

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2006

1. Opening Activities

1.01 Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Warren County School District Board of School Directors was called to order by Mrs. Nuttall, President, at 7:05 p.m. in the Board Room of the Warren County Career Center, 347 East Fifth Avenue, Warren, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Nuttall announced that an executive session had been held at 6:00 p.m. to discuss litigation and contractual issues.

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

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

1.03 Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Roll Call

Mr. Roger Dunham
Mr. Kevin Freestone
Mr. Thomas Knapp
Mr. Jeff Lockett

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

Board Members Absent:

Mrs. Jennifer Wortman

Others Present:

Dr. Robert Towsey, Interim Superintendent; Dr. J. Hugh Dwyer, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. John Sechriest, Executive Director of Learning Opportunities; Mr. Mark Eberl, Executive Director of Support Services; Mrs. Amy Stewart, Director of Technology / Information Management; Mrs. Rosemarie Green, Director of State & Federal Programs; Mr. Petter Turnquist, Business Administrator; Mr. Arthur Stewart Solicitor; Mrs. Ruth Huck, Board Secretary; Mr. Brian Ferry, Times Observer; Mr. Eugene Casasanta, Hearing Officer; Mr. Frank Galeazzo, Technology Coordinator; Mr. Jack Werner, Supervisor of District-wide Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities, Mr. Mark Nelson, Supervisor of Special Education; Mrs. Ruth Nelson, Principal; Ms. Ann Buerkle, Principal; Ms. Deborah Deppas, Principal; Mrs. Delores Berry, Principal; Mrs. Rhonda Decker, Assistant Principal; Mrs. Marcia Madigan, Principal; Claudia Solinko, WCEA President; and approximately 20 unidentified members of the audience.

1.04 Reading of the Mission Statement - Mr. Kevin Freestone

Mr. Freestone 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.

1.05 Recognitions and Presentations

- 1.) Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5 Consulting Service – Dr. Marjory Wallace presented the IU proposal for a superintendent search for the Warren County School District.

1.06 Agenda Adoption

Agenda
Adoption
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by Kevin Freestone that the Board of School Directors adopts the agenda of August 14, 2006, as presented on BoardDocs.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

1.07 Public Comment

Judy Baker R.D. #1, Box 36, Bear
Lake, PA

Ms. Baker thanked the Board for allowing her to attend the Autism Conference with her son. She asked the Board to contact one of the speakers that presented a session on Bullying to be used for in-service in the District.

She is also concerned that Youngsville HS, with only a part-time assistant principal, will have a difficult time dealing students in placement programs.

1.08 Approval of the Minutes - July 10, 2006

Minutes of
July 10, 2006
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Thomas Knapp and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the regular meeting minutes of July 10, 2006.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

1.09 Approval of Special Meeting Minutes - July 17, 2006

Minutes of
July 17, 2006
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by Nathan Lindberg that the Board of School Directors approves the Special Meeting Minutes of July 17, 2006.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

1.10 Approval of Financial Reports

Financial
Reports
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the 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.

Roll Call:

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

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

1.11 Hearing Officer's Report

MOTION: It was moved by Thomas Knapp and seconded by Kevin Freestone
that the Board of School Directors approves the Hearing Officer's Report
dated August 14, 2006, (Case: XXX).

Hearing
Officer's
Report
Approved
8-0-0

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

2. President's Statement

2.01 Reports and Information

1. I.U. #5 - Mr. John Schwanke
Mr. Schwanke had no report.
2. PSBA - Mr. Thomas Knapp
Mr. Knapp had no report.
3. Career Center Advisory - Mr. Jeff Lockett
Mr. Lockett met with the new principal at the Warren County Career Center. There
has not been an advisory committee meeting yet.

2.02 Important Dates

	Date	Time	Committee	Location
1.	Aug. 28, 2006	6:00 p.m.	Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee	Warren County Career Center
2.	Aug. 29, 2006	6:00 p.m.	Personnel/Athletic & Co-Curricular Activities Comm.	Warren County Career Center
3.	Aug. 29, 2006	Following Personnel	Finance Committee	Warren County Career Center
4.	Aug. 30, 2006	6:00 p.m.	Physical Plant & Facilities Committee	Warren County Career Center
5.	Sept. 6, 2006	1:30 p.m.	State Audit Review Conference (Executive Session)	Curwen Building
6.	Sept. 11, 2006	7:00 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting	Warren County Career Center
7.	Sept. 12, 2006	6:00 p.m.	PSBA Board In-Service	Warren County Career Center
8.	Sept. 13, 2006	6:00 p.m.	PSBA Board In-Service	Warren County Career Center

2.03 Voting Delegate for PSBA Legislative Policy Council Meeting

MOTION: It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by Jack Martin that
the Board of School Directors appoints Thomas Knapp to serve as a voting
delegate at the PSBA Legislative Policy Council Meeting to be held October
12, 2006.

Voting
Delegate
Approved
8-0-0

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

3. Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations

3.01 General Comments - Dr. Robert Towsey/Dr. J. Hugh Dwyer

A. The Academic Coaching Team will be presented with a commendation award for their participation in competition for the State's highest award at an upcoming meeting.

B. Information Management

- Amy Stewart presented the new WCSD website to the Board.
- The progress of the broadband contract was discussed.

C. Act 1 of 2006

- Solicitor Stewart summarized Act 1 for the Board. This Act imposes the Act 72 legislation on all 501 school districts. It is designed to provide property tax relief, and it accomplishes that through Homestead and Farmstead exemptions, which are property tax reductions for those types of properties, as well as, placing limits on tax increases that are imposed by school districts in their budget process. In order to make up for this lost revenue, the Act provides school districts a share of the gambling revenue. It offers the opportunity to increase the Earned Income Tax, but that can only be done via referendum and offers the opportunity to impose a Personal Income Tax, although regulations for that imposition have not yet been established. Another limitation is that the tax increase in the school district budget cannot exceed the index established by the State. The index cannot be exceeded without the approval of the voters in a referendum or under a certain list of exceptions, for example long standing construction debt that the district might have. The same awkward timetable for budget development that we had under Act 72 is also present in Act 1, except now, if the district agrees not to exceed the index, the district can return to the regular budgeting process deadlines in order to adopt a budget. Under the Act 72 budget adoption, the District was obligated to increase the earned income tax by one-tenth of one percent. Now under Act 1, that provision is repealed and the District is prevented from imposing that Earned Income Tax increase.

Deadlines:

Sept. 1 – PDE will publish the index for the next fiscal year

Sept. 14 – Appointment of the Tax Study Commission – This commission must make a non-binding report to the Board within 90 days or by Dec. 13. The recommendation to the Board is on the following question, a front-end referendum. This will go on the ballot in 2007, in Warren County, by law, and the question will essentially be this, "Do voters want to increase the Earned Income Tax," or the alternative, "Shift Earned Income Tax over to a Personal Income Tax in order to generate revenue and to reduce property taxes." The Tax Study Commission will be assembled to give the Board advice on a) does the Board wish to do that, b) If the Board wishes to do that, what rate of tax would they recommend for either the Earned Income Tax or the Personal Income Tax. There are certain minimum rates that the law establishes, which

the study commission and the Board will have to become familiar with later in the process.

It is important to understand the make-up of the Tax Study Commission, because on the meeting on Sept. 11 you will be required by law to appoint this Tax Study Commission. The Commission is made up of five, seven or nine members. Only one of the members can be a school board member and no member of the commission maybe a relative of a school official or employee. The commission members must have diversity in the areas of socio-economic make up, age and occupation.

The duties of the Tax Study Commission are as follows: They must meet and in those meetings they will need to comply with the Sunshine Law. They must hold at least one public hearing, and recommend either for or against the imposition of the Earned Income or Personal Income Tax and the rate. The commission will have certain needs which the Board will have to meet, including providing information, legal guidance such as the Sunshine Law, meeting facilities, reimbursement of expenses, advertising for a public meeting and providing financial information.

3.02 Informational Personnel

3.03 Other

Dr. Towsey reported that in the last few weeks administration has been bringing forth cost saving measures through the committee system. The savings will be brought to the Finance Committee on a monthly basis. Recently, it was discovered that Nutrition, Inc. owed the District approximately \$104,000. The District anticipates \$250,000 minimum flowing into its coffers from the sale of the gem and rock collection. The administrative supplemental assignments have been reduced by approximately \$4,500 from one year to the next and they are up for scrutiny for the new school year.

Dual enrollment through RCI, Regional Choice Initiative, is being considered. This is when a college professor comes to a District, stands in front of a classroom and teaches a college course to students. The students get college credit in addition to high school credit. This is very innovative program, one of the few in this State, and it is being looked at and discussed by the Central Office Directors. The final recommendation will come through the committee system.

4. New Business - Consent Agenda

4.01 Consent Agenda

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the Consent Agenda with the exception of:

4.02 Act 93 - Mr. Kevin Freestone

4.04 Unique Need Tuition Reimbursement Request, Susan Gizzie- Dr. Jack Martin

4.05 Unique Need Tuition Reimbursement Request, Diane Martin- Mr. Kevin Freestone

4.06 Certificated Personnel Report - Dr. Jack Martin

4.12 Custodial Reallocation - Mr. Kevin Freestone

Consent
Agenda
Approved
8-0-0

4.15 Distance Learning - Dr. Jack Martin

4.18 Policy Number 10220 - titled, Surveillance Policy - Dr. Jack Martin

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.02 Act 93 - Personnel/Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke

Removed for separate action.

4.03 Continuation of Contract - Gannon University/Villa Maria School of Nursing -
Personnel/Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke

Gannon/Villa
Maria
Nursing
Contract
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the continuation of the agreement between Warren County School District and Gannon University, Villa Maria School of Nursing for clinical learning experiences for students enrolled in the program during the 2006-2007 academic school year.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.04 Unique Need Tuition Reimbursement Request, Susan Gizzie- Dr. Jack Martin

Removed for separate action.

4.05 Unique Need Tuition Reimbursement Request, Diane Martin- Mr. Kevin Freestone

Removed for separate action.

4.06 Certificated Personnel Report - Dr. Jack Martin

Removed for separate action.

4.07 Support Personnel Report - Personnel/Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities Committee -
Mr. John Schwanke

Support
Personnel
Report
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the Support Personnel Report.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.08 Athletic Supplemental Contracts - Personnel/Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities
Committee - Mr. John Schwanke

Athletic
Supplemental
Contracts
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the Athletic Supplemental Contracts.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.09 YMCA Facility Agreement 2006-2007 - Personnel/Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities
Committee

YMCA
Facility
Agreement
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the YMCA Facility Agreement for 2006-2007 school year.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.10 Tax Study Commission - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the formation of a TAX STUDY

COMMISSION by September 14, 2006, as mandated by ACT 1: House Bill # 39; from the 2006 Special Legislative Session, per the parameters set forth in the attached documentation.

Formation of
Tax Study
Group
Approved
8-0-0

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.11 Gems and Minerals Project - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the appointment of Bohnams & Butterfields to act as our agent to sell at Public Auction the Gem & Mineral Collection donated by Levi Smith to the District approximately 70 years ago. Until recently returned, this collection has been on loan to Penn State University. Estimated Value of this sale could yield a probable value of \$250,000 to \$ 350,000.

Gems &
Mineral
Project
Approved
8-0-0

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.12 Custodial Reallocation - Mr. Kevin Freestone

Removed for separate action.

4.13 Bus Contractors 2006-2007 - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the list of Transportation Contractors for the 2006-2007 school year.

2006-2007 Bus
Contractors
Approved
8-0-0

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.14 Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for Allegheny National Forest - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors adopts the resolution authorizing comment on the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for the Allegheny National Forest.

ANF Land
Management
Response
Approved
8-0-0

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.15 Distance Learning - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone

Removed for separate action.

4.16 Grades K-5 Math Materials Adoption - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee - Mr. Nathan Lindberg

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors adopts the Scott Foresman Mathematics 2008 Edition textbooks as the K-5 District textbooks.

K-5 Math
Materials
Adoption
8-0-0

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

4.17 Policy Number 10930 - titled, Behavior Management - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee - Mr. Nathan Lindberg

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves the changes in Policy Number 10930 - titled, Behavior Management as illustrated on first reading.

Policy #
10930-
Behavior
Management
First Reading
Approved
8-0-0

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

- 4.18 Policy Number 10220 - titled, Surveillance Policy - Dr. Jack Martin

Removed for separate action.

- 4.19 U.S. Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Whale Baleen Loan - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology Committee - Mr. Nathan
Lindberg

Whale Baleen
Loan
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors accepts the terms and conditions of Whale Baleen materials for an indefinite period for instructional purposes from the U.S. Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and after review by the solicitor.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

5. Items Removed for Separate Action

- 4.02 Act 93 - Personnel/Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke

Act 93
Supplemental
Contracts
Failed
1-6-1

MOTION: It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the reorganization of the Administrative Supplementals for the 2006-2007 school year.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Lockett to refer this agenda item back to committee.
There was no second.

Roll Call:

Voting Yes: Mr. Freestone

Voting No: Mr. Schwanke, Mr. Dunham, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lockett, Dr. Martin,
Mrs. Nuttall

Abstention: Mr. Nathan Lindberg

The result of the vote was: Failed

- 4.04 Unique Need Tuition Reimbursement Request - Susan Gizzie - Personnel/Athletics &
Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke

- 4.05 Unique Need Tuition Reimbursement Request - Diane Martin - Personnel/Athletics &
Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke

Tuition
Reimbursement
Approved
7-0-1

MOTION: It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors approves motions 4.04 and 4.05 as with the recommended actions being the motions for the individual portions.

4.04 That the Board of School Directors approves the "Unique Need Tuition Reimbursement" for Susan Gizzie, up to 21 credits, to complete the administrative certification program at Gannon University.

4.05 That the Board of School Directors approves the "Unique Need Tuition Reimbursement," up to 68 credits and professional time, for Diane Martin to obtain a Doctoral degree from Penn State University.

Roll Call:

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

Abstention: Dr. Martin

The result of the vote was: Passed

4.06 Certificated Personnel Report - Personnel/Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities
Committee - Mr. John Schwanke

MOTION: It was moved by Jack Martin and seconded by Roger Dunham that
the Board of School Directors tables the Certificated Personnel Report until
after executive session.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

Certificated
Personnel
Report Tabled
Until After
Executive
Session
Approved
8-0-0

4.12 Custodial Reallocation - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone

MOTION: It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by Roger Dunham
that the Board of School Directors approves the reallocation of funds from
01-2620-000-11-23-000-160 to account 01-2610-000-00-35-000-413 in the
amount of \$32,500 to be effective October 1, 2006 in connection with an
unfilled custodial position due to retirement. This will transfer funds to the
Aramark contract for a Custodial Supervisor at the Russell Elementary
School. This reallocation is expected to result in a cost avoidance of
approximately \$16,416.

MOTION: It was moved by Kevin Freestone and seconded by Thomas Knapp
that the motion be sent back to committee and that the issues be resolved
with labor counsel prior to bringing it back to committee.

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

Custodial
Reallocation
Sent Back to
Committee
Approved
8-0-0

4.15 Distance Learning - Finance Committee - Mr. Kevin Freestone

MOTION: That the Warren County School District Board of Directors
approves the purchase and installation of distance learning equipment at
Youngsville High School, Warren Area High School, Eisenhower Middle
High School and Sheffield Area Middle High School at a total cost of no
more than \$275,000 as per the "PA 5850-05 Statewide
Networking/Peripheral/Audio-Visual Contract" and the "Intermediate
Unit #1 Polycom Purchasing Consortium".

The result of the vote was: Passed Unanimously

Distance
Learning
Equipment
Purchase
Approved
8-0-0

4.18 Policy Number 10220 - titled, Surveillance Policy - Curriculum, Instruction & Technology
Committee - Mr. Nathan Lindberg

MOTION: It was moved by Jeff Lockett and seconded by Thomas Knapp that
the Board of School Directors approves on second reading Policy Number
10220 - Surveillance Policy as modified.

The result of the vote was: Passed with Jack Martin voting no.

Policy # 10220
Surveillance
Second
Reading
Approved
7-1-0

6. Future Business for Committee Review

There were no items brought forward.

7. Other

7.01 Lease Agreement – Roger Dunham

Sheffield
Athletic
Complex Lease
Agreement
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Roger Dunham and seconded by Jack Martin that the Board of School Directors approves the lease agreement as amended between the Warren County School District and Sheffield Township Supervisors.

Public Comment:

The public asked for an explanation as to what the lease agreement stated. It concerns the Sheffield Area Middle/High School athletic complex, which will undergo renovations and the lease will enable state dollars to funnel through Sheffield Township for the project.

Roll Call:

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

8. Closing Activities

8.01 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

8.02 Executive Session

Mrs. Nuttall announced an executive session to discuss personnel issues at 9:00 p.m. with action to follow.

4.06 Certificated Personnel Report - Personnel/Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities Committee - Mr. John Schwanke

Certificated
Personnel
Report
Approved
5-2-1

MOTION: It was moved by Nathan Lindberg and seconded by John Schwanke that the Board of School Directors approves the Certificated Personnel Report.

Roll Call:

Voting Yes: Mrs. Nuttall, Mr. Schwanke, Mr. Freestone, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lockett

Voting No: Dr. Martin, Mr. Dunham

Abstention: Mr. Lindberg

The result of the vote was: Passed

8.03 Adjournment

It was moved by John Schwanke and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth A. Huck, Board Secretary

Jacqueline L. Nuttall, Board President