

**WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2011

1.0 Opening Activities

1.1 Call to Order

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

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Stewart led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

1.3 Roll Call

Present:

Mrs. Kimberly Angove
Mr. John Grant
Mr. Thomas Knapp
Mr. Jeff Lockett
Ms. Mary Anne Paris

Mr. Arthur Stewart
Mr. John Werner
Dr. Paul Yourchisin
Mrs. Donna Zariczny

Others Present:

Dr. Robert Terrill, Superintendent; Mrs. Amanda Hetrick, Director of Secondary Education; Mrs. Rosemarie Green, Director of State & Federal Programs; Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht, Director of Buildings & Grounds Services; Mrs. Amy Stewart, Director of Instructional Technology/Communications; Mrs. Diane Martin, Director of Special Education; Mr. Chris Byham, Solicitor; Mrs. Ruth Huck, Board Secretary; Mr. Brian Ferry and Mr. Eric Tichy, Times Observer; Mr. Michael Kiehl, Transportation/Purchasing Manager; Mr. Brian Collopy, Technology Coordinator; Mr. Paul Giannini, Technology/Information Systems Specialist; Mr. James Miller, Supervisor of District-wide Athletics & Co-Curricular Activities; Mrs. Suzanne Turner, Human Resource Supervisor; and approximately 200 unidentified members of the audience.

1.4 Reading of the Mission Statement - Mr. Jack Werner

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.

1.5 Reading of the WCSD/PSBA Standards for Effective School Governance and code of Conduct - Mr. John Grant

To Promote Student Growth and Achievement, an Effective Board. . .

***1) Advocates for a thorough and efficient system of public education by:
Allocating resources in a manner designed to facilitate student achievement
consistent with school district goals and plans.***

**2) Models responsible governance and leadership by:
Leading with respect and taking full responsibility for board activity and
behavior.**

1.6 Public Comment

Ms. Claudia Solinko	WCEA President	Ms. Solinko stated figures she received to develop the WCEA's budget analysis were provided by administration. WCEA's budget recommendation cut two administrators. She reported she has approached the administration about an early retirement incentives that have the potential of saving all furloughed positions and sports programs. She stated the union did not create this deficit so it should not be punished for the governor's under funding and the administration's overspending.
Darlene Albaugh	WCEA	Ms. Albaugh agreed with Mrs. Solinko.
Barb Scott		Did not speak
Clara McKotch	Vice-President of WCESPA	Ms. McKotch presented additional information for the proposal to eliminate All-Clean. She stated that administration has not been very cooperative.
Kalil Slaughter George Fitch	Sheffield, PA	Mr. Fitch related he does not want athletics consolidated. Many people will be disappointed if sports are consolidated. Mr. Slaughter stated he is from Philadelphia and thanked the board for making a co-op with Abraxas so that he could be a part of the sports program at Sheffield, it has changed his life. The community has supported him, and he wants to finish his sports career at Sheffield.
Jaylin Meade	Sheffield, PA	Ms. Meade is against the fees to participate in athletics and the consolidation of athletics.
Julie Ely	Sheffield, PA	Ms. Ely stated that sports help students do better in school, because they try to keep their grades up so they can participate. She stated that more girls are participating in sports, and if teams are consolidated, fewer girls will be able to participate.
Jeb Areto	Sheffield, PA	Mr. Areto wants to keep sports in Sheffield. He does not want consolidated sports.

Shane Stanley	Northern Attendance Area	Mr. Stanley stated that a meeting was held at Eisenhower Middle/High School, and consolidation of sports and marching bands is opposed. He asked the board to consider the impact of consolidating these activities.
Kristi Kulka	Sheffield, PA	Ms. Kulka stated that over \$700,000 has been spent on the Sheffield sports complex and urged the Board not to consolidate the sports teams. She views this as the first step in consolidating schools. She feels consolidation will kill small businesses, decrease property values, and hurt the community.
Kathy Mizak	Eisenhower Band Boosters	Ms. Mizak asked students how many of them sat in a hot classroom today? She suggested the Board rethink extending the school year because of the hot weather. She asked the Board for advice because the boosters have spent several thousand dollars on equipment for the coming school year and are planning on spending many thousand more, but if bands are going to be consolidated, they need to know how to proceed.
Dave Fitch	Sheffield, PA	Mr. Fitch is a coach and spoke against consolidated athletics. He stated traveling poses a safety hazard and scheduling would be difficult. Consolidating teams would cause them to be in the AAAA division making for longer travel time, and students leaving classes earlier and returning later in the evening. He questioned whether or not it would reduce the number of coaches that would be needed.
Hunter Keppel	Eisenhower	Mr. Keppel feels that five athletic directors are not needed and all should be eliminated except for one. He does not feel there is a need for athletic trainers either because the coaches are trained to take care of athletes. When students are not able to participate, there will be trouble and vandalism. He supports four teams and four schools.
Gene Wilston	Sugar Grove, PA	Mr. Wilston stated that he is fearful that the Board is making short term decisions instead of looking at the larger picture. He stated the long term problem is not going away.

		He is concerned because it is a very complicated problem that spans more than this year.
Mike Zamborik	Lander, PA	Mr. Zamborik stated he is a member elect of the school board and understands the students' concern. He met with Mr. Leamon and toured Eisenhower and found it is not falling down but only needs updates. He stated he is an advocate for four schools and is against consolidation. He supports raising taxes to keep the schools open and at the last election the people made their wishes known.
Macy Retterer	Eisenhower	Ms. Retterer stated she understands these are hard times but said there is no way sports consolidation will help the schools. She started a petition of people who are against consolidation which was presented to the board.
Shelby Willis	Eisenhower	Ms. Willis stated it is better for each school to have its own sports team, and combining teams would make the students lose their identity. She feels the schools are rivals and this will not work.
Kaitlyn Kotar	Eisenhower	Ms. Kotar expressed that she does not want consolidation because she will not be able to get to another school because she will not have a ride. Her father passed away last year and this will be a very big hardship for her.

1.7 Negotiations Update

Mr. Stewart and Mr. Knapp met with the union leadership last week. There was an exchange of information. Administration will be sending information to the union and the union will be forwarding information to administration and another meeting is scheduled next week.

Dr. Terrill affirmed that the other three non-union labor groups responded positively to the possibility of a pay freeze and health concessions.

2.0 New Business

2.1 Non-Renewal of Teacher Contracts

RESOLUTION: Made by Mr. Knapp and seconded by Mr. Grant -

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Warren County School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, terminates the employment of the following temporary professional employees and will not renew their contracts, to be effective with the last day of service in the 2010

2011 school year, subject to their right to a hearing. This action is taken by the Board due to a substantial decline in student enrollment, and as part of a larger realignment of staff resulting from a reduction of the number of employees.

MOTION TO TABLE: Mr. Lockett made a motion seconded by Mrs. Angove that the Board of School Directors tables the resolution until after executive session.

Resolution
Tabled Until
After
Executive
Session
8-1-0

The result of the vote: Passed with Ms. Paris voting no.

2.2 Receipt of Report from Administration

Dr. Terrill gave the administration's report answering the questions posed by the Board of Directors at its last special meeting.

Mr. Stewart announced an executive session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss personnel issues with action to follow.

2.3 Executive Session

Mrs. Angove left the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:14 p.m.

2.4 (2.1) Non-Renewal of Teacher Contracts

RESOLUTION: Made by Mr. Knapp and seconded by Mr. Grant -

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Warren County School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, terminates the employment of the following temporary professional employees and will not renew their contracts, to be effective with the last day of service in the 2010 2011 school year, subject to their right to a hearing. This action is taken by the Board due to a substantial decline in student enrollment, and as part of a larger realignment of staff resulting from a reduction of the number of employees.

Non-Renewal
of Teacher
Contracts
Approved
7-1-0

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Mrs. Zariczny, Mr. Grant, Mr. Knapp, Ms. Paris, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Werner, Dr. Yourchisin

Voting No: Mr. Lockett

The result of the vote: Passed.

2.5 Retirement Incentives

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Lockett and seconded by Mr. Knapp that the Board of School Directors does not offer retirement incentives to administration personnel and to amend the budget accordingly.

No Retirement
Incentives for
Administration
Approved
7-1-0

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Dr. Yourchisin, Mrs. Zariczny, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lockett, Ms. Paris, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Werner

Voting No: Mr. Grant

The result of the vote: Passed.

2.6 Administrative Reorganization

Charge to Re-
Organize
Administration
Approved
8-0-0

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Lockett and seconded by Mr. Knapp that the Board of School Directors charges administration with ways to fund the shortfall or revise administration reorganization as an option in the budget.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Mr. Werner, Dr. Yourchisin, Mrs. Zariczny, Mr. Grant, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Lockett, Ms. Paris, Mr. Stewart

The result of the vote: Passed unanimously

3.0 Closing Activities

3.1 Adjournment

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Knapp and seconded by Mr. Lockett that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth A. Huck, Board Secretary