

WAYNESBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Waynesboro, PA 17268

The Waynesboro Area Board of School Directors held a budget workshop on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, from 5:00-7:00 PM, in the board room, 210 Clayton Avenue, Waynesboro, PA.

Board members present were: Marilyn Smith, Pat Heefner, Firmadge Crutchfield, Leland Lemley, Edward Wilson, Gregory Ochoa. Others present were: James Robertson, superintendent; Evan Williams, assistant superintendent; Caroline Dean, business administrator; Bobbi Trostle, recording secretary; Chad Reichard, student representative; Jennifer Fitch, Herald Mail; Denise Bonura, Record Herald; and those individuals listed on the attached sign-in sheet at the end of the regular meeting minutes.

One of the questions asked at the last board workshop was how many students attend Manito and other alternative schools? Bob Whitmore from Manito presented information on services and programs provided by them to our students. He explained that Manito provides alternative education programs for disruptive youth. This program deals with at-risk students only and integrates academic programs with therapeutic programs. They run two programs: the traditional alternative school for ages 12-17; and the alternative high school for ages 16-20 who are earning credits for graduation. He said 42% of these students are working with juvenile probation and 48% have a mental health diagnosis. At the present time, there are 80 students at Manito, 4 of which are court adjudicated. The alternative high school has 20 students, 9 of which will return to Waynesboro next year.

Mr. Crutchfield interrupted and asked if the administration had an athletic budget to review tonight. He thought the board was going to discuss the budget between 5:00-7:00 PM. Mr. Robertson told him the athletic budget would be presented next week.

Dr. Whitmore then resumed his presentation. Mr. Williams asked if these students took the PSSA's and was informed that many of these students are three to four grade levels behind and trying to catch up.

Ms. Dean then reviewed information from the previous budget workshops. Additional changes from last week include:

Reduction in Natural Gas Expense	(\$30,000)
Reduction in Communication Costs	(\$1,600)
Elimination of (1) Teaching Position	(\$70,512)
(depending on what happens this summer, the administration could ask for this position back)	

Mr. Crutchfield then asked if the board was voting on the preliminary budget tonight. Mrs. Smith said that several board members said they didn't feel they had enough information to make a decision and that is why it was on the agenda as a discussion item.

Mrs. Heefner wanted to know if the athletic budget was completed. Ms. Dean said the budget is done and included in the General Fund, which has already been presented. However, she did not have time to complete individual line items, and would have the information for the next budget workshop.

Ms. Dean then reviewed the 300-800 accounts and explained which items are discretionary and which are not. Mr. Crutchfield questioned why there wasn't a complete list of these items for the board to review. He repeatedly asked how the process would be handled by the board. Mrs. Smith said she understands that there will not be a consensus between board members, but would like the administration to bring back the best budget they can without hurting the educational side of the district.

Current projected revenues remain the same at \$49,646,052, projected expenditures have been reduced to \$50,466,998, with a projected deficit of \$820,946.

Another question asked by the board was – How much could be saved by asking each sport to skip one invitation event/tournament that is not associated with its regular season? Ms. Dean said that reducing one tournament per team is not possible at this time as all of the schedules are complete and contracts signed. This is done an entire year in advance. It could also affect the ratings, qualifying for post-season, and league champ standings. PIAA has already reduced two competitions for all sports at the varsity level. Two competitions per sport at the junior varsity level could be eliminated, which would be a savings of \$3,375.

The board also asked how much money is spent mailing report cards and progress reports? Mailing of 4th quarter reports cards to Middle School students, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors is \$683. Mailing of progress reports to freshmen on a quarterly basis is \$825. Costs of forms for K-6 that are printed and are given to these students to take home is \$2,160.

Also reviewed was a list of extra-curricular activities and how many students are involved.

Ms. Dean said again that the district is looking for ways to cut cell phone costs and adding in-house weed and pest control, but the in-house person would undergo additional training.

Mr. Crutchfield questioned the stipends again and wanted to know if it was the consensus of the board to eliminate. Mr. Wilson again wanted to know why an assistant principal from the High School couldn't be moved to fill the Middle School principal vacancy. Also, questioned was the hiring a local law firm to cut solicitor fees.

Mrs. Smith called for a five-minute break (6:10-6:15 PM), when voices were raised.

Mr. Lemley said he would like to have budget workshops every night this week through Friday and have a preliminary budget voted on by Friday of this week.

Mrs. Heefner asked if some periodicals could be cut. Mr. Robertson said he would look into it.

Budget workshop adjourned at 7:00 PM.

/s/ K. Marilyn Smith, President SIGNED /s/ Patricia F. Heefner, Secretary

Approved May 19, 2009