

WELLSBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting
June 9, 2015
High School Large Group Instruction Room
MINUTES

Called to Order by President Carl Chambers at 6:59 PM in the Wellsboro Area High School Large Group Instruction Room, 225 Nichols Street, Wellsboro, PA.

President Chambers led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Members: Carl Chambers, Christopher Gastrock (arriving at 7:07 PM), Steven Kramer, Wayne Hackett, John Peropat, Stewart Burrous, Atalanta Shabloski and Matthew Feil. Board Member Susan Rudy was absent;

Present were the following: Mr. Christopher Morral, Mrs. Bonnie Thompson, Mr. Steve Adams, Mr. Patrick Hewitt, Mr. David Krick, Mr. Mike Pietropola, Mrs. Amy Repard, Mr. Scott Keck, Mr. Robert Kreger; Press: Natalie Kennedy (Wellsboro Gazette); Linda Gamble, WASD Board Secretary; Bruce Vickery, WASD Solicitor;

Visitors present: Diane Eaton, Daren Bryant, Dick Miskovitz, Duane Cotner, John Hoover, Natalie Kennedy, Sarah Wagaman and "Reifer";

Announcement of Executive Session: None

Concerned Resident Issues: Richard Miskovitz of Wellsboro, PA addressed the Board with two questions consisting of: (1) Financial Committee meeting of March 2015 minutes reflected that Citizens Bank made a financial proposal for the stadium and to refinance current debt. It does not seem likely this came out of the blue so when and who requested this presentation?

(2) The last school audit report reflects that the district spend \$24K+ for the proposed stadium which says taxpayer money was being used for this proposal contrary to which you published that this was to be without taxpayer money. Why was this done? (3) The WASD records reflect that taxpayers had to pay for over \$300K to rectify construction.

Two questions were asked of the superintendent: (1) What actions are contemplated to address that less than half of the middle school students are at writing level and HS graduation decline of 10+% and 16% require remedial classes for college per the state records; (2) WASD is at the bottom of efficiency as related to student to teachers' ratios. State records look at an average of 15/16 to 1, but WASD is barely at 13 to 1 and without HS it is at 12 to 1. Districts at 15/16 to 1 have better academic results relative to graduation rate achievement/qualifying for college as well as no issues with writing. What actions are being taken with the teacher staff to improve cost efficiency as well as correcting the aforementioned negative trends?

Approval of Agenda – A motion was made by Mr. Peropat, seconded by Mr. Kramer, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Board Minutes/Financials – A motion was made by Mrs. Shabloski, seconded by Mr. Peropat, to approve the Board Minutes/Financials as presented:

- A. Minutes of Regular board Meeting of May 12, 2015;
- B. Financial Reports – Board Summary Report of May 2015; Capital Improvement Fund of May 2015; Student Activity Fund Summary of May 2015;
- C. Approval of Bills – 2014-15 General Fund Invoices of May 2015; 2014-15 Add-On General Fund Invoices (May/June 2015) and 2014-15 Add-On School Lunch Invoices (May 2015);

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment on Title I and other Federal Programs: None

Report from Superintendent: Superintendent Morral introduced Rob Kreger, Assistant High School Principal, who gave out handouts to the Board consisting of a chart of Wellsboro High School Disciple Comparison by Code; Wellsboro High School Discipline Violation Compare 2014-15; Wellsboro High School Discipline Outcome Compare 2014-15; Total Yearly Incidents 2012-2015;

Superintendent Morral reported that the 2015-16 still remains a struggle in local school districts fighting against escalating pension and health care costs. This budget places an emphasis on maintaining current programs while looking ahead to our future by restructuring our debt and maintaining reserves established for our own survival as retirement costs and health care costs continue to increase. Superintendent Morral commended the Board, the parents, students and community for a job well done.

Report from Business Manager: Bonnie Thompson, Business Manager, reported the final budget findings to the Board. A PowerPoint presentation was shown to the Board.

Reports from Steve Adams, Elementary Principal, Mike Pietropola, Middle School Principal, Pat Hewitt, Fed. Prog. Coord/Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Dave Krick, High School Principal were given to the Board.

A report was given by Board Member Mrs. Atalanta Shabloski concerning recent Government actions on Senate Bill #6 as well as an update of from Intermediate Unit #17. Board Member Chris Gastrock commented to the Board regarding graduation ceremonies.

CONSENT ITEMS:

A motion was made by Mr. Peropat, seconded by Mrs. Shabloski, to approve the Consent Items as presented.

1. **ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION**

A. Consultant Agreement

Consideration of approval to enter into Consultant Agreement with Susquehanna Health Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hospital for occupational therapy services at a total cost of \$54,629.40 for the school year 2015-2016.

B. Consultant Agreement

Consideration of approval to enter into Consultant Agreement with Susquehanna Health/Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hospital for occupational and physical therapy services for students in the Wellsboro Area School District Extended School Year Program extending for a period of six weeks at a cost of \$58.00 per hour and mileage at \$0.56 per mile.

C. Revised Special Education Agreement between WASD and BLaST I.U.#17

Consideration of approval for the revised Special Education Agreement between WASD and BLaST IU #17 for the Intermediate Unit to provide and operate the programs and services outlined in Appendix A (names deleted) at a projected annual cost of \$363,980.24 for a period running from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. (This approval will rescind previous Special Education Agreement Board Approval of May 12, 2015 at a projected annual cost of \$426,543.66).

D. Appointment of 2014-2015 Independent Auditor

Consideration of approval to appoint the independent auditing firm of **Buffamante Whipple Buffafaro**, P.C., Certified Public Accountants & Business Advisors, 130 South Union Street, Suite 200, Olean, New York to perform the independent financial audit of the Wellsboro Area School District's records and to perform the Single Audit of Federal Programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 at a cost not to exceed the sum of \$22,000 as presented.

E. Approval of Insurance Carriers

Consideration of approval for the following recommended insurance carriers for the 2015-2016 fiscal year:

1. ***Liberty Mutual:***

General Property and Liability	\$67,968
Auto Policy	\$ 6,635
Umbrella Excess Liability	\$11,095
Legal Liability-Errors & Omissions	\$ included in package

2. ***PICS Workers Compensation***

Workman's Compensation Insurance	\$45,703
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TOTAL: \$131,401

F. Industrial Appraisal Company Agreement

Consideration of approval for the Appraisal Agreement with Industrial Appraisal Company for the sum of \$8,615 to provide appraisal services and reports that consist of on-site consultation, data collection, inventory, valuation and cost analysis of the fixed assets to conform to the requirements of GASB 34. (NOTE: The Auditors recommend a full independent appraisal every few years – a WASD physical inventory was last completed in 2006).

G. Discovery Benefits, Inc.

Consideration of approval of Discovery Benefits, Inc., for the provider of the WASD Health Savings Account, effective July 1, 2015. A health savings account is part of the High Deductible Health Insurance Plan.

H. NRG Controls North, Inc. Contract

Consideration of approval to enter into Contract Agreement with NRG Controls North, Inc. to provide forty-eight (48) predictive and preventative maintenance visits per year on the TAC I/V Series control system in the District (heating, ventilating and air conditioning), said Agreement consisting of a three (3) year period with specified yearly costs, as presented.

I. EduLink Inc. Agreement

Consideration of approval to enter into Agreement between Wellsboro Area School District and EduLink Inc. to manage the teacher evaluation process for its teachers and supervisors, effective July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 for a licensing fee of \$5,119.

J. Wellsboro Area School-Based Juvenile Probation Program

Consideration of approval of Agreement between the Wellsboro Area School District, Court of Common Pleas of Tioga County and Juvenile Probation Department to provide a school-based juvenile probation program for school year 2015-2016 in the amount of \$21,612 (Note: No increase from last year)

K. Tioga County Department of Human Services Agreement (Drug & Alcohol SAP)

Consideration of approval of Drug & Alcohol Student Assistance Program Letter of Agreement between the Wellsboro Area School District and Tioga County Department of Human Services dated July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 as presented.

L. Tioga County Department of Human Services Agreement (Mental Health SAP)

Consideration of approval of Mental Health Student Assistance Program Letter of Agreement between the Wellsboro Area School District and Tioga County Department of Human Services dated July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 as presented.

M. Addendum to Winthrop Lease Agreement for Computer Equipment

Consideration of approval for the additional purchase of 533 Logitech Optical Mice and for the purchase of 533 laptop cases at a total price of \$22,119.50 which amount will be reflected in the attached revised Summary indicating a new annual lease payment of \$136,692 for a term of forty-eight (48) months. (Original Winthrop Lease Agreement was approved by the WASD Board of Education on May 12, 2015 in the amount of \$131,305 for each annual payment)

N. SharpSchool Service Agreement

Consideration of approval of Service Agreement between SharpSchool and the Wellsboro Area School District to act as the District's new website hosting provider, effective July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018, with an amount due for the first year of \$6,000 and \$4,000 thereafter, as presented.

2. **PERSONNEL**

A. Resignations

Consideration of approval to accept letter of resignation from the following:

1. Kathryn Akins, School Psychologist (Elementary Priority), effective June 30, 2015;
2. Pamela Zuchowski, part-time Special Education Instructional Aide, effective at the end of 2014-15 school year;

B. Extra-Curricular Resignation

Consideration of approval to accept letter of resignation from Brianna Erdmann as Fall Marching Band Director, effective June 1, 2015.

C. Appointment of School Board Secretary

Consideration of approval for the appointment of Linda K. Gamble as Secretary of the Wellsboro Area School Board, effective July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 at an annual stipend of \$4,000.

3. **STUDENT**

A. Overnight Field Trip Request

Consideration of approval for the following overnight field trip request:

1. Melanie Berndtson, High School Horticulture/AgScience Teacher, to take 10 Grand Canyon FFA students to Caton, New York for FFA Officer Retreat on June 28-30, 2015;

4. **OTHER**

A. 2014-15 Additions to WASD Substitute List

Consideration of approval for 2014-2015 Additions to WASD Substitute List as presented.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Kramer, aye; Mr. Peropat, aye; Mr. Chambers, aye; Mrs. Shabloski, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Motion passed; Board Member Rudy was absent;

XI. **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION**

A. Adoption of Resolution for the 2015-2016 Wellsboro Area School District General Fund Operating Budget – A motion was made by Mrs. Shabloski, seconded by Mr. Kramer to approve the Resolution to Adopt the 2015-2016 Wellsboro Area School District General Fund Operating Budget (PDE 2028) with projected revenues of \$24,196,071 and projected expenditures of \$24,196,071.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Burrous, aye; Mr. Chambers, aye; Mr. Feil, nay; Mrs. Shabloski, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. Kramer, aye; Mr. Peropat, aye; Motion passed; Board Member Rudy was absent;

B. Adoption of Tax Resolution for Setting the Tax Rates for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year – A motion was made by Mr. Gastrock, seconded by Mr. Kramer, to approve the adoption of Tax Resolution setting forth the following tax rates for the 2015-2016 fiscal year:

Real Estate Tax:

Lycoming County Real Estate Millage:	13.9840 mills
Tioga County Real Estate Millage:	17.8120 mills

Act 511 Taxes:

Real Estate Transfer Tax:	.50%
Earned Income Tax:	1.00%
Local Services Tax:	\$5.00

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Peropat, aye; Mr. Chambers, aye; Mrs. Shabloski, aye; Mr. Kramer, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Motion passed; Board Member Rudy was absent;

C. 2015 Act I Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion Resolution – A motion was made by Mr. Peropat, seconded by Mr. Hackett, to approve the adoption of the 2015 Act I Resolution authorizing and implementing the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion applicable to the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Feil, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. Chambers, aye; Mrs. Shabloski, aye; Mr. Peropat, aye; Mr. Kramer, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Motion passed; Board Member Rudy was absent;

At 7:38 PM, the President of the Board called for an Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matter. The Board reconvened at 7:55 PM

2. **PERSONNEL**

A. Hires – A motion was made by Mrs. Shabloski, seconded by Mr. Kramer, approve the following hires:

1. Mary Elizabeth Becker, High School Biology/General Science Teacher, effective August 24, 2015 at Step #1, Masters, \$48,235;
2. Megan Hau, Speech & Language Teacher, effective August 24, 2015 at Step #1, Masters, \$48,235;
3. Luci Cohen, School Psychologist (Elementary Priority), effective July 1, 2015 at a salary of \$45,000; upon satisfactory completion of a Doctorate Degree, she will qualify for a \$3,000 increase in salary;
4. Daren T. Bryant as WASD Director of Buildings & Grounds, effective June 10, 2015 at a salary of \$50,000. There will be a six month probationary period running from 6/10/2015 – 12/10/2015. Upon satisfactory completion of said probationary period, said salary shall be increased to \$55,000 for the remaining 2015-16 contract year. This position will be part of the Support Services Administrative Compensation Plan, July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2019.
5. Bradley Pequignot as WASD Facility Maintenance Specialist, effective June 15, 2015 at a salary of \$43,250 with a six month probationary period running from 6/16/2015 – 12/15/2015. This position will be part of the Support Services Administrative Compensation Plan, July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2019.
6. Kathleen Melko, Special Education Instructional Aide, part-time (5 hrs. per day/9 months), effective August 24, 2015 at a rate of \$10.00 per hour during the first 60-working day probationary period. Upon satisfactory completion of the probationary period, starting rate of pay will be \$10.91 per hour.
7. Faylyn M. VanZile, Special Education Instructional Aide, part-time (5 hrs. per day/9 months), effective August 24, 2015 at a rate of \$10.00 per hour during the first 60-working day probationary period. Upon satisfactory completion of the probationary period, starting rate of pay will be \$10.91 per hour.

8. Marie Ingerick, Special Education Instructional Aide, part-time (5 hrs. per day/9 months), effective August 24, 2015 at a rate of \$10.00 per hour during the first 60-working day probationary period. Upon satisfactory completion of the probationary period, starting rate of pay will be \$10.91 per hour.
9. Kate Kreger, Elementary Teacher, effective August 24, 2015 at Step #7, Masters, \$54,735.
10. Timothy Huck, Elementary Teacher, effective August 24, 2015 at Step #1, Bachelors, \$45,570.
11. Hannah Munnell, Elementary Teacher, effective August 24, 2015 at Step #1, Bachelors, \$45,570.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Peropat, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Mrs. Shabloski, aye; Mr. Chambers, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Kramer, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Motion passed; Board Member Rudy was absent;

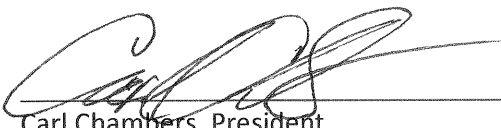
B. Extra-Curricular Hires – A motion was made by Mrs. Shabloski, seconded by Mr. Peropat, to approve the following extra-curricular hires:

1. John DeLeonardis, as Strength and Conditioning Coach, effective July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 (10 Months) at a salary of \$5,888;
2. Alexis Knowlton, as Strength and Conditioning Coach, effective July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 (2 months) at a salary of \$1,100.68;

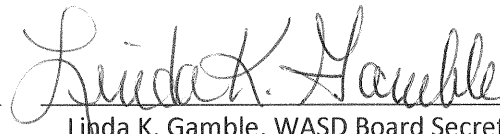
Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Chambers, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Kramer, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. Peropat, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Mrs. Shabloski, aye; Motion passed; Board Member Rudy was absent;

XII. Public Comment – Richard Miskovitz of Wellsboro, PA commented on the status of the current State Budget.

XIII. Adjournment – A motion was made by Mrs. Shabloski, seconded by Mr. Gastrock, to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM. All ayes; Motion passed.



Carl Chambers, President
WASD Board of Education



Linda K. Gamble, WASD Board Secretary