

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 7, 2007

1. Opening Activities

1.01 Call to Order

The special meeting of the Warren County School District Board of School Directors was called to order by Dr. Jack Martin, Vice-President, on May 7, 2007, at 8:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Warren County Career Center, 347 East Fifth Avenue, Warren, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Martin announced that an executive session was held prior to the special board meeting to discuss personnel and contract issues.

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Roll Call

1.03 Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Ms. Judy Baker
Mr. Roger Dunham
Mr. Thomas Knapp
Mr. Nathan Lindberg

Mr. Jeff Lockett
Dr. Jack Martin
Mr. David Wortman

Board Members Absent:

Mrs. Jacki Nuttall

Mr. John Schwanke

Others Present:

Dr. Robert Towsey, Interim Superintendent; Dr. J. Hugh Dwyer, Assistant Superintendent; 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; Mr. Chris Byham, Solicitor; Mrs. Ruth Huck, Board Secretary; Mr. Brian Ferry, Times Observer; Mr. Mark Rondinelli, Transportation Manager; Mr. Frank Galeazzo, Technology Coordinator; Mr. Mark Nelson, Supervisor of Special Education; Mrs. Ruth Nelson, Principal; Mrs. Diane Martin, Special Education Supervisor; Mr. Kelly Martin, Principal; Ms. Ann Buerkle, Principal; Dr. Karen Pascale, Assistant Principal; and approximately 10 unidentified members of the audience.

1.04 Reading of the Mission Statement – Jeff Lockett

Mr. Jeff Lockett read the mission statement.

The mission of the Warren County School District where today's student is our future, is to equip all students with the educational skills necessary to achieve their unique personal potential.

1.05 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. New Business

2.01 Full-Day Kindergarten Options - Dr. Towsey

Dr. Towsey shared with the Board the Allegheny Valley and church options. One church decided they will not make their facility available for use.

Chris Byham shared the findings of his research regarding the procedural obligations of leasing a church facility. Any lease agreement to use a facility for housing students must be approved by the PDE and the building must meet the requirements of PDE which include lease agreement documents, floor plan and certificate of occupancy. It takes a week for the approval. To receive state reimbursement the lease must be in place for five or more years. The district is looking at only a three year lease agreement.

Mark Rondinelli shared the plan as to how the kindergarten students would be bussed to Allegheny Valley. Students living outside the City of Warren will attend South Street Early Learning Center and ride on already established bus runs. Students in the former Jefferson Attendance Area and down to Averil Street would also attend South Street Early Learning Center. Kindergarten students with siblings at SSELCL will also be permitted to attend SSELCL. Two students who require special services will also attend SSELCL.

Those students who live west of the Conewango Creek, Ludlow Street to the Conewango Creek and on the south side of the city will attend Allegheny Valley. Also included are the students in the upper Conewango Ave. area and on the east side of the city beyond Averil Street who would also attend Allegheny Valley.

As reported we can provide appropriate and safe transportation for kindergarten students.

MOTION: Jeff Lockett made a motion seconded by Tom Knapp that the Board of School Directors directs the administration to pursue the Allegheny Valley option.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Dave Wortman made a motion that within two years that adequate additions are put in place at either South Street Elementary Learning Center or Warren Area Elementary Center to accommodate full day kindergarten in the Central Attendance Area

Mr. Lockett would not endorse the amendment.

MOTION: Dave Wortman made a motion to amend the motion on the table to state that within two years there is a construction project to add classroom space at either South Street Early Learning Center or Warren Area Elementary Center to accommodate full-day Kindergarten students in the Central Attendance Area to be completed within two years.

Seconded: Nathan Lindberg

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Ms. Baker, Mr. Dunham, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lindberg, Mr. Lockett, Dr. Martin, Mr. Wortman

The result of the vote: Passed Unanimously.

MAIN MOTION: That the Board of School Directors directs the administration to pursue the Allegheny Valley option and that within two years there is a construction project to add classroom space at either South Street Early Learning Center or Warren Area Elementary Center to accommodate full-day Kindergarten students in the Central Attendance Area. The construction project is to be completed within two years (Dave Wortman clarified that the two years means 2009-2010 school year).

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Mr. Wortman, Ms. Baker, Mr. Dunham, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lindberg, Mr. Lockett, Dr. Martin

The result of the vote: Passed Unanimously.

MOTION: Dave Wortman made a motion seconded Thomas Knapp that the Board of School Directors directs the administration to develop a Preliminary Budget for review at the next meeting on May 14, 2007.

The result of the vote: Passed Unanimously.

2.02 Other

3. Closing Activities

3.01 Executive Session

Jack Martin announced an executive session to discuss a contractual matter with contracted personnel services at 9:20 p.m. with no action to follow.

The meeting reconvened at 9:34 p.m.

3.02 Adjournment

Thomas Knapp made a motion seconded by Judy Baker that the meeting be adjourned at 9:35 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth A. Huck, Board Secretary

Jack L. Martin, Board Vice President