policy. The Every Student Succeeds Act reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The law places greater emphasis on outreach to improve identification of homeless students and on the removal of district barriers to enrollment and retention. Homeless students are required to be immediately enrolled even when records normally required for enrollment are not available, including immunization records. Policy 255 – Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care is recommended for legal liability. ESSA now includes provisions related to students in foster care including transportation, designation of a district Point of Contact, and school stability requirements. Mrs. Waller is the point of contact; Mrs. Vicente is the back up. The committee is continuing to review Policy 800 – Records Management. The first meeting was held with the Records Management Committee. Corey Jones, JSHS Principal will serve as the principal representative for two years. HR and Jessica Lengle will be consulted as needed. The committee reviewed the policy and record retention schedule, and the life cycles of documents to determine when they can be purged and how to store and purge electronic files and emails. The solicitor will be contacted to approve purging of documents. The Records Management Committee will meet on a monthly basis.
- F. Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Report – Mrs. Reilly said that she was unable to attend the meeting, but reported that a draft budget for 2017-18 was presented. The increase for Wyomissing Area is about \$430.
- G. Berks Career & Technology Center Board Report – Mr. Painter said neither he nor Mr. Redner were able to attend the meeting.
- H. Berks EIT Report – No meeting was held.
- I. Wyomissing Area Education Foundation – Mrs. Ziolkowski said the meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.

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- J. Legislative Report – Mrs. Larkin said she and Mrs. Vicente participated in an advocacy webinar on implications of the new administration. It included fair and equitable funding, Medicaid issues, charter schools, and property tax. The year 2017 is being called the Year of Advocacy in Education. Board members are encouraged to contact their legislators weekly and stay abreast of PSBA communications. The Coalition for Legislative Action (COLA) is a local group of Superintendents, Business Managers and a Board representative from each district in the county joining together as one voice on many critical topics such as charter schools and property tax. The next Town Hall Meeting that Mrs. Larkin mentioned at last month's meeting conflicts with our Board meeting. She is investigating whether there is an alternative way to participate such as Skype.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jennifer Beane questioned the status of a baseball coach for the upcoming season. Mr. Painter responded the position has been advertised and they are working diligently to hire a head coach.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Mrs. Vicente shared some good news from around the District:

- JSHS – Students from the Art Department completed their annual Memory Project with portraits of children in a Syrian orphanage. PDE picked up the “tweet” of the picture and re-tweeted it across the state. The girls’ basketball team reached BCIAA semifinals for the first time since 2004.
- WREC – Dr. Babb and teachers from WREC visited the Saint Thomas More School, recognized as an Apple Distinguished school in preparation for their iPad rollout later in the month. Sixth grade took part in a field trip to see the movie “Hidden Figures,” as a culminating activity of the curriculum of civil rights.
- WHEC/WREC – The Title I Reading Night was attended by 140 students and parents from the elementary buildings who enjoyed a pizza dinner and played reading related games. Each student received a book to take home.
- WHEC – Kara Les, librarian, coordinated a Reading Olympics Team. Students will read forty books in preparation for the culminating activity at Schuylkill Valley School District on May 16.

**A. CURRICULUM/
TECHNOLOGY**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Reilly, second by Mr. Redner, the following Curriculum/Technology items were approved.

1. Approved homebound instruction for secondary student ID#204139 from February 13, 2017 through March 24, 2017.

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2. Approved 2017-18 Calendar.
3. Approved Overnight Field Trips
 - a. Ski Club, February 25-27, 2017, Vermont
 - b. Northeast Region Orchestra, March 8-10, 2017, Bangor Area HS
 - c. Region Band, March 23-25, 2017, East Stroudsburg HS North.
4. Approved WASD/Alvernia University Partnership Memorandum of Understanding.
Background information: The District has been invited to partner with Alvernia University to provide continued professional development for teachers at a reduced cost. Through this partnership, teachers will be able to earn continuing education credit towards an advanced degree or certification such as ESL, Special Education, principal certification or letter of eligibility.

Yeas: Larkin, Painter, Redner, Reese, Reilly, Taylor, Zeppos, and Ziolkowski.

Absent: Waxler

Nays: None. Motion carried.

**B. FINANCE/
FACILITIES**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Reese, second by Mrs. Ziolkowski, the following Finance/Facilities items were approved.

1. Approved Resolution No. 02-13-17-01 opposing property tax reform.
2. Approved donations for the Spartan Pride Fence Project brick pavers in the amount of \$3,007.

Yeas: Larkin, Painter, Redner, Reese, Reilly, Taylor, Zeppos, and Ziolkowski.

Absent: Waxler

Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Finance and Facilities items were opened for discussion. Mrs. Reese asked about the amount of donations received to date for the sound system on the football field. Mrs. Vicente said \$2,800 of the \$10,000 cost has been received as donations.

**C. PERSONNEL/
POLICY**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Reilly, second by Mrs. Taylor, the following Personnel/Policy items were approved.

1. RESIGNATION
 - a. Support Staff

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- 1) **John Kasopsky**, Carpenter/Maintenance Worker, District-wide, resignation effective February 16, 2017.

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Cara Frederick**, Speech and Language Pathologist, WHEC, intermittent Family Medical Leave, January 4, 2017 to November 20, 2017.
- 2) **Stacey Hughes**, Gifted Teacher, WHEC, update leave of absence, effective January 4, 2017 to March 3, 2017, return to work March 6, 2017.

b. Support Staff

- 1) **Katelyn Correll**, Paraprofessional, JSBS, unpaid leave of absence from March 27, 2017 until the end of the school year, return to work the first day for staff in the 2017-18 school year.
- 2) **Jennifer Entzminger**, Paraprofessional, WHEC, unpaid leave of absence effective February 6, 2017 to February 13, 2017, return to work February 14, 2017.
- 3) **Pamela Garnter**, Library Aide, WHEC, unpaid leave of absence February 13, 2017 to February 17, 2017, return to work February 20, 2017.
- 4) **Hemlata Kalani**, Food Service Worker, JSBS, unpaid leave of absence from June 1, 2017, to June 7, 2017, return to work the beginning of the 2017-18 school year.
- 5) **Regina Miller**, Custodian, WHEC, unpaid leave of absence February 3, 2017 to February 8, 2017, return to work February 9, 2017.
- 6) **Beth Rothermel**, Cafeteria/Recess Monitor, WHEC, request ratification of an unpaid leave of absence January 23, 2017 to January 27, 2017, return to work January 30, 2017.
- 7) **Karen Sichak**, Classroom Instructional Aide, WHEC, unpaid leave of absence, March 8, 2017 to March 10, 2017, return to work March 13, 2017.

3. POSITION/LOCATION CHANGE AND CHANGE IN DAILY HOURS

a. Support Staff

- 1) **Kristin Batastini**, Part-time Food Service Worker-Floater, JSBS, to Part-time Food Service Worker, WHEC, from 4 hours/day to

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4 ¼ hours/day, no change in hourly wage rate, effective February 10, 2017.

4. CHANGE IN WORK DAYS/DAILY HOURS

a. Confidential Support Staff

- 1) **Rickey Hoffman**, Part-Time Accountant, change days and hours worked each week to: 7 hours/day on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and 6 ½ hours/day on Friday, effective February 6, 2017, no change in wages.

Background information: The above change will not alter the total number of weekly hours approved by the Board.

5. APPOINTMENTS

a. Support Staff

- 1) **Ashley Buckley**, Part-time Classroom Instructional Aide-Kindergarten, WHEC, 5 ½ hours/day, at a wage rate of \$11.10/hour effective February 21, 2017.

Background information: This position is being filled as the result of a resignation.

- 2) **Ashley Miccicke** Part-time Food Service Worker-Floater, JSBS, 4 hours/day, at a wage rate of \$9.89/hour, effective February 16, 2017.

Background information: This position is being filled as the result of a transfer precipitated by a resignation.

b. Confidential Support Staff

- 1) **Jacob Schaefer**, IT Intern, District-wide, \$10.50/hour, hours are not to exceed a total of 1,200 hours for the 2016-17 fiscal year, effective date to be determined pending successful completion of employment requirements.

c. Athletic Staff

- 1) **David Bunn, Jr.** High Girls' Basketball – Assistant Coach, update effective date to January 23, 2017 and stipend to \$476.

6. TEACHER MENTORS (ADDITION)

Approved the following Teacher Mentors for the second semester of the 2016-17 school year per assignment below:

Mentor	New Teacher	Position	Stipend
Lauren Darr	Amanda Budwash	Sp. Ed. Tchr.-Lrng. Supp	\$250.00
*Christine Beidler	Sally McAvoy	Sp. Ed. Tchr.-Autistic Supp	\$125.00
*Colleen Reinecker	Sally McAvoy	Sp. Ed. Tchr.-Autistic Supp	\$125.00

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*Ms. Beidler and Ms. Reinecker are sharing the responsibilities equally to provide mentoring to this new teacher.

7. TEACHER MENTOR (CHANGE TO STIPEND)

Mentor	New Teacher	Position	Stipend
Mary Reinert	Melissa Gehman	Sp. Ed. Tchr.-Lrng. Support	\$125.00

Background information: A reduction in the stipend is the result of the resignation of Ms. Gehman.

8. WAGE INCREASE

a. Professional Staff

Approved the following teacher to receive course credit salary advancement (column movement) in accordance with the terms of the WAEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, per the effective dates noted below:

- 1) **Jodi Reardon**, Physical Education Teacher, JSHS, from M/Step 6 to M+15/Step 6 (\$54,907) effective February 1, 2017.

9. WORK OUTSIDE CONTRACT HOURS

a. Approved the following teachers to provide homebound instruction for secondary student ID 204139 from February 13, 2017 to March 24, 2017 per below:

- 1) **Crisanne Bansner** – 1 hour/week
- 2) **G. Peter Beck** – 3 hours/week
- 3) **Michele Hatt-Ciemiewicz** – 1 hour/week

b. Approved the following teacher who has agreed to be a substitute tutor for the WREC after school tutoring program scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday effective December 6, 2016 to March 23, 2017 at the WAEA wage rate for work outside contract hours not to exceed a shared total of 272 hours:

- a) **Robin Kline**

10. SUBSTITUTE (REMOVAL FROM LIST)

a. Support Staff

- 1) **Tracy Vida** (Library Aide) – Effective last day worked (March 29, 2016).

11. VOLUNTEERS

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Yeas: Larkin, Painter, Redner, Reese, Reilly, Taylor, Zeppos, and Ziolkowski.

Absent: Waxler

Nays: None. Motion carried.

The remaining Personnel and Policy items were opened for discussion. There were no questions or comments.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Waller provided background information on the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to form an Ad Hoc Committee to guide the development of the STEM/STEAM Plan K-12. The goal of the Ad Hoc Committee will be to set the course and direction for this group to engage community partnerships and make final recommendations to the Board. Administration has contacted consultants with experience in developing maker spaces.

Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Larkin both voiced support for forming the Ad Hoc Committee. Mrs. Larkin views it as important because STEM is a goal of the Board, Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendent.

Mrs. Reese asked about the make-up of the committee participants. Mrs. Waller said administration has been thinking about it, but wanted to be sure the Board supported the formation of the Committee before finalizing details.

FORMATION OF AD
HOC COMMITTEE
K-12 STEM/STEAM
IMPLEMENTATION

Upon a motion by Mrs. Larkin, second by Mrs. Ziolkowski, the Board approved the following:

1. Approve the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee K-12 STEM/STEAM Implementation.

Yeas: Larkin, Painter, Redner, Reese, Reilly, Taylor, Zeppos, and Ziolkowski.

Absent: Waxler

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Painter opened the discussion on property tax reform. He said he doesn't believe the proposed plan targets the senior citizens who need the relief. Because under the plan a school district can still impose a tax to cover their debt service, seniors may still come out on the losing end of the proposal because not only will they still pay that portion of real estate taxes, they will also suffer from the increased sales tax on goods and services. Also losing control of what expected revenues will be will make it difficult to budget and plan for educational needs. He is not opposed to some type of school tax reform, but not in favor of the

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current proposed plan. He shared a handout from COLA explaining the proposal in more detail which will be posted on the website. Also on the website will be an estimated tax calculator specific to the millage for Wyomissing Area so residents can enter information specific to their circumstances to see whether this proposed legislation will provide relief or cost them more in the end. Under this proposed plan, tax dollars will no longer go directly to the district in which residents live. Mrs. Reilly suggested sharing this information with neighbors and friends across the state and encourage them to contact their legislators. Mrs. Larkin said form letters and information are available on PSBAs website that makes it easy to contact legislators. Mrs. Reese suggested putting the timeline of the upcoming vote on the bill on the website.

**UPDATES FROM
ORGANIZATIONS**

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Reilly, seconded by Mr. Redner to adjourn at 6:51 p.m. Mr. Painter announced that a Meet & Greet for anyone interested in running for school board was being held at the conclusion of the meeting.

Board Secretary