

WELLSBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting
March 8, 2016
MINUTES

Called to Order by President Matthew Feil at 6:32 PM in the Wellsboro Area High School Large Group Instruction Room, 225 Nichols Street, Wellsboro, PA.

President Feil led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Members: Mr. Duane Cotner, Mr. Chris Gastrock, Mr. John Hoover, Mr. Wayne Hackett, Mr. Timothy McCratic, Mr. Stewart Burrous, Ms. Denise Sherman, Mrs. Susan Judlin and Mr. Matthew Feil;

Present were the following: Mr. Patrick Hewitt, Acting Superintendent; Mrs. Bonnie Thompson, Business Manager; Mr. Steven Adams, Mr. Mike Pietropola, Mr. Robert Kreger, Mrs. Amy Repard, Mr. Bradley Pequignot; Chris Lantz, WASD Solicitor; William Stokes, Jr., Esquire; Natalie Kennedy (Wellsboro Gazette); Diane Eaton (Williamsport Sun Gazette); Linda Gamble, WASD Board Secretary; Shelby Osgood, Student Representative;

Visitors Present: Dylan Hunt; Marc Rice; Deven Martin; Patti Mitchell; JoAnn Yungwirth; Aaron Yungwirth; Aiden Perry; Melissa Mann; Joe Mann; Tina Kreisler; Michele Warner; Todd Outman; Jen Outman; Heather Callahan; Carly Clark; Joann Osgood; Heather Covert; Lance Covert; Thomas Smith; Anna Miller; David Messineo; Matt Rendos; Matt Hildebrand; Linda West; Heather Hendrickson; Haleigh Hunt; Joe Davis; A. Barnett; J. Barnett; Brian & Michelle Ingerick; Shalane Gee; Ashley Redell; Chase Kriner; Stephen Boyce; Sarah Wagaman; Hannah Wagaman; Laura Kozuhowski; Lauren Morral; Jeff Wilson; Cindy Carr; Jen Hudson; Todd Coolidge; Shane Mascho; Annette Nuss; Rhoda Mann; Khirah Pinkerton; Hannah Munnell; Megan Hau; Ben Miller; John Johnston; Donna Burrous; Drew Seeling; Kasey Watts; Karinthia Witmer; Jessica Witmer; Paula Clemens; Jeremy Bechtel; Valerie Bechtel; Julia Heath;

Announcement of Executive Sessions: Monday, February 22, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the High School Faculty Room, for the purpose of legal and personnel matters; Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 5:21 PM in the High School Faculty Room, for the purpose of legal matter; Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 5:30 PM in the High School Faculty Room, for the purpose of legal and personnel matters;

Concerned Resident Issues: Linda West, Wellsboro, PA asked the Board if the public could be given information on the private auditing firm – how much is being paid, etc. Can the taxpayers have a weekly tabulation of how much is being paid? Can the public be informed of any findings? She also expressed concerns about the change of financial reporting back several years ago.

David Messineo, Wellsboro, PA addressed the Board about executive sessions.

Anna Miller, Wellsboro, PA addressed the Board about a concern of an incident that happened at High School last week.

Alexa Singer, Wellsboro Softball Team, addressed the Board with questions about the project (when it will begin) and when will it be done?

President Feil made a motion to add a Consent Item, under 3. Student, C-2 Overnight Field Trip request for Distance Running Club students. Vice President McCratic seconded the motion.

Approval of Amended Agenda – A motion was made by Mr. Cotner, seconded by Mr. Hoover, to approve the amended Agenda. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

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

- A. Public Work Session of February 2, 2016
Special Board Meeting of February 2, 2016;
Regular Board Meeting of February 9, 2016;
- B. Financial Reports: Board Summary Report (February 2016)
Student Activity Fund Summary (February 2016)
Capital Reserve Report (February 2016)
- C. Approval of Bills: 2015-16 General Fund Invoices (February 2016)
2015-16 School Lunch Fund Invoices (February 2016)
2015-16 Athletic Facility Renovations Invoices (February 2016)
- D. Approval of Bills: July 2015 – January 2016 Invoices

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment on Title I and other Federal Programs: None

Report from Student Representative: Shelby Osgood, Student Representative, reported to the Board that Student Council had been working on the upcoming District Conference. They are also planning a school wide field day near the end of the year. We are in the process of doing a district wide pajama fundraiser (for young boy who died of leukemia down state and he wanted everyone in the hospital to wear pajamas rather than the scratchy, uncomfortable hospital gowns. A group of 25 students in French are traveling with Mrs. Owlett on March 14-23 to France. The class of 2017 has raised close to \$2,000 for their senior year through two fundraisers – *Gertrude Hawk* and *Auntie Anne's*. FFA week went great overall. Legally Blonde Jr. performed this past weekend where 1,075 people attended over the course of four performances. Connect 4 has recently started a chain of kindness in correspondence with STING, notice actions. The chain of kindness is where students and faculty write down the kind act that they observed and put it in the box. NHS is holding its annual Induction Ceremony on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 6 PM in the HS auditorium. On March 12th there will be a students vs. faculty basketball game in honor of Casey Patrick Memorial Scholarship. The interactive TV's that the Board recommended the school buy for the student council have arrived and are mounted in their locations. The software downloads and trainings will occur this week. We hope to have them operational by next Monday.

Report from Superintendent: Acting Superintendent Patrick Hewitt introduced Les Bear, Managing Director & Branch Manager, Robert W. Baird & Co. who presented to the Board a powerpoint presentation of the General Obligation Municipal Interest Rate, Bond Buyer Index – February 1981 to February 2016; Wellsboro Area School District's Outstanding **Gross** Debt Service – General Obligation Bonds, as of July 1, 2014; Wellsboro Area School District's Outstanding **Net** Debt Service – General Obligation Bonds, as of July 1, 2014; Wellsboro Area School District's Outstanding **Gross** Debt Service – General Obligation Bonds, with settlement date of February 18, 2016; Wellsboro Area School District's Outstanding **Net** Debt Service – General Obligation Bonds, with settlement date of February 18, 2016; Mr. Bear also handed out documentation to go along with his powerpoint.

Mr. Hewitt also commented on the bus accident that occurred in February. He publicly thanked everyone that helped with this accident. He commented that the students followed directions very well. We also have our Annual Title I Parent Dinner on March 17th. We have literacy training on March 16 & 17th with 15 teachers (instruction by BLaST).

Business Manager – Bonnie Thompson spoke on the bus accident, stating that we had a couple of injuries to students. She indicated that the parents' automobile insurance coverage is the primary coverage and anything that is not paid goes to the bus contractors' insurance.

Report from Administrators: Steve Adams, Elementary Principal, reported that we had our Elementary Open House 3 nights at Charlotte Lappla and Don Gill and received many positive comments. Mr. Adams has been asked for the 4th year in a row to be a speaker to students in the Education Department at Mansfield University. Teacher Joanne Shaw is being recommended as a National Teacher in regards to Math and Science.

Michael Pietropola, Middle School Principal, reported that 5th Grade Enrichment had a 5th grade fun night last Friday and raised \$400 for the 5th grade Enrichment Program. We had 7 students move onto the State OM Competition which will be held at Moon High School in Pittsburgh, PA. The students achieved 2nd place in the “stack attack” competition: Audrey Starkweather; Chloe Thomas; Aiden Gehman; Mikaella Posada; Mason Thomas; Noah Vickery; Maddie Stephens; Matt Erway and I are in the final stages of finalizing a grant application for Shell to purchase several robotic kits for our STEM students here at the Middle School.

Robert Kreger, High School Principal, reported on the winter sports including wrestling (2-15 overall) (1-8 NTL); Boys Basketball (17-9 with loss in PIAA State playoffs to Minersville, PA); Girls Basketball (finished season 18-8 (8 win improvement from last season) with loss in PIAA State playoffs last Friday) Swimming – won 6 total medals at District IV championships last week. Nathan Cotner (2nd in 200 Freestyle, 3rd in 100 Freestyle) and qualified for states, Olivia Kurtz (3rd in 50 Freestyle, 2nd in 100 Freestyle), Mikayla Feil (3rd in 50 Freestyle time tied with Olivia), Connor Brought (5th place in 500 Freestyle); MS Wrestling: 4-5; MS Girls Basketball: currently 14-2 (still going) MS Boys Basketball – currently 10-3 (still going);

Bradley Pequignot, Facility Maintenance Specialist, reported to the Board concerning the quality of air report indicating no mold detected. Tim McCratic questioned him on the conditions of the buildings.

Board Member Reports: President Feil indicated that he had received a letter from the Wellsboro Area Education Foundation and it basically indicated that they were going to withhold future funding for the athletic complex until the Board can provide assurance that the project is proceeding within the scope.

Vice President McCratic stated that we are beginning to have nice weather and there’s a project just sitting out there. He wanted to make it clear to the taxpayers that this isn’t a problem from the current Board; it’s been said that we are stopping the project from moving forward but he felt there wasn’t anyone on the board who didn’t want to see the project stopped. Right now we are looking at the financial issues – problem with RACP Grant; I want to make it clear that it affects the taxpayers.

X. **CONSENT ITEMS**

A motion was made by Mr. Gastrock, seconded by Mr. McCratic, to approve the Consent Items as presented.

1. **ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION**

A. 2015-2016 Budgetary Transfers

Consideration of approval for the 2015-16 budgetary transfers as presented.

B. Providers of 403 (B) Deferred Compensation Plans

Consideration of approval of the revised 2015-16 listing of institutions as providers of 403 (b) Deferred Compensation Plans:

Ameriprise Financial Services	First Investors	Franklin Templeton
Kades Margolis	Lincoln Financial Group	Pacific Life
Symetra	Oppenheimer Funds	Lord Abbett & Co.
Security Benefit	Fidelity Investment	Lincoln Investment Planning

C. WASD School Calendar for School Year 2016-2017

Consideration of approval for the Wellsboro Area School District 2016-2017 School Calendar.

D. NRG Controls North, Inc.

Consideration of approval for the payment of \$18,500 to NRG Controls North, Inc. for the purpose of providing labor and material to replace failed heat wheel in Air Handler Four at the Wellsboro Area High School.

2. **PERSONNEL**

A. Request for Child Rearing Leave

Consideration of approval for the Request of Child-Rearing Leave by Morgan Shaffer, Rock L. Butler Middle School Music Teacher, extending from May 7, 2016 - June 1, 2016.

B. Conference Requests

Consideration of approval for the following conference requests:

1. Melissa Ryan, Charissa Mascho, Heather Callahan, Jessica Witmer and Teri Dunkleberger, Charlotte Lappla Elementary Teacher, to attend "Quality Behavior Solutions (recertification class) on March 10, 2016 in Williamsport, PA (approximate costs of \$1,060 to be paid from Building Budget)
2. Amy Repard, Supervisor of Special Education, to attend "Instructional leadership for school Administrators" in Williamsport, PA on February 24; March 30; April 20; May 18, 2016 (approximate costs of \$129.60 (mileage only) to be paid from General Fund)
3. Patrick Hewitt, Acting Superintendent/Fed. Prog. Coord/Direc. of Curr. & Instruction, to attend "PA Federal Program Coordinators Conference" in Champion, PA on May 1 – 4, 2016 (approximate costs of \$1,006 to be paid from Title I Federal Programs Account)
4. Rhoda Mann, ESL Teacher, to attend "Quality Behavioral Solutions" in Williamsport, PA on March 8 & 9, 2016 (approximate costs of \$262.32 to be paid out of Building Budget)

C. Support Staff Resignations

Consideration of approval to accept letters of resignation from:

1. Amanda Nolan, Charlotte Lappla Special Education Learning Support Instructional Aide, effective March 4, 2016.
2. Kathy Melko, Rock L. Butler Middle School Special Education Learning Support Instructional Aide, effective March 15, 2016

D. Extra-Curricular Coaching Resignation

Consideration of approval to accept letter of resignation from Mike Hotchkiss, High School Girls Soccer Head Coach, effective February 12, 2016.

E. Extra-Curricular Volunteer Appointment

Consideration of approval for the extra-curricular volunteer appointment of Sophie Weaver as High School Boys & Girls Volunteer Track Assistant Coach (March 7 – May 28, 2016) for the school year 2015-16 pending receipt of required clearances.

3. **STUDENT**

A. Expulsion Agreements

Consideration of approval for the following Expulsion Agreements:

1. Student #2 – E 2015-2016;
2. Student #3 – E 2015-2016;

B. Educational Trip Exceeding 10 Days (Policy #231)

Consideration of approval for the following educational trip request:

1. Noah Mattison, 12th grade student, to be absent from school March 23 - April 8, 2016 for the purpose of traveling to Florida and visiting various educational sights.

C. Overnight Field Trip Requests

Consideration of approval for Overnight Field Trip Requests:

1. to allow Middle School students to travel to Moon, PA on April 1 & 2, 2016 for the purpose of competing in Odyssey of the Mind Competition.
2. to allow 12 Distance Running Club students to travel to Philadelphia, PA on April 1 & 2, 2016 accompanied by High School Teachers Brandon Falk and Erin Szentesy.

4. OTHER

A. 2015-2016 Additions to WASD Substitute List

Consideration of approval for the 2015-2016 additions to WASD Substitute List as presented.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Mrs. Judlin, aye; Mr. Hoover, aye; Mr. Cotner, aye; Mr. McCratic, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Ms. Sherman, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Motion passed;

XI. ACTION ITEMS:

1. ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

A. Assurant Employee Benefits - A motion was made by Mr. Gastrock, seconded by Ms. Sherman, to approve **Assurant Employee Benefits** as the District provider for life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Burrous, aye; Mrs. Judlin, aye; Mr. Cotner, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. Hoover, aye; Mr. McCratic, aye; Ms. Sherman, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Motion passed;

B. Approval of WASD Administrative Regulation #707 – Wellsboro Weight Room Policy – A motion was made by Mr. McCratic, seconded by Mr. Hackett, to table the approval of Wellsboro Area School District Administrative Regulation #707 – Wellsboro Weight Room Policy as presented.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Gastrock, aye; Ms. Sherman, aye; Mr. Hoover, aye; Mr. Cotner, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. McCratic, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Mrs. Judlin, aye; Motion passed;

C. Waiver of WASD First Reading Protocol / Adoption of revised WASD Policy #616 – 1. A motion was made by Mr. Hoover, seconded by Mr. Gastrock, to waive the first reading protocol found in WASD Policy #003 (Local Board Procedures – Functions) established by the WASD Board of Directors on August 9, 2005.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cotner, aye; Mrs. Judlin, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. McCratic, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Mr. Hoover, aye; Ms. Sherman, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Motion passed;

2. A motion was made by Mr. Feil, seconded by Mr. Gastrock, to adopt revised WASD Policy #616 (a) as presented.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Hoover, aye; Mrs. Judlin, aye; Mr. Cotner, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Ms. Sherman, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. McCratic, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Motion passed;

2. **PERSONNEL**

A. Hires – A motion was made by Mr. Gastrock, seconded by Mr. Cotner, to approve the following hires for school year 2015-2016 and 2016-2017:

1. Carol Anne Shabloski, part-time Groundskeeper, at a rate of \$12.50 per hour, on an “as-needed basis” effective March 14, 2016 and ending on November 18, 2016;
2. Jack Witmer, part-time Groundskeeper, at a rate of \$12.00 per hour, on an “as-needed basis” effective March 14, 2016 and ending on November 18, 2016;

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. Cotner, aye; Mrs. Judlin, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Mr. Hoover, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Ms. Sherman, aye; Mr. McCratic, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Motion passed;

B. Approval of Proposal for Addition of Rock L. Butler Middle School PIAA Baseball/Softball – A motion was made by Mr. Cotner, seconded by Mr. McCratic, to table the approval of proposal for addition of Rock L. Butler Middle School PIAA Baseball/Softball teams effective the 2015-2016 school year.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cotner, nay; Mr. Feil, nay; Mr. Gastrock, nay; Mr. McCratic, nay; Mr. Hackett, nay; Ms. Sherman, nay; Mr. Burrous, nay; Mr. Hoover, nay; Mrs. Judlin, nay; Motion failed;

A motion was made by Mr. McCratic, seconded by Mr. Gastrock, to approve the proposal for addition of Rock L. Butler Middle School PIAA Baseball/Softball teams effective the 2015-2016 school year.

Upon a roll call vote: Mr. Hackett, aye; Mr. Feil, aye; Mr. Cotner, aye; Mr. Hoover, aye; Mrs. Judlin, aye; Ms. Sherman, aye; Mr. McCratic, aye; Mr. Gastrock, aye; Mr. Burrous, aye; Motion passed;

XII. Public Comment:

David Messineo, Wellsboro, PA addressed the Board about a concern that was presented to him by a parent. He urged the Board to make sure that all children receive a fair education.

Cindy Carr, Wellsboro, PA; Donna Burrous, Middlebury Center, PA; Ann Barnett, Wellsboro, PA; Laurie Nichols, Wellsboro, PA addressed the Board with the issue of athletics / academics going hand in hand.

XIII. Adjournment – A motion was made by Mr. Gastrock, seconded by Mr. Cotner, to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM. All ayes; motion passed;



Matthew Feil, Board President
Wellsboro Area School District
Board of Education



Linda K. Gamble, Board Secretary
Wellsboro Area School District
Board of Education