

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-5906

Minutes October 26, 2020

The regular meeting with committee reports of the Board of School Directors convened at 6:00 p.m. in the JSHS Library with Mrs. Karen McAvoy, Board Member, presiding.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, Mrs. McAvoy asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. Mr. Arnst indicated he would be recording the meeting.

Board Members Present:

Mrs. Harenza, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Pottieger (by phone), Mr. Redner (by phone), Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Waxler (by phone), and Mrs. Ziolkowski (by phone).

Board Members Absent:

None.

Administrative Staff Present:

Mr. Scoboria, Dr. Woodard, Mr. Boyer, Mr. Arnst

Attendees:

Lisa DeRenzo, WHEC Principal; Jennifer Littlefield, WHEC 4th Grade Teacher; Gretchen Rahauer, WHEC 4th Grade Teacher; and Sheri Piveteau, recording secretary. An audience sign-in sheet is included as part of these official minutes.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Committee of the Whole Meeting – November 9, 2020, 4:45 p.m.
- School Board Business Meeting – November 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

All listed meetings are held in the Community Board Room of the Jr./Sr. High School unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Report – Mrs. Taylor reported the Board met on October 15, and handled standard business, nothing major to report. Next meeting is in November.
- B. Berks Career & Technology Report – Mrs. Waxler, no report. Meeting coming up this week.
- C. Berks EIT Report – Mr. Boyer, no report, meeting is Thursday.
- D. Wyomissing Area Education Foundation – Mr. McCaffrey reported the meeting was held October 19, online. They completed a survey on 2021 upcoming spring events to see whether they should be held indoors/outdoors or cancelled. There were updates on finances and the Board designated a sustained education fund to generate funds for general expenses and special grants that maybe weren't budgeted for to support the Foundation's goals. There is intention to increase the number of board members on WAEF and Mr. McCaffrey asked if anyone was interested, to contact him or Molly Murrill. The next

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-5907

Minutes October 26, 2020

meeting is November 17 at 6:30 p.m.

- E. Legislative Report – Mrs. Harenza reported a bill has made its way to the governor’s desk that PSBA is in favor of, which requires schools to remove students permanently that have been found delinquent due to sexually assaulting another student, so the victimized student does not continue to have contact. PSBA is also encouraging schools to get involved with advocating for charter schools funding reform, and to get involved on a local level for advocacy. Mrs. Harenza asked of the importance of this issue with other superintendents and if there was discussion to write an article.
- F. PTA – Mrs. Phillips. Nothing to report at this time.

ROUTINE APPROVALS

MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mrs. Taylor, second by Mr. McCaffrey, the Board approved the following minutes:

- October 12, 2020, School Board Business Meeting

Yeas: Harenza, McAvoy, McCaffrey, Phillips, Pottieger, Redner, Taylor, Waxler, and Ziolkowski.

Absent: None.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Upon a motion by Mr. McCaffrey second by Mrs. Taylor, the Treasurer’s Report for September 2020 was accepted as presented.

Yeas: McAvoy, McCaffrey, Phillips, Pottieger, Redner, Taylor, Waxler, Ziolkowski, and Harenza.

Absent: None.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Upon a motion by Mr. McCaffrey second by Mrs. Harenza, payment of bills for the month of September 2020 was accepted as presented.

Yeas: McCaffrey, Phillips, Pottieger, Redner, Taylor, Waxler, Ziolkowski, Harenza, and McAvoy.

Absent: None.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Scoboria thanked teachers and staff members for their support of students. He encouraged the public to check out the social media pages on the District website and thanked School Board members and volunteers for their chalk and sign messages of staff appreciation at all District buildings last Monday morning.

Minutes October 26, 2020

Mr. Scoboria noted the hard work of the athletic teams as they worked through their challenging season and shared it was good to see all of the extracurricular clubs and activities. He thanked all for their extra efforts this year.

Mr. Scoboria explained, at the last Board Meeting, the team from WREC was present and shared with Board Members their perspective of teaching in the Hybrid and WAVE models. Mr. Scoboria said tonight's meeting would host the team from WHEC, and in November, the JSHS team would be present to share their experiences.

A. **CURRICULUM/
TECHNOLOGY** Mr. Scoboria introduced Mrs. DeRenzo, Principal of WHEC.

1. **WHEC School Board Presentation – WHEC Staff**

Mrs. DeRenzo thanked the Board for this opportunity and remarked how quickly the last four months have passed. She shared that her role is the most exciting and challenging that she has experienced in her 25 years of teaching. Mrs. DeRenzo talked about the summer work the WHEC teachers did with advisory groups and working with stakeholders to develop their models and plan for the start of school. Mrs. DeRenzo explained the plan would ensure the health and safety of students and staff, provide the students with equitable learning opportunities, and through diversified learning models, students would demonstrate growth academically, socially, and emotionally. Mrs. DeRenzo introduced Mrs. Jennifer Littlefield, 4th Grade WAVE teacher and Mrs. Gretchen Rahauser, 4th grade Hybrid teacher.

Mrs. Littlefield explained, they developed their slides to provide a side by side view of Hybrid and WAVE, to show differences and similarities, successes and challenges. Mrs. Littlefield reviewed a daily schedule snapshot and touched on the differences between learning at home and learning at school.

Both Mrs. Rahauser and Mrs. Littlefield shared how Social Emotional Learning is incorporated into their respective teaching programs.

Mrs. Rahauser shared how happy the students were to be back in school and some of the successes, such as smaller class sizes and more individualized instruction, and listed the benefits the students receive. Mrs. Littlefield spoke about the WAVE program successes which share many of the same successes as the Hybrid program, but differently, they have been successful

Minutes October 26, 2020

sending home items for ELA and science learners to meet student needs.

Mrs. Rahouser spoke about some of the challenges in the Hybrid model and thanked and acknowledged the parental support students are receiving, but that student engagement is a challenge. She described additional challenges to include, longer hours for teachers, need for planning time, challenges to support learners, parent phone calls and technology. Mrs. Littlefield described how some of the WAVE challenges are similar to Hybrid student engagement and, differently, larger than typical class sizes, she shared concern about rising WAVE numbers, assessment challenges, and materials distribution.

Each teacher spoke about the need for student engagement and the challenge for teachers to monitor at-home engagement. They spoke about the resources each model has in place to help with successful engagement, such as WAVE students having opportunities to join the teacher during designated “office hours” for questions and catch-up work.

Mrs. Littlefield explained the need for communication and the platforms they use to keep in touch with students. Mrs. Littlefield concluded by thanking parents, the Board, students, families, administrators, and the WHEC teachers.

2. Health and Safety Plan Update – Mr. Scoboria/Dr. Woodard

Mr. Scoboria presented the Health and Safety Plan Update stating there was an update presented to the Board two weeks ago and a lot has happened since then. Mr. Scoboria reviewed the PDE Instructional Models and reported that Berks County had moved into the substantial level. With the substantial designation, PDE recommends that districts move to virtual instruction. Mr. Scoboria explained the general consensus of most Berks County School District’s Superintendents relative to the current instructional model level in the county. Mr. Scoboria reviewed the current PDE Dashboard and WYO’s Dashboard and also explained a CDC definition change in the determination of “close contact”. Mr. Scoboria turned the presentation over to Dr. Woodard to review some of the Parent/Guardian Survey Feedback results. Dr. Woodard shared the percentages of responses broken down by learning model and reviewed feedback to questions such as: how satisfied parents/guardians are with the way learning is structured at their child’s school; what their perception is of the amount of work their child is

Minutes October 26, 2020

assigned during at-home instructional days; if they thought their child should spend less or more time learning in person at school right now; how difficult or easy it is for their child to use the distance learning tools; how they would describe the level of COVID-related safety measures and protocols in their child's school to keep students healthy; how concerned they are about their child's academic growth right now; and what best describes their child's typical internet access.

Mr. Scoboria reviewed the final slides of the presentation highlighting a few of the District considerations such as, increasing in-person instruction for young learners and targeted populations, and increasing synchronous learning for all students. Mr. Scoboria reviewed the impact of implementing the considerations such as reduced physical distancing, adjusted class rosters, classroom relocation, staffing and equipment needs as well transportation changes possibly increasing to 1-2 students per seat. Mr. Scoboria explained some of the next steps for the District would be to administer a JSHS student survey, continue to monitor DOH/PDE guidance, consider IEP students for more in-person instruction for 2nd quarter, develop plans for winter athletics and extra-curricular activities, and communicate with parents/guardians. Mr. Scoboria concluded by saying tonight's presentation was not an item to be voted on, but a general update on status and plans for ongoing improvement. Discussions will continue with the Board and the District will continue in the current instructional model at this time.

**B. FINANCE/
FACILITIES**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Taylor and second by Mrs. Phillips the following Finance and Facilities Items were approved:

1. Approve the Second Addendum to School Transportation Contract with Keystone School Bus Service, Inc.
Background Information: To extend the terms of the original contract addendum for an additional 45 school days, as originally approved
2. Approve Budget Transfer in the amount of \$9,040.
3. Approve the following donations from WAEF
 - a. \$3,300 to purchase 22 document cameras to be used in all three schools.
 - b. \$1,709.95 to purchase stylus for all students in grade K-4.
 - c. \$222.24 to purchase gifted support workbooks.

Minutes October 26, 2020

4. Approve donation in the amount of \$5,000 from the United Way for the Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center for teacher resources.
5. Approve donation in the amount of \$1,491.60 from the Wyomissing Hills Citizen Social Committee to purchase Boom Card accounts for the teachers.
6. Approve donation in the amount of \$399.99 from the Wyomissing Area PTA for a new 3D Printer.
7. Approve agreement with Conrad Siegel Actuaries to provide ACA Employer Reporting Service for 2020 in the amount of \$6,100.

Background information: The cost of the agreement is unchanged from 2019.

Yeas: Phillips, Pottieger, Redner, Taylor, Waxler, Ziolkowski, Harenza, McAvoy and McCaffrey.

Absent: None.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

C. **PERSONNEL/
POLICY**

Upon a motion by Mr. McCaffrey second by Mrs. Phillips the following Personnel and Policy items were approved and ratified.

1. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

a. Professional Staff

- 1) **Alexandra Previti**, English Teacher Part-time, JSJS, resignation. Date to be determined but no later than December 14, 2020.

b. Support Staff

- 2) **Laurie Amway**, Instructional Aide, WREC, resignation effective last day worked October 8, 2020.
- 3) **Kayla Slate**, Paraprofessional, WREC, resignation effective last working day October 30, 2020.

c. Athletic Staff

- 1) **Todd Zechman**, JH Girls' Basketball Head Coach, resignation effective last day worked February 3, 2020.

2. APPROVED THE LEAVES OF ABSENCE PER ATTACHED.

3. APPOINTMENTS

a. Professional Staff

WYOMISSING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-5912

Minutes October 26, 2020

- 1) **Julie Winkler**, English Teacher, JSBS, B/Step 1, \$50,480 effective pending successful completion of pre-employment paperwork.
Background Information: This assignment is being filled due to a resignation.

4. **WORK OUTSIDE CONTRACT**

a. **Supplemental Staff**

- 1) Request approval for the following teachers as Technology Integration Support for the 1st Semester of the 2020-21 school year at a stipend of \$1,000:
 - a) **Stacey Hughes**, WHEC
 - b) **Shana Matz**, WREC
 - c) **Nathaniel Miller**, JSBS
 - d) **Chris Nugent**, JSBS
 - e) **Christine Paige**, WHEC

5. **SUBSTITUTES**

a. **Support Staff (Additions)**

- 1) **Susan Mitcheltree**, Cafeteria Monitor ratified to October 20, 2020.

6. **REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR WINTER COACHES AND ASSOCIATED STIPENDS PER ATTACHED.**

Yeas: Pottieger, Redner, Taylor, Waxler, Ziolkowski, Harenza, McAvoy, McCaffrey, and Phillips

Absent: None.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS None.

RIGHT TO KNOW REQUEST None.

UPDATES FROM ORGANIZATIONS None.

ADJOURNMENT A motion was made by Mr. McCaffrey second by Mrs. Phillips to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Board Secretary