Wyoming Area School District Combined Work Session/Regular Meeting Wyoming Area Board of Education 20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643 Tuesday, September 20, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

A combined work session/regular meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education was held this evening at the Secondary Center auditorium, 20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643, with approximately fifty people in attendance. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for the flood victims. Mr. DeAngelo, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

| Roll Call: | Mr. Nicholas DeAngelo, President |
|------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Mr. John Marianacci, Vice President |
| | Mr. John Bolin, Secretary |
| | Mr. Samuel Aritz |
| | Dr. Estelle Campenni |
| | Dr. Frank Casarella |
| | Mrs. Toni Valenti |
| | |
| | |

Absent: Mr. David Alberigi, Treasurer Mr. Gilbert Dominick

Also present were: Raymond J. Bernardi, Superintendent, Janet Serino, District Principal of Curriculum, Tom Melone, Business Consultant, Attorney Raymond A. Hassey, Robert Kaluzavich, Elementary Building Principal of Montgomery Ave./SJD, Jon Pollard, Elementary Principal of Tenth St./JFK, Deborah Popson, Supervisor of Special Education, Dave Amico, Facilities Manager, Morgan Bilbow, Student Representative, John Miller from J. Miller and Sons, Inc., Mike Lombardo and Jeff Ghannam from Quad Three Group.

Communications Report

Mr. Bernardi read the communications report.

- 1. Minutes of the Luzerne Intermediate Unit's regular meeting of July 20, 2011.
- 2. Robert Shlesinger, Scranton Public Theatre, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center auditorium for a production of "Snow White".
- 3. Jaime Hizynski, JFK Playground Committee, requesting permission to purchase, transport and install a gazebo on the JFK playground.
- 4. Barbara Bullions, Drama Advisor, requesting permission for students to attend the State Conference at North Penn High School.
- 5. Barbara Bullions, Drama Advisor, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria to hold the annual Drama Club Cabaret.
- 6. Tom Pepe, Custodian, submitting his letter of intent to retire.
- 7. Dawn Thomas, President of the Wyoming Area Ice Hockey Association, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for "Meet the Warriors."
- 8. Jenny Kranson, JFK PTO, requesting permission to set up a table at home football games to sell fundraiser tickets.

Summary of Applications Received Elementary – 5 Physical Education – 1 English – 3 Special Education

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Campenni abstained on the regular meeting of August 23, 2011 minutes. The remaining board members voted aye. Motion passed.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bernardi read the superintendent's report.

1. Acknowledge the **Perfect Attendance** for the **2010-2011** school year for the following employees:

PERFECT ATTENDANCE No Sick or Personal Days Used **Chris Alberigi** Josephine Belza **Diane Dileo** Joan Hennigan Ann Marie Lawrence **Catherine Maheady** Jessica Turner Joann Pellegrini **Robert Kaluzavich** Ashley Aritz Joseph Bartoli Victoria Blazek Al English Christopher Hizynski Leo Lulewicz **Chris Marianacci** Deanna Mennig Sandra Nardell Frank Parra Theodora Rabel

Janet Serino

Susan Sherinsky

Joan Shinko

Karen Switzer

No Sick Days Used

Donna Andrewscavage

Kara Anthony

Mary Lou Bosha

Carol Flickinger

Daneen Kearns

Linda McDermott

Maureen Pikas

David Pizano

Aida Robbins

Michael Romanowski

Leonarda Sperazza

Joshua Sutton

Jackie Vasquez

2. The new dates for <u>Get-Acquainted Nights</u> are:

Montgomery Avenue

October 4, 2011 @7:00 P.M.

Tenth Street

October 13, 2011 @7:00 P.M.

<u>JFK</u>

October 12, 2011 @7:00 P.M.

October 5, 2011 @7:00 P.M.

Secondary Center

October 6, 2011 @6:30 P.M.

3. Congratulations to our Key Club who once again was recognized by Key Club International for its outstanding service to the school and community. The Club's Single Service Project, 3-on-3 basketball tournament was named the best community service project for clubs having up to 85 members for the second year in a row. In addition, the Club was named a Diamond Level Distinguished Club, the only club in Pennsylvania and one of twenty-seven across the world receiving this recognition. Congratulations to all members and Christine Rutledge, Advisor.

Mr. Bernardi thanked everyone that helped with the shelter, Mr. Amico and support staff, cafeteria staff, volunteers, employees and the Red Cross. Mr. Bernardi stated there were 60-70 people in the shelter and different counties donated \$90,000 for the families.

<u>SJD</u>

Mr. Bernardi stated the Red Cross needs monetary donations. Mrs. Valenti stated they are in need of blood also. Dr. Casarella stated the Salvation Army served meals to those in need and the entire community came together to help everyone in crisis. Mrs. Valenti also stated all the churches helped and the football team. Dr. Campenni stated volunteers from Wyoming Seminary, Kings, Wilkes, Misericordia and Marywood Colleges also helped. Mrs. Valenti stated they have a long way to go.

Motion by Mrs. Valenti, seconded by Mr. Aritz to accept the superintendent's report.

Student Representative Report

Morgan Bilbow read her report: With the 2011-2012 school year just beginning, many clubs and activities are just getting started. Congratulations to the 2011 homecoming court consisting of Alex Amico, Christie Argenio, Leah Laneski, Sara Radzwilka and Dori Williams. Also, congratulations to the newly elected senior class officers. Junior class elections will take place in the near future. Student Council and Key Club are both accepting applications.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Bernardi read the treasurer's report.

| <u>Bank</u> | Account | <u>Checking Account</u> |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| First National Community Bank | General Fund | 1,967,588.00 |
| First National Community Bank | Payroll Account | 264,900.09 |
| First National Community Bank | Cafeteria Account | 188,998.35 |
| First National Community Bank | Student Activities Account | 92,974.69 |
| First National Community Bank | Athletic Fund Account | 12,566.47 |
| Landmark Bank | Athletic Fund Account | 1,933.43 |
| PNC Bank | Energy Performance Proceeds Fund | 30,691.10 |
| PNC Bank | Capital Projects Fund Bank Construction Account | 83,942.15 |
| PNC Bank | Capital Projects Fund Bank Investment Account | 1,079,418.71 |

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

Finance Report

Mr. Bernardi read the finance report.

1. Received the following checks:

| <u>Don Wilkinson Agency (August)</u> Earned Income Tax | 218,922.18 |
|---|----------------|
| Local State Tax | 2,216.51 |
| | • |
| Delinquent Per Capita | 4,249.60 |
| Per Capita Tax | 19,087.40 |
| | al: 244,475.69 |
| Local Realty Transfer Tax | |
| James Red O'Brien – Luzerne County | 20,196.57 |
| <u>Refund</u> Lehigh Valley Charter High School & Performing Arts | 1,998.63 |
| Luzerne Intermediate Unit | |
| ACCESS Reimbursement | 14,412.89 |
| | 14,412.05 |
| 2011 Real Estate Taxes | |
| Tom Polacheck – Exeter Borough | 687,664.75 |
| 5 | · |
| Robert Connors – West Wyoming Borough | 73,555.92 |
| George Miller- West Pittston Borough | 357,363.23 |
| | 440 700 04 |
| Carol Bardzel | 118,708.84 |
| Exeter Twp., Wyoming County | |
| Paul Konopka- Wyoming Borough | 353,157.64 |
| Wayman Smith- Exeter Twp. Luzerne Cnty. | 267,095.80 |
| 2010 Supplemental Taxes | |
| Paul Konopka – Wyoming Borough | 2,175.62 |
| | 2,17 5.02 |
| Robert Connors-West Wyoming Borough | 432.42 |
| | |
| State & Federal Subsidy Taxes | |
| Social Security | 44,672.86 |
| Title I – Improving Basic Programs | 62,160.79 |
| ARRA – Title I Part A | 15,808.84 |
| Title II – Improving Teacher Quality | 17,007.17 |
| Academic Achievement Award | 3,666.68 |
| Section 1305 & 1306 | - |
| | 10,117.35 |
| Dual Enrollment | 4,009.98 |
| Basic Education Funding | 1,059,720.00 |
| School District Transportation | 111,912.00 |
| Non Public Transportation | 690.17 |
| Property Tax Relief Payment | 237,648.00 |
| Total: | 1,567,413.84 |

2. Approve the September payment of \$75,088.54 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit in accordance with the terms of the approved contract agreement for programs and services for the 2011-2012 school year.

- 3. Approve the September payment of \$36,505.00 to the West Side Career and Technology Center for the 2011-2012 school year.
- 4. Approve the Proposal from Pure Green Consultants to provide consulting services to Wyoming Area School District for developing and submitting Act 129 (PPL) rebate incentive applications relative to the roof replacement.
- 5. Approve the following invoices submitted for payment from the Capital Project Account for the Secondary Center roof:

| Quad Three Group (roof) | 29,473.36 |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Quad Three Group (HVAC) | 2,021.58 |
| | 31,494.94 |

- 6. Approve to ratify the retirement incentives for support employees.
- 7. Approve the list of tuition reimbursements submitted as of August 31, 2011.

EMPLOYEE NAME AMOUNT TO BE REIMBURSED

| ALAIMO | JENNIFER | \$1,200.00 |
|------------|--------------------|-------------|
| ALTAVILLA | DOMINIC | \$900.00 |
| ARGENTO | CARMELLA | \$600.00 |
| ARGO | ANTHONY | \$600.00 |
| ARITZ | ALYSSA | \$900.00 |
| ARITZ | ASHLEY | \$1,500.00 |
| AUGELLO | MARY PAT | \$300.00 |
| BALL | PAULA | \$600.00 |
| BANDRU | CLARISE | \$600.00 |
| BIAGO | NICOLE (Ginthner) | \$1,200.00 |
| BLAZICK | VICTORIA | \$700.00 |
| CALLAIO | TIFFANY | \$1,500.00 |
| DAIELLO | KIMBERLY | \$1,200.00 |
| DAY | LISA | \$600.00 |
| DESSOYE | ELIZABETH | \$570.00 |
| DILEO | DIANE | \$1,200.00 |
| DWYER | KAREN | \$600.00 |
| FANTI | MICHAEL | \$1,800.00 |
| GILLESPIE | ERICA | \$2,700.00 |
| HINES | REBECCA (Rebovich) | \$2,400.00 |
| KACHMARSKY | ANN MARIE | \$1,200.00 |
| KENNEDY | RYAN | \$1,200.00 |
| LATONA | SARAH | \$600.00 |
| LAWRENCE | ANN MARIE | \$1,200.00 |
| LITWIN | ROSE MARY | \$600.00 |
| MENTA | KATE | \$600.00 |
| MOLINO | STACEY (Rutt) | \$600.00 |
| PEPPE | VICTORIA | \$600.00 |
| PIKAS | MAUREEN | \$600.00 |
| REINO | MARYANN | \$1,800.00 |
| SCHULTZ | SUSAN | \$1,200.00 |
| SCROBOLA | SHERYL | \$1,200.00 |
| STRAZDUS | BRIAN | \$828.00 |
| VILLANO | TOSCA | \$300.00 |
| YEAGER | STACEY | \$1,200.00 |
| | | \$35,398.00 |

- 8. Approve the submission to Murray Marlier, Division of School Facilities, Pennsylvania Department of Education, regarding the request to waive advertising requirements due to flood emergency a (Non-Reimbursable Project) at Montgomery Avenue Elementary School.
- 9. Approve to authorize the board secretary to solicit bids for refuse/sanitation services for the year beginning January 1, 2012.
- 10. Approve the appointment of Dehey & McAndrew to provide continued consulting and support services for benefit plan entitled IRC Section 125 at a cost of \$5,250.00 for the 2011-2012 school year. Services include all administration, plan documentation and IRS filings.
- **11. Approve the General Ledger Sheet:**

| Bill Listing: | 9-20-11 | 601,214.11 | |
|-------------------|---------|------------------|---------------|
| Prepaids: | 8-31-11 | <u>23,644.55</u> | 624,858.66 |
| | | | |
| Cafeteria Acco | unt: | 21,305.97 | |
| Athletic Account: | | 4,056.50 | 25,362.47 |
| | | Tota | l: 650,221.13 |

Motion by Mrs. Valenti, second by Mr. Aritz, to accept the finance report.

On the Question: Dr. Casarella questioned HM Receivables Co., LLC listed on the Accounting Check Register for \$40,000.00. Dr. Casarella stated with everything coded he doesn't know what it is. Mrs. Valenti stated it is all new. Mr. Bernardi responded it was text books. Mr. Melone stated the system is being converted by the West Side Career and Technology Center. In the future the description will be listed. Dr. Campenni questioned item #4, proposal from Pure Green Consultants. Mr. Bernardi responded it is for energy conservation. Mr. Dave Amico, Facilities Manager, responded that through PPL the district is entitled for a rebate and Quad Three Inc. informed Mr. Amico Wyoming Area School District meets the criteria because of the HVAC and roof replacement. Mr. Amico stated Pure Green Consultants will do all the paperwork and will get a percentage. Dr. Campenni questioned item #8. Mr. Bernardi responded that is a negative air enclosure installed at Montgomery Avenue Elementary School and we received emergency approval waiving advertising due to flooding. Usually we advertise on three consecutive Mondays. Dr. Campenni questioned item #9 bids for refuse, who do we have now. Mr. Bernardi responded Ellsworth. Dr. Campenni asked when is that decision made. Mr. Melone stated it will be for January 1st of the new year. It will be advertised and in the November meeting. Dr. Casarella asked if it will be in the new budget starting in February. Mr. Melone responded our budget runs from July to June. Yes, it will be in the new budget. Dr. Campenni questioned item #10, Dehey McAndrew, if there were other people for this. Mr. Melone responded Dehey McAndrew is a firm that has been with us for a number of years and provide overall IRS filing requirements to monitor our fringe benefits program. We didn't go out with any additional firms because the cost has remained the same for the last three years.

George Race of Exeter questioned item #1, refund from Lehigh Valley Charter School & Performing Arts. Mr. Melone responded the refund is because a student withdrew so there were no students enrolled.

George Race commented on item #7, tuition reimbursements, stating this should be thrown out. This shouldn't be considered. Mr. Race stated "\$35,000 is ridiculous." Mr. Race asked if there is anything else considered an emergency other than the air, item #8. Mr. Bernardi responded all the damage caused by the flood. You need bids but you don't have to advertise. Mr. Race questioned item #10. Mr. Melone responded the district participates in what we call an opt out of medical benefits as contained in the collective bargaining agreement. If someone has coverage by another provider, the district will pay a certain amount for the individual to opt out of the district coverage. This agreement needs to be documented for IRS purposes in order to protect the non taxability of individuals receiving health care. Mr. Race asked if there is a bonus for perfect attendance. Mrs. Valenti responded no.

Carl Yorina of Wyoming, asked for the percentage or cost for item #4, Pure Green Consultants. Mr. Melone responded it is a \$1,500.00 retainer to execute the agreement. Less than \$10,000.00 rebate amount is 0. \$10,000.00 or more rebate amount is \$1,500.00. Receipt of rebate incentive is 25% of approved rebate amount, less previously invoiced.

Roll Call: Dr. Campenni voted no on item #4 and yes on the remaining report. All remaining board members voted yes on the entire report. Motion passed.

Education Report

Mr. Bernardi read the education report.

- Reporting as per Federal Regulations Requirement that the District's Federal Programs, (Title I, Title II, and Drugs and Alcohol) has been planned for the 2011-2012 school year. Anyone desiring information regarding these programs, contact Janet Serino, District Principal of Curriculum, at the District's Business Office.
- 2. Approve the revised professional substitute list.
- 3. Approve the extra-curricular appointments for the 2011-2012 school year:

| Juel Ann Klepadlo | Key Club Co-advisor |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Chris Hizynski | Key Club Co-advisor |
| Kim Marchesini | Sophomore Advisor |

4. Approve the following teachers for tenure, having completed three years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

| Marilyn Bolis | Chris Hyzinski |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Ashley Aritz | Sara Mazzitelli |
| Kara Anthony | Jill Orth |
| Stacey Yeager | Carla Romanchick |
| Nicole Ginthner | Brian Strazdus |

5. Approve the Step placement for Antoinette Jones, Temporary Professional Employee, at Bachelors Step 1, \$32,206.00.

- 6. Approve to rescind Deanna Sabola's retirement effective October 31, 2011.
- 7. Approve Deanna Sabola's retirement effective November 8, 2011.

Motion by Mrs. Valenti, second by Mr. Aritz, to accept the education report.

On the Question: Dr. Campenni asked why the change on item #6. Mr. Bernardi responded Mrs. Sabola requested the change due to the flood. George Race asked if anyone was ever denied tenure. Mrs. Valenti responded no.

Roll Call: All board members present voted yes on the report. Motion passed.

Activities Report

Mr. Bernardi read the activities report.

- 1. Approve the appointment of Lauren Shovlin as Junior High Volleyball Coach at a salary of \$1,210.00 for the 2011-2012 school year as per collective bargaining agreement.
- Approve the request of Barbara Bullions, Drama Advisor, to attend the State Conference, along with drama students, at North Penn High school on Thursday, December 1st, Friday, December 2nd and Saturday, December 3, 2011. Cost to the students is approximately \$180.00.
- 3. Approve the request of Jenny Kranson, JFK PTO, to set up a table at home football games to sell fundraiser tickets.

Motion by Mr. Aritz, second by Mrs. Valenti, to accept the activities report.

Roll Call: All Board Members present voted yes. Motion passed.

Building Report

Mr. Bernardi read the building report.

- 1. Approve the request of Jaime Hizynski, JFK Playground Committee, to purchase, transport and install a gazebo on the JFK playground at no cost to the district.
- 2. Approve Tom Pepe's letter of intent to retire effective September 30, 2011.
- 3. Approve retirement incentive payment to Tom Peppe.

Items #2 and 3 were tabled.

- 4. Approve the request of Robert Shlesinger, Scranton Public Threatre, to use the Secondary Center auditorium for a production of "Snow White" on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 1:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal.
- 5. Approve the request of Barbara Bullions, Drama Advisor, to hold the annual Drama Club Cabaret in the Secondary Center cafeteria on Saturday, November 5, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., with access to the cafeteria and kitchen from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and cafeteria manager.
- 6. Approve the revised substitute support personnel list.

- Approve the request of Dawn Thomas, President of the Wyoming Area Ice Hockey Association, to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for "Meet the Warriors" on Sunday, October 16, 2011, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and cafeteria manager.
- 8. Approve to ratify the proposal to award Negative Air Enclosures for Montgomery Avenue Elementary School to Forrester Environmental Inc. at \$4,750.00.

Motion by Mr. Aritz, second by Mr. Bolin, to accept the building report.

Roll Call: All Board Members present voted yes. Motion passed.

Policy Report

Mr. Bernardi read the policy report.

- 1. Approve the second reading of policy #620 "Fund Balance."
- 2. Approve the second reading of revised policy #117 "Home Instruction."

Motion by Mrs. Valenti, second by Mr. Bolin, to accept the policy report.

Roll Call: With all Board Members present voting yes, the motion passed.

At this time, Mr. DeAngelo thanked Dave Amico and his staff, cafeteria staff, administration and Mr. Bernardi for his quick response bringing in the professionals due to the flooding. Mr. DeAngelo stated he, Mrs. Valenti, Dr. Campenni and other board members were at Montgomery Avenue School. Dr. Campenni stated there was an article in the Times Leader and asked why she wasn't involved in the meeting for Montgomery Avenue School. Mrs. Valenti responded there wasn't a meeting, she just happened to be at the school and a reporter was there. Mr. DeAngelo asked Dr. Campenni "You were there the other day and I wasn't, so why wasn't I told?" Dr. Campenni wanted to be inside the loop. She did call Mr. Bernardi many times because she was concerned. Mr. Bernardi stated the press showed up and they did bid openings that morning. There was no meeting. Mr. DeAngelo stated Mr. Dominick and Mr. Aritz were there for the bid opening because of building and finance. Dr. Campenni read the article and stated clearly a meeting was scheduled. Mrs. Valenti responded she just happened to show up. Mr. DeAngelo commented to Dr. Campenni that whenever the board is e-mailed or informed of something Dr. Campenni can't make it and then she comes to the meetings in front of the public stating she is disregarded. Mr. DeAngelo stated Dr. Campenni does this at every meeting. When Dr. Campenni asked Mr. DeAngelo to state when that happened, he said he could not recall the date. Dr. Campenni indicated that was because it never happened. Mrs. Valenti stated she has been to all the schools and just happened to be there that day. Dr. Campenni stated what she was reading was articles on line. Mr. Bernardi responded blogs could say anything.

Open Discussion: Mike Aufiere of West Pittston commented he heard the gym floor was thrown on the playground. Mr. Bernardi, Mr. DeAngelo and Mrs. Valenti responded the gym floor is still there. Dave Amico, Facilities Manager, responded there is no river mud. The playground area was power washed. Then the hose companies and tankers were sent to wash all playground equipment. Mr. Aufiere responded the tankers have the flood mud on their tires. Mr. Amico responded everything was washed down three times.

Mr. DeAngelo stated anyone hearing rumors should talk to Mr. Kaluzavich after the meeting.

Mr. Aufiere questioned the music room. Mr. Bernardi responded that the music room is blocked off. The entrance to the gym is all blocked off. There is no access. Mr. Aufiere asked if the room was checked for mold and is the air clean and how many times are they testing it. Mr. Bernardi introduced John Miller from JMSI. Mr. Miller responded everything in there is fine, there is no mold. The air is being filtered and assured the audience it is as good as their own home. Mr. Bernardi introduced Jeff Ghannam of Quad Three. Mr. Ghannam, an Environmental Hygienist responded after the flooding occurred testing was performed and they developed specifications of negative air based on 150,000 cubic feet. Quad Three is doing four air changes per hour which is 2000 cubic feet per minute. The air is being filtered. Mr. Ghannam stated they are creating a negative enclosure in that basement to prevent it from migrating to the upper floor. Mr. Amico stated there was no water in the music room. Saturation causes moisture, moisture causes mold spores. We don't have that in the music room because it never sustained one drop of water. Mr. Amico stated the music room is sealed off and the other side of music room is receiving negative air. Mr. Amico stated the district would never take one risk factor at all to jeopardize any student or staff member of that building, that is why Mr. Bernardi and the board had the professionals go in a.s.a.p. Mr. Bernardi stated that Mr. Aufiere should have come to him with any concerns. Mr. Aufiere stated the school should be tested every day. The air in those areas are well below the safe level for human health. Mr. Ghannam stated the air has been checked on a daily basis and the containment is intact. Mr. Amico stated if the air was not safe in West Pittston or Exeter, the community would be evacuated. Mr. Aufiere stated they are not putting enough of water on the streets. This is toxic. Mr. DeAngelo asked Mr. Amico to address the audience and tell them what areas have been sealed off for the children and the teachers. Mr. Amico responded that the first floor has been sealed off. It is a total misconception that the children will be walking through the balcony like they have in the past to get to the music room. They will enter the opposite exit which is on the back side of the negative air system. The whole first floor is in quote, unquote, in quarantine sections with negative air fans blowing through big ducts pulling air through and grabbing anything it can grab and exiting outside. When entering the Wyoming Avenue entrance, you have two options, you can either go up to the first floor or walk down to the steps of the basement. They cannot enter the basement area. The two gym areas, one is the cafeteria loading dock the other side is the playground. If they come in that stairwell they are allowed to walk up, they cannot walk down. The other area is the teacher's parking lot. You can walk up, you cannot walk down. There are four entrances that allow you to walk up not down. There is no child going to be inside the negative air containment area. Mr. Ghannam stated the negative air system was not designed to remove odors, it was designed to remove contaminates migrating to the upper floors. Mr. Amico asked Mr. John Miller of JMSI, if the odor coming from the gym (which wasn't done yet) could be harmful to the students. Mr. Miller responded as he said before, there is no bacteria, there is nothing growing. It's like a skunk, you get a smell once in awhile but it won't hurt you.

Mr. Amico stated in his opinion, we opened up the stairwell windows and talked to the environmentalists and he said to close the windows because the outside air is being drawn in. Mr. Amico closed the windows and the teachers were advised to keep the windows closed. Mr. Amico stated the dust is on Wyoming Avenue and eventually you are going to cough. So, the environmentalists advised to keep the building closed and the negative air will draw out the pollutants. Keeping them open draws the dust in.

Mr. Bob Borzell of Wyoming asked Mr. Bernardi, if the floor is complete. Mr. Bernardi responded the gym floor, no. Mr. Borzell responded no, the hardwood floor in the classroom. Mr. Bernardi responded the floor was replaced 10-15 years ago. Mr. Amico stated the floor is maple with three layers of plywood on top of stud finders. Mr. Borzell asked if it was glued. Mr. Amico responded it is tacked. The maple is tacked to each other. Each board is together. The plywood is stapled together. Mr. Amico stated it is beyond repair.

Dr. Casarella asked the cost of the air quality test. Mr. Bernardi responded \$600-\$700. Dr. Casarella stated the tests should be given for so many days then we will be sure and that will relieve everybody. Dr. Casarella stated he didn't care if it is tested for a week, at least do that. Dr. Casarella stated he is not going to take a chance on a child so he would like to have it done.

Marilee Foe of West Pittston stated she had two daughters in Montgomery Avenue School. She is concerned about their health with asbestos and mold. Mrs. Foe stated her children came home from school and said it smells, it is disgusting. Mrs. Foe stated she is in the health field and if there is a stench, there is something wrong. There is something growing. Mrs. Foe asked if there were some other establishments to hold the children and faculty to keep them in school learning as they should be. Mrs. Foe stated she may keep her children home all week and put them in a private school if she has to. Mrs. Foe asked if they have looked into other establishments. Mr. Bernardi responded yes, but asked Mr. Ghannam to respond. Mr. Ghannam of Quad Three responded they are following standards established with the negative air in the basement, this would prevent anything whether mold spores or asbestos. This is not allowing anything to migrate to the upper floors. Mr. Amico stated that Quad Three is working diligently on the scope of the plan to remove the gym floor. Once that is cleaned up, sanitized and with the negative air you won't have any smell in the building. Outside air can't be controlled. Mr. Amico stated we are looking at a three week time frame on this. Mr. Miller of JMSI stated he had been doing this for thirty five years with one hundred and twenty five schools and stated they are way ahead of the game on this. Mr. Miller stated he was a little intimidated with the questions being asked. This drew angry reactions from the audience. Mr. Foe angrily stated his two daughters are in that school and it was a stupid comment to make. Mr. DeAngelo banged his gavel numerous times. Mr. Bernardi stated parents may see the music room for themselves if they would like. Mr. Bernardi also stated to look on the web site regarding information for the Montgomery Avenue School. Mr. Ghannam informed the audience this system is being used in medical buildings. Mr. Amico stated thirteen hours later when he came in after the negative air system was put in, he didn't smell any odor. The doors are being open when the kids come in from recess. The reality is we have a stench outside. Also asked is whether or not volunteers would be able to come in and get that smell out of there. Attorney Hassey responded the coming together of the community and volunteers is something that is always encouraged. If all the parties involved are willing to do that the collective bargaining agreement limits our ability to evade volunteers. On the other hand, if that is something the board is willing to pursue we could sit down with the union head and see if they are willing to allow that.

Dr. Casarella stated he would support something like that but with volunteers coming in for something like that we're dealing with monies coming in from state and federal sources. There may be some issues there that he might not want to get involved in using staff and personnel for that type of work. And making sure it's done the right way so no one is harmed. Dr. Casarella stated that is his opinion on it and also stated we are doing everything possible to protect the children. Dr. Casarella stated it's not a bad idea to have the air checked periodically to make parents secure their children are safe. Dr. Casarella stated he would make a motion to the board to have some kind of schedule drawn up by Quad Three to monitor the air and make sure it is a safe environment for the kids. At \$600 Dr. Casarella stated he is not concerned about the money for the tests but is concerned about the kids and the board should be doing this. Attorney Hassey asked Dr. Casarella if he was making a motion to have a schedule drawn up. Dr. Casarella responded yes, on a two-three week period. Mr. DeAngelo and Mrs. Valenti responded to do it every day, the money doesn't matter. Instead of a motion being made the board agreed to have testing done every week. Mr. DeAngelo stated a motion wasn't needed. The board approved to have it tested every week.

Dr. Campenni asked how long it takes to get the results back. Mr. Miller responded every three days. Mr. Miller stated sometimes you do too much. They will know if it is good or bad. Dr. Campenni stated they should do it on Wednesdays and have the results by Monday before the kids come back. Mr. Miller responded they could do that. Dr. Campenni stated they should move fast on the air pressure system since it is an emergency. Mrs. Valenti stated she thought we were going to do the floor. Mr. Bernardi responded Quad Three waived the advertising but the state still requires the paperwork. They said it would be a week or so but we should speed them up. Mrs. Valenti stated to tell them we have to get the floor out of there. Mr. Bernardi stated they're the ones we're waiting for to do the scope of work.

Mary Louise Degnan of Wyoming asked where the flooding occurred and stated how can we let the children go in a room without the air getting tested. It doesn't make sense to her. Mrs. Degnan asked why the gym floor was not ripped out. Mr. Amico responded we turned the project over to our engineers, Quad Three. When Mr. Amico asked Mrs. Degnan "Who should have done it, my staff?" Mrs. Degnan responded "absolutely." Mr. Amico responded Mrs. Degnan had no idea the amount of work that is involved.

George Race questioned item #6 early retirement incentives for support. Mr. Bernardi responded they will receive 40% of their pay. Mrs. Valenti stated not to forget their salaries are very low. Mr. Race stated we didn't save that much money. Mrs. Valenti responded but we didn't replace them. Mr. Bernardi responded we didn't replace a number of retirees. Mr. Race asked "None were replaced?" Mr. Bernardi responded three were replaced out of five and out of the five, two weren't receiving benefits.

Kellie Steransky of West Pittston stated a parents meeting should have been held before the students went back to school so these questions could have been addressed. Many parents did not have a phone. Mr. Bernardi responded he had it on the web site. They tried to get it out there as much as they could. Mrs. Steransky responded many didn't have power so they had no access to the web site and a meeting would have eased their minds. Mrs. Steransky also stated she wasn't aware the floor was still there when the kids went back to school.

Mr. Carl Yorina of Wyoming commented to get that floor out of there, that is a project, it won't take ten minutes. Mr. Amico asked Mr. Yorina if he thought his staff could take out the floor themselves. Mr. Yorina responded no. Mr. Yorina asked if they hit the floor with any kind sanitizer. Why don't we do that. Mr. Amico stated he would run that by Quad Three and said maybe the ammonia would bother some people. Mr. Yorina asked if they can place the lab results on the web site. Mr. Bernardi stated if they can send it electronically. Mr. Yorina asked was the base line mold results high outside, higher than normal. Mr. Miller of JMSI stated the outside air is well below the reading. They went by the inside reading 1,700. If you get up to 12,000-15,000 you have problems. Mr. Miller said the highest was 700. Mr. Yorina also stated that if anyone has any doubts, JMSI is very experienced and have been doing this for a very long time and they are concerned about the kids.

Beth Gober-Mangan of Exeter addressed her question to JMSI as to JMSI getting data out to the parents. Mr. Miller responded that she would have to address the school to provide the data.

Mr. Sam Aritz stated the floor should be ripped out when the kids aren't there. Mr. Amico responded they should do it after hours or on the weekends.

Amber Dempsey of Exeter stated after the floor is ripped out when the kids aren't there, regardless what the air pressure schedule may be it should be monitored the very next day to see that nothing is picked up by taking that stuff out.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Bolin.

Nicholas DeAngelo, President

John Bolin, Secretary