

10943  
Wyoming Area School District  
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education  
20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643  
Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education was held this evening at the Wyoming Area Secondary Center auditorium, 20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, with approximately twenty people in attendance. A non-public executive session preceded the meeting. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Elizabeth Gober-Mangan, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Roll Call:

- Mrs. Elizabeth Gober-Mangan, President
- Mrs. Deanna Farrell, Vice President
- Mr. John Marianacci, Secretary
- Mrs. Kimberly A. Yochem, Treasurer
- Mr. Carmen Bolin
- Dr. Estelle Campenni
- Mr. Gerald A. Stofko
- Mrs. Toni Valenti
- Mr. Carl Yorina

Board all present.

Also present were: Janet Serino, Superintendent, Attorney Jarrett J. Ferentino, School Solicitor, Tom Melone, Business Consultant, Vito Quaglia, Secondary Center Building Principal, Jon Pollard, Elementary Building Principal of Tenth Street/JFK, Joseph Long, Elementary Building Principal of Montgomery Ave./SJD, Vanessa Nee, Director of Special Education, Christine Rosenkrans, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Melissa Collevchio, Food Service Director, Angelo Falzone, Director of Transportation/Attendance, Camilla Granteed, School Psychologist, Grace Gober and Emily Uritz, Student Representatives.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Gober-Mangan asked for approval for the regular meeting minutes of January 26, 2016. All board members voted aye.

Communication Report

Mr. Marianacci read the Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit minutes of regular meeting of November 18, 2015 and December 16, 2015.
2. Rhonda Pizano, Cheerleading Coach, requesting permission to use the multi-purpose room for Cheerleading Squad Try-outs.
3. Amy Kelly, Secretary, Wyoming Area Boys/Girls Lacrosse, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for "Meet the Warriors."
4. Len Basara, Germania Hose Company Scuba Team, requesting permission to use the pool for scuba training.
5. Jennifer Woss requesting permission for the Emerald Isle Step Dancers to rent the Secondary Center auditorium at \$100.00 for a dance recital.
6. Libby Krokos, Director of Special Education, Luzerne Intermediate Unit, requesting permission to use eight classrooms at the Secondary Center for the Extended School Year Program.

7. Josette Cefalo, submitting a letter of resignation as Class Day Advisor.
8. Stanley Wycoski, President of the Wyoming Area Football Parents Association, requesting permission to hold various fundraisers.
9. Lyn Bednarski, Secretary of the Wyoming Area Softball Parents Association, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria to hold a ziti dinner.
10. Ron Gitkos, American Legion Post 542, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jeffrey F. DePrimo, of West Pittston, along with the American Legion, Post 833, Adam Kalmanowicz, of Exeter, inviting the Wyoming Area Marching Band and the School Board to join in the annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30, 2016, starting at 11:30 a.m.
11. Diane Pellegrini, 6<sup>th</sup> grade elementary teacher at Tenth Street, requesting permission to take a maternity leave.
12. Luzerne Intermediate Unit submitting ballots to Wyoming Area Board Members to elect three directors to fulfill the unexpired term of their district previously appointed and elected representatives to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board.
13. Luzerne Intermediate Unit submitting ballots to Wyoming Area Board Members to elect four Directors and one "At Large" Director, whose terms expire on June 30, 2016 on the Luzerne Intermediate Unit Board of Directors and will be nominated for another term of three years.
14. Christopher Hizynski, Key Club Advisor, requesting for the district to cover the cost of lodging for two chaperones for the Pennsylvania Key Club District Convention in State College.
15. Lyn Bednarski, Secretary of the Wyoming Area Softball Parents Association, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for "Meet the Warriors."
16. Michelle Klaproth, Wyoming Area Drama Parents Association, requesting permission to hold a wine tasting fundraiser at Bartolai Winery.
17. Michael Pasquariello, math teacher at the Secondary Center, requesting permission to take a Family Leave of Absence.
18. Alexandria Briggs, Family & Consumer Science Teacher, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center gymnasium for a Quilt Show.
19. Carla DePrimo, Learning Support Aide, requesting permission to take a leave without pay.
20. Linda Hurwitz, Speech & Language Pathologist, requesting permission to take a medical leave of absence.
21. Eugene A. DePasquale, Auditor General, reporting that the Wyoming Area School District's Performance Audit covering the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015 has been completed. This audit found Wyoming Area School District complied, in all significant respects, with applicable state laws, contracts, grant requirements, and administrative procedures related to the audit areas examined. The audit report contains no findings or observations.

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22. Joe Chacke, Executive Director, North East Pennsylvania Land Bank Authority, providing notice of North East Pennsylvania Land Bank Authority's intent to acquire ten properties from the County's Repository.
23. The Internal Revenue Service providing notice that the Wyoming Area School District is exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c) (3). The district has been classified to be a public charity under the IRC Section.
24. Mitch Payne, (ten month) cleaner at Tenth Street Elementary School, requesting permission to take a leave without pay.

#### Summary of Applications Received

Health & Physical Education-1  
 Elementary-1  
 Special Education – 1  
 Speech-Language Pathology – 1  
 Teacher's Aide - 1

#### Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Serino read her report.

1. Parent/Teacher Conferences were held February 10<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.  
 Percentage of report card pickup:
 

SJD -	76%
JFK -	83%
10 <sup>th</sup> St -	82%
Montg. Ave –	83%
Sec. Ctr. -	66%
2. Students from JFK participated in a Scholastic Book Fair sponsored by the JFK PTO on February 2, 3 and 4<sup>th</sup>. Students and families were able to purchase a variety of books and other activities for reading at home.
3. To correlate with our upcoming Math chapter on money in early March, the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at Tenth Street had a guest speaker, Ashley Choman from Choice One Community Credit Union in Wilkes-Barre. She spoke about earning money and ways to save it. The credit union gave booklets to the students called Saving with Mandy and Randy with all kinds of activities. The students had lots of ideas and questions.
4. The students in Mrs. Anthony's 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom at SJD were inspired to start a service project after reading an informational article about community involvement. The students decided to organize a coat drive to help those in need. Coats collected will be donated to Wyoming Area's Care and Clothes Closet and community shelters.
5. Representatives from Dr. Polit's and Dr. Costello's Dental Office recently visited JFK Elementary School first grade classes for Dental Health Month.
6. Our English Teacher and Journalism Club Advisor, Carmella Argento, and a few other teachers and hopefully students, would like to create a "Care and Clothes Closet" to help provide items such as; soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, lightly used clothes, shoes, any unopened hygiene items and hangers. Unfortunately the items we use on a daily basis and don't think twice about going to the store to buy – these are items many of our students do not have.

7. Juniors Nicholas Cannell and Jessica Hopkins will represent our school this week at the PMEA Northeast Region Orchestra Festival at Twin Valley High School. Both students earned second place at the District level in order to qualify for this event.
8. The following students have qualified to perform with the PMEA Region IV Band in March at Marywood University. The students had to earn top placements at the District level in order to qualify. The results are as follows:

Junior – Jessica Hopkins – 1<sup>st</sup> place Flute

Junior – Laura Sachaczanski- 3<sup>rd</sup> place clarinet

Sophomore – Ben Klaproth – 2<sup>nd</sup> place trumpet

Special recognition goes to Amy Troy and Miranda Jones who are alternates.

The students will re-audition at Regions to qualify for the PMEA All-State Conference to be held in Hershey.

9. Mrs. Serino announced that the Girls Varsity Basketball Team are in the top three and will play Nanticoke at 6:00 p.m. tonight at Holy Redeemer. The Ice Hockey Club made it to the finals but lost. Mrs. Serino stated they worked very hard.

Student Representative’s

Emily Uritz reported on current and upcoming activities.

Treasurer’s Report

Mrs. Yochem read the Treasurer’s Report.

First National Community Bank	General Fund	8,378,753.28
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	5,104.77
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	43,019.25
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	116,564.38
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	17,514.91
First National Community Bank	Purchasing Account	500.00
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust	Earned Income Tax Revenue	310,577.91

The treasurer’s report will be kept on file for audit.

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Finance Report

Mrs. Yochem read the Finance Report.

1. Received the following checks:

Berkheimer Tax Administrator

Earned Income Tax	74,747.62
Local Service Tax	766.78
Per Capita Tax	966.80
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>685.58</u>
Total:	77,166.78

State & Federal Subsidy Payments

Social Security	363,976.91
Retirement	848,393.15
Title I – Improving Basic Programs	191,833.64
Basic Education Funding	3,279,880.35
Ready to Learn Block Grant	293,694.00
School District Special Education	867,772.00
School District Transportation	627,476.00
Non Public Transportation	31,955.00
School District Transportation Balance Due	16,155.75
Non Public Balance Due	<u>553.42</u>
Total:	6,521,690.22

Luzerne Intermediate Unit

14/15 IDEA pass thru funds	273,566.00
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Local Realty Transfer Tax

Luzerne County	26,244.98
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Miscellaneous

District Court 11-2-01	83.28
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2. Approve the February payment of \$114,383.99 to Luzerne Intermediate Unit in accordance with the terms of the approved contract agreement for programs and services for the 2015-2016 school year.
3. Approve the February payment of \$41,685.00 to the West Side Career and Technology Center for the 2015-2016 school year.
4. Approve to authorize the secretary to solicit bids for the following categories for the 2016-2017 school year: football, football reconditioning, athletic medical, band, electrical/plumbing, general, janitorial, marching band, music, nursing, physical education and science.
5. Approve the agreement with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for Department of Education Project MOM/Young Fatherhood Initiative grant. The agreement in the amount of \$1,158.86 will cover the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.
6. Approve the payments for ESL instructional hours to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for August 2015 through November 2015 in the following amounts:

Aug./Sept. 2015 (total of 104 hours at \$52.84) = \$5,495.36
Oct./Nov. 2015 (total of 171 hours at \$52.84) = <u>\$9,035.64</u>
Total: \$14,531.00

- 7. Approve the ratification of the February 15, 2016 payment to M&T Bank in the amount of \$6,259.38 for the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2012 (energy performance loan) of the Wyoming Area School District.
- 8. Approve the credit adjustments effective February 1, 2016.

<b>Wyoming Area School District Credit Adjustments Effective February 1, 2016</b>				
<b>Name</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Step</b>	<b>Increase</b>
ARGO, ANTHONY	M+48	M+54	13	\$1,481.00
BECKER, JOYCE	M+24	M+30	12	\$874.00
BILSKI, NICHOLAS	B+18	B+24	4	\$1,104.00
GILLESPIE, ERICA	M+54	M+60	8	\$1,482.00
HINES, JENNIFER	M+18	M+24	6	\$876.00
HOSEY, MELISSA	M+54	M+60	16	\$1,723.00
LEMONCELLI, ROBERT	B+12	B+18	2	\$1,582.00
SPEECE, JASON	M+36	M+42	15	\$2,264.00
STEVENS, MELISSA	M+36	M+42	16	\$2,317.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 13,703.00</b>

- 9. Approve the tuition reimbursements for February 2016.

<b>EMPLOYEE NAME</b>	<b>AMOUNT TO BE REIMBURSED</b>
ANGELI KORY LYN	\$600.00
ANTHONY KARA	\$300.00
ARGENIO JEAN MARIE	\$600.00
ARGO ANTHONY	\$600.00
ARITZ ALYSSA	\$900.00
ARITZ ASHLEY	\$300.00
BECKER JOYCE	\$600.00
BILSKI NICHOLAS	\$300.00
DAY LISA	\$600.00
DRAGWA KELLY	\$900.00
GILLESPIE ERICA	\$300.00
HINES JENNIFER	\$600.00
HINES REBECCA	\$300.00
HOSEY MELISSA	\$600.00
JONES ANTOINETTE	\$1,800.00
KOSCO AMY	\$300.00
LATONA SARAH	\$1,200.00
LEMONCELLI ROBERT	\$600.00
LYNCH CYNTHIA	\$300.00
MACARIO ANTHONY	\$900.00
MAZZITELLI SARA	\$300.00
MCKENNA MOLLY	\$600.00
MENNIG DEANNA	\$600.00
MUDLOCK LAURA	\$800.00
PELLEGRINI DIANE	\$300.00
SCHULTZ SUSAN	\$600.00
SPEECE JASON	\$300.00
STEVENS MELISSA	\$300.00
TALASKA BARBARA	\$1,200.00
<b>\$17,600.00</b>	

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10. Motion to approve reimbursement to the Wyoming County Tax Collector for costs associated with mailing of tax bills at the rate of \$.50 per parcel. The tax collector is to provide a parcel count or invoice prior to reimbursement.
11. Motion to approve the reimbursement of \$279.00 to the Wyoming County Tax Collector for the mailing of 558 tax bills at a rate of \$.50 per parcel.
12. Approve the General Ledger Sheet:

Bill Listing: February 2016	651,244.05	
Prepays: January 2016	<u>26,849.67</u>	678,093.72
Cafeteria Account:	73,690.78	
Athletic Account:	<u>6,667.00</u>	<u>80,357.78</u>
Total: 758,451.50		

Motion by Mrs. Yochem, second by Mrs. Farrell, to accept the finance report.

Roll Call: Mrs. Valenti voted yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Mrs. Yochem, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

Education Report

Mr. Yorina read the Education Report.

1. Reporting as per Federal Regulations Requirement that the District’s Federal Programs (Title I, Title II, and Drugs and Alcohol) have been planned for the 2015-2016 school year. Anyone desiring information regarding these programs, contact Janet Serino, Superintendent, at the District’s Business Office.
2. Accept, with regret, Josette Cefalo’s letter of resignation as Class Day Advisor for the 2015-2016 school year.
3. Approve the request of Diane Pellegrini, 6<sup>th</sup> grade elementary teacher at Tenth Street, to take a maternity leave tentatively starting Monday, April 11, 2016 with an approximate return date of August 2016 school year.
4. Approve the appointments for the following extra-curricular positions for the 2015-2016 school year:
 

Freshman Class Advisor	Maureen Pikas
Sophomore Class Advisor	Carmella Argento
Class Day Advisor	Carmen Latona
5. Approve the appointment of Julie Matosky as a long term substitute teacher for Marilyn Bolus, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade at JFK Elementary School, retroactive to September 29, 2015 for the duration of said assignment, at the step placement of Bachelor’s Step 1, \$34,698.00, pro-rated according to duration of assignment.
6. Approve the request of Michael Pasquariello, math teacher at the Secondary Center, to take a leave of absence under the Family Medical Leave Act, starting Wednesday, April 6, 2016 to the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

7. Approve the agreement between Wyoming Area Education Association and Wyoming Area School District to allow any member of the professional staff to voluntarily donate one sick leave day during the 2015-2016 school year to be used at the discretion of Marilyn Bolus.
8. Approve the request of Linda Hurwitz, Speech & Language Pathologist, to take a medical leave of absence effective immediately until further notice.
9. Approve the revised professional substitute list for the 2015-2016 school year.
10. Approve the revision of Jennifer Seiger’s maternity leave from Thursday, March 31, 2016 to Wednesday, March 30, 2016. Tentative return date is May 16, 2016.
11. Motion to extend the notification for retirement of professional staff for an additional 30 days for the 2015-2016 school year. Subject to a written agreement between the district and PSEA to be prepared by the District Solicitor. (THIS ITEM ADDED FROM THE FLOOR)

Motion by Mr. Yorina, second by Mrs. Gober-Mangan, to accept the education report.

Roll Call: Mrs. Valenti voted yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Mrs. Yochem, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

Activities Report

Mrs. Farrell read the Activities Report.

1. Approve the request of Stanley Wycoski, President, Wyoming Area Football Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers for the 2016 calendar year:
  - Saturday, April 2, 2016, Warrior Night at the Races at Saint Barbara’s Parish Hall, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., adults only.
  - Saturday, June/July 2016, Car Wash at local auto service station, TBA, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
  - August through September, PSU Game ticket raffle.
  - August through September, Game Day Social at Susquehanna Bar & Grill, adults only.
  - Saturday in September, Warrior Night Out in conjunction with Susquehanna Brewing Co., 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., adults only.
2. Approve the request of Christopher Hizynski, Key Club Advisor, for the district to cover the cost of lodging for two chaperones for the Pennsylvania Key Club District Convention at State College, Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 13, 2016. Total cost of lodging for two chaperones is \$918.00.
3. Approve the appointments of the following assistant coaches and volunteers for the 2016 spring season:

Track & Field

Mike Fanti	Asst. Coach	2,508.00
Ken Stackhouse	Asst. Coach	2,508.00
Michelle Golden	Asst. Coach	2,508.00
Randy Spencer	Asst. Junior High Coach	2,230.00
Courtney Thomas	Asst. Junior High Coach	2,230.00

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Samantha Shiner	Asst. Junior High Coach	2,230.00
Dave Ruggles	Volunteer Coach	
Victoria Blazick	Volunteer Coach	
Ashley Aritz	Volunteer Coach	
Joseph DeMark	Volunteer Coach	
Ken Kopetchny	Volunteer Coach	

Boys Lacrosse

Jacob Yaple	Volunteer Coach	
Rob Switzer	Volunteer Coach	

Baseball

Sean Gallagher	7/8 Coach	2,230.00
Jim Manganiello	Junior High Coach	2,230.00
Mike Tierney	Volunteer Coach	
Evan Musto	Volunteer Coach	
Angelo Falzone	Volunteer Coach	

Boys Tennis

Aaron Carter	Volunteer Coach	
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Softball

Ted Kross	Asst. Coach	2,508.00
Dean Carey	Junior High Coach	2,230.00
Ryan Carey	Asst. Junior High Coach	2,230.00

4. Approve the request of Michelle Klapproth, Wyoming Area Drama Parents Association, to hold a wine tasting fundraiser (adults only) at Bartolai Winery on Saturday, April 23, 2016, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, second by Mr. Marianacci, to accept the activities report.

Roll Call: Mrs. Valenti voted yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Mrs. Yochem, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

Building Report

Mr. Stofko read the Building Report.

1. Approve the request of Libby Krokos, Director of Special Education, Luzerne Intermediate Unit, to use eight classrooms at the Secondary Center for the Extended School Year Program from July 1<sup>st</sup> through August 11, 2016, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Students will arrive at 9:00 a.m. and depart at 12:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal. (Class C)
2. Approve the request of Jennifer Woss for the Emerald Isle Step Dancers to rent the Secondary Center auditorium at \$100.00 for a dance recital on Saturday, April 23, 2016, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal. A fee of \$25.00 per hour may be charged to the organization if a custodian's services are needed. (Class D)

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3. Approve the request of Amy Kelly, Secretary, Wyoming Area Boys/Girls Lacrosse, to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for "Meet the Warriors" on Sunday, March 13, 2016, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and food service director.  
A fee of \$25.00 per hour may be charged to the organization if a custodian's services are needed. (Class A)
4. Approve the request of Len Basara, Germania Hose Company Scuba Team, to use the pool for scuba training on Saturday, March 5, 2016, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, March 22, 2016, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and athletic director. (Class C)
5. Approve the request of Rhonda Pizano, Cheerleading Coach, to use the multi-purpose room for 2016-2017 cheerleading try-outs on Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. with practice on Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and athletic director. (Class A)
6. Approve the request of Lyn Bednarski, Secretary, Wyoming Area Softball Parents Association, to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for a ziti dinner fundraiser on Sunday, April 10, 2016, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and food service director. A \$25.00 per hour fee may be charged to the organization if a custodian or cafeteria worker's services are needed. (Class A)
7. Approve the revised support personnel substitute list for the 2015-2016 school year.
8. Approve the request of Lyn Bednarski, Secretary, Wyoming Area Softball Parents Association, to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for "Meet the Warriors" on Thursday, March 17, 2016, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and food service director. A \$25.00 per hour fee may be charged to the organization if a custodian or cafeteria worker's services are needed. (Class A)
9. Approve the request of Alexandria Briggs, Family & Consumer Science Teacher, for the Quilting Club to use the Secondary Center gymnasium for a Quilt Show on Wednesday, May 25, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Briggs is also asking approval to provide crafts for sale with proceeds going to the drama club, to host silent auctions with proceeds going to specific charities and to accept donations through raffle from quilting students to purchase the charity quilt materials, pending approval by the building principal and athletic director. (Class A)
10. Approve the request of Carla DePrimo, Learning Support Aide, to take a leave without pay effective Wednesday, February 24, 2016 to Wednesday, March 16, 2016. Return date is Thursday, March 17, 2016.
11. Approve the request of Mitch Payne, (10 month) cleaner at Tenth Street Elementary School, to take a leave without pay for personal reasons for 90 days, retroactive to February 19, 2016.

Motion by Mr. Stofko, second by Mrs. Valenti, to accept the building report.

Roll Call: Mrs. Valenti voted yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Mrs. Yochem, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

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Police Report

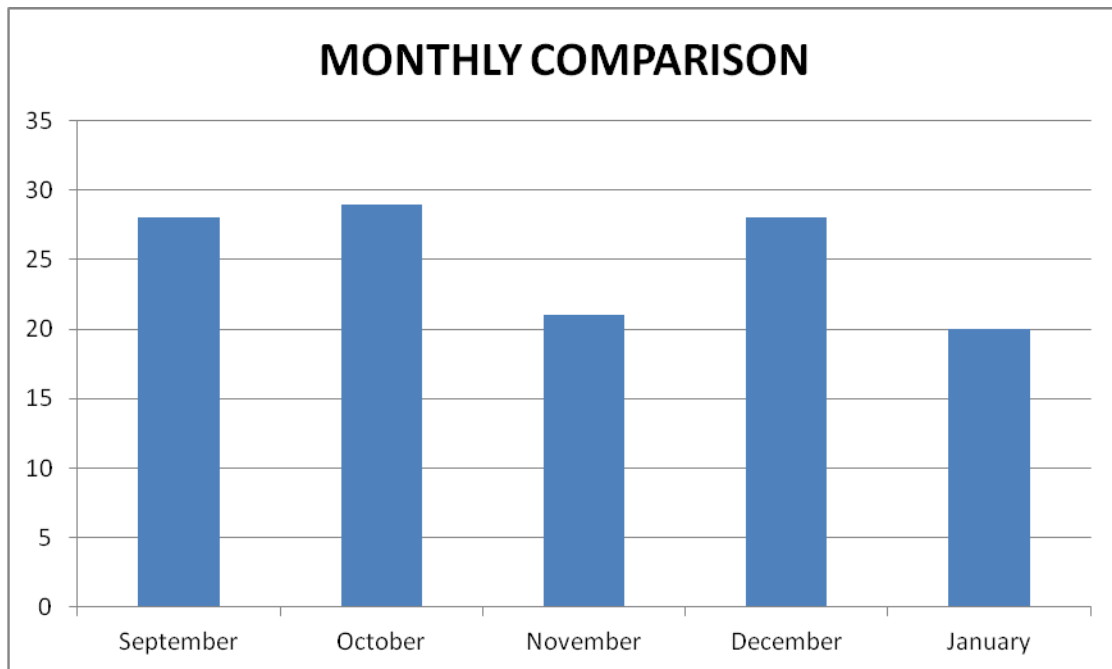
**Wyoming Area Police Department  
Monthly Report for January  
Total Calls for Service 20**

CODE

0002 –Transport	1
1490 – Criminal Mischief - Reports	1
2400 – Disorderly Conduct	2
2690 – All Other Offenses – Reports	5
3900 – Traffic & Parking Problems	1
4090 – Non – Criminal – Reports	2
7504 – Assist Other Agencies – Other Police	2
PARE – Parent Conference	1
TRUA – Compulsory School Attendances	5
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Total	20
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Monthly Comparison

<u>January Calls for Service</u>	<u>December Calls for Service</u>	<u>Plus/Minus Comparison</u>
20	28	-8



At this time, Mr. Yorina made the following motion:

Motion to match the money raised by the Drama Club for the International Thespian Festival not to exceed \$3,000.00.

Second by Dr. Campenni.

Roll Call: Mrs. Valenti voted yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Mrs. Yochem, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

Open Discussion:

Mr. Yorina reported the Luzerne Intermediate Unit will have a meeting regarding the budget on Monday, February 29, 2016 at the LIU. There will be Mrs. Serino and members of the board to represent the district. Mr. Yorina stated if we need to borrow money for payroll we better do it now because we might not get the loan for a couple months.

We met our deal and we're doing it right now. In January and March and we have to have all these budgets established and have a budget by June 30th. We met our deal. Mr. Yorina stated he will vote no on everything up until we get the money.

Regarding Land Bank, Mr. Yorina stated he was under the impression this was going to be one or two properties not ten. Attorney Ferentino responded that is the entire bank not just in town. None of them are from our district.

Mr. Yorina asked if there was enough security at the playoff basketball game. Mrs. Serino responded there was.

Mr. Marianacci asked Attorney Ferentino to explain item #23 under communications. Attorney Ferentino explained that in October the board formed a Wyoming Area foundation. One of the steps is registering with the State and the IRS. Our foundation now can offer folks that make a contribution to the district a tax break. Volunteers will also solicit funds for the foundation.

#### Comments from Audience:

- John Pegg, West Wyoming, questioned item #11 under education. Attorney Ferentino responded that was a request with the union. Notifications have to be done by April. We're giving them an additional 30 days because of long term planning and decisions that haven't been made yet particularly the SJD school, whether it will remain open. If the facility is closed, that will impact the decision of some teachers, whether they will want to be moved or retire. It will be extended into May.
- Mr. Pegg asked about the Energy Performance Purchase Fund that was in previous years. Mr. Melone responded that was really part of the package. It's gone now.
- Mr. Pegg questioned the Basic Education Funding and Special Education Funding. Mr. Melone explained they are subsidy payments and we receive about half of those costs.
- Donna Kostik, Wyoming, Daneen Kearns, West Pittston and Craig Krenitski commented on the closing of SJD.

There wasn't enough notice of the hearing and parents should have been called. It was a small window and looked deceiving and it sounded like they were being segregated to Tenth Street.

Attorney Ferentino stated the law requires with a closure that it be advertised in the paper which includes a public hearing that gets media coverage. When you are talking about reorganization of an institution that is not necessarily something under the law that is put out for public debate or hearing. That is why essentially the focus was on the closure and not the restructuring because the law doesn't provide for that kind of hearing and exposure on that issue. The night of the hearing, in the event SJD was closed, a powerpoint presented how it would happen and who would go where.

Mrs. Serino, Superintendent, stated first of all the meeting was well advertised in several different places. At the hearing, there was an hour where our principals did present a powerpoint and they didn't present anything that was going to be put in stone. What they did was give options to the board so everyone understood, they did not make a decision. If they do decide to close SJD there are several options that they can do. Where the children are going has not been finalized at this point because we don't know if the school is going to be closed. What they had to do was they had to go through every child and account for every single child and if this is a census situation this is the way it is and the other was left somewhat open because of the fact we weren't sure of where those children would go.

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That is still debatable. As far as the teachers go, our administrators are meeting, and Mrs. Serino stated she sent out e-mails to teachers that there are staff meetings so the teachers can sit down and ask any questions. A survey was also given so teachers can share the pros and the cons. The board also stated they would meet with administrators to share ideas. Mrs. Serino welcomed anyone with any questions to come to the board meetings. Right now the board is only considering the closing of SJD not what they want to do.

Attorney Ferentino stated that the decision to close SJD has to be made in April. The realignment of the district will be made at a later date.

Mrs. Serino asked Mrs. Kostick what she wants parents to be told other than the board having to make a decision in April as whether they are going to close SJD. Mrs. Kostick responded that there is a possible restructuring of the elementary school system and the neighborhood community to attend. Mrs. Kearns commented that it is a small window and it was deceiving to many because the way it was presented it sounded like they were closing SJD. There is not going to be a lot of time for a turnaround. Mrs. Serino stated that is why it is being looked at and they are doing everything that can be done and we have to wait to see what direction the board wants to go. Mrs. Gober-Mangan, President, stated the public isn't getting the whole picture. We need the feedback. Attorney Ferentino stated we are doing the best we can and he informed the audience to go to our website and e-mail any questions anyone has.

Mr. Kenitski stated it sounded like everyone was being segregated to Tenth Street. Mrs. Serino stated it sounded that way but it was because of the grade level they were in. Mrs. Serino asked everyone to ask questions. She welcomed it.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Marianacci, second by Dr. Campenni.

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Elizabeth Gober-Mangan, President

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John Marianacci, Secretary