

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017

1. 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 Mrs. Zariczny, President, at 5:03 p.m. in the Board Room of Central Office, 6820 Market Street, Russell, Pennsylvania.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Zariczny led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Roll Call

Present:

Mr. Joseph Colosimo	Mr. John Werner
Mr. Thomas Knapp	Mr. Michael Zamborik
Mr. Paul Mangione	Mrs. Donna Zariczny
Mrs. Marcy Morgan (via conference call)	

Roll Call

Absent:

Mr. John Anderson	Mr. Arthur Stewart
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Others Present:

Mrs. Amy Stewart, Superintendent; Mr. Gary Weber, Director of Administrative Support Services; Dr. Norbert Kennerknecht, Director of Buildings & Grounds Services; Mr. James Grosch, Director of Business Services; Mrs. Rhonda Decker, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Dr. Patricia Hawley, Director of Pupil Services; Mr. Eric Mineweaser, Supervisor of Elementary Education; Mr. Chris Byham, Solicitor; Mrs. Ruth Huck, Board Secretary; Mr. Andrew Morrison, Times Observer; Mr. Michael Kiehl, Transportation/Purchasing Manager; Mr. Paul Leach, Technology Specialist; Mr. Kelly Martin, Principal; Mrs. Louise Tharp, WCEA President; and approximately eight members of the public in the audience.

1.4 Reading of the Mission Statement - Mrs. Marcy Morgan

The mission of the Warren County School District is to educationally empower all students to think critically and solve problems through a rigorous curriculum that will provide them with the skills necessary to graduate and pursue a career of their interest.

The Warren County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment practices and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Gary Weber, Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator at 6820 Market Street, Russell, PA 16345 or (814) 723-6900.

- 1.5 Reading of the WCSD/PSBA Principles of Governance and Leadership - Mr. Thomas Knapp
Pennsylvania school boards are committed to providing every student the opportunity to grow and achieve. The actions taken by the Board ultimately have both short and long-term impact in the classroom. Therefore, school directors collectively and individually will...

Plan Thoughtfully

- *Adopt and implement a collaborative comprehensive planning process, including regular reviews*
- *Set annual goals that are aligned with the comprehensive plan*
- *Develop a financial plan that anticipates both short and long-term needs*
- *Formulate a master facilities plan conducive to teaching and learning*

- 1.6 Public Comment

Louise Tharp	WCEA President	Mrs. Tharp discussed the history of the Pennsylvania School Employee Retirement System and under funding by the Commonwealth and school districts while the employees have increased their contributions.
Rebecca Dippold	Russell, PA	Mrs. Dippold addressed the cuts to AP and Honors classes. She would like to see transportation provided for her daughter to attend classes at WAHS to get the AP classes she desires.
Joanne Miller	Russell, PA	Ms. Miller is concerned about the gifted programming and the lack of communication on what is happening with the programs. How are the changes in the best interest of the students? How will weekly instructional changes be communicated with parents? She expects proper communication, as well as adequate funding to provide the programs required for these students.
Heather Bunk	WCEA	The members of the WCEA contributed to PSERS at rates established by the legislature, while the Commonwealth took a ten-year holiday and did not contribute its share to the fund. It is incumbent upon the legislators to find a solution that reduces the cost to school districts and adequately funds PSERS.

2. New Business

2.1 Appointment - Board Treasurer

MOTION: That the Board of School Directors approves the appointment of Dr. Norbert J. Kennerknecht as Board Treasurer for the Warren County School District for a term of one (1) year beginning on July 1, 2017 with a supplemental salary of \$2652.00 for the 2017/2018 school year and that the Board of School Directors further approves the bond amount of \$100,000 for the Board Treasurer.

Motion by John Werner, second by Michael Zamborik.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Joseph Colosimo, Thomas Knapp, Paul Mangione, Marcy Morgan,
John Werner, Michael Zamborik, Donna Zariczny

Board Treasurer
Appointment
Approved
7-0-0

2.2 Appointment - Board Secretary

MOTION: That the Board of School Directors approves the appointment of Ruth A. Huck as Board Secretary for the Warren County School District for a term of four (4) years beginning on July 1, 2017, with a supplemental salary of \$7271.43 for the 2017/2018 school year. A salary increase of 2% will be given in each of the following three (3) years of the term and that the Board of School Directors further approves the bond amount of \$25,000 for the Board Secretary.

Motion by Thomas Knapp, second by Michael Zamborik.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Joseph Colosimo, Thomas Knapp, Paul Mangione, Marcy Morgan,
John Werner, Michael Zamborik, Donna Zariczny

Board Secretary
Appointment
Approved
7-0-0

2.3 Resolution - Pension Reform

MOTION: That the Board of School Directors adopts the Pension Reform Resolution 17-05-02 as presented.

Motion by Thomas Knapp, second by Michael Zamborik.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Joseph Colosimo, Thomas Knapp, Paul Mangione, Marcy Morgan,
John Werner, Michael Zamborik, Donna Zariczny

Resolution –
Pension Reform
Adopted
7-0-0

2.4 Resolution - Cyber Charter School Funding

MOTION: That the Board of School Directors adopts Resolution 17-05-03 regarding cyber charter school funding as presented.

Motion by John Werner, second by Thomas Knapp.

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Joseph Colosimo, Thomas Knapp, Paul Mangione, Marcy Morgan,
John Werner, Michael Zamborik, Donna Zariczny

Resolution –
Cyber Charter
School Funding
Adopted
7-0-0

2.5 Resolution - Opposing House Bill 97 - Charter Reform

MOTION: That the Board of School Directors adopts Resolution 17-05-04 requesting General Assembly opposition to House Bill 97 as presented.

Motion by Thomas Knapp, second by Michael Zamborik.

Resolution –
Opposing House
Bill 97 – Charter
Reform
Adopted
7-0-0

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Joseph Colosimo, Thomas Knapp, Paul Mangione, Marcy Morgan, John Werner,
Michael Zamborik, Donna Zariczny

2.6 Budget Discussion

Mrs. Stewart introduced the budget discussion. A packet of informational budget documents was distributed to facilitate the discussion.

- Priority List of Possible Reductions was reviewed showing anything above the red line will be eliminated from the proposed budget. Many of the cuts will be aligned with retirements, and it should not result in any furloughs.
- Additions were represented by items above the red line and the dollar amounts have been applied to the proposed budget.
- Seven Year Projects were discussed – Buildings & Grounds, Technology, and Textbooks
- PSERS – The impact of the increased contributions over the past nine years were discussed, along with the increases projected for future years.
- Millage Analysis – A 1.92 mill increase, which equates to 3.6 percent, is the maximum increase the Board could impose which would increase revenue by \$783,000. The District's ability to raise taxes is limited by the State.
- Working Budget Scenarios included examples for budgets showing 100 percent burn rates with no tax increase or a one mill tax increase with the corresponding impact in future years; as well as budgets showing 98 percent burn rates with no tax increase or a one mill tax increase and the impact for future years.

The Board requested a one mill increase for the next year with the possibility of changing it before the final budget.

2.7 Special Board Meeting - May 26, 2017, 8:00 a.m.

Mrs. Zariczny announced a special meeting on May 26, 2017, at 8:00 a.m., at Central Office reminding Board members they may call in for the meeting.

The final budget must be approved by June 30th. The Board could call a special meeting on June 26th and vote on the final budget or select another date before June 30th.

2.8 Other

3. Closing Activities

3.1 Adjournment

MOTION: It was moved by Joseph Colosimo and seconded by Michael Zamborik that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth A. Huck, Board Secretary