

**Jim Thorpe Area School District**  
**Regular Meeting of the Jim Thorpe School Board of Education**  
**February 22, 2010**

**ROLL CALL**

The Regular Meeting of the Jim Thorpe School Board of Education was opened at the District Office with a moment of silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following directors were present: Thomas Henry, Michael Huber, Ellen Kattner, Robert Kovac, Clement McGinley, Dennis McGinley, Randall Smith, and Gerald Strubinger. Administrators present: Barbara Conway, *Superintendent*, Lauren Kovac, *Business Manager/Board Secretary*, Thomas Lesisko, *High School Principal*, Holly Mordaunt, *L.B. Morris Principal*, and Brian Gasper, *Penn-Kidder Principal*. Also present: Attorney Gregory Mousseau, *Solicitor*, William Juracka, *Transportation Coordinator and Director of Security*, and Norbert Lienhard, *Director of Buildings and Grounds*. Visitors present: Earl Kunkel, Tabitha Wentz, Jenn Sterner, Heather Cassidy, Kaniero Marciante, Michael Shorten, Mary Shorten, and Gene Duffy. Representing the press: Rick Grant, *Times News*.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
OF VISITORS**

Mr. Gene Duffy addressed the Board regarding the state of the economy and the effect a new school would have on the local taxpayers.

Ms. Jenn Sterner addressed the Board regarding the potential building project and to suggest a committee be formed comprised of well-rounded taxpayers to look into the project. She also expressed concern that the elderly do not have access to the internet survey regarding the building project. Ms. B. Conway replied that the survey is going out in the next copy of the Olympiad. Additionally, Ms. Sterner addressed the Board regarding the possibility of splitting the District into two, a North and a South.

Mr. Gene Duffy addressed the Board with alternatives to a new building. He suggested using the District Office and considering two shifts, an 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM shift and a 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM shift. He also suggested doing nothing since it is not the Board's obligation to provide education.

Mr. Earl Kunkel addressed the Board to express his support to building a new school on the property across from Bear Creek Lakes. He would also like to see a swimming pool installed at that new school.

Mr. Michael Shorten addressed the Board to ask if it would consider a taxpayer-based committee. Ms. B. Conway replied that the people sitting

on the Board are the taxpayers’ representatives. Ms. B. Conway also recommended using vehicles already in place, such as the PTA.

EXECUTIVE SESSION      An executive session was held prior to the Board Meeting to discuss litigation, contracts, and personnel issues.

BILLS PAYABLE      **Motion** by Mr. M. Huber, seconded by Dr. C. McGinley, to *approve the area and cafeteria bills for payment.*

Under the Head of the Question:

Mrs. E. Kattner asked about the invoices for Apple. Ms. B. Conway and Mr. T. Lesisko replied that they pertain to the new switches installed that will save a significant amount of money in the long run.

Mrs. E. Kattner asked about the invoices for Ewing Sports Center. Mrs. L. Kovac replied that the invoices were for balls and socks for the soccer team. The balls that were purchased previously were of low quality and most of them have “egged” and are no longer round.

Mrs. E. Kattner asked about the invoice for Premier Agendas, Inc. Mr. T. Lesisko responded that the invoice is for the student handbooks that are provided to all students.

Area and Cafeteria

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** with all present (8) voting aye.

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Aye</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Aye</b>		

CORRESPONDENCE      CCTI – Thank You

**OLD BUSINESS**

NO OLD BUSINESS WAS ADDRESSED

## COMMITTEE BUSINESS

### ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

#### RESIGNATION:

MICHAEL STEIGERWALT **Motion** by Mr. R. Smith, seconded by Mr. M. Huber, to *accept the resignation of Mr. Michael Steigerwalt as Assistant Baseball Coach.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** with all present (8) voting aye.

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Aye</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Aye</b>		

COMMITTEE MEETING    An Athletic Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2010 at 6:00 PM.

### CAFETERIA/BUILDING COMMITTEE

NO REPORT

### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

EETT GRANT                      Information on the awardal of the EETT grant was included in the Enclosures to the Agenda.

4SIGHT TESTING                Mr. M. Huber reported that the latest round of 4Sight testing showed significant improvement in grades three, four, and six.

### FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS    Finance & Insurance Committee meetings are scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2010 at 7:00 PM and Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at 6:00 PM.

JTASD 2010-2011

PRELIMINARY BUDGET **Motion** by Dr. C. McGinley, seconded by Mr. T. Henry, to *approve the JTASD 2010-2011 Preliminary Budget*.

Under the Head of the Question:

Mr. T. Henry noted that the budget is only preliminary.

Mr. Gene Duffy asked if and how much the preliminary budget varies from the final budget. Dr. C. McGinley replied that it can vary. Mr. R. Smith added that the budget can't go up; it needs to come down. Ms. B. Conway noted that in order to file for exceptions to the Act 1 index, you must put in the maximum.

Mr. Gene Duffy asked how many state mandates are in the budget. Ms. B. Conway replied that a significant amount is from the state.

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** (6-2) with the vote as follows:

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Nay</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Nay</b>		

Mr. G. Strubinger noted that the Board needs to put time into the Budget.

#### TRANSPORTATION & SECURITY COMMITTEE

SECURITY UPDATE      No Security Update was given.

VAN BIDS      Information on van bids was included in the Enclosures to the Agenda. Mr. W. Juracka noted that the junk yard will pay \$300 for each van.

#### INTERMEDIATE UNIT

TRANSPORTATION      Ms. B. Conway reported that the I.U. will be sending representatives to the March 8, 2010 meeting to discuss the cost of transportation.

## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY      Mr. G. Strubinger reported that the General Assembly is back in session.

## LEHIGH CARBON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### DUAL ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT

**Motion** by Mr. T. Henry, seconded by Mr. M. Huber, to *approve the 2010-2011 JTASD/LCCC Dual Enrollment Agreement.*

#### Under the Head of the Question:

Mrs. E. Kattner pointed out that one of the contracts is dated August 2009 through June 2010. Ms. B. Conway confirmed that the contract is for the 2010-2011 school year and noted that she will make the appropriate correction.

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** with all present (8) voting aye.

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Aye</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Aye</b>		

## POLICY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

### EMPLOYMENT / SUBSTITUTE INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT: LISA KENNEDY

**Motion** by Mr. M. Huber, seconded by Mr. D. McGinley, to *approve the employment of Ms. Lisa Kennedy as a Substitute Instructional Assistant at a rate of \$11.00 per hour.*

#### Under the Head of the Question:

Mr. G. Strubinger asked if the position is a long-term sub. Ms. B. Conway replied that it is. Mr. G. Strubinger asked how long. Ms. B. Conway replied that it is until at least the end of April.

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** with all present (8) voting aye.

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Aye</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Aye</b>		

SUBSTITUTE LIST                      The current JTASD substitute list was included in the Enclosures to the Agenda.

#### CARBON CAREER & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

##### INFORMATIONAL AND EMPLOYMENT FAIR

Mr. T. Henry reported that an informational and employment fair will be held by CCTI on April 22, 2010 at Lehighon High School.

##### CAREER EXPO

Mr. T. Henry reported that the Spring Career Expo will be held by CCTI on March 4, 2010 at the Jim Thorpe High School.

##### ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Mr. T. Henry reported that 314 students are enrolled at CCTI. 94 students are special ed.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### COMPLETED APPLICATIONS

**Motion** by Mr. M. Huber, seconded by Mr. G. Strubinger, to *approve the completed applications*.

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** with all present (8) voting aye.

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Aye</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Aye</b>		

SNOW MAKE-UP DAYS     **Motion** by Mr. G. Strubinger, seconded by Mr. M. Huber, to *approve Thursday, April 1, 2010 and Friday, June 4, 2010 as snow make-up days.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** with all present (8) voting aye.

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Aye</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Aye</b>		

EXPULSION     Mr. M. Huber reported that a ninth-grade student has been expelled.

APPRAISAL OF  
BEAR CREEK LAKES  
PROPERTY

**Motion** by Mr. R. Smith, seconded by Mr. M. Huber, to *rescind previous action to have Mr. Shober conduct an appraisal of the Bear Creek Lake property because he does not have the proper qualifications.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** with all present (8) voting aye.

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Aye</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Aye</b>		

**Motion** by Mr. R. Smith, seconded by Mr. M. Huber, to *hire the Person Agency to appraise the Bear Creek Lakes property at a cost of \$350.00.*

**Under the Head of the Question:**

Mr. T. Henry asked why we need the appraisal if we are thinking of building there. Mr. R. Smith responded that it is to find out what it's worth.

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES** with all present (8) voting aye.

T. Henry	<b>Aye</b>	M. Huber	<b>Aye</b>
R. Karper	<b>Absent</b>	E. Kattner	<b>Aye</b>
R. Kovac	<b>Aye</b>	C. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>
D. McGinley	<b>Aye</b>	R. Smith	<b>Aye</b>
G. Strubinger	<b>Aye</b>		

## **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

### **PENN-KIDDER ACTIVITIES**

Mr. B. Gasper reported that a Brain Show, Book Swap, and Celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday will be held at the Penn-Kidder Campus.

### **L.B. MORRIS ACTIVITIES**

Mrs. H. Mordaunt reported that a PTA Bingo for Books, a Family Night, and a seventh and eighth grade dance will be held at the L.B. Morris Campus.

### **CAREER CLUB EXTENSION**

Mrs. H. Mordaunt reported that the Career Club will be extended one week due to inclement weather.

### **4SIGHT RESULTS**

Mrs. H. Mordaunt reported that teachers received the 4Sight results today.

### **SCHEDULING**

Mr. T. Lesisko reported that the scheduling process has begun at the High School. Students at the High School will input class selections on the computer.

### **COUNTY CHORUS**

Mr. T. Henry reported that all county school sent representatives to County Chorus except Jim Thorpe. Ms. B. Conway noted that students must try out for County Chorus and are not chosen by the individual districts.

### **SENATOR BOB CASEY**

Ms. B. Conway reported that she and the other Carbon County Superintendents met with Senator Bob Casey. The No Child Left Behind program was discussed. Ms. B. Conway added that it was nice to have Carbon County recognized.

### **LARIZZIO FAMILY**

Sympathies were extended to the Larizzio family.



**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board Meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren K. Kovac  
Business Manager / Board Secretary

ATTEST:

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President