

Jim Thorpe Area School District
Special Meeting of the Jim Thorpe School Board of Education
August 31, 2015

ROLL CALL

The Special 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, Robert Schaninger, Walter Schulz, Glenn Confer, Michael Principe, Pearl Sheckler, and Gerald Strubinger. Administrators present: Brian Gasper, *Superintendent*, Lauren Kovac, *Business Manager/Board Secretary*, Also present: Attorney Gregory Mousseau, *Solicitor*. Visitor present: Chris from BRC-TV-13 News.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF VISITORS

No visitors addressed the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session is scheduled for immediately following the Board Meeting for personnel reasons.

CONSENT AGENDA

No items included.

FINANCIAL APPROVALS

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

- *Approval/Bills Payable – Transportation (from August 10, 2015 meeting)*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (7-0-1) 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	Absent	P. Sheckler	Aye
J. Ciavarella	Aye		

OLD BUSINESS

NO REPORT

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

SOFTBALL COACH

Mrs. P. Sheckler asked if we have a Softball Coach and Mr. R. Schaninger stated that we need to get started on interviews for the Softball Coach. Mr. R. Schaninger added that he knows of two applicants who are interested in the position.

CAFETERIA/BUILDING COMMITTEE

NO REPORT

CARBON CAREER & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

MODULAR HOMES

Mr. G. Strubinger stated that CCTI is in the process of building six double-wide modular homes.

TEACHERS CONTRACT

Mr. G. Strubinger noted that the teachers are still negotiating a contract.

CARBON-LEHIGH INTERMEDIATE UNIT

NO REPORT

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

NO REPORT

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

STATE BUDGET

Mr. G. Confer informed the Board that there still is no budget. Mr. G. Strubinger said we have to get rid of the property tax and stop funding other schools.

LEHIGH CARBON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NO REPORT

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE
NO REPORT

POLICY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

EMPLOYMENT:

SPECIAL EDUCATION
TEACHER – MS. DARIA
DORSHIMER

Motion by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *approve the employment of Ms. Daria Dorshimer as a Special Education Teacher – MS Step 1 – \$44,702.00 (subject to change contingent on approval of new teacher contract for 2013-2014).*

Roll call vote. **MOTION PASSES (6-2) WITH THE VOTE AS FOLLOWS:**

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

REVISION OF
SCHOOL POLICIES

Motion by Mr. W. Allison, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *approve Policy #815 Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources and Policy #224 Care of School Property.*

Voice vote. **MOTION PASSES**

TRANSPORTATION & SECURITY

ADDITIONAL
BUS STOPS

Motion by Mr. J. Ciavarella, seconded by Dr. M. Principe to *add additional bus stops.*

Under the Head of the Question:

Mr. R. Schaninger stated that Old Piney is rough. There are two hills with hairpin turns and he feels that it is an accident waiting to happen. He suggested that the stop at Old Piney be moved to Dew Drop 2. He also

expressed concern that this route has a section with a 10-ton weight limit, which could be a problem for a full bus.

Mr. B. Gasper stated that he has been on the bus route and his recommendation is also to move the stop to Dew Drop. He also added that he contacted PennDOT for the recommended road width for 2-lane traffic and he was told it is 18 feet. He continued that most of that road is only 15-16 feet wide and a bus and a car cannot easily fit on that road at the same time. Mr. R. Schaninger agreed with Mr. B. Gasper that the road is not wide enough. Mrs. L. Munderinger also has concerns.

Mr. G. Confer asked who is responsible for the development and Mr. G. Strubinger stated that the Homeowners Association is. Mr. G. Confer is worried that the bus could slide off the road and added that our job is to pick up the children at a safe location.

Motion by Mrs. P. Sheckler, seconded by Mr. J. Ciavarella, to *table the motion for additional bus stops.*

Voice vote. **MOTION TO TABLE PASSES**

REINSTATE
ACTIVITY BUS

Mr. J. Ciavarella stated he would like to see the activity bus run back in session. Mr. W. Schulz asked how much it would cost to run. Mrs. L. Kovac responded that it used to cost around \$88,000.00 but now it would probably cost around \$100,000.00.

Motion by Mr. G. Strubinger, seconded by Dr. M. Principe, to *reinstate the Activity Bus.*

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

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

BUS STOP CONCERN

Mr. W. Schulz stated that a parent expressed concern about a child predator living near one of the bus stops. He asked if the State Police were contacted about this. Mr. B. Gasper stated that information is on the Megan's Law website.

Mrs. P. Sheckler stated we should contact the development security.

Mr. W. Schulz asked if the bus drivers are given a list of students that are on their bus. Mr. R. Schaninger responded that a list is given to all drivers.

Transportation Committee should look at this at their next meeting.

BUS CONTRACTS

Motion by Mr. G. Strubinger to *have the solicitor go to the Court of Commons Pleas and get a declaratory judgement regarding the bus contracts.*

No second. **MOTION DIES.**

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren K. Kovac
Business Manager/Board Secretary

ATTEST:

President