

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2006

1. Opening Activities

A. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Warren County School District Board of School Directors was called to order by Mrs. Nuttall, President, on Monday, March 13, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Warren County Career Center, 347 East Fifth Avenue, Warren, Pennsylvania.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Nuttall led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

C. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Mr. Roger Dunham
Mr. Kevin Freestone
Mr. Thomas Knapp
Mr. Nathan Lindberg

Mrs. Jacki Nuttall
Dr. Jack Martin
Mr. John Schwanke

Roll Call

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Richard Lyle

Mr. David Wortman

Others Present:

Mr. John Grant, Superintendent; Dr. J. Hugh Dwyer, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. John Sechriest, Executive Director of Learning Opportunities; Mr. Mark Eberl, Executive Director of Support Services; Mr. Joseph Tassone, Director of Instructional Services; Mrs. Amy Stewart, Director of Technology /Information Management; Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Mrs. Rosemarie Green, Director of State & Federal Programs; Mr. Darin Schulz, Business Administrator; Mr. Arthur Stewart, Solicitor; Mr. Chris Byham, Solicitor; Mrs. Ruth Huck, Board Secretary; Mr. Robert Seiden, Kinzua Broadcasting; Mr. Brian Ferry, Times Observer; Mr. Eugene Casasanta, Hearing Officer; Mr. Matt Jones, Coordinator of Grants and Foundation Development; Mr. Jack Werner, Supervisor of District-wide Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities; Mr. Ernie Fulgenzi, Principal; Kelly Martin, Principal; Mrs. Ruth Nelson, Principal; Mrs. Amy Stimmell, Mr. Mark Nelson, Supervisor of Special Education; Claudia Solinko, WCEA President; and approximately 30 unidentified members of the audience.

D. Reading of the Mission Statement - Mr. Roger Dunham

Mr. Dunham read the mission statement.

The mission of the Warren County School District is to prepare all students to be responsible and productive citizens by providing them with the skills and education necessary to achieve academic and personal excellence.

E. Recognitions and Presentations

1. MATHCOUNTS Competition Participants – Amy Stimmell/Kelly Blasco

Students in the Gifted Support Program who participated in a recent MATHCOUNTS Competition represented the District very well. The competition took place on February 11 at Gannon University. Kelly Blasco, the MATHCOUNTS Chapter coach, introduced the students that participated. Twenty five teams participated in the event. Beaty-Warren Middle School students participating were Jocelyn Thomas, Danielle Hamm and Tyler Lichtenberger. Tyler, who was ranked second overall, will compete in the State competition. Eisenhower Middle/High School students participating were Nick Church, Dylan Ferrell, Paul Scherrer, John Honhart, Megan Church and Miranda Miller. Miranda was ranked first overall and will compete at the State competition. Sheffield Area Middle/High School was represented by Kaitlyn and Kristin McAvoy. Some of the students were not able to attend because of other activities.

F. Agenda Adoption

March 13,
2006, Agenda
Approved
7-0-0

It was moved by Thomas Knapp and seconded by Kevin Freestone that the Board of School Directors adopts the agenda of March 13, 2006, as presented on BoardDocs.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

F. Public Comment

Doris Thiele and Michele Elmer	Bavaria	Exchange Student Teacher - PSEA	Thanked the Board for allowing her to come to the District as an exchange student teacher. She is studying to be an English teacher and school psychologist.
Barb Phillips	1 Willoughby Ave., Warren		Board Vacancy – David Wortman’s desire was to have Mr. Toby Shea fill his board seat while serving in Iraq.
Jerry Miller	414 Poplar Street, Warren		Board Vacancy – Supports David Wortman’s desire to have Mr. Toby Shea fill his board seat while David is

Jennifer
Wortman

400 W. 5th Ave.,
Warren

serving in Iraq.

Board Vacancy – As David Wortman's wife she requested that the Board honor her husband David's wishes to have Toby Shea fill the Region I seat while he is in Iraq.

G. Approval of the Minutes - February 13, 2006 (APPENDIX A pp. 228-238)

It was moved by John Schwanke and seconded by Jack Martin that the Board of School Directors approves the regular meeting minutes of February 13, 2006.

February 13,
2006 Minutes
Approved
7-0-0

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

H. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes - February 21, 2006 (APPENDIX B pp. 239-240)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Special Meeting minutes of February 21, 2006.

February 21,
2006, Special
Meeting
Minutes
Approved
7-0-0

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

I. Approval of Financial Reports (attachments pp. 2-44)

It was moved by Thomas Knapp and seconded by Kevin Freestone that the Board of School Directors approves financial reports and authorizes the release of funds in payment of the listing of bills. Further, that a copy as presented be submitted for audit.

Financial
Reports
Approved
7-0-0

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Mr. Dunham, Mr. Freestone, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lindberg, Dr. Martin, Mrs. Nuttall, Mr. Schwanke

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

J. Hearing Officer's Report - Mr. Eugene Casasanta

It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Hearing Officer's Report dated March 13, 2006 (Cases: JJ-LL).

Hearing
Officer's Report
Approved
7-0-0

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

(Cases are kept in a separate minute book.)

2. President's Statement

A. Reports and Information

1. I.U. #5 - Mr. John Schwanke

The mobile technology labs were discussed at the IU meeting. They are available to be used at any location in the IU and the fees are nominal.

2. PSBA - Mr. Thomas Knapp

Mr. Knapp attended the PSBA Legislative meeting in Hershey March 5th and 6th. The agenda was quite comprehensive. Early childhood education was a topic, Pre-K education and all day kindergarten. Another topic was transforming Pennsylvania's high schools with Project 720 which sounds like core curriculum. Someone will be sending him additional information.

Gubernatorial candidates Ed Rendell, Lynn Swann, Rick Santorum, and Bob Casey spoke on their ideas for public education. The PSBA president and vice president also spoke regarding legislative issues now and coming in the future. He encouraged the Board members to read the PSBA Bulletin.

3. Career Center Advisory - Mr. Richard Lyle

There was no report.

4. Budget Ad Hoc Committee (attachments pp. 45-84)

Mr. Dennis Bonace officially presented the Budget Ad Hoc Committee Report to the Board of School Directors. It is available on BoardDocs for public review. He thanked all of those who spent countless hours attending meetings and putting the report together.

Mr. Freestone thanked the committee for their work.

Mrs. Nuttall also expressed her appreciation on behalf of the Board for the many hours spent by the members of the committee, the administration, and members of the Board.

B. Important Dates

	Date	Time	Committee	
1.	Mar. 20, 2006	6:00 p.m.	Finance Committee Work Session	Curwen Building
2.	Mar. 27, 2006	6:00 p.m.	Personnel/ Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities Committee	Warren County Career Center
3.	Mar. 27, 2006	Following Personnel	Curriculum, Instruction & Technology	Warren County Career Center
4.	Mar. 28, 2006	6:00 p.m.	Physical Plant & Facilities Committee	Curwen Building
5.	Mar. 28, 2006	7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee	Curwen Building
6.	Apr. 10, 2006	7:00 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Warren County Career Center

C. Region I Seat

It was moved by Jack Martin that the Board of School Directors nominates John Shea to fill the vacancy in Region I.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors advertises according to past practice to fill the temporary vacancy in Region I and conduct interviews.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Mr. Schwanke, Mr. Dunham, Mr. Freestone, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lindberg

Voting No: Dr. Martin, Mrs. Nuttall

The result of the vote was: Pass

Nomination of
John Shea to
Fill Vacancy in
Region I
Fails for Lack of
a Second.

Process To Fill
Region I Seat
Approved
5-2-0

3. Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations

A. General Comments - Mr. John Grant/Dr. J. Hugh Dwyer

1. Graduation Status (attachment p. 85)

2. Grants Development – Mr. Matt Jones

The District has received a \$50,000 grant for the “Getting to One” grant program which will pay for one half of the salary and benefits of the technology coach for teachers to help with technology integration into the classroom.

The Rural Utilities Service grant is on the agenda, and he pointed out that this grant is worth a \$500,000. The District has received it in the past, and the district is looking at a distance learning technology solution for the district.

There is a mini-grant for Sugar Grove Elementary on the agenda in the amount of \$4,500.

There are a couple of large State allocation grants coming to the District. The first one is the Accountability Block Program. The District has received it two years in the past. The allocation was \$867,000 in the past and this year the governor is proposing to raise it by \$195,000 bringing it to \$1.07 million dollars. This was used in the past to help address items within the District budget such as class size reduction, math teacher coaches, professional development, support for the tutoring program and the first year of our implementation of a tech. ed. proposal.

The tutoring program is in its fourth year (EAP) and that dollar amount is \$431,000 which is just down a couple of hundred dollars and will be due in May. PDE likes our program, and it is likely that it will be funded again this year. The monies are used to purchase remediation software.

There are other grants coming to CIT in the near future. The Education Program Grant from the federal government which will be used to help

create programs to help integrate K-12 PSSA standards. Another grant is for the long term model art in residency program that would extend what we have been doing with Project Art Smart. Project 720 is has to do with various aspects of school reform. That application will come out this spring. A High Mark grant is being submitted to possibly establish nature trails around the Warren Area Elementary School or possibly a ball diamond to promote healthy activity. There are also a couple of guidance programs that will be coming.

3. Federal Programs/Professional Development/Gifted Support/Tidioute Community Charter School – Mrs. Rosemarie Green

There has been a considerable amount of professional development ongoing in the District. One of the big professional development days took place on March 3. Teachers are coming forward and expressing what they would like to see for professional development and some are offering their expertise to provide professional development programs to the District, and they have been given every opportunity to do that. Some of the activities around the District included:

- elementary teachers dealt with differentiated instruction
- there was a training on brain research
- adapt training
- training on music software
- nurses heard about medical updates
- technology training for Family & Consumer Science instructors on computer sewing machines
- smartboard training
- language arts teachers doing PSSA training
- and a variety of other things

The unique thing about the Act 80 days is not only did we provide training for the certificated staff, but the District also provided training for the aides in accessing the email system, the internet use policy and technology use policy.

An administrative recommendation will be presented at the next CIT meeting for the Gifted Support Program for the 2006-2007 school year.

B. Informational Personnel (attachments pp. 86-87)

C. Other

John Schwanke asked Dr. Dwyer to explain what the Strategic Planning Committee does.

The Strategic Planning process is a mandated process through Chapter 4 of the PA School Code. All school districts in the Commonwealth are divided into three phases and Warren County School District is in phase I. The purpose is to have a community group to come together and prepare a Strategic Plan for the improvement of instruction for the District and to recommend it to the Board. There is a slate of 25 members that was approved at the last Board meeting. The first meeting occurred on March 1,

2006, and they will continue every Wednesday through May. Dr. Dwyer serves as the facilitator and Dr. Sechriest assists him. The group includes high school students, community leaders, business men and women, Board members, parents and grandparents and other representatives. The goal is to bring a recommended Strategic Plan to the CIT Committee at its May meeting and to the Board in June. It will go to the public for perusal for 30 days, the Board will accept it, and then it will be sent to PDE by Sept. 30 to be placed on file.

Mr. Dunham pointed out that Mr. Lyle is no longer Chairperson for the Personnel Committee and it will need to be changed on the Informational Personnel Report.

4. New Business - Consent Agenda

A. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Consent Agenda with the exception of items:

Consent Agenda Approved 7-0-0
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- 4H. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - WTW Architects - Mr. Schwanke
- 4I. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - Chambers Design Associates - Mr. Schwanke
- 4J. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - HF Lenz Company - Mr. Schwanke
- 4K. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - Halgren, Restifo, Loop & Coughlin Architects - Mr. Schwanke
- 4L. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - Ted Dannerth Engineering - Mr. Schwanke
- 4M. School Calendar 2006-2007 - Dr. Martin
- 4N. RUS Grant - Dr. Martin
- 4W. Sheffield Closure - Dr. Martin

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Mrs. Nuttall, Mr. Schwanke, Mr. Dunham, Mr. Freestone, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lindberg, Dr. Martin

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

B. Personnel Report: Certificated Staff - Personnel/ Athletic & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke (attachments pp. 88-89)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke That the Board of School Directors approves the Certificated Personnel Report.

Personnel Report: Certificated Staff Approved 7-0-0
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The result of the vote was: Unanimous

Personnel
Report:
Support Staff
Approved
7-0-0

- C. Personnel Report: Support Staff - Personnel/ Athletic & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke (attachment p. 90)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Support Personnel Report as presented.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

Athletic
Supplemental
Contracts
Approved
7-0-0

- D. Athletic Supplemental Contracts - Personnel/ Athletic & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke (attachments pp. 91-92)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Athletic Supplemental Contracts and list of Spring Coaches as presented.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

Co-Curricular
Contracts
Approved
7-0-0

- E. Co-Curricular Supplemental Contracts - Personnel/ Athletic & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke (attachment p. 93)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Co-Curricular Supplemental Contracts as presented.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

Warren Area
High School
Tennis Use of
Lakewood
Facility
Approved
7-0-0

- F. Warren Area High School Tennis - Lakewood - Personnel/ Athletic & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke (attachments pp. 94-96)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves a contract with the Lakewood YMCA to allow the Warren Area High School boys' tennis team to use the facility.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

Youngsville
Mural Project
Approved
7-0-0

- G. Youngsville High School Mural Project - Physical Plant & Facilities Committee - Mr. Thomas Knapp (attachment p. 97)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Mural Painting Project by the Youth Volunteer Corps, at Youngsville High School in accordance with Policy 5210.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

CNC Wood
Lathe Purchase
Approved
7-0-0

- O. CNC Wood Lathe - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee - Mr. Richard Lyle (attachments pp. 98-113)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Forest Scientific bid of \$13,000 for a CNC Wood Lathe for the Warren County Career Center.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- P. Inclusive Practices Mini-Grant Application - Sugar Grove Elementary School - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee - Mr. Richard Lyle

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors directs the administration to submit a proposal in the amount of \$4,500.00 to support teacher common planning time and parent training opportunities in Sugar Grove Elementary School through the PDE Inclusive Practices Mini-Grant. This will be a proposed pilot program, contingent on funding approval.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- Q. Planned Instruction - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee - Mr. Richard Lyle (attachments pp. 114-127)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors delays the implementation of Planned Instruction 01253 Computer Technology until school year 2007-2008.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- R. Policy Number 2201, titled - Standing Committees - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone (attachment p. 128)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the changes to Policy Number 2201, titled - Standing Committees on second reading.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- S. Policy Number 2340, titled - Committee Meetings - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone (attachment p. 129)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the changes to Policy Number 2340, titled - Committee Meetings on second reading.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- T. Policy Number 3130, titled - Extraordinary Powers of Superintendent - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone (attachment p. 130)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the changes to Policy Number 3130, titled - Extraordinary Powers of the Superintendent on second reading.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- U. Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5 2006-2007 Budget - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone (attachments pp. 131-193)

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves Intermediate Unit #5

Inclusive
Practices Mini-
Grant
Application for
Sugar Grove
Elementary
Approved
7-0-0

Delay of
Implementation
of Planned
Instruction
01253
Computer
Technology
Approved
7-0-0

Policy 2201
Standing
Committees
Second
Reading
Approved
7-0-0

Policy 2340
Committee
Meetings
Second
Reading
Approved
7-0-0

Policy 3130
Extraordinary
Powers of the
Superintendent
Second
Reading
Approved
7-0-0

NW Tri-County
IU#5 Operating
Budget
Approved
7-0-0

2006-2007 operating budget.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- V. Gas Steamer & Kettle Bid - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone
(attachments pp. 194-202)

Gas Steamer &
Kettle Bid
Approved
7-0-0

It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the bid submitted by Ward Restaurant Equipment for the purchase of a gas steamer and gas kettle in the amount of \$18,299.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

5. Items Removed for Separate Action

H1. Items 4H, 4I, 4J, 4K and 4L

Items 4H, 4I, 4J,
4K and 4L
Approved
7-0-0

It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves items 4H, 4I, 4J, 4K and 4L as presented on the Consent Agenda.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- H. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - WTW Architects - Physical Plant & Facilities Committee - Mr. Thomas Knapp

Renewal of
Open-Ended
Professional
Agreement
with WTW
Architects
Approved
7-0-0

It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves an open-ended Architectural Agreement with WTW Architects for facilities maintenance and small District projects.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- I. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - Chambers Design Associates - Physical Plant & Facilities Committee - Mr. Thomas Knapp

Renewal of
Open-Ended
Professional
Agreement
with Chamber
Design Assoc.
Approved
7-0-0

It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves an Open-Ended Architectural Agreement with Chambers Design Associates for facilities maintenance and small district projects.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- J. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - HF Lenz Company -Physical Plant & Facilities Committee - Mr. Thomas Knapp

Renewal of
Open-Ended
Professional
Agreement
with HF Lenz
Company
Approved
7-0-0

It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves an Open-Ended Architectural Agreement with HF Lenz Company for facilities maintenance and small district projects.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- K. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - Halgren, Restifo, Loop & Coughlin Architects - Physical Plant & Facilities Committee - Mr. Thomas Knapp

Renewal of
Open-Ended
Professional
Agreement
with Halgren,
Restifo, Loop Y
Coughlin
Architects
Approved
7-0-0

It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board

of School Directors approves an Open-Ended Architectural Agreement to Halgren, Restifo, Loop & Coughlin Architects for facilities maintenance and small district projects.

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- L. Renewal of Open-Ended Professional Agreement - Ted Dannerth Engineering - Physical Plant & Facilities Committee - Mr. Thomas Knapp

It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves an Open-Ended Architectural Agreement with Ted Dannerth Engineering for facilities maintenance and small district projects.

Renewal of
Open-Ended
Professional
Agreement
with Ted
Dannerth
Engineering
Approved
7-0-0

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- M. School Calendar 2006-2007 - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee - Mr. Richard Lyle (attachment p. 203)

It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by Kevin Freestone that the Board of School Directors approves the amended school calendar for 2006-2007 such that Friday, December 22, 2006 is a contractual paid holiday and Wednesday, November 22, 2006 is an instructional day.

Amended
School
Calendar 2006-
2007
Approved
7-0-0

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Dr. Martin, Mrs. Nuttall, Mr. Schwanke, Mr. Dunham, Mr. Freestone, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lindberg

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- N. RUS Grant - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee - Mr. Richard Lyle

It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by Kevin Freestone that the Board of School Directors authorizes the Administration to apply for the Rural Utility Service (RUS) Grant. The grant funding will support District distance learning and professional development.

RUS Grant
Application
Approved
7-0-0

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Mr. Lindberg, Dr. Martin, Mrs. Nuttall, Mr. Schwanke, Mr. Dunham, Mr. Freestone, Mr. Knapp

The result of the vote was: Unanimous

- W. Sheffield Closure - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone (attachments pp. 204-227)

Note: This motion was pulled from the consent agenda and no motion was made by board members.

This item was
pulled from
the consent
agenda and no
motion was
made by
Board

6. Future Business for Committee Review

No Items

7. Other

No Items

8. Closing Activities

A. Public Comment

Jennifer Wortman Warren, PA

Region I Seat – This is a painful and stressful situation having this drawn out and she would like the Board to show respect and resolve this situation.

B. Executive Session

Mrs. Nuttall announced an executive session at 8:29 p.m. with no action to follow.

C. Adjournment

Jack Martin made a motion seconded by Mr. Schwanke that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth A. Huck, Board Secretary

Jacqueline L. Nuttall, Board President