

WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
MORRISDALE, PA
REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 24, 2005

The regular meeting of the West Branch Area School District of Directors was held in the elementary gym on January 24, 2005, at 7:35 pm. (Note: An Executive Session for Personnel issues was held prior to the start of the board meeting).

ROLL CALL

Members present: Tim Eyerly; Alan Larson; Ronald Mollura; Anna Mae Pezulla; Robert Smith; Mary Beth Speigle; Ted Hubler; Donald Yontosh. Members absent: Joseph Veneziano

VISITORS

Others Present: Mr. Thomas Giles, Superintendent; Mr. Ronald Matchock, High School Principal; Mrs. Sharlene Yontosh, Supervisor of Special Education/Curriculum Services; Mr. Paul Carr, Business Manager; Miriam Ennis, Board Secretary; David Consiglio, Solicitor; Jamie Bumbarger-The Progress; Wanda Rougeux; Robin Granite; Marva King; William Burfeld; Dale King; Lois Ennis; Wendy McGonigal; Diane Jozefick; Marianne Couteret; Mary Beth Bamat; Craig Bamat; William Thompson; Joe Kovalcin; Susan Pilosky; Len Coval; Jeff Ennis; Bryan Ennis; Dorothy Gaines; Michelle Bamat; Michael Narehood; Susan Lawrence; Scott Bamat.

PUBLIC
COMMENT

Susan Pilosky – Her son spends more time on each subject. He brings home extra papers on the work covered during the school day. The teacher can spend more time on areas where her son needs more help.

Susan Lawrence – Kindergarten Staff. She is teaching the full day program. She can spend more time on extra activities to help the students build their social skills, learn daily rules and act and behave as a group. The teacher can spend more time on academic skills and connect with the students on a personal level. More information is forth coming in February.

Robin Granite – Karthaus Township – Askey Road is not safe. She will be living their in another year and does not expect the bus to pick up her children on that road. Children are telling their parents that they are afraid of traveling on Askey Road.

Marva King – Her daughter rides the bus. A compromise needs to be reached. She suggested that the school district provide a van for that student.

Wanda Rougeux – Karthaus Township – She suggested that the Board members all go to look at Askey Road.

Mary Ann Couteret – Chapter 23 should be use to protect our children. The Board is putting the students in an unsafe situation everyday.

Mary Beth Bamat – Safety should be first priority when making decisions concerning bus stops.

Craig Bamat – Encouraged the Board to go to Askey Road and consider the safety of the children.

MINUTES
APPROVED

Anna Mae motioned, seconded by Robert Smith, to approve the minutes of December 7, 2004. Voice roll call unanimous approval.

STUDENT
REP.
REPORTS

Student Representative Reports –

- Senior Projects – early deadline February
- District Band – Curwensville cancelled – Melinda Korb – Regional Band – February 16-19,2004
- District Chorus
- Teen Court trip to courthouse
- Nittany Knights chorus met with students to keep chorus harmony alive
- Report Cards coming out Wednesday

Student Government

- Pre-PSSA Tests – for remediation purposes
- Activity Day – Wednesday
- Fundraiser – Sumanai victims
- Ski Clubs – no trips due to weather
- Drama Club – musical – Mid-April – Elementary
- Enrichment students – PA Farm Show

ADM. REPORTS

Administration Reports

Mr. Giles –

- Meeting dates that are have to be changed: March 28 and November 28, 2005
- PSBA Spring Legal Roundup – presented by attorneys - good information – April 27, 2005
- Memorandum of Understanding - Teacher’s Contract - Administration reviewed recommend approval
- Mr. Guth – Medical problems – may be back next year. Motion to approve Ray Pezalski as substitute elementary principal at \$270 per day.

Ron Mollura motioned, Anna Mae Pezzulla seconded, to approve hiring Ray Pezalski as substitute elementary principal at a rate of \$270 per day. Motion carried.

- Mr. Giles – retirement letter – June 3. Enjoyed working with staff and students and volunteers.
- Keystone Ed Accountability Standards/Indicators – 22 pages of checklists. Copy to Board members.
- There is a lot of work that needs done to the new addition. A punch list is being put together. Classrooms will not be occupied until all items are complete.
- Dorothy Gaines – letter to Board concerning Askey Road.

Mr. Matchock –

- Growing Greener Grant – A restoration plan was been submitted to DEP. An open house for the public is scheduled for April 26 (Senior Project Night).
- West Branch was featured on the Channel 10 School Matters segment on January 17 for a field trip to decorate sections of the Philipsburg Hospital at Christmas. The trip was part of a Family/Consumer Science elective course.
- Parent’s Night – February 9, 2005 – Juniors – Review post high school opportunities and financial aid.
- Junior High Schedule – two meetings were held by the committee. The committee will bring recommendations to the March board meeting.
- Jo Ellen Hunt will be chaperone to the Tech Conference. West Branch has students that will be presenting.

Mr. Carr –

- Nutri-Kids – new program for point of sale in the cafeteria-interface with new system. Cost is 15,000-16,000. Cost will likely drop. Mr. Eyerly asked if the system had an inventory system.
- Act 72 – Dr. William Hartman - \$1,000 – Good information

CIU

Mrs. Yontosh -

- Bridge Certificate – information will be forth coming at the next meeting.

CCCTC

CIU Report – Anna Mae Pezzulla

- Meeting is on Thursday.

CCCTC -

- Motion on the agenda for financing of renovations.

Technology Committee -

- The committee is trying to find a time to meet.

Don Yontosh motioned, Ted Hubler seconded, to approve the Treasurer’s Reports and bills as presented. Anna Mae Pezzulla questioned Verizon Wireless invoice and the number of cell phones currently in use.

Motion carried.

TREASURER’S
REPORTS

Committee Reports –
Personnel:

PART-TIME
BOOKKEEPER

Don Yontosh motioned, Anna Mae Pezzulla seconded to advertise for a part-time, confidential bookkeeper for the business office. Applicant must have a 2 year Accounting Degree. This position will be for 29 hours or less. Salary will be negotiated. Motion carried.

Athletic: Voting Items

Building & Grounds: Voting Items

Finance

CCCTC CAPITAL
IMP.

Anna Mae Pezzulla motioned, Robert Smith seconded, to approve the following motion:

1. Propose the Board approve the resolution to ratify the capital improvement program to the Clearfield County Career and Technology Center. Roll call: Mary Beth Speigle – yes; Ted Hubler – yes; Don Yontosh – yes; Alan Larson – yes; Robert Smith – yes; Ron Mollura – yes; Tim Eyerly – yes. Motion carried.

TAX
COLLECTORS

Alan Larson motioned, Don Yontosh seconded, to approve the following motions:

2. Propose the Board deny any increase on tax collector fees.
3. Propose the Board approve hiring Dr. William Hartman, Penn State University, to Conduct an Act 72 estimate and data analysis at a cost of \$1,000.

ACT 72
ANALYSIS

Athletics

Don Yontosh motioned, Ted Hubler seconded, to approve the following motions:

SPRING SPORTS
BIDS

1. Propose the Board approve the bids for spring sports:
Baseball: Sportsmans – 1165.36; Passons – 164.11; GLS – 14.12. Total: 1343.59
Softball: Sportsmans – 1315.55; Sport Supply – 417.62; Gopher – 24.38. Total: 1757.55
Track & Field: Sportsmans – 617.65; GLS – 33.74; MF Athletics – 169.00;
Sport Supply – 11.86; First to the Finish – 311.00; Gopher – 82.40. Total: 1225.65

VOLLEYBALL

2. Propose the Board approve the Volleyball team trip to Florida on August 31, 2005 to September 5, 2005 at no cost to the district.

TOPSOIL

3. Propose the Board approve the purchase of topsoil to be used on the football and soccer fields.

CARR HEAD
TRACK

4. Propose the Board approve the hiring of Adam Carr as Head Track and Field Coach beginning with the 2004-2005 season.

VOL COACHES

5. Propose the Board approve the following volunteer coaches pending receipt of all paperwork:
 - a. Ed Kyler – Baseball
 - b. John Williamson - Baseball
 - c. Roy Stapleton – Wrestling

Motion carried.

Addendum:

Don Yontosh motioned, Ted Hubler seconded to approve the following motions:

- HUGAR RET DEADLINE 1. Propose the Board approve the request from Janice Hugar to extend the deadline to submit the notice to retire.
- SUB 2. Propose the Board approve the following substitute:
Rebecca Smeal – Cafeteria, Cafeteria Monitor, Personal Care Aide & Classroom Aide
- WORKSHOPS 3. Propose the Board approve the following workshop requests:
a. Understanding the Importance of Classroom Management: Lock Haven Univ.; 2/4/05
Deb Gomola: Meals – 10.00; mileage – 22.50; sub – 85.00. Total cost: 117.50
b. English Lit and Composition-AP Seminar: La Roche College, Pittsburgh, PA; 3/18/05
Thomas Partner: Reg. – 160.00; mileage – 41.25; sub – 85.00. Total cost: 286.25
Ronda Hanslovan: Reg. – 160.00; sub – 85.00. Total cost: 245.00
c. Altoona Extreme Football Clinic: Altoona, PA; 1/28 & 29/05
Chad Koleno, Jerry White, Chris Mason, Matt Johnson, Doug Sankey, Tom Partner & William Hayward: Reg. – 339.00
- CHANGE ORDERS 5. Propose the Board approve the change order to Quick Response Fire Protection in the Amount of 35,716.00, Overdorf Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of 3,740.00 and Allied Mechanical and Electrical in the amount of 29,438.00. (Sprinkler System / Fire Pump)
- RETIREMENT/ GILES 6. Propose the Board approve the retirement of Thomas Giles, Superintendent, effective on the last student day, June 3, 2005.

Motion carried.

- MEMORANDUM Motion no. 4 was pulled for an individual roll call vote. Mr. Giles explained that this memorandum is needed to clarify items in the teacher's contract. This memorandum was reviewed by Mr. Giles and Mr. Carr.

Don Yontosh motioned, Tim Eyerly Seconded, to approve the following motion:

4. Propose the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the West Branch Education Association and West Branch Area School District.

Voice Roll call: Robert Smith – no; Don Yontosh – yes; Ted Hubler – yes; Mary Beth Speigle – yes; Ron Mollura – no; Anna Mae Pezzulla – no; Alan Larson – yes; Tim Eyerly – yes.
5 yes, 3 no. Motion carried.

- CORRESP. Correspondence:

The Board received a letter from Dorothy Gaines concerning Askey Road.

- NEW BUSINESS New Business:

Ron Mollura asked what percentage of the wage taxes was collected and what if anything is done to collect past due wage tax. Paul Carr responded that the tax collectors are following through with collection of past due wage tax. They report to the Business Office the amount of what has been collected.

Mr. Giles will call Huntingdon School District for information on a senior citizens pass to events at the school.

Tim Eyerly requested that a committee be formed to study Full-Day Kindergarten. There is already a committee. The Board will add to that committee. Alan Larson, Mary Beth Speigle and Ron Mollura will represent the Board on the Kindergarten committee.

A Cafeteria Committee will also be formed. This committee will meet the same time as the Building & Grounds on the third Monday of the month at 8:00 p.m. Anna Mae Pezzulla questioned as to why the

Cafeteria Committee was meeting the same time as Building & Grounds. Mr. Eyerly responded that the committees would be over a two hour period instead of a three hour period. Don Yontosh will be the chairperson, Mary Beth Speigle, Ted Hubler, and Anna Mae Pezzulla will make up the Cafeteria Committee.

A van will be going to visit Askey Road on Saturday, January 29, 2005, at 7:00 a.m. Wanda Roughex requested that the Board take a school bus. Paul Carr will check on the cost of a bus with the contractor.

After much discussion, it was decided to request that the Solicitor set up times for other individuals to give presentations on a superintendent search. A special meeting will be held for that purpose.

VISITORS

Recognition of Visitors:

Joe Kovalcin encouraged the Board to move forward as quickly as possible to find a successor for Mr. Giles.

Wanda Roughex asked the Board if it would be allright to have WTAJ-TV to come on Saturday when the Board reviews the Askey Road bus stop.

Marianne Couteret – If a decision was decided on by the Board concerning Askey Road, when would that decision be made? Tim Eyerly responded that at this point it would be February.

Michelle Bamat – The major of people that spoke at last month’s board meeting did not have children riding the bus on Askey Road. Decisions by the Board are made according to whoever comes to the Board that month. The decisions should be based on the best interests of the children.

ADJOURN

Don Yontosh motioned, Robert Smith seconded to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Ennis
Board Secretary