

WAYNESBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Waynesboro, PA 17268

The Waynesboro Area Board of School Directors held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at Hooverville Elementary School, 10829 Buchanan Trail East, Waynesboro, PA. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mr. Wilson.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Bachtell asked for a moment of silence and then led the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Billie Finn, Firmadge Crutchfield, Marilyn Smith, Bonnie Bachtell, Pat Heefner, Chris Lind, Sherry Cline, Edward Wilson. Others present were: James Robertson, superintendent; Evan Williams, assistant superintendent; Caroline Dean, business administrator; Joyce Caiati, recording secretary; James Flower, Jr., solicitor; Jennifer Fitch, Herald Mail; Stephanie Harbaugh, Record Herald; and those individuals listed on the attached sign-in sheet.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a Smith/Heefner motion and unanimous voice vote, the board approved the agenda.

Due to his inability to clearly hear the meeting, Mr. Crutchfield, who was present by telephone, requested to be marked absent for the remainder of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a Bachtell/Kline motion and roll call listed, the board approved the minutes of January 11, 2011.

YEA: Finn/Smith/Bachtell/Heefner/Lind/Cline/Wilson

NAY: None

ABSENT: Crutchfield/Lemley

STUDENT REPORT

Tyler Bowders reported that members of Mrs. Portline's AP English classes and Mrs. Dickey's Writing Workshop class participated in the second annual "Walk Down Memory Lane". This event was held on December 10th in the High School auditorium for the purpose of pairing up students for an interview with an elder member of the community. Information gathered from the interview was then turned into a short story to be presented to the community member.

Tyler Bowders also reported that the High School held its winter spirit week beginning on Monday, January 3rd. The theme was "Sprit Battles" and consisted of days such as camo vs. tie dye day, winter vs. summer wear day, and blue vs. gold day. On January 14th and January 15th, six member of the Waynesboro High School choir participated in the PMEA District 7 chorus festival held at Annville-Cleona High School.

Eric Wengert reported that on January 20th and January 24th, first grade Summitview students were treated to a visit from members of Mrs. Dickey's Writing Workshop class. High School students circulated through the classroom reading a children's book written and illustrated by them.

Eric Wingert also reported that February 24th to February 26th, Brad Barkdoll and Mat Levine will represent Waynesboro at the PMEA Region 5 Chorus to be held at Parkland High School in Allentown, PA. On February 6th, the High School band will present their mid-winter concert at 7:00 p.m. in the High School auditorium. Also, on February 10th, the High School will host a Back to School Night for the spring semester.

HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC PRESENTATION

Chris Dennis, principal at WASHS, and Dotty Walter, Instructional Advisor at WASHS, gave a presentation on student achievement data. The presentation included information on PSSA performance levels, high school math and reading scores, a comparison to previous years, as well as information on what the high school is doing to increase student achievement and align with district goals.

2009-2010 AUDIT REPORT

The board is submitting questions to the auditor regarding the audit report and has requested the auditor be present at a February board meeting to answer these questions. Caroline Dean will contact Smith Elliott Kearns and Company to see which meeting in February they will be able to attend.

2010/2011 FINAL TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS

On a Smith/Bachtell motion and roll call listed the board approved the Transportation contracts as submitted at the January 11, 2011 board meeting.

YEA: Finn/Smith/Bachtell/Heefner/Lind/Cline/Wilson
NAY: None
ABSENT: Crutchfield/Lemley

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Wilson addressed the audience and stated that the board will hear comments regarding items that are on the agenda only at this time. Public comment regarding anything other than agenda items will be heard by the board after executive session.

There was no public comment at this time.

2011/2012 BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mr. Robertson gave a powerpoint presentation on the proposed preliminary budget. Mr. Robertson said that the district is looking at a deficit of \$787,947 for 2011-2012 with revenues at \$50,097,850 and expenditures at \$50,885,797. Mr. Robertson said the district would most likely be able to qualify for an additional 3.3 mills over the 1.51 mills established by the Act 1 Index. The additional 3.3 mills could come from a 1.3 mill increase for retirement contribution and another 2 mill increase for debt services. Mr. Robertson stated that if the board decides to file for exceptions with the Department of Education, they are not obligated to take them.

Mrs. Finn said that the board will do everything they can to keep a tax increase at a level that people can live with, but the board is dealing with a very challenging set of circumstances.

On a Lind/Finn motion and roll call listed the board approved to seek exceptions from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to raise taxes beyond the cap established by the Act 1 Index.

YEA: Finn/Smith/Bachtell/Heefner/Lind/Cline/Wilson
NAY: None
ABSENT: Crutchfield/Lemley

DISCUSS FACILITY NEEDS AT HOOVERVILLE ELEMENTARY

Mr. Wilson stated that board members toured Hooverville Elementary. Mr. Wilson said there were some drainage problems in the front of the building, energy loss due to single pane glass windows, and areas of the roof that need to be replaced. Overall, the board feels that the school is in good shape. The board will present a total cost for these items when the board has looked at all the facility needs of the district.

DISCUSS LIU OPERATING BUDGET 2011-2012

On a Lind/Smith motion and roll call listed, the board approved the 2011-2012 LIU Operating Budget in the amount of \$33,475.12, which is a decrease in the amount of \$358.49 from the 2010-2011 school year.

YEA: Finn/Smith/Bachtell/Heefner/Lind/Cline/Wilson
NAY: None
ABSENT: Crutchfield/Lemley

DISCUSS NEW BUSINESS AND FINANCE COURSE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Robertson requested board approval for a new course at the High School. This course will be in conjunction with Patriot Federal Credit Union. The curriculum will teach students about interest rates, loans, and overall banking strategies to give students a good understanding of financial matters. Mr. Lind would like the board to receive a copy of the curriculum.

On a Smith/Bachtell motion and roll call listed, the board approved the Business and Finance Course at the High School.

YEA: Finn/Smith/Bachtell/Heefner/Lind/Wilson
NAY: Cline
ABSENT: Crutchfield/Lemley

DISCUSS MOU WITH WAYNESBORO HOSPITAL TO EVACUATE PATIENTS

After a lengthy discussion, the board decided to table this item.

RESIGNATIONS/REQUESTS FOR LEAVE/TRANSFERS/APPOINTMENTS

On a Smith/Kline motion and roll call listed, the Board approved the following:

Resignations

Coaching Staff

Wendy B. Kane, Assistant Track and Field Coach at the WAMS, Effective August 2, 2010
Jennifer D. Atkinson, Assistant Track and Field Coach at the WAMS, Effective November 9, 2010

Extra-Curricular Staff

Phyllis A. Witter, Grade Level Coordinator – 3rd Grade, Effective January 20, 2011

Request for Leave

Susan M. Martin, Reading Teacher at Fairview Elementary, is requesting a one week extension of her Medical Leave beginning January 10, 2011 – January 14, 2011. Susan will return to work on January 17, 2011.

Transfers – Support Staff

Christine M. O’Toole, from Cashier at Summitview Elementary, salary: Range V - \$12.10 to Cashier at Fairview Elementary, salary: Range V - \$12.10, Effective February 7, 2011. Christine is replacing Theresa Coyne who resigned.

Dawn J. Keefer, from Server at Summitview Elementary, salary: Range VII - \$8.30 to Cashier at Summitview Elementary, salary: Range V - \$8.63, Effective February 7, 2011. Dawn is replacing Christine O’Toole who transferred.

Appointments

Professional Staff

Alicia M. Shea, Reading – Long-Term Substitute at Fairview Elementary, salary: Bachelors, Step 1 – Substitute Daily Rate, effective January 10, 2011 – January 14, 2011, based on satisfactory performance. She is a long-term substitute for Susan Martin who is on an approved Medical Leave.

Richard W. Rockey – Long Term Substitute at Middle School, salary: Bachelors, Step 1 – Substitute Daily Rate, effective January 10, 2011 – June 7, 2011, based on satisfactory performance. He is a long-term substitute for a vacant position.

Coaching Staff

Richard S. Duesler, JV Girls Basketball – Assistant Coach, WASHS, Effective 2010-2011 school year, salary: Step 1 - \$3,3431.00.

Substitute Professional Staff

Kadee M. Weber – Elementary/Secondary

YEA: Finn/Smith/Bachtell/Heefner/Lind/Cline/Wilson

NAY: None

ABSENT: Crutchfield/Lemley

2010-2011 BUDGETARY TRANSFERS
BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT

On a Smith/Bachtell motion and roll call listed, the board approved the 2010-2011 Budgetary Transfers and Budget Income and Expense Report.

YEA: Finn/Smith/Bachtell/Heefner/Lind/Cline/Wilson

NAY: None

ABSENT: Crutchfield/Lemley

GENERAL FUND/CAPITAL RESERVE FUND
PURCHASE ORDER REQUISITIONS

On a Bachtell/Smith motion and roll call listed, the board approved the following:

General Fund Paid bills in the amount of \$1,362,727.84

Capital Reserve Fund 1431 bills in the amount of \$22,205.11

Purchase Order Requisitions in the amount of \$5,505.58

TAX EXEMPTIONS

On a Bachtell/Heefner motion and roll call listed, the board approved the following:

2010-2011 Per Capita Tax Exemptions: 60 in the amount of \$600.00

2010-2011 Occupation Tax Exemptions: 93 in the amount of \$2,940.00

2010 Supplemental #3 and Interim #4 Real Estate Tax Exemptions in the amount of \$1,363.14

2010-2011 Delinquent Real Estate Tax Exemptions in the amount of \$2,964.32

2010-2011 Delinquent Real Estate Tax Exemptions in the amount of \$39,174.45

2010-2011 Occupation Tax Additions: 3 in the amount of \$60.00

Mr. Lind directed a question to Caroline Dean regarding Delinquent Real Estate Tax Exemptions and residents coded "Gone". Mr. Lind wanted to know if these taxes are sent to small claims court. Caroline will contact Franklin County Tax Claim Bureau to see if they pursue payments.

Mr. Wilson asked if the school district has seen many tax appeals. Caroline responded there was nothing appreciable to document.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board went into executive session at 8:45 and returned at 10:10 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Wilson asked if anyone wished to address the board.

Deb Jacobs, 222 Strickler Avenue, Waynesboro, a teacher at Hooverville Elementary School addressed the board with her concerns regarding the future of the school district, as well as the district's reputation. Mrs. Jacobs said she realizes that times are tough and money is tight everywhere. The auditor reported that the school district is doing well, but the board is saying the school district is in the red. Mrs. Jacob feels that negotiations should move forward and urges the board to think about the future of the district.

Mr. Wilson stated that the board has looked over the budget and the district is in the hole for 1.2 million dollars. The district cannot count on the state. He said the board does care about the students. The board has spent a lot of time discussing negotiations, as well as spending time going to committee meetings to try to better serve the district, but the board is concerned about retired people, people in the community who do not have jobs, and those that are in foreclosure.

Eric Griffith, 12444 Jackson Avenue, Waynesboro, a music teacher at WASHS, addressed the board. He asked the board to provide some documentation as to how the fact finder was wrong. Mr. Lind responded that the entire picture was not brought out by the fact finder. The district could potentially be spending several million dollars in litigation fees. Mr. Griffith thanked the board for the information.

Pat Heefner stated that she was disappointed about the lack of trust from people who have known her for many years. She stated that it has been a bad year and the future is dark, but she wants the public to trust her, when she as a board member says they are not hiding money.

Brian Stum, 244 Walnut Street, Waynesboro addressed the board. Mr. Stum stated he appreciates all the board is doing and realizes the board has to make difficult decisions. Mr. Stum asks the board as taxpayer, a parent, and a brother of an educator to try to find common ground. Mr. Stum does not want to see taxes go up, but if he has to pay more taxes for education, it is a tax he is willing to pay. He asks the board and the teachers collectively to work hard at negotiations.

Mr. Wilson stated that he doesn't think people realize the effort and time the board puts into being board members and they are not being reimbursed for this. People come before the board and act like we don't care about teachers and kids, but the board is trying the best they can. The board does not appreciate the intimidation tactics they are seeing.

Eric Wengert, 25 Constitution Avenue, Mont Alto, PA, student representative on the board asked to speak to the board. Mr. Wengert stated that he does not know everything that goes on with budget or negotiations, but he does see what happens at board meetings. He feels that the board should hold themselves accountable to the same level expected from students in the classroom. He asks that people speak with respect and watch their body language, and eye rolling. He asks what gives anyone the right to do that to anyone.

Mr. Lind reiterated facts about building needs and the associated costs. We are doing the best we can Mr. Lind said, and we will make movement towards getting an agreement going.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

/s/ Edward Wilson, President

SIGNED

/s/ Patricia F. Heefner, Secretary

Approved February 8, 2011