

10372
Wyoming Area School District
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education
20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, April 24, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

The 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 100+ people in attendance. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Casarella called the meeting to order at 7:35 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, Attorney Jarrett J. Ferentino, Tom Melone, Business Consultant, Vito Quaglia, Secondary Building Principal, Jon Pollard, Elementary Principal of Tenth St./JFK, Robert Kaluzavich, Elementary Principal of Montgomery Ave./SJD, Jason Jones, Network Engineer, Morgan Bilbow, Student Representative, Officer Chris Alberigi, Camilla Granteed, School Psychologist, Deb Popson, Director of Special Education, Sam Scarantino, Project Manager of Quad Three Group.

Dr. Casarella apologized for the lateness because of several issues that had to be discussed.

Communications Report

Mrs. Gober-Mangan read the communications report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit submitting their minutes from regular meeting dated February 29, 2012.
2. Joseph T. Herbert, Secretary of the Wyoming/West Wyoming Memorial Day Parade Committee, extending an invitation to the Superintendent and student organizations to participate in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28, 2012 at 9:15 a.m.
3. Pat Suchocki, President of the West Wyoming Recreation Board, requesting the a donation from Wyoming Area School District for the maintenance of the field for the upcoming baseball season.
4. Brendan Carter, Marching Band Staff, requesting permission for the indoor percussion to attend the Championships in Wildwood, NJ.
5. Jennifer Coolbaugh-Skursky, Elementary Teacher, requesting permission for a leave without pay if needed.
6. Sandra Nardell, School Nurse, requesting summer hours.
7. Roberta Petrucci, Secretary, requesting permission to take a medical leave without pay.
8. Courtney DeLucca, Elementary Teacher, requesting permission to continue her child rearing leave.

9. Pennsylvania Department of Education, Project PA. and Penn State University requesting permission to use the multi-purpose room, cafeteria and kitchen for a Food Service Training Session.
10. Melissa Dolman requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for a Spring Fling for freshman and sophomore students.
11. Carmella Denisco, Kindergarten Aide, requesting permission to take a medical leave.
12. Melissa Burdett, Kindergarten Teacher, requesting permission to continue her leave of absence for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year.
13. Correspondence from John J. Tommasini, Pennsylvania Department of Education, notifying the Superintendent that the areas of noncompliance cited as a result of the special education compliance monitoring visit conducted on May 3, 2011 has been corrected as of February 17, 2012 by the district.
14. Jessica Werbin requesting permission to attend the Pennsylvania Academic Competition in Harrisburg, along with five students and coach.
15. Jessica Werbin requesting permission to attend the History Bowl in Washington, D.C., along with six students and coach.
16. James J. Bernosky, Wyoming Area Class of 81, requesting to have the Wyoming Area Gymnasium named after his late father, Simon J. Bernosky.
17. Jon Pollard, Elementary Principal, and Mrs. Deborah Przybyla, Elementary Teacher, requesting permission to plant a tree at Tenth Street as a celebration for Earth Day and in honor and memory of all who served and continue to serve our country.

Summary of Applications Received

Elementary – 6

Math – 2

Special Education – 1

Middle Level English – 1

Speech/Language Pathology – 1

Marching Band Director – 1

Teacher's Aide - 2

Approval of Minutes

All board members present voted aye to approve the minutes of March 27, 2012. Motion passed.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bernardi read the report.

1. *Congratulations to all students who participated in the Wyoming Area Drama Club's presentation of "Legally Blonde" on March 23, 24 and 25 at the Secondary Center Auditorium. The cast and crew did a marvelous job. Also, Congratulations to Mrs. Bullions and Mrs. Novack, Drama Club Directors.*

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2. *Congratulations to the SECRETARIES of our District who will be honored on "Secretaries" Day (April 25th):*

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Ann Agolino</i> | <i>Debbie Andiaro</i> | <i>Gloria Bovani</i> |
| <i>Donna Chupka</i> | <i>Donna Collins</i> | <i>Paula Denisco</i> |
| <i>Annette Falzone</i> | <i>Nancy Alberigi</i> | <i>Denise Holmes</i> |
| <i>Gladys Lincoln</i> | <i>Mary Machey</i> | <i>Doreen Marianacci</i> |
| <i>Betty Mazzitelli</i> | <i>Dawn Fasciana</i> | <i>Rachelle More</i> |
| <i>Lori Napkora</i> | <i>Patricia Pace</i> | <i>Ann Marie Parente</i> |
| <i>Theodora Rabel</i> | <i>Jean Marie Radle</i> | <i>Kathy Youells</i> |
| <i>Toni Scalzo</i> | <i>Rosalie Schultz</i> | <i>Gina Steve</i> |
| <i>Kimberly Thomas</i> | <i>Roberta Petrucci</i> | <i>Jackie Vasquez</i> |
| | <i>Deborah Wharton</i> | |

Student Representative's Report

Morgan Bilbow read her report: This month the Junior Class has been selling t-shirts for their trip to Ellis Island. A Krispy Kreme doughnut fundraiser was also given out to fund this trip. The Seniors will be having a class trip to Dorney Park later in May. Mr. Pizano's AP Physics students competed in the KANE Competition, with Trevor Alder winning first individually and Wyoming Area first overall last Thursday. Physics classes will be attending Six Flags this Friday to take part in Amusement Park Physics. Science Iditarod also competed the day after, coming in first place. Students competed at the Wilkes Math Competition, with Greg Cajka tying for third and Leslie Shumlas tying for fourth. The History Bowl team is set to compete in Nationals in Washington DC this weekend. The team consists of Greg Cajka, Kim and Allison Golden, Nate Miller, Alex Krispin, and Emily Shemanski. Greg Cajka competed as a team of one in Regionals and carried the team to Nationals. He will also be competing in the History Bee, which is an individual contest.

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 | 5,217,084.36 |
| First National Community Bank | Payroll Account | 4,534.97 |
| First National Community Bank | Cafeteria Account | 223,554.10 |
| First National Community Bank | Student Activities Account | 128,665.16 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------------|
| First National Community Bank | Athletic Fund Account | 15,350.09 |
| Landmark Bank | Athletic Fund Account | 1,938.08 |
| PNC Bank | Energy Performance Proceeds Fund | 30,707.54 |
| PNC Bank | Capital Projects Fund Bank Construction Account | 3,143.58 |
| PNC Bank | Capital Projects Fund Bank Investment Account | 526,363.93 |
| First National Community Bank | Purchasing Account | 500.00 |

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

Finance Report

Mr. Yorina read the finance report.

1. Received the following checks:

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|---|---------------|
| <u>Don Wilkinson Agency (Feb.)</u> | |
| Earned Income Tax | 184,111.04 |
| Local State Tax | 4,090.70 |
| Delinquent Per Capital | <u>396.00</u> |
| Total: | 188,597.74 |

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| <u>Reimbursement</u> | |
| Comverge | 1,111.11 |
| Enerwise Global Technologies | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| <u>Realty Transfer Tax</u> | |
| Dennis Montross – Wyoming County | 73.50 |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| <u>State & Federal Subsidy Payments</u> | |
| Social Security | 39,212.07 |
| Retirement | 147,223.98 |
| Title I – Improving Basic Programs | 30,286.27 |
| Title II – Improving Teacher Quality | 7,220.27 |
| School District Special Education | 204,248.00 |
| School District Transportation | <u>279,778.00</u> |
| Total: | 707,968.59 |

2. Approve the April 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.

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3. Approve the April payment of \$36,505.00 to the West Side Career and Technology Center for the 2011-2012 school year.
4. Approve summer hours for Sandra Nardell, School Nurse, not to exceed 150 hours for the 2012-2013 sports season and academics year.
5. Approve the request of Pat Suchocki, President of the West Wyoming Recreation Board, for a donation from the Wyoming Area School District for the maintenance of the West Wyoming field for the upcoming baseball season.
6. Approve the appointment of Bob Dellarte of Golden Photo Studio as school photographer for elementary and the high school for the 2012-2013 school year.
7. Approve the payment to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18 for ESL (English as a Second Language) instructional hours for November 1, 2010 to February 28, 2011 as follows:

| | |
|--|------------------|
| November (total of 199 hours at \$46.94) | 9,341.06 |
| December (total of 176 hours at \$46.94) | 8,261.44 |
| January (total of 213 hours at \$46.94) | 9,998.22 |
| February (total of 224.5 hours at \$46.94) | <u>10,538.03</u> |
| Total: 38,138.75 | |

8. Approve to ratify the agreement between the district and Enerwise Global Technologies, a Comverge, Inc. Company for an energy curtailment project for income generation. The curtailment of power will only be requested during the summer when school is not in session. The projected revenue stream from participation in this program for one year term (6-1-12 to 5-13-13) is 70% revenue share to Wyoming Area School District is approximately \$14,263.20.
9. Approve the Department of Agriculture loan in the amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.00 at 3.375% over forty years, with no penalties for pre-paying or making additional principal payments, for the Montgomery Avenue Elementary School, subject to the review of the District Solicitor.
10. Approve the agreement between the Luzerne Intermediate Unit and Wyoming Area School District for the Department of Public Welfare and Education Project MOM/Young Fatherhood Initiative Grant in the amount of \$203.00 for period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 and \$203.00 for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.
11. Approve a pollution quote through ACE Westchester for SJD Elementary School with a premium of a one year term at \$3,524.00 or a premium of a three year term at \$7,579.00.

Mr. Yorina recommended a one year term at \$3,524.00.

12. Approve the payment of the following invoices from the Capital Project Account:

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|------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| L.H. Reed & Sons | 12,712.95 | Secondary HVAC Roof Top Replacement |
| Quad Three Group | 5,696.61 | Secondary Roof Design/Documents |

13. Approve the General Ledger Sheet:

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Bill Listing: | 4-24-12 | 593,060.75 | |
| Prepays: | 3-31-12 | <u>150,024.59</u> | 743,085.34 |
| Cafeteria Account: | | 128,144.71 | |
| Athletic Account: | | <u>4,597.60</u> | <u>132,742.31</u> |
| | | | Total: 875,827.65 |

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

On the Question: Mr. Bolin, Item #11, If the board chooses a three year term, is there any savings. Mr. Yorina responded that there is a \$3,000.00 savings over three years. So, we're basically getting it for free. Dr. Casarella asked Mr. Yorina if he is comfortable with this. Mr. Yorina responded with the talk of consolidating schools he didn't think they should lock into a three year term. Mr. Dominick commented we should be looking into other insurance options. Mr. Yorina commented on item #8, by stating this agreement with Converge requires the district to go through a test in the summer. We have to prepare power, if we don't do this we will be fined 120% of what the savings are. Mr. Yorina stated they have to get with the maintenance and see who the quarterback is going to be. We will be notified as to when this test will take place. It's usually a one to two hour time period. Mr. Yorina asked if Janet Whipple was present. He had a question on item #10. Ms. Whipple was absent from the meeting.

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan, yes, Mr. Yorina, no on #9 and yes on remaining report, Mr. Marianacci, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, no on #9 and yes on remaining report, Dr. Campenni, no on #9 and yes on remaining report, Dr. Casarella, yes. Motion passed.

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 the revised professional employee substitute list for the 2011-2012 school year.
3. Approve the Memo of Understanding 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 2011-2012 school year for the following professionals:

Melissa Burdett
 Rosemary Litwin
 Michelle Klaproth
 Donald Butz

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4. Approve the request of Courtney DeLucca, Elementary Teacher, to take an unpaid leave of absence effective May 14, 2012 through June 11, 2012, upon approval of the solicitor.
5. Approve the request of Melissa Burdett, Kindergarten Teacher, to continue her leave of absence for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year.
6. Approve the appointment of Alan Hanczyc as a long term substitute for Erica Robaczewski retroactive to November 21, 2011 and subject to the duration of Ms. Robaczewski's said leave.
7. Approve the appointment of Jessica Werbin to attend the History Bowl National Competition in Washington D.C., along with six students and coach from Friday, April 27th to Sunday, April 29, 2012 at a cost of \$470.00 for registration, \$1,117.60 for lodging and 1,375.00 for a bus.
8. Approve the appointment of Jessica Werbin to attend the Pennsylvania Academic Competition in Harrisburg, along with five students from the Scholastic Team and coach Thursday, May 3rd and Friday, May 4, 2012 at a cost of \$388.76 for lodging and \$775.00 for a bus. Registration to be paid by the LIU.
9. Approve the submittal to Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) for support and approval the following curtailment and/or alterations for the Wyoming Area School District Education Program as recommended by the Superintendent:
 - A. Elimination (non-renewal/suspension/furlough of one (1) full time 7-12 certified Mathematics teaching position, specifically addressing substantial decline in enrollment reducing subject level sections: presently 1:19: recommending 1:26
 - B. Elimination (non-renewal/suspension/furlough of one (1) full time certified English teaching position, specifically addressing substantial decline in enrollment reducing subject level sections: presently 1:22: recommending 1:24
 - C. Elimination (non-renewal/suspension/furlough of one (1)full time certified Social Studies teaching position, specifically addressing substantial decline in enrollment reducing subject level sections: presently 1:22: recommending 1:26
 - D. Elimination (non-renewal/suspension/furlough of one (1)full time certified in-school suspension teaching position
 - E. Elimination (non-renewal/suspension/furlough of three (3)full time elementary teaching positions, specifically addressing substantial decline in enrollment reducing several grade level sections: presently 1:23 (K-3), 1:23 (4-6): recommending a 1:24 (K-3), 1:25 (4-6)
10. Approve nomination of Janet Serino to assume the position of assistant superintendent with no increase in salary at a term of five years.
11. Motion to open contract to ask the union to allow the board to seek alternative healthcare providers for their upcoming contract.

Attorney Ferentino responded he didn't think it is necessary to open the contract because in the bargaining unit there is a provision regarding the healthcare. It would be an extra protective measure. Mr. Bolin stated he would still like to open it up. Mr. Dominick stated that Lake Lehman dropped out of the consortium, but we can't do that because we need approval from the teachers.

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

On the Question: Mrs. Degnan questioned the role of Janet Serino for Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Bernardi responded Mrs. Serino will assume that role when he is absent. Mrs. Degnan asked if she will function all of Mr. Bernardi's duties. Mr. Bernardi responded she would. Lisa Barrett, President of the Wyoming Area Educational Association, stated that they are currently bargaining the healthcare that is part of the benefit package. A meeting tonight that Mr. McGovern has called, Janet Serino is attending the meeting, and what he is presenting to them tonight is some motions he would like to bring to the Healthcare Trust meeting tomorrow. His motion is to ask to change the bylaws where there will not be a years wait should they want to get out of the Trust. He is looking at a fully funded plan with a higher deductible that puts the responsibility on the district. Mrs. Barrett stated it is best if they talk to Mrs. Serino when she gets back from the pow wow tonight. George Race of Exeter asked why there was multiple choice for item #9. Attorney Ferentino responded it is statutory language Title 24 Section 11, 24. It's not a multiple choice, it's just limited in description and covers all the bases and all are treated under the law equally. Mr. Race asked what the in-school suspension teacher does. Mr. Quaglia responded the teacher monitors the students that have been suspended.

Mr. Schutter of Harding asked if we knew what the payment will be with the \$3 million loan. Mr. Melone responded we have various options for the \$1 million, \$2 million and \$3 million. For the \$1 million for forty years it would be \$45,500, for twenty years, \$68,900. For \$2 million at forty years it would be \$91,100, at twenty years, \$137,600. At \$3 million at forty years it would be \$136,700, at twenty years, \$206,000. Dr. Casarella stated that what we are looking at in this economics time, is to see what we need at the lowest price. The various projects were given out by Mr. Scarantino, at the Work Session that have to be done. We can pick and choose which ones are absolutely necessary to keep the building up to code and safe for children. Mr. Casarella stated we are going to take the low road not the high road here. They are thinking maybe around \$1 million. Dr. Casarella stated he couldn't give any other information right now because a budget meeting is next month. The board will have a preliminary budget in May, in June it must be approved and then adopted by July 1st. That is why there is a timeline. Mrs. Degnan asked that the board is definitely not going for \$3 million. Dr. Casarella responded no. Mrs. Degnan asked will they get to vote on the amount, because if not, she would like to change her vote. Dr. Casarella responded they are not voting for \$3 million. Mr. Casarella stated the board can vote to approve the amount.

Sarah Latona, a teacher, asked the board if the projected teacher to students ratio for class sizes are final. Mrs. Latona stated she has only one class with fewer than twenty two students and some classes at thirty. Last year she didn't have one class that was twenty two students or under. The classes that say 1:22 are not accurate and asked if they are projected numbers or final. Mrs. Latona stated she has so many kids in her homeroom and in her 8th period class she doesn't have enough seats in her classroom. As far as the elimination of in-school suspension teacher there should be a plan in place as to where these kids will go.

Ms. Barrett asked about an amendment to item #9 by Attorney Ferentino. Attorney Ferentino responded the amendment was only a typographical change. Mrs. Barrett asked if the board was submitting to PDE that our numbers are so different that we are looking to furlough or is the board looking to see if the numbers here are enough to furlough. Attorney Ferentino responded the process here is the submission for their approval at this point. That is the process. It was a typo, it should have read support and approval. Mrs. Barrett asked Attorney Ferentino that the board was being asked to vote on #9 by going to PDE to see if the enrollment is enough to justify furlough. Ms. Barrett repeated her question to Mr. Bernardi. Mr. Bernardi responded no. As he explained to the teachers today, the first hurdle that we have to cross is these are recommendations for the board's consideration for approval. Once we approve it, if it is approved, we solicit the State for approval for the plan to eliminate these positions.

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Mrs. Barrett stated "You already had a teacher walk up here and say the numbers don't seem to be true." Mrs. Barrett asked the board before they took a vote to get the correct numbers and talk to the teachers about that. Mr. Bernardi stated that is what the administration does. These are number requests generated through the computer, they are requests for next year. Ms. Barrett stated "Mr. Quaglia and Mrs. Ranieli, I have the list in front of me." Mr. Bernardi stated that what Mrs. Latona has stated, these are averages stated on here. Yes, there are going to be class's that will be lower and some may be higher. These are as per request for next year. It's just a simple math equation, twenty nine request divided by sections which gives you 24:1. Mr. Bernardi stated this is the administration's job. Mrs. Barrett asked the board not to vote on it until they have more accurate numbers. Mr. Bernardi responded he respectfully disagreed because the numbers are accurate. Mr. Yorina asked Mr. Bernardi if a 60 day notification is needed. Mr. Bernardi responded anyone who is to be furloughed must be notified 60 days before the new year. Mr. Yorina asked if we are approving the furlough tonight or will it come back to the board again. Mr. Bernardi responded no, tonight is to approve the eliminations or furloughs. Mr. Yorina asked if this is a one time thing. Mr. Bernardi responded, yes. Mr. Yorina asked the teachers in the audience, if they have something to say, get up and say it.

Jessica Murtha, a teacher at Montgomery Ave., asked if the board explored all options. Has the board checked to see where all the money is going. With the teachers who have retired Ms. Murtha asked where is the money going? Ms. Murtha stated the teachers are the ones who are in front of the kids all day, they are the ones teaching them. Ms. Murtha stated if there is a furlough, she is probably one of them, so she stated there has to be other options as to not have to make such a drastic attempt. To let teachers go because of things in the past, we are the important ones. The kids are the most important she said.

Melissa Dolman, a teacher, stated it has been forty nine teachers that have retired in the last four years at the top of the salary. That is a lot of money that has gone out the door and has not come back in. To let seven teachers go seems preposterous. We know the impact of a large class has on the children. Mrs. Dolman stated her child is in kindergarten as well and twenty four students in a kindergarten class is a lot to ask. It's a strain on the teachers to have to do that. These kids need a lot of attention. There has to be other options.

Sheila Murtha, a fourth grade teacher at SJD, commented on Child Study, Special Education, where teachers have to make accommodations to make sure each child's needs are dealt with and handled in the classroom with five, six kids with all different needs. And also, making sure the IEP's are being met. She stated that the board cannot let go of these teachers. These children cannot be left behind.

Beth Connor, Elementary Music Teacher, stated she currently taught over 700 kids in the district and stated smaller classes are much more manageable, with more one on one time. With larger classrooms there are more behavior problems. At the meeting when talk of closing the SJD School, she heard them say we are able to close one here or we are able to close one there or we can close a section here. Why is that a good thing? Ms. Connors addressed the board and stated she wanted everyone to remember why they voted for the board and why they are on the school board because they want what is best for the students. Closing classes and larger classrooms is not what is best for them. And yes, she said, we have budget problems so fix it, but don't fire them, it's not the way.

Mike Fanti, a teacher, asked the board if you go on our web site, what does it say? It says Wyoming Area is the top 47th school in the State. Obviously, it is the education we are giving. Mr. Fanti asked, Do we want to hurt the education? Larger class sizes? Think about it, were advertising it right on our web site. Mr. Fanti asked the board to think about this before voting on it.

Christine Mitten, a parent and taxpayer of the district, stated she had two daughters, was a single mother and worked hard for the money she made and it was not easy to make ends meet but she stated she was very lucky to have her children in this district. Her one daughter was having behavioral problems, at SJD, and had two teachers that worked with her and made a difference. Her older daughter is at the high school and had teachers that molded her. When her daughter had pneumonia at Tenth Street, her teachers were there for her every step of the way. They cared about her. Ms. Mitten commented to the board that she wouldn't want to be in their shoes and also stated the teachers made a difference in her children's lives.

Carol DeSalvo of Wyoming commented that Mr. Bernardi said it had to be done 60 days before the school year begins and asked if she understood that correctly. Attorney Ferentino responded before the commencement of the 2012-2013 school year. If the 60 days goes back to June 24th, why does this have to be done tonight, she asked. At least give them a chance to fight for their rights. Mrs. DeSalvo stated it didn't seem fair to them. There is a lot riding on these teachers. Many of them are parents that teach their own kids. It seems your doing this tonight because you had a meeting before this meeting. You don't have to. You chose to make it tonight. Just give them an opportunity, just a month. Mrs. DeSalvo stated when Dr. Casarella said they were doing this tonight, she looked at the face of Carl and he looked like he was going to die in his seat. He looked like he was upset.

Mr. Yorina responded that he knew he had to vote tonight, but what breaks his heart is that he has been laid off and he sent out 600 resumes before he got a job. Mr. Yorina stated he doesn't want to do this. This drew moans from the audience. Mr. Yorina then stated the teachers and the public need to understand something and he was going to say it. Mr. Yorina informed everyone that we are \$693,000 short in our budget. Next year our hospitalization is going up and our retirement contributions are going to go up. So, we do have some money in a fund reserve. We're challenged by the State to balance the budget by June 30th. It's illegal if we don't balance the budget by June 30th. Mr. Yorina stated he is at the point when he sees all this bickering he would like to say: let's throw it on a referendum and raise taxes and let's see what the public says. We'll keep the benefits the same, we'll give everyone their step grades, everything that everybody wants. Let's see what the public has to say about that. That won't pass, the public wouldn't like that. The next step is the State takes over the school district. There is no debate, they come in and take over. Harrisburg will come in, look at all the books and will say to close this school or that school. Right now we're ok, but in two years from now if the State comes in Mr. Yorina stated he guaranteed the JFK and SJD will be shut down along with the pool and ban the sports program, that is what is going to happen. Mr. Yorina stated the board is trying to stop that from happening. Mrs. DeSalvo asked if there was a law in Pennsylvania that says our teachers can propose solutions to the Board. Did any teachers do that in order to keep their jobs, she asked. Attorney Ferentino responded the budget has to be passed by June, it has to be approved by the State, so, submission must be done. Mrs. DeSalvo asked if an extension can be done. Attorney Ferentino responded no. Right now the district is proposing closure of a school or teacher furloughs. Decisions have to be made. A process is in place, the collective bargaining are doing that right now. Mrs. DeSalvo asked, so we should have started earlier with this. Dr. Casarella responded that we started in January. Rhea Schutter, a parent of two children at SJD, one that is very shy and had trouble coming to school with maybe sixteen kids in his class, the transition went very smooth because of the attention he received. She stated her other son who is very outgoing couldn't wait to go to school, in a classroom of twenty eight students, cried his heart out every day. Mrs. Schutter stated she could tell what class size has on children because of her kids. She stated it will be a major set back for her children if they have larger class rooms. Maybe if everyone comes together they can come up with ways to save money and make money. We have to protect our teachers.

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Mr. Dominick asked if there is enough time if we hold off? Dr. Casarella responded he knows he will make enemies tonight. Dr. Casarella stated he has a 1.9 million budget and nobody wants to close a school or layoff a teacher or raise taxes and we have everyone who wants everything but we don't have any money. There are going to be cuts sooner or later. To Dr. Casarella it is the facts of life. There are a lot of people who are on fixed incomes trying to keep their house. Dr. Casarella stated he has to take a good look at the entire community and has to make a decision and won't get out of here without hurting someone but there is no way he isn't going to make the right decision for the majority for the people that elected him. The numbers are accurate, he met with Mr. Melone and Mr. Bernardi and went over the budget five times. The money is not there. He stated he will vote to pass it.

Mrs. Degnan stated she is hearing about numbers and hearing about discrepancies and stated we have to get this information to Mr. Bernardi and the rest of the Board. And also, with negotiations at this point, the teachers have to come up with some kind of solution to what the collective bargaining unit wants to see and where they want to go with this. Cuts have to be made and it goes both ways. She asked the teachers to get together and see what direction this has to go. Mrs. Farrell stated that with the teacher's contract, the closing of SJD/JFK, we don't know where to go here because there is no money. What can help the most is the teacher's contract and if they would negotiate with the health care..... Mrs. Barrett responded that they are doing that. Mrs. Farrell stated and other aspects... she asked in negotiations for a year? Mrs. Barrett responded that for a couple months it has been going well. Mrs. Farrell stated it would have been nice if we had some ideas before we have to make decisions here. Mrs. Barrett responded, they agree with that. There is active bargaining going on right now. This isn't the right time to be doing this right now. Mrs. Farrell responded, we don't want to have to close SJD or furlough teachers, but she is willing to look at the contract. Mrs. Farrell stated she didn't want to cut either. The SJD people don't want their school closed and the teachers don't want any cuts. Where does that lead us? Mrs. Barrett responded that they are currently bargaining. So, the timing of this is not right. We need to sit down.... we had a couple meetings, yes and it's going in a very good direction. But, doing this before we looked at every avenue is wrong. Dr. Casarella responded that this was not it. Even if this is approved tonight, approved by the State, these people can be reinstated at any time because they have been furloughed, not fired. It doesn't matter which way it goes, it does matter the way the budget goes and the way negotiations go but if neither one of those things happen, we have to have a plan in place to make sure the State doesn't come in and say let's take over the District. Mrs. Barrett stated she felt there are many possibilities and she would like to talk before this radical motion is made.

Chris Hizynski, a teacher and taxpayer, stated that it's the equivalent of a doctor that sees you have an infection and then cuts your leg off and the guy says...hey isn't there anything to treat the infection? Mr. Hizynski commented that the Board was acting prematurely and this item was the first they were hearing of it today. The agenda wasn't put on until sometime after school and was not discussed at the work session. If this was on the table, why didn't we hear about it? Mr. Hizynski stated he agreed with Mrs. Farrell and Mrs. Degnan and if you want to work with the bargaining unit, that is legitimate but it should have been talked about sooner. Dr. Casarella stated he was right that this item wasn't on the agenda and this board has been elected to monitor the funds of this District and see taxpayers money is spent wisely. They are the administration and no where does the administration give its power to the employees. And it shouldn't happen because there are decisions that only the administration should make. Mr. Hizynski asked Dr. Casarella if this is the Wyoming Area Board of Education. Dr. Casarella responded, yes. Dr. Casarella stated he was elected by taxpayers. Mr. Hizynski asked why this wasn't addressed ahead of time. Good faith negotiating, you would think it would be given to somebody ahead of time. What do you do to get us out of this situation. You don't furlough teachers and then later say maybe we'll reinstate them.

Chris Kiwak of Harding, stated his daughter goes to SJD and his next door neighbor goes to Montgomery. His next door neighbor catches the bus at 7:40 and his daughter catches the bus at 8:20. The neighbor is on the bus for 45 minutes and asked what is it going to do when you get a larger bus?

Paula Cecil, a parent, taxpayer and educator, stated everyone is losing focus and commented that we are all of Wyoming Area. Mrs. Cecil quoted her daughter's favorite movie, "We are all in this together". Mrs. Cecil asked everyone, lets fix this. We need for everyone to come together and look for creative ways to help because this is everyone's deficit. By working together we have to find that solution because she is certain it is there.

Kate Menta, an eighth grade English teacher, and 8th grade writing communication class, stated she had been teaching here for eight years and before this she also taught the ninth grade class. Her concern for her students because she does have the majority of the writing class and some of her classes are large. Mrs. Menta has 27-28 kids and they are not easy going kids and with the current numbers of kids in her class she cannot conference with them individually on their work. It is almost impossible. Even with the study hall where the kids can come back and see her she still doesn't have the time to conference with all these students. One of the things brought up by Mrs. Degnan was the PSSAs. With all the bragging of our PSSA scores and how wonderful they are, they will go down if you eliminate an English teacher and make her class thirty students while she is struggling now. She is worried when she hears the board is going to eliminate an English teacher and make her classes larger.

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted no on #9 and yes on the remaining report. Mrs. Farrell, no on #9 and yes on the remaining report. Mr. Dominick, no on #9 and yes on the remaining report. Mrs. Degnan stated she would like to see more information from both sides. She abstained on #9 and voted yes on the remaining report. Mr. Yorina stated he was pleased with the exceptional job of the teachers given to his daughter. Mr. Yorina stated the district has \$693,810 to make up before June, there are negotiations on Friday and would try his best to be there. Mr. Yorina stated he would vote no for #9 but we have to get real, real serious about this. Mr. Yorina voted yes on the remaining report. Mr. Marianacci voted no on #9 and yes on the remaining report. Mrs. Gober-Mangan stated we are in a huge, huge crisis. We need to see movement and hopefully this will be a wake up call. Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted no on #9 and yes on the remaining report. Dr. Campenni voted no on #9 and yes on the remaining report. Dr. Casarella voted no on #9 and yes on the remaining report. Dr. Casarella stated he will go along with it but we need a very active negotiation and only the educators can help with the deficit. Mr. Dominick stated we really need to work on this or it will come back to haunt us.

Motion passed except for item #9.

Dr. Campenni stated that up until now they have been negotiating and with a meeting on Friday, she asked that the teachers talk with members of the negotiation team and ask them to do more. On her board, some members have been giving her a hard time because she has not been sharing with them what they have been negotiating and she could understand that. She felt bad sitting there and not being able to talk about it with them. Dr. Campenni stated by the time the board is through with the personnel meeting information is already on the web site. She felt she couldn't trust everyone on the board. It is very frustrating for her and she commented to the board she knew there are politics out there but asked the board to remember how they got here. Dr. Campenni stated that in the past no one cared about balancing the budget, Mr. Melone put it out there and Dr. Campenni stated she wrote letters to the editor of the newspapers and asked everyone to come to the meetings and nobody came.

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Dr. Campenni stated she would rather be home with her children than here because dealing with this is torture. Dr. Campenni stated she is ready to give up because she can't take it anymore. Dr. Campenni asked the teachers to talk with their representative. Dr. Campenni stated whatever they come up with between Friday and the next board meeting, she will have our Attorney bring it to the Board, send it to Joe Valenti, put it on the internet because she stated she can't do anything more.

Carol DeSalvo of Wyoming, thanked the board for what they did and stated she hoped the teachers work with the board because the teachers have a time limit.

Activities Report

Dr. Campenni read the activities report.

1. Approve the appointment of Trent Grove as a volunteer baseball coach for the 2012 spring season.
2. Approve the appointment of William Roberts as a volunteer tennis coach for the 2012 spring season.
3. Approve the request of Brendan Carter, Marching Band Staff, for the Indoor Percussion to attend Championships in Wildwood, NJ. on Wednesday, May 2, 2012 to Sunday, May 6, 2012, at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00.
4. Approve to vacate all extra-curricular positions at the end of the 2011-2012 school year. Positions will be posted as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
5. Approve the appointment of David Ruggles as a volunteer coach for Track and Field for the 2012 spring season.
6. Approve the appointment of the following head fall coaches for the 2012 season:

| | | |
|------------------|-------|----------|
| Field Hockey | _____ | 3,965.00 |
| Cross Country | _____ | 2,210.00 |
| Football | _____ | 6,727.00 |
| Golf | _____ | 1,682.00 |
| Girls Soccer | _____ | 3,965.00 |
| Girls Volleyball | _____ | 1,815.00 |
| Girls Tennis | _____ | 1,340.00 |

7. Approve the appointment of Shaun Stuart as Marching Band Director for the 2012-2013 school year.

Dr. Campenni stated items #1,2,5,6 are being tabled.

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

On the Question: Dr. Campenni stated the board tabled these items because the activities committee would like more input from the Athletic Director to make these decisions.

Roll Call for tabled items #1,2,5,6: Mr. Bolin, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Dr. Casarella, yes.

Motion passed to table #1,2,5,6.

Roll Call to approve items 3,4,7: Mr. Bolin voted yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Dr. Casarella, yes.

Motion passed to approve items #3,4,7.

A coach stated that they were waiting for the clearance forms for the coaches. Dr. Casarella responded there are a lot of volunteer coaches and they would like to know how many there are for each sport.

Building Report

Mr. Yorina read the building report.

1. Approve the request of Roberta Petrucci, Secretary, to take a medical leave of absence after exhausting all sick and personal days, beginning Tuesday, April 10, 2012, until further notice.
2. Approve the Memo of Understanding between Wyoming Area Education Support Professionals Association and Wyoming Area School District to allow any member of the support staff to voluntarily donate one sick leave day during the 2011-2012 school year for Roberta Petrucci.
3. Approve the request of the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Project PA. and Penn State University to use the multi-purpose room, cafeteria and kitchen for a Food Service Training Session on Tuesday, June 26, 2012, from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and cafeteria manager.
4. Approve the request of Melissa Dolman to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for a Spring Fling for freshman and sophomore students on Saturday, April 21, 2012, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with set-up at 9:00 a.m., pending approval by the building principal and cafeteria manager.
5. Approve the request of Carmella Denisco, Kindergarten Aide, to take a medical leave until further notice.
6. Approve the revised substitute support personnel list for the 2011-2012 school year.
7. Approve the Department of Agriculture Food Safety Inspections report for the elementary and secondary center kitchens.
8. Approve Jon Pollard, Elementary Principal, and Mrs. Deborah Przybyla, Elementary Teacher, requesting permission to plant a tree on the Tenth Street or Dennison Street side of the building as a celebration for Earth Day and in honor and memory of all who have served and continue to serve our country. The tree will be donated by Fred Bohn, a local landscaper, and Dave Humko, Custodian, has pledged to make and donate a plaque/sign to designate the tree.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes, Mrs. Gober-Mangan, yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Dr. Casarella, yes. Motion passed.

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1. Approve the revised policy #404, Employment of Professional Employees.
2. Approve the revised policy #439, Uncompensated Leave.

Motion by Mrs. Degnan, second by Dr. Campenni, to accept the policy report.

On the Question: Mrs. Degnan informed everyone there were three adjustments to the classified application. Attorney Ferentino responded he gave recommendations. Linda McDermott asked what the revision was for policy (#1). Dr. Casarella responded it was revised to say that no teacher shall be hired who is related to any member of the Board or Administrator defined in the statute. Mrs. McDermott asked why is Administrator included. Mrs. Degnan responded that is what the other schools were doing. Mrs. McDermott stated that is not an answer. Why did you decide? Just because you went along with the crowd? Is that your answer? Attorney Ferentino responded the new policy is based on the State of Pennsylvania School Code which involves the Administration and the Board. It's based school law. Mrs. McDermott stated the board was making a mistake, a serious mistake.

Roll Call: Mr. Bolin voted no on 1 and yes on 2, Mrs. Farrell voted no on 1 and yes on 2. Mr. Dominick voted no on 1 and yes on 2. Mrs. Degnan voted yes on 1 and 2. Mr. Yorina voted yes on 1 and 2. Mr. Marianacci voted no on 1 and yes on 2. Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted yes on 1 and 2. Dr. Campenni voted yes on 1 and 2. Dr. Casarella voted yes on 1 and 2.

Motion passed.

Open Discussion: Mr. Yorina asked if any principals were here and if it would be possible for them to do a written bulletin to the Board regarding the cool things the kids do at the school? The fun stuff, like a poster contest or a field day. Something on a monthly basis. Mr. Yorina stated he got on the board to try to improve that type of stuff. Mr. Bernardi responded we should have good things also.

John Bonin of Harding, directed his question to Mr. Bernardi by commenting that at the last meeting Mr. Bernardi was quoted as saying \$3.2 million was used to off-set in-house cost and to prevent raising property taxes. Mr. Bernardi responded that was 2007 and he stated the alternative was to raise taxes. Mr. Bonin asked that in reality did he know how many times the taxes were raised for everyone in the room that lived here in the last five years. Mr. Bernardi responded the taxes were raised every year but have been kept to a minimum. Mr. Bonin asked, but they have been raised, correct? Mr. Bernardi responded, yes they have been raised. Mr. Bernardi stated that taxes weren't raised appropriately back..... you're talking about transferring \$1 million from capital to off-set the budget. In 2004 there was a \$20 million loan that we're paying approximately \$1.3 million in a mortgage every year. That year they raised them eight mills. Bonin stated they should have raised them twenty or thirty that year. Mr. Bernardi stated the underwriters of the bond council recommended we put 18 mills back on in 2004, every year would have been recurring and what you're talking about would not be a problem today. Mr. Bernardi responded the alternative was to raise the taxes higher. Mr. Bonin asked but you did this year for next year? Response was yes. The index is higher. Mr. Bernardi stated you will find it very difficult to find a district that hasn't raised taxes. Mr. Bonin asked, but it was five out of five it was raised? Response was yes.

Saundra Colwell of West Pittston, commented the board wanted to hear more positive things. Mrs. Colwell stated that the indoor percussion is currently ranked first on the East Coast and will be traveling to Wildwood and thanked the board for helping with the transportation.

It involves twenty children from the high school and also a middle school program with eighteen-nineteen kids also ranked first in their provision. They will go to Wildwood to compete for the National Title of the East Coast next week. Mr. Yorina asked Mrs. Colwell to let them know how it turns out. Mrs. Colwell responded that she will and hoped to have fire trucks when they come back and she also asked the board to join their facebook page.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Bolin, seconded by Mr. Dominick.

Mr. Frank Casarella, President

Mrs. Elizabeth Gober-Mangan, Secretary