

10317
Wyoming Area School District
Combined Work Session/Regular Meeting
Wyoming Area Board of Education
20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Monday, December 19, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

The 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 seventy people in attendance. A budget meeting and non-public executive session preceded the meetings. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Frank Casarella, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Roll Call:

- Dr. Frank Casarella, President
- Dr. Estelle Campenni, Vice President
- Mrs. Elizabeth Gober-Mangan, Secretary
- Mr. John Marianacci, Treasurer
- Mr. John Bolin
- Mrs. Mary Louise Degnan
- Mr. Gilbert Dominick
- Mrs. Deanna Farrell
- Mr. Carl Yorina, Jr.

Also present were: Raymond J. Bernardi, Superintendent, Janet Serino, District Principal of Curriculum, Tom Melone, Business Consultant, Vito Quaglia, Secondary Building Principal, Cathy Ranieli, Assistant Secondary Building Principal, Robert Kaluzavich, Elementary Building Principal of Montgomery Ave./SJD, Jon Pollard, Elementary Building Principal of Tenth St./JFK, Deb Popson, Director of Special Education, Camilla Granteed, School Psychologist, Janet Whipple, Foodservice Manager, Jason Jones, Network Engineer, Dave Amico, Facilities Manager, Officer Chris Alberigi, Emily Shemanski and Morgan Bilbow, Student Representatives, Sam Scarentino, Quad Three Group, WBRE TV.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Dominick, Second by Mr. Bolin to accept the regular meeting of November 22, 2011 and Reorganization Meeting of December 8, 2011. All Board Members vote aye.
Motion passed.

Communications Report

Mr. Bernardi read the communications report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit's meeting minutes of October 26, 2011.
2. Janet Whipple, Cafeteria Manager, submitting her letter of intent to retire.
3. Leonard Przywara, Secretary/Business Administrator of Wilkes-Barre Area School District, notification of a resolution adopted by the Wilkes-Barre Area School District concerning the assessment of a fee for the placement of student teachers by colleges/universities who utilize the Wilkes-Barre Area School District for the placement of student teachers.
4. Tina Smith of Rice's Food Equipment & Consulting, Inc., thanking Don Butz, Music Teacher, for the wonderful guitar ensemble concert recently held.
5. Attorney William F. Anzalone, on behalf of UNICO, thanking the Board, Mr. Parra, Mr. Amico and staff for the tremendous support in hosting the Annual All-Star Charity Game at the stadium.

6. Ryan Murray, Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America, requesting permission to hold "District Derby Day" in the Secondary Center gym.
7. Barbershop Harmony Chorus requesting permission to use the Secondary Center auditorium for a concert.
8. Georgia Bone, Co-Chair of the Wyoming Area Senior Parents Association, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center gym for "Donkey Basketball."
9. Rebecca Jones notification of her family medical leave effective December 19, 2011.

Summary of Applications Received

Guidance Counselors – 7

Elementary – 5

Special Education - 2

Science – 1

Chemistry – 1

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bernardi read his report.

- **FINANCIAL AID NIGHT:** *On December 1st, a Financial Aid Program was presented by the Guidance Department in the Secondary Center Library with a Question and Answer period included. Ninth and tenth grade students along with their parents were encouraged to attend. Thanks to Mrs. Fedor and the Guidance Department.*
- **SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION NIGHT:** *The Guidance Department held their third annual Scholarship Information Night on December 8th in the Secondary Center Library for the 2012 graduating class. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce parents and students to the general scholarship application process. Scholarships are funded by local friends and families of the Wyoming Area School District, civic and school organizations. Thanks again to Mrs. Fedor and the Guidance Department.*
- **CHRISTMAS CARD CONTEST WINNERS:** *Miranda Smith, 6th Grade student @Tenth Street and Rachel Campbell, 12th Grade student @Secondary Center.*
- ✓ *I am pleased to announce that a new County-Wide Task Force was formed called "The **Luzerne County Safe School Committee**". The goals of this Task Force are to ensure the safety and security of students and employees in Districts throughout Luzerne County. The committee will meet regularly and share safety plans, procedures and best practices and assist and support each other as emergency situations arise. Officer Alberigi is our representative for the school district.*
- **SUPERINTENDENT'S NOTES.....**
- **Keystone Awards**
Mr. Bernardi handed out awards to the building principals for meeting the annual yearly progress given by the state.
- **High School Feedback Reports**
Mr. Bernardi stated the reports being offered by the PA. Department of Education will give valuable data to see how our students in post secondary institutions are doing. It will be analyzed by the administrators and teachers and it will be a strategy for learning improvement and faculty improvement.

Best Wishes to everyone for a Happy Holiday Season.

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Student Representation Report

Morgan Bilbow read the report: The Senior Christmas Formal is to be held Friday, December 23rd. Key Club has been scheduled to hand out gifts at the Salvation Army this Wednesday, December 21st. The students in the SADD Club are holding a raffle for a Wii and a pair of drunk goggles. They also sold pieces of tape to duct tape Mr. Kennedy to a wall. Both fundraisers for the club were extremely successful. The Junior Class held a fundraiser for Domino's Pizza discount cards which also proved very successful. The Junior Class plans to use those funds for their class trip to Ellis Island this coming Spring. Finally, we would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Marianacci read the treasurer's report.

<u>Bank</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Checking Account</u>
First National Community Bank	General Fund	8,712,684.87
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	4,507.92
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	144,628.04
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	116,353.61
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	18,976.30
Landmark Bank	Athletic Fund Account	1,935.84
PNC Bank	Energy Performance Proceeds Fund	30,698.71
PNC Bank	Capital Projects Fund Bank Construction Account	29,925.28
PNC Bank	Capital Projects Fund Bank Investment Account	577,424.75

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

Appointments

Mr. Yorina read the appointments report.

1. Approve the appointment of Jarrett J. Ferentino as school solicitor.
2. Approve the appointment of Carl Yorina as finance chairperson.
3. Approve the appointment of Estelle Campenni as activities chairperson.
4. Approve the appointment of Frank Casarella as transportation chairperson.

Motion by Dr. Campenni, second by Mr. Yorina, to accept the appointments.

Motion by Mr. Dominick to amend the motion and re-appoint Ray Hassey as solicitor.
Seconded by Mr. Bolin.

On the Question: Carol DeSalvo of Wyoming, stated she admired Mr. Melone as a C.P.A. and stated her husband is also a C.P.A. and acknowledged them for doing what they do. Mrs. DeSalvo thanked Mr. Melone for his services. Mrs. DeSalvo wanted to know why Attorney Hassey, whom is a taxpayer, was passed over and stated Attorney Jarrett Ferentino does not live in the district, has no experience, but was hired as school solicitor. Mrs. DeSalvo stated Attorney Hassey has been with the district for twelve years and has done an excellent job and asked why wasn't he appointed. Mrs. DeSalvo stated she doesn't know Attorney Hassey, has no interest in him and has nothing to lose by making the statement that she is appalled and disappointed with the Board. Mrs. DeSalvo read an article in the Dispatch and stated our area has made headlines internationally with a corrupt government and judges going to jail. The Board is supposed to represent the good of our children. Mrs. DeSalvo stated when she reads these articles of Wyoming Area she is stunned and stated the Board is responsible for the decisions they make today. Mrs. DeSalvo then questioned the transparency for the guidance position stating she heard one of the candidates was a favorite among one of the new directors and scored lower than another candidate. Mrs. DeSalvo stated if it is true, this board is no better than the last one. Mrs. DeSalvo stated if it's protocol why can't the public know the top three names of the candidates and their scores. Dr. Casarella responded he didn't know who the candidates were because this board was not involved in picking the candidates. The new policy of this board is to have the principals and administration interview and then give the board the candidates by number. There are no names, so the board is not influenced to hire anyone but the top candidate. That will be with every hire they have. Dr. Casarella stated he won't bend on anything, the board is here for the taxpayers. Dr. Casarella stated they will know the highest scoring candidate later on the agenda, but not the scores. Mrs. DeSalvo stated she felt bad for Attorney Hassey and stated he did wonderful work for the district. Dr. Casarella responded he couldn't say why Mr. Hassey wasn't hired because it is inappropriate because he was our solicitor and for twelve years did a very good job but was not recommended. Mrs. DeSalvo responded they should be able to tell the public. Dr. Casarella stated they opened the position, he was a candidate interviewed and asked Mr. Yorina to talk about the process. Mr. Yorina responded they talked about if the process was a good process. They came up with eight questions and all candidates were interviewed in one night. It took six hours for the interviews. Carl Yorina, Dr. Casarella, Deanna Farrell and Mary Louise Degnan did the interviews. Mr. Yorina stated he was the most knowledgeable with this process because of his prior jobs as an engineer and stated no scores were discussed. He was handed the score sheets upside down and placed them in his folder and moved to the next candidate. Mr. Yorina stated he is a fan of the Japanese practices of continued improvement and said if there were any professional human resource people in the audience he would gladly take any recommendations. Mr. Yorina stated his phone number was in the phone book. Mr. Yorina stated when the results were tabulated the top three candidates scored very close. These top three candidates were called in again to come before the board. Mr. Yorina stated that the solicitor's position is actually an appointment and the board just has to appoint one, it is in our policy manual. (it doesn't need to be advertised) Dr. Casarella stated the board got together and tried to be as transparent as they could be and tried to appoint someone that fit not only the credentials but the personality of the board. Dr. Casarella also stated the board will not come between the teachers and the principals doing their jobs. The board's job is budget, and that they do the right thing and policy. They are not educators. Dr. Casarella stated the board wants to do the right thing for the people that elected them.

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Gerald Stofco of Exeter commented that Attorney Butera and Attorney Hassey were residents from the district and pay taxes. He felt the board should have appointed someone within the district. Carol Borzell of Wyoming asked the board if Attorney Ferentino was friends with anyone on the board. Dr. Casarella responded yes. Mrs. Borzell asked the board how many were residents of Wyoming. She counted five. Mr. Bolin stated that Attorney Ferentino does wonderful things for the Wyoming Borough. Mr. Dominick stated the new board members should have held off a year before appointing a solicitor. Joe Valenti of West Pittston asked if there were nine applicants, how did they end up with five. Dr. Casarella responded the candidates were told of the interview process and should apply. Mr. Casarella stated he didn't know how they all got passed, but one didn't want to be in the interview process. Dr. Casarella stated that in the past it was whomever the board wanted. Dr. Casarella stated they could have put out an advertisement but it didn't need to be. Dr. Casarella also stated Mr. Yorina had the rating system. Mr. Yorina informed Mr. Valenti he could give him a list of the questions. Mr. Valenti asked if all board members had the questions. Mr. Yorina responded as far as he knew all the board had the questions. Mrs. Farrell stated they did not complete the interview with Attorney Coslett. Dr. Casarella responded but he answered all the questions. Mrs. Farrell stated there were four parts and he didn't answer all of them. Dr. Casarella responded that is beside the point. Mr. Yorina stated that he did have some input by board members for the questions. Mrs. Farrell stated she was very comfortable with the questions Carl had but maybe she could have understood them better. Mr. Bob Trusavage of West Pittston stated he hoped the new board would keep everyone informed and keep everything on the up and up. Tom Cason of West Pittston asked about a job description of the solicitor. Dr. Casarella responded he is the lawyer of the school district, keeps the district informed of school law, also reports with the contracts or any business agreements. Mr. Bernardi responded he gives the board professional advice. Mr. Cason questioned Mr. Bernardi as long as he has been here how many lawsuits were there. Mr. Bernardi responded there was one federal lawsuit that was settled out of court and a civil action against the district. Gerald Stofco of Exeter asked prior to the meeting who had the questions. Mr. Yorina responded as far as he knew he shared it with the four folks.... Mr. Yorina stated he had to check his e-mail but was positive they had the questions ahead of time. Dr. Casarella stated he got them the day before. Mr. Yorina stated he did get feedback because they wanted to add to the questions. Mr. Yorina stated this is the dilemma, at what point do you share the information so it doesn't get out to the candidates. Mr. Yorina stated he has to hold it to his chest for a certain period of time but has to release it to people to see it. Mr. Yorina stated the reason why he ran for school board is he didn't have a lot of trust in the board. Mrs. Farrell said she did get the list the day before.

The roll call is for Mr. Dominicks motion to re-appoint Attorney Hassey for solicitor.

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted yes, Mrs. Farrell voted yes, Mr. Dominick voted yes, Mrs. Degnan voted no, Mr. Yorina voted no. Mr. Marianacci voted yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted no, Dr. Campenni voted no, and Dr. Casarella voted no. Motion failed.

At this time, Mr. Bolin motioned to appoint Attorney Mike Butera as solicitor. Second by Mrs. Farrell.

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted yes, Mrs. Farrell voted yes, Mr. Dominick abstained, Mrs. Degnan voted no, Mr. Yorina voted no, Mr. Marianacci voted yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted no, Dr. Campenni voted no and Dr. Casarella voted no. Motion failed.

Mr. Bolin made another motion to table the appointment of the solicitor and open and advertise the position.

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted yes, Mrs. Farrell voted yes, Mr. Dominick voted yes, Mrs. Degnan abstained, Mr. Yorina voted no, Mr. Marianacci voted yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted no, Dr. Campenni voted no and Dr. Casarella voted no. There was a deadlock.

Mr. Casarella announced the board would adjourn for an executive meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Mrs. Degnan was asked why she abstained. Mrs. Degnan responded she wanted to think about it. The board adjourned.

Dr. Casarella called the meeting as back in session.

Mrs. Gober-Mangan motioned to not advertise for the solicitor position. Second by Mr. Yorina.

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted no, Mrs. Farrell voted no, Mr. Dominick voted no, Mrs. Degnan voted yes, Mr. Yorina voted yes, Mr. Marianacci voted no, Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted yes, Dr. Campenni voted yes, Dr. Casarella voted yes. Motion passed.

This roll call is for the original motion:

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted no on item #1 (stating he felt the solicitor should reside within the Wyoming Area School District) and voted yes on the remaining report, Mrs. Farrell voted yes, Mr. Dominick voted no on item#1 and yes on the remaining report, Mrs. Degnan voted yes, Mr. Yorina voted yes, Mr. Marianacci voted no on item #1 and yes on the remaining report, Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted yes, Dr. Campenni voted yes, Dr. Casarella voted yes. Motion passed.

Attorney Ferentino took his place at the table.

Finance Report

Mr. Yorina read the finance report.

1. Received the following checks:

<u>Don Wilkinson Agency (Oct.)</u>	
Earned Income Tax	52,069.28
Local State Tax	818.41
Current Per Capita	12,542.66
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>6,747.00</u>
	72,178.35
<u>Local Realty Transfer Tax</u>	
James Red O'Brien – Luzerne County	12,723.83
<u>Tuition for 2010-2011</u>	
Pittston Area School District	2,466.36
<u>Energy Refund</u>	
Comverge Enerwise Global Technologies	1,981.50
<u>State & Federal Subsidy Taxes</u>	
Social Security	48,657.00
Title I – Improving Basic Programs	30,286.27
Title II – Improving Teacher Quality	7,220.27
Rental Subsidy	175,428.22
School District Special Education	<u>204,248.00</u>
Total:	465,839.76

Refund

Joseph J. Joyce Associates	898.00
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Miscellaneous

Barbara Anzalone – Use of Auditorium	500.00
District Court 11-2-01	<u>64.65</u>
	564.65

2011 Real Estate Taxes

Carol Bardzel- (Oct.) Exeter Twp., Wyoming County	27,578.82
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Thomas Polacheck – (Nov.) Exeter Borough	140,031.84
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Robert Connors – (Oct.)	49,387.51
Robert Connors – (Nov.) West Wyoming Borough	123,628.22

George Miller (Nov.)	359,932.09
George Miller (July to Dec. Supplemental) West Pittston Borough	2,367.50

Wayman Smith (Nov.) Exeter Twp., Luzerne County	175,001.11
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Paul Konopka (Nov.) Wyoming Borough	81,253.18
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2. Approve the December payment of \$87,488.87 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 December payment of \$36,505.00 to the West Side Career and Technology Center for the 2011-2012 school year.
4. Approve the payment of \$1,366.75 to Dave Amico, Facilities Manager, for hours worked beyond his shift due to the flood.
5. Approve to authorize the Secretary of the Board to advertise for the following bids for the 2012-2013 school year: football supplies/reconditioning bids/medical bids, general supplies, band supplies/equipment, music supplies, marching band, art supplies, physical education, athletic medical, nursing, janitorial supplies, science supplies, electrical/maintenance supplies, award jackets, fuel oil.
6. Approve the payment to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for payment for ESL instructional hours for August 2011 through October 2011 in the following amounts:

Aug/Sept 2011 (total of 208.5 hours @ \$46.94)	= 9,786.99
Oct 2011 (total of 193.5 hours @ \$46.94)	= 9,082.89
7. Approve bid award to T.G.W. Corporation for alternate three gymnasium roof in the amount of \$288,430.00 at Secondary Center.

8. Approve recommendation by Quad Three Group to award construction contract to Panzitta Enterprises at \$600,000.00 for interior flood damage repair at Montgomery Avenue School. (Should read \$428,655.00 instead of \$600,000.00 per Mr. Amico)
9. Approve the letter of endorsement from Wyoming Area School District to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit (LIU) stating on behalf of its member school districts, Wyoming Area School District will actively work with local municipalities to submit an application for the Pennsylvania Gaming Local Share Account for Luzerne County for the Project entitled "Plains Veterans Memorial Educational Opportunity Center."
10. Approve the General Ledger Sheet:

Bill Listing:	12-16-11	440,203.17	
Prepays:	11-30-11	<u>118,847.44</u>	559,050.61
Cafeteria Account:		83,489.02	
Athletic Account:		<u>8,556.50</u>	<u>92,045.52</u>
		Total: 651,096.13	

Motion by Mr. Yorina, second by Mr. Bolin, to accept the finance report.

On the Question: Dr. Campenni stated on item #5, she would like to see the budget associated with the bids for the next school year to see what needs to be adjusted. Mr. Bernardi responded he would give Dr. Campenni that information. Regarding item #4, Mr. Yorina stated that Mr. Amico spent an astronomical amount of time cleaning up due to the flood and thanked Mr. Amico for this extra effort. Regarding item #7, Mr. Yorina stated they didn't have a lot of time to look at this because they are new and stated Mr. Bernardi had some correspondence on it. Mr. Yorina asked Mr. Amico if the roof was replaced in the classroom area. Mr. Amico responded it was 99% done. Mr. Amico reported they have to do the fascia trim on the perimeter of the building no later than early spring. Mr. Yorina asked if TGW will hold the price if we wait until the spring to work on the gym roof. Mr. Scarantino, Project Manager of Quad Three responded they would honor the price if it is awarded at the meeting or next meeting. They will hold the contractual price and order the materials now so there is no inflated cost. Mr. Yorina stated the board approved the base bid which was the classroom section. Mr. Yorina stated all of these other alternates, obviously we are looking at the gym which will be next. The cafeteria roof, the cafeteria link roof, the gym link roof, the auditorium link roof and the auditorium roof are five areas that we didn't do anything. Mr. Yorina asked are these the same age. Mr. Scarantino responded no.

Mr. Yorina asked if the gymnasium link was out of warranty. Response was yes.

Mr. Borzell of Wyoming asked when the secondary roof will be done. Mr. Scarantino responded three weeks.

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

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Education Report

Mrs. Gober-Mangan 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) 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 to ratify the appointment of the following instructors for the SAT Verbal and SAT Math classes:

Kim Marchesini	SAT Verbal
Christine Rutledge	SAT Verbal
Leo Lulewicz	SAT Math
3. Approve the following calendar revision: due to Monday, January 2, 2012 being observed as a legal holiday, school will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2012.
4. Approve to ratify the appointment of Caroline Kudasik as Title I Computer Technician at Wyoming Area Catholic School.
5. Approve the appointment of Robert Yatsko as Secondary Guidance Counselor.
6. Approve the appointment of Mike Stefanik as a long term substitute teacher for Kory Lyn Angeli effective January 2, 2012 to end of the 2011-2012 school year.
7. Approve the revised substitute list for professional employees.

Motion by Mrs. Gober-Mangan, second by Dr. Campenni, to accept the education report.

At this time, Mr. Bolin motioned to amend item #5 to appoint candidate #2. (Matt Kelly) Seconded by Mr. Dominick.

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted yes, Mrs. Ferrell voted yes, Mr. Dominick voted yes, Mrs. Degnan voted no, Mr. Yorina voted no, Mr. Marianacci voted yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted no, Dr. Campenni voted no, Dr. Casarella voted no.

Motion failed.

At this time, Mr. Dominick commented regarding item #5 he only new the candidates as 1, 2, etc. In past experiences when they hired someone he later found out this person was asked to leave by another school district for different reasons. Mr. Dominick stated the district can't afford to hire for more money now. The timing isn't good right now with the budget. We have to give the kids coming out of college a chance. Does it mean we always have to hire the most experienced he asked. Mrs. Gober-Mangan stated the principals are the ones who found these candidates and stated they didn't see the candidates until today. The teachers should be involved so they can do their job the best to their ability. Mr. Dominick responded it has to do with the timing.

Dr. Casarella stated the administration make the appropriate call on the candidates based on credentials, their degree, certification, and clearances in front of them and they sign off on them. Dr. Casarella stated the board shouldn't be involved in what the education process is. We are here for two reasons he said, the budget and providing the best quality education at the most reasonable price for the students of this district. It has nothing to do with my next door neighbors or a friend or phone calls asking for favors. The people here are not doing favors but doing the right thing for the district. We are going to select the best candidates for the office. Joe Erzar questioned item #6. Dr. Casarella responded it is a personnel matter and he could not reveal that. Dr. Casarella stated the board once again took the lead from the administration and the interview process. Item number six is a long term position appointed by the building administrators and they are also rated by the administrators.

Mrs. Farrell motioned to appoint candidate #1 for the Guidance position. Dr. Casarella responded number five is candidate number one.

Roll Call: All Board Members present voted yes on the report. Mr. Yorina abstained on item #6 and voted yes on the remaining report. Motion passed.

Mr. Stofco asked Mr. Yorina why he abstained on item #6. Mr. Yorina responded he didn't get what he wanted from the process. He held nothing against the candidate and stated there wasn't anyone bad in the group. It is just his opinion.

Activities Report

Dr. Campenni read the activities report.

1. Approve the following appointments for the 2011-2012 winter season as per the collective bargaining agreement:

Joe Rovelli- Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach	2,912.00
Stephen Mytych, Sr. – Junior High Wrestling Coach	2,912.00
Paul Johnson – Assistant Junior High Wrestling Coach	2,163.00
Bob Esposito – Volunteer for Wrestling	
Nate Bowden – Volunteer for Boys Basketball	

2. Approve the following request of Georgia Bone, Co-Chair of the Wyoming Area Senior Parents Association, to hold "Donkey Basketball" in the Secondary Center gym, on April 17, 2012 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Also requested is the use of the scoreboard and announcement equipment, pending approval by the building principal and athletic director.
3. Approve the request of Ryan Murray, Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boys Scouts of America, to hold their "District Derby Day" in the Secondary Center gym, on Saturday, April 21, 2012, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Set up is requested for Friday night, April 20th, pending approval by the building principal and athletic director.

Motion by Dr. Campenni, second by Mr. Bolin, to accept the activities report.

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On the Question: Mr. Yorina asked Mr. Bernardi if item #'s 2 and 3 have insurance. Mr. Bernardi responded yes. Mrs. Pierce stated she hasn't heard anything back regarding her husband being a volunteer coach. (Mr. Pierce applied as a volunteer coach for wrestling) Dr. Casarella stated it is personnel and they will speak after the meeting.

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

Building Report

Mr. Yorina read the building report.

1. Approve to ratify the request of West Pittston Borough to hold a post flood meeting in the Secondary Center cafeteria, tonight, December 19, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
2. Approve the request of the Barbershop Harmony Chorus to use the Secondary Center auditorium for a concert on Saturday, April 21, 2012, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with a dress rehearsal on Friday, April 20th, pending approval by the building principal.
3. Accept, with regret, Janet Whipple's letter of intent to retire effective June 30, 2012.

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

Mr. Yorina stated he had the opportunity to work with Mrs. Whipple on a day to day basis and stated what a pleasure it was to work with her even though sometimes they didn't always agree with each other and sometimes yelled at each other. At the end of the day they got together and got things done. Mr. Yorina stated Mrs. Whipple was an asset to the school district and definitely will be missed. Mr. Yorina informed the audience that if they were never in a school cafeteria to call Mrs. Whipple before she leaves and if you come in at 7:30 a.m. you will see what happens every day. Mr. Bernardi stated Mrs. Whipple was definitely a great asset to the district and will miss her.

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

Bids Report

Dr. Casarella read the bids report.

The bids for refuse/sanitation were advertised in the newspapers on the following dates listed:

Citizens Voice/Times Leader
Monday, November 7, 2011
Monday, November 14, 2011
Monday, November 21, 2011

The bids were received and opened on Tuesday, November 29, 2011.

Successful Bidder

Ellsworth Disposal 18,900.00

Unsuccessful Bidder

J.P. Mascaro & Sons
Waste Management

Motion by Dr. Casarella, second by Mr. Bolin, to accept the bids report.

On the Question: Dr. Casarella stated this is a very good price. A parent stated he was having a hard time getting a bill paid through the insurance of the district for his son who was hurt. Mr. Bernardi stated he would look into it.

Mr. Stofco asked if we have a recycling program. Mr. Bernardi responded we do. Mr. Stofco asked how much is it. Mr. Bernardi responded Exeter collects \$500.00 per month.

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

Open Discussion:

Bob Trusavage of West Pittston welcomed the new board and hoped the new solicitor will do a good job. Mr. Joe Valenti of West Pittston applauded the new hiring process. Dr. Casarella responded this is a procedure (referring to hiring process). Cindy Borzell of Wyoming stated the board voted Mr. Bolin down to advertise the solicitor position. She asked where is the change. Dr. Casarella responded he hoped it didn't come across that way but they are making significant changes. Dr. Campenni stated they needed a solicitor, they can't move forward without a solicitor. Mr. Borzell asked if we received FEMA yet. Mr. Bernardi responded no. John Pegg of West Wyoming asked the status of the days off due to the flood. Mr. Bernardi responded he received no communication from the state. We are waiting to see how the winter goes and we may have to make them up at the end of the year. Bob Shius of West Pittston, commented he doesn't want the teachers to think he is against them because he is not but the union is a bottomless pit, the salaries, free benefits. Mr. Shius stated at one time unions were necessary but they don't have the upper hand anymore. We have to find a way to help the teachers and save. Mr. Yorina stated with the committees we will have principals, facilities manager and cafeteria managers feeding us with information on what they want to see on the voting board agenda and getting people involved. Mr. Yorina stated if he is in a room with ten people and they go back and forth having a debate, that is a good thing. Mr. Yorina stated he had first hand experience with budget meetings from another school district. Mr. Yorina then stated he had a newspaper article from the Times Leader dated December 3, 2011 regarding First National Bank Corporation that lost four times what was initially reported. It was originally reported they lost a net loss of 4.3 million and later reported it was a net loss of 44.3 million. Mr. Yorina stated we need on the finance committee to get our 9 million out of FNCB. Mr. Yorina asked do we want to put our money into a bank that lost 40 million. "I don't think so." Mr. Yorina also stated they must have serious discussions on where to put our bank deposits.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. by various board members.

Dr. Frank Casarella, President

Elizabeth Gober-Mangan, Secretary

**Exeter, PA.
December 19, 2011**