

WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SESSION

February 19, 2014

Members Present: Joseph M. Kovalcin, Larry Allen, Gerald Coble, Robert Seprish, Paul Carr, Don Yontosh, Melvin Smeal, Christina Brown, Chad Diviney

Members Absent: None

Student Representatives: None

Media Present: Tyler Kolesar, The Progress News

Administration Present: Joseph Holenchik, Wendy Fernburg, Jason McMillen, Michelle Dutrow, Mark Mitchell, Dave Nelson

Others Present: Kasi Woodring, Board Secretary; David Consiglio, Solicitor; Greg Modzel, Shelly Denochick, Emily Callahan, Robert Rusnak, Traci Callahan, Aleah Schwiderske, Amber Liegey, Ashley Denochick, Ron Mollura, Patrick Shive, Lester Smeal, Karen Atwood, Monica Simcisko, Tiffany Parks, Laura Coble, Megan Dale, Rachel Brown, Samantha Phillips

OPENING EXERCISES

President Joseph Kovalcin called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. All present were asked to stand and pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended board approval to the minutes of the January 27, 2014 of the Regular Session meeting. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion with the addition that fall coaching positions be added to the Transportation & Athletic motion #1, January 27, 2014, Voting Agenda, to approve the retention of the fall coaches. Mrs. Woodring will add the positions to the January 27, 2014 Regular Session Board Minutes. The motion was carried with a vote of 9-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS

Ronald Mollura commented on last month's public comments. He said in all the years he was on the Board he has never seen anyone trash a current employee of the District.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Joseph Holenchik, Secondary Principal—

- Attended the PSSA Test Administrator training, Student Learning Objectives training, and the Principals Bi-monthly Networking meeting.
- Presented budget at the Finance Committee Meeting
- Continued working on the Course Selection Handbook and began discussion about the 2014—2015 course schedule and class offerings.

Mark Mitchell, Elementary Principal—

- Attended the PETE & C Conference, Olweus Bullying training, I3 Science training and will attend the Federal Programs training on Friday & ESAP training in March

- Kindergarten prescreening was cancelled due to weather and will be scheduled at a later date, Kindergarten registration will be held March 4 & 5, 2014
- Science showcase was well attended

Wendy Fernburg, Supervisor of Special Education—

- Peer Coaching Teams are well on their way to completing both of their observation and coaching cycles. Those who have completed one or both of their cycles have submitted a hard copy of their summaries to me as well as have uploaded it into Teachscape.
- Action Research participants have met with me for their mid-point review while 3 teachers have completed their research and provided their results to me as well as have uploaded them to Teachscape for future use.
- Kindergarten transition meetings will be held tomorrow and Friday; as of today there are 13 students entering kindergarten with an IEP.

Jason McMillen, Business Manager—

- Busy working on budget
- The Cafeteria Food Service Management walkthrough was completed on 2/14/2014. Both companies were pleased with the schools, the next step is receiving proposals from both companies

Dave Williamson, Athletic Director / Student Registrar—

- Mr. Williamson was unable to attend the meeting due to Athletic Director obligation to be present at the Boys Basketball playoff game. Mr. Williamson reported to Mrs. Dutrow that the Boys Basketball team won 70-65 and will continue to the next round of playoffs.

Dave Nelson, Maintenance Supervisor—

- There were a few issues of roof leakage around the building, the warranty company has issued a purchase order so the repairs can be made.

Nik Bisko, Technology Administrator—

- Mr. Bisko was not in attendance at the meeting

OTHER REPORTS

CIU #10—

Mr. Coble had no items to report. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

CCCTC—

Mr. Allen said the Career and Technology Center has hired a teacher for the Adult Machine Shop class, they are hoping to offer the program next year to high school students.

BOARD

There were no voting items in the Board section of the agenda.

PERSONNEL

Volunteers Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Dan Betts, Dennis Kovalick & Kaylie Maines to the Volunteer list. All paperwork has been completed. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

A. White Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Ashley White, Paid Leave West Branch Elementary School, Title I Reading Teacher, requesting paid leave of

absence from approximately April 11, 2014 through June 6, 2014. Mrs. White has met all requirements for said leave in accordance with the agreement between West Branch School District and the West Branch Education Association. Mr. Chad Diviney seconded the motion and it carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

EDUCATION

- School Calendar Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the West Branch Area School District 2014—2015 Calendar. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 9-0-0.
- Mr. Carr asked if the calendar aligned with the CCCTC, Mrs. Dutrow replied that with the exception of the November Teacher In-Service, our calendar matches the CCCTC.
- Field Trips Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following field trips:
- WB Elementary Band field trip to Band Fest on April 25, 2014, at a cost to the District of \$180 plus the cost of the gas for the school van. (Information Only: 9 students will be attending the trip. Chaperone is Trent Yarrison.)
- 4th grade field trip to Parker Dam State Park on April 25, 2014. (Funding-PTO). (Information Only: Approximately 100 students will be attending the trip. Chaperones are Nan Reams, Wendy Timblin, Shari Buck, Dana Croyle, Sharon Blasko, Cindy Dobo, Jeremy Kephart, Tracy Graham, Dawn Fetterolf, Heather Nelson, Deanna Fuller and Melissa Johnson.)
- Secondary Learning Support field trip to Lock Haven University—Clearfield Campus on March 18, 2014 at a cost of \$260 to the District (\$170 cost of subs; \$90 cost of bus). 20 students will be attending the trip. (Information Only: Chaperones are Nicole Petriskey and Beth Hudish.)
- 3rd grade field trip to Punxsutawney Weather Center on May 20, 2014 (Group 1) and May 22, 2014 (Group 2) at a cost of \$7 to the student (no cost to the District—Funding-PTO). 40 students from each group will be attending the trip. (Information Only: Chaperones for Group 1 are Michele Koleno, Stephanie MacTavish, Adele Swales, Lynette Bloom and Michelle Myers; Chaperones for Group 2 are Becky Lutchko, Cheri Cantolina, Carla Heitsenrether and Jenelle Bainey.)
- 6th grade field trip to an Altoona Curve game on May 22, 2014 at a cost of \$9.50 to the student (no cost to the District—Funding-PTO). 70 students will be attending the trip. (Information Only: Chaperones are Barb Spencer, Michele Guerra, Rhonda Trude, Lynne Rockey, Phil Wood, Lori Bell and two other parents-Kasi will make sure all clearances and paperwork are on file prior to approval.)
- Kindergarten field trip to the Elk Center, Benazette, PA, on May 21, 2014 at a cost of \$5 to the student (no cost to the District—Funding-PTO). 96 students will be attending the trip. (Information Only: Chaperones are Jennifer Porter, Crystal Schwiderske, Nicole Petriskey, Stacey Taylor, Dawn Brownson, Carolyn Dobo, Megan Amos, Sarah Lumadue, Chad Koleno, Jaimy Buck, Susan Lawrence, Allison Koleno, Susan Zimmerman, Melissa Yontosh and Crystal Parks, Mark Mitchell, Jason Bainey, Heather McAllister, Kiersten McGuire, Connie Kephart, Denise Curley. Mike Gay and Carrie Kephart will be attending the trip pending receipt of all clearances and proper completed volunteer paperwork.)
- 2nd grade field trip to Penn's Cave on May 29, 2014 at a cost of \$13 to the student (no cost to the District—Funding-PTO). 88 students will be attending the trip. (Information Only: Chaperones are Hank Wilson, Brandy O'Hare, Jarrod Hendricks,

Kristi Gibson, Jamie Jones, Cindy Bock, Cheryl Green, Dana Croyle, Joe Koleno and Melissa Yontosh.)

Elementary Chorus Fest field trip to Glendale School District on May 2, 2014 at a cost of \$354 to the District (\$85 for substitute, \$92 for student registration, \$127 for director registration and \$50 for the school van). 4 students will be attending the trip. (Information Only: Chaperone is Laura Mazer.)

Mr. Larry Allen seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

TRANSPORTATION & ATHLETICS

Jr. High Volleyball Proposal Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the proposed Jr. High Volleyball program for implementation for the fall 2014. (As per discussion during the January 27, 2014 board meeting.) Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 8-1-0, with Mr. Carr voting no.

Mr. Carr stated that he questioned the District starting another program with the current budget deficit.

Mr. Seprish commented that the program is a good thing.

Mrs. Dutrow stated that as per the January 27, 2014 discussion, there was no cost to the District.

Mr. McMillen added there may be supplemental operational costs.

Mr. Diviney stated that he also thought there was no cost the District.

The Board directed the administration there were to be no District costs.

J. Catanzaro D. Catanzaro Softball Coach Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Jane Catanzaro as the Head Jr. High Softball Coach & Dave Catanzaro as the Assistant Jr. High Softball Coach. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

Motion Removed The motion was removed to approve Dennis Arnold as the Assistant Varsity Softball Coach, due to non-completed paperwork.

Spring Athletic Volunteers Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended approve the following volunteers to the spring athletic programs:
Baseball: James Moslak, Kevin Hubler, Jerry White, Butch Emigh, Tyler Piotrowski
Track/Field: Phil Wood, Scott Slippey
Jr. High Softball: Dan Betts
Jada Wisor, softball volunteer, was removed from the motion due to non-completed paperwork.
Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Storm Runners Facility Use Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Facility Use Request for the Storm Runners (semi-pro football team) as per Board Policy #707 (\$100 per day for up to ten days or \$1,000 total). Mr. Gerald Coble seconded the motion and it failed with a vote of 2-7-0. Voice Roll Call: Mrs. Brown—no; Mr. Smeal—no; Mr. Diviney—no; Mr. Yontosh—no; Mr. Allen—no; Mr. Coble—yes; Mr. Seprish—no; Mr. Carr—yes, Mr. Kovalcin—no. 7—no; 2—yes. Motion failed.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to waive the charge for the Storm Runners to use the facilities. Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion and it carried by a vote of 8-1-0, with Mr. Carr voting no.

Mr. Yontosh asked if the Storm Runners were charged last year.

Mr. Coble commented that they were not charged last year and Mr. Allen replied that the Board didn't know the policy stated the team should be charged.

Mr. Yontosh asked if the team has insurance, Mr. Lester Smeal replied that they do have insurance and Mr. McMillen commented that they do not have a current insurance certificate on file but they do have one from last year. Mr. Lester Smeal commented that he would be providing a waiver to the Business Office.

Mrs. Dutrow commented that the Storm Runners are categorized as a Recreational Group sponsored by an organization other than West Branch.

Mr. Allen asked if they were a nonprofit group and Mrs. Dutrow replied that there is no paperwork showing they are a nonprofit group.

Surface
Noncoal
Mining

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Surface Noncoal Mining Activities: Building Waiver submitted by Monty L. Bloom for mining activities within 300 feet of school property. Activities must take place outside the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during days when school is in session. Mr. Gerald Coble seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 9-0-0.

Mr. McMillen spoke with Mr. Bloom and they will be mining top soil. It is not on our property but it is within 300 feet of the property so the DEP requires approval to any entity or property within the 300 feet mining.

Mr. Yontosh asked if damages will be fixed, Mr. McMillen informed Mr. Yontosh that if an damages occur, Mr. Bloom will be responsible for fixing the damages.

FINANCE & PURCHASE

Treasurers
Report

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Treasurer's Report for January. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 9-0-0.

Disbursements
/ Activity Acct.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following Disbursements from January / February:

\$ 13,831.28	Athletic Account	checks 11630 through 11694
\$ 77,132.82	Cafeteria Account	checks 3844 through 3856
\$	Construction Account	checks through
\$ 360,429.59	General Account	checks 43270 through 43340
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\$ 451,393.69	GRAND TOTAL	

and to approve the Activity Account for January. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

Preliminary
General Fund
Budget

Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to adopt the Preliminary General Fund Budget for 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 9-0-0. Voice Roll Call: Mrs. Brown—yes; Mr. Smeal—yes; Mr. Diviney—yes; Mr. Yontosh—yes; Mr. Allen—yes; Mr. Coble—yes; Mr. Seprish—yes; Mr. Carr—yes, Mr. Kovalcin—yes. 0—no; 9—yes. Motion carried.

Payment of
Bills thru Feb.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the payment of bills thru the end of February 2014. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 9-0-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no correspondence to present at the meeting.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Kovalcin indicated there will be an Executive Session held for personnel before the Board Meeting on March 24, 2014.

Mrs. Dutrow reminded the public that anyone wanting to speak with the Board is limited to three minutes and cautioned speakers to not use specific names of any current or former employees of the District.

Pat Shive addressed the Board with continued concerns regarding Common Core Standards.

Numerous individuals expressed concerns around the Cheerleading Program: Traci Callahan, Aleah Schwiderske, Tiffany Parks, Ashley Denochick & Megan Dale.

Mel Smeal commended the 6 students that participated in The Forest Hills Novice Power Lifting Meet. The students were Dan McGonigal, Creighton Coble, Mike Waple, Nathan Clinger, Ian Myers and L.G. Smeal. All lifters set personal records and set new Warrior Weight Lifting records.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Mr. Larry Allen seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 9-0-0.

Respectively Submitted,

Kasi Woodring
Secretary to the Board of Education