

Jim Thorpe Area School District
Regular Meeting of the Jim Thorpe School Board of Education
September 14, 2015

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: William Allison, John Ciavarella, Glenn Confer, Pearl Downs-Sheckler, Dennis McGinley (via phone), Michael Principe, Robert Schaninger, Walter Schulz, and Gerald Strubinger. Administrators present: Brian Gasper, *Superintendent*, Lauren Kovac, *Business Manager/Board Secretary*, Thomas Lesisko, *High School Principal*, Holly Mordaunt, *L.B. Morris Principal*, David McAndrew Jr., *Penn Kidder Principal*, Katherine Doll, *Curriculum Coordinator*, Brian Baddick, *Director of Special Education*, Jerome Brown, *Director of Technology*, Laurie Munding, *Director of Transportation*, and Ted LaRizzio, *Director of Buildings and Grounds*. Also present: Attorney Gregory Mousseau, *Solicitor*, and Michelle Searfoss, *Business Manager Secretary*. Visitors present: Alisha Reese, Bob Aumer. Terry Ciavaglia, Mary Vaugh, Kathy Schulz, Laura McArdle, Joann Donati, Elena Monaco, David Marino, Michael Wagner, and from the Times News, Chris Reber.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF VISITORS

Dave Marino stated that the JTEA voted today and they accepted the 2013-2018 Teachers Contract as presented.

BOND REFINANCE

Mr. Bob Aumer and Ms. Alicia Reese gave a presentation on the Bond Refinancing for the 2011 Bond. We will close in January and should see a savings of about \$200,000.00.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held for personnel matters. Actions will be taken during the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the consent agenda as presented:*

- *Approval/Minutes of August 10 & August 31, 2015 Board Meetings*
- *Approval / Homebound Instruction – Elementary Student (Medical)*
- *Approval/Athletic Report (August 2015)*
- *Approval/Acceptance of School Bank Report (7/1/14-6/30/15)*

- *Approval/Repository Sales*
- *Approval/Real Estate Tax Exemption – Disabled Veteran – BH*
- *Correspondence – PDE – Division of Federal Programs*
- *Correspondence – Family of Barbara Searfoss*
- *Approval/Student Teacher – 2015-16 Fall Semester @ Penn Kidder – Ms. Bobbie Hughes- Art Education*
- *Approval/Completed Applications*
- *Informational: JTASD Substitute List*

Voice Vote. **MOTION PASSES**

FINANCIAL APPROVALS

Motion by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the financial agenda as presented.*

- *Approval/Bills Payable – Area*
- *Approval/Bills Payable - Cafeteria*

Roll call vote: **MOTION PASSES (8-0-1) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

W. Schulz	Aye	R. Schaninger	Abstain
W. Allison	Aye	G. Confer	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	M. Principe	Aye
D. McGinley	Aye	P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye
J. Ciavarella	Aye		

Motion by Mrs. P. Downs-Sheckler, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the Treasurer’s Report and the Tax Collector’s Reports.*

Roll call vote: **MOTION PASSES (9-0) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

W. Allison	Aye	G. Strubinger	Aye
D. McGinley	Aye	R. Schaninger	Aye
G. Confer	Aye	M. Principe	Aye
P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye	J. Ciavarella	Aye
W. Schulz	Aye		

OLD BUSINESS
NO REPORT

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

VOLUNTEER FOOTBALL COACH:

FRANCO IAPINO

Motion by Mrs. P. Downs-Sheckler, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve Mr. Franco Iapino as a Volunteer Football Coach.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

MOVE ASSISTANT
SOCCER COACH TO
VOLUNTEER COACH:
DANIELLE
CONDLY

Motion by Mrs. P. Downs-Sheckler, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *move Mrs. Danielle Condly from Assistant Soccer Coach to Volunteer Soccer Coach.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

SALARY ADJUSTMENT:
ASSISTANT FOOTBALL COACH –
JOSEPH HALENAR

Motion by Mr. G. Confer, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve the salary adjustment for Mr. Joseph Halenar, Assistant Football Coach, to \$4,410.00.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (9-0) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

G. Confer	Aye	W. Schulz	Aye
M. Principe	Aye	W. Allison	Aye
P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye	G. Strubinger	Aye
J. Ciavarella	Aye	D. McGinley	Aye
R. Schaninger	Aye		

SALARIES: ATHLETIC
EVENT WORKERS

Motion by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the salaries for Athletic Event Workers with an increase of \$5.00 per event.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (9-0) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

D. McGinley	Aye	R. Schaninger	Aye
G. Confer	Aye	M. Principe	Aye
P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye	J. Ciavarella	Aye
W. Schulz	Aye	W. Allison	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye		

STADIUM USE

Mr. G. Confer asked if the Knee High Football team could use the football field for one Sunday game. Mr. B. Gasper said he has concerns with that because there is a limit to the number of events that should be held on the field. He said that they will discuss it at the Committee Meeting.

CAFETERIA/BUILDING COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETING There will be a Committee Meeting on September 28, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

SUMMER MAINTENANCE

REPORT

Mr. Ted LaRizzio stated that there is a summary of the Summer Maintenance Report included in the packets. Additionally, he feels that we need to look at the L.B. roof because it will need repairs in the next year.

CARBON CAREER & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Mr. G. Strubinger stated that CCTI is maxed out and they will be looking into getting portable classrooms. He also feels that the report should be distributed by CCTI director to all Board Members.

CARBON-LEHIGH INTERMEDIATE UNIT

NO REPORT

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

SPANISH CURRICULUM **Motion** by Mrs. P. Downs-Sheckler, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve the Spanish Curriculum.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. G. Confer stated that the state is in stalemate over the budget.

LEHIGH CARBON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RESOLUTION **Motion** by Mr. W. Allison, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the resolution recognizing LCCC's 50th Anniversary.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

REPRESENTATIVE Mr. G. Strubinger expressed that he would like Mr. Randall Smith to attend more Board Meetings.

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE

BOND REFINANCE Presentation made at beginning of meeting.

POLICY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

JTEA CONTRACT
2013-2018 **Motion** by Dr. M. Principe, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve the contract with JTEA (2013-2018).*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (8-0-1) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

D. McGinley	Aye	R. Schaninger	Aye
G. Confer	Aye	M. Principe	Aye
P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye	J. Ciavarella	Aye
W. Schulz	Abstain	W. Allison	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye		

Mr. W. Schulz stated he abstained because he did not have enough information to make a decision.

RESIGNATION: PARA-PROFESSIONAL

DAWN HARDGROVE **Motion** by Mr. R. Schaninger, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the resignation of Ms. Dawn Hardgrove as a para-professional.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

EMPLOYMENT: PARA-PROFESSIONAL –

MELISSA FOX-WASKO **Motion** by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the employment of Ms. Melissa Fox-Wasko as a para-professional at a rate of \$11.00 per hour.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (9-0) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

W. Schulz	Aye	R. Schaninger	Aye
W. Allison	Aye	G. Confer	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	M. Principe	Aye
D. McGinley	Aye	P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye
J. Ciavarella	Aye		

RESIGNATION: VAN DRIVER

BRIAN MCGINLEY **Motion** by Mr. R. Schaninger, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve the resignation of Mr. Brian McGinley as a van driver.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

POSTING:

VAN DRIVER

Motion by Mr. R. Schaninger, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve the posting for a van driver.*

Voice Vote. **MOTION PASSES**

EMPLOYMENT: LONG-TERM

SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIAN –

JAMES VAUGHN

Motion by Dr. M. Principe, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve the employment of Mr. James Vaughn as a long-term substitute custodian at a rate of \$9.00 per hour.*

Under the Head of the Question:

Mr. G. Confer asked Mr. T. LaRizzio if Mr. Vaughn lived in the district. Mr. T. LaRizzio stated that Mr. Vaughn lives in Penn Forest Streams.

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (9-0) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

G. Confer	Aye	M. Principe	Aye
P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye	J. Ciavarella	Aye
W. Schulz	Aye	W. Allison	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	D. McGinley	Aye
R. Schaninger	Aye		

EMPLOYMENT: PART-TIME
SCHOOL NURSE AT
ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL
ACADEMY – AMY DAY

Motion by Mr. G. Confer, seconded by Mr. G. Strubinger, to *approve the employment of Ms. Amy Day as a part-time school nurse at St. Joseph Regional Academy at 6.5 hours per week at a rate of \$15.00 per hour.*

Under the Head of the Question:

Mr. G. Confer asked who the nurse was at St. Joe’s. Mrs. L. Kovac stated that Mrs. Marcy Vincent was the nurse there for the last several years. Mr. G. Confer asked why the L.B. nurse can’t go to St. Joe’s and do what needs to be done. Mr. B. Gasper stated that we don’t have the coverage at the L.B. if the nurse would leave to go over to St. Joe’s.

Mr. G. Strubinger asked if the St. Joe’s nurse has school benefits. Mrs. L. Kovac stated she does not receive medical benefits.

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (9-0) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

M. Principe	Aye	J. Ciavarella	Aye
W. Allison	Aye	D. McGinley	Aye
P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye	W. Schulz	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	G. Confer	Aye
R. Schaninger	Aye		

Dr. M. Principe left the meeting.

TRANSPORTATION & SECURITY
PURCHASE OF
SCHOOL VAN

Motion by Mr. G. Confer, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve the purchase of a 2010 Ford E Series Van from Kuhn Transportation at a price of \$18,499.99.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (7-0-1) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye	J. Ciavarella	Aye
W. Schulz	Aye	W. Allison	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	D. McGinley	Aye
R. Schaninger	Abstain	G. Confer	Aye
M. Principe	Absent		

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Administrative Reports included with the agenda.

Dr. M. Principe returned to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

ACT 93 CONTRACT

Mr. R. Schaninger announced that he may want to get help for the Act 93 contract negotiations.

ALTERATION OF 2015-16
SCHOOL CALENDAR

Motion by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the alteration of 2015-16 School Calendar by adding September 30, 2015 as a full-day Teacher In-Service.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

MAILING ADDRESS:

PENN-KIDDER CAMPUS

Motion by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the official mailing address of Penn Kidder Campus as 2850 State Route 903, Albrightsville, PA 18210.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

Mr. W. Schulz left the meeting.

PDE ESEA

WAIVER

Mr. B. Gasper gave a presentation on the PDE ESEA Waiver.

INFORMATIONAL:

PASA RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

Mr. B. Gasper has been appointed member of the PASA Research & Development Committee for a three-year term ending September 30, 2018.

Mr. W. Schulz returned to the meeting.

PSBA CONFERENCE

Motion by Dr. M. Principe, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve Board Member attendance at the PSBA Conference in Hershey, PA in October 2015.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (9-0) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

J. Ciavarella	Aye	W. Schulz	Aye
W. Allison	Aye	R. Schaninger	Aye
D. McGinley	Aye	G. Strubinger	Aye
G. Confer	Aye	M. Principe	Aye
P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye		

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SUSPENSIONS Suspension included in with the agenda.

LOWER MILLAGE RATE **Motion** by Mr. G. Strubinger, seconded by Mr. G. Confer, to *drop the millage for next year by two (2) mills.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION FAILS (3-6) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

W. Schulz	Aye	W. Allison	Nay
G. Strubinger	Aye	D. McGinley	Nay
R. Schaninger	Nay	G. Confer	Aye
M. Principe	Nay	P. Downs-Sheckler	Nay
J. Ciavarella	Nay		

BUSING TO MR. GROSS **Motion** by Mr. G. Strubinger, seconded by Mr. W. Schulz, to *give all busing to Mr. Gross.*

Mr. G. Confer said that this should be discussed at a Committee Meeting.

Motion by Mr. G. Confer, seconded by Mr. R. Schaninger, to *send the discussion on busing to committee.*

Voice vote was inconclusive.

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (7-2) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

W. Allison	Aye	G. Strubinger	Nay
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D. McGinley	Aye	R. Schaninger	Aye
G. Confer	Aye	M. Principe	Aye
P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye	J. Ciavarella	Aye
W. Schulz	Nay		

DECLARATORY
JUDGEMENT

Motion by Mr. G. Strubinger, seconded by Mr. W. Schulz, to *instruct our solicitor to go to the Court of Common Pleas and get a declaratory judgement on bidding the bus contracts.*

Motion by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe to *send the discussion on a declaratory judgement to committee.*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (7-2) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

R. Schaninger	Aye	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Nay	G. Confer	Aye
M Principe	Aye	P. Downs-Sheckler	Aye
J. Ciavarella	Aye	W. Schulz	Nay
W. Allison	Aye		

Mr. D. McGinley’s phone call was disconnected.

HIRING OF
LAURA McARDLE

Mr. G. Confer stated that he was glad that Mrs. L. McArdle attended the meeting. He noted that the night that she was hired, she was not one of the eight being interviewed. Mr. G. Confer said he got her an interview. Mrs. L. McArdle stated that Mr. G. Confer was incorrect. She did not get the job the first time he got her the interview. When she had her second interview, she noted that Mr. G. Confer voted against her. Mr. G. Confer stated he does not remember voting against her.

BOARD CONDUCT

Mrs. L. McArdle addressed the Board as a taxpayer and a parent, not as a teacher. She expressed concern over the conduct of certain board members.

Mr. Confer stated that the Board is the only group of people who get abused and don’t get paid for it. Mr. R. Schaninger added that he takes pride in his position on the Board. Mrs. L. McArdle stated that she just wants the Board to act professional and treat each other with respect.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren K. Kovac
Business Manager/Board Secretary

ATTEST:

President