

10573  
Wyoming Area School District  
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education  
20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643  
Tuesday, April 23, 2013, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education was held this evening at the Wyoming Area Secondary Center, 20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, with approximately eighty people in attendance. A non-public executive session preceded the meeting. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. John Bolin, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call:

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

Also present were: Raymond J. Bernardi, Superintendent, Janet Serino, Assistant Superintendent, Attorney Jarrett J. Ferentino, Tom Melone, Business Consultant, Robert Kaluzavich, Elementary Building Principal of Montgomery Ave./SJD, Jon Pollard, Elementary Building Principal of Tenth St./JFK, Vito Quaglia, Secondary Center Building Principal, Cathy Ranieli, Secondary Center Assistant Principal, Melissa Collevechio, Food Service Director, Frank Pugliese, Director of Buildings and Grounds, Emily Shemanski and Brian Wisowaty, Students Representatives.

Communications Report

Mr. Marianacci read the Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit submitting minutes of their regular meeting of February 27, 2013.
2. Barbara Bullions, Secondary Center Teacher, submitting her letter of intent to retire on the last scheduled day of the 2012-2013 school year.
3. Joseph Gillespie, Secondary Center Teacher, submitting his letter of intent to retire effective July 24, 2013.
4. Correspondence from John Kaschak, CPA, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of the Budget, Comptroller Operations, notification of receiving the single audit report of Wyoming Area School District for the year ended 6/30/11. The audit report contains the required elements of a single audit report package as required by OMB Circular A-133 and Commonwealth policy and contains no findings related to federal awards passed through commonwealth funding agencies.
5. Correspondence from David Holl, Governor's Authorized Representative, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, notification of payment received under the Public Assistance Program for Disaster 4030, FEMA-4030-DR in the amount of \$128,373.18.

6. Thomas Campenni, Vice President of Wyoming Area Football Alumni Association, requesting permission to update and renovate the weight training facility. The Alumni will assume responsibility for this project, including hiring and paying vendors and paying for necessary supplies and equipment. If, however, the Wyoming Area Maintenance Staff would prefer or is required to perform the renovations, the Alumni will still pay for supplies and equipment necessary to complete the project.
7. Ron Musto, General Manager of the Greater Pittston Legion Program, requesting permission to use the Atlas Field for practices and games during the 2013 summer.
8. Ann Marie Taggart, President of the West Pittston Rams, requesting permission for the Rams to use the football field, practice fields and cafeteria fields for practice and games.
9. Ann Marie Taggart, President of the West Pittston Rams, requesting permission for the Rams to use the Secondary Center cafeteria/kitchen for the Rams Awards Banquet Ceremony.
10. Judy Buckman, Wyoming Area Boys Soccer Parents, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for "Meet the Warriors Soccer Team."
11. Received Right to Know Request from John Bonin, Harding, for a breakdown of board members who voted to approve the district budget for school years 9-10, 10-11, 11-12, 12-13, and for each year what the total dollar tax increase was to the taxpayers.
12. Received Right to Know Request from John Bonin, Harding, for a breakdown by dollar, for all school board approved donations, including the organization for the school years 9-10, 10-11, 11-12 and 12-13 year to date.
13. Received Right to Know Request from John Bonin, Harding, for a breakdown by dollar, for all district facility or building fee charges that were waived or not charged for school years 9-10, 10-11, 11-12, and 12-13 to date and a copy of the rental fees or guide sheet that the district currently uses.
14. Received Right to Know Request from Bob Borzell of Wyoming, for a breakdown of all out of house motor vehicles and equipment repair costs for the year (fuel, tune ups and repair costs) for vehicles and equipment and what service stations are used for upkeep of the vehicles and equipment.
15. Received Right to Know Request for the number of days an employee has worked from September 1, 2012 to April 5, 2013.
16. Received Right to Know Request from Melissa Dolman for the total amount of salary paid to Mr. John Dean, Negotiations Lawyer, beginning in June 2010 to present day.
17. Received Right to Know Request from Melissa Dolman for the hourly wage charged by Mr. John Dean, Negotiations Lawyer.
18. Letters of interest for summer cleaning from Judy Henson, Shyloe McDonald, Annette Gentile, Graceann Tokar, Carol Gamble, Abby Smetana, Deborah Lamoreaux, Gina Steve, Jackie Vasquez, John Letoski, Marilyn Fitzgerald, Nancy Anderson, Carol Cotter-Dente.

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19. Correspondence dated March 11, 2013 from Mr. John Dean, Elliott Greenleaf, notifying the Superintendent that the Wyoming Area Education Association agreed to withdraw the foregoing grievance Wyoming Area Education Association vs. Wyoming Area School District.
20. Correspondence dated March 20, 2013 from Mr. John Dean, Elliott Greenleaf, enclosing correspondence to the Superintendent, from Jeffrey Husian, Esq., PSEA Staff Attorney, cancelling the April 4, 2013 hearing, Wyoming Area Education Association vs. Wyoming Area School District, PSEA Case #12/1066 PERA-C-12-302-E.
21. Janet Serino, Assistant Superintendent, requesting permission to attend the Pennsylvania Association Federal Program Coordinators Annual Conference (PAFPC) in Pittsburgh.
22. Juel Anne Klepadlo, Key Club Advisor, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center gym, gym hallway and multipurpose room for a Volleyball Tournament to raise money for the Mark Dushok Memorial Key Club Scholarship.
23. Molly Kearns, Secondary Center Teacher, requesting permission to attend the Pennsylvania Academic Competition, along with five students, in Harrisburg.
24. Frank Parente, Teacher at Montgomery Avenue School, requesting permission to use the girls' softball field for practices for their U14 Travel Softball Team.
25. Nichole Duffy, Department of Education, notifying the Superintendent the referendum exceptions submitted by the District were reviewed by the Department of Education. The referendum exceptions totaling \$227,512.00 meet the requirements of section 333(f)(2).
26. Received letters of interest for summer cleaning from Allison Hector, Betty Boone, Ken Radle, Barbara Spriggs, Rita Bannon, Kim Biscotto.
27. Lisa Day, Secondary Teacher, requesting permission to attend the National History Bowl and Bee Competition, along with ten students, Juel Anne Klepadlo and Barbara Bullions in Washington D.C.
28. Juel Anne Klepadlo, FBLA Advisor, requesting permission to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference, along with a student, in Anaheim, CA.

Summary of Applications Received

Art – 1  
School Nurse – 1  
Elementary – 6  
Special Education – 4  
Social Studies – 2  
Mid Level Science – 2  
Biology – 1  
Earth & Space Science - 1  
Mid Level Math – 2  
Math – 5  
Music – 1  
English – 1  
Reading Specialist - 2  
Business, Computers & Instructional Technology - 1  
Maintenance – 1  
Summer Cleaning – 19  
Marching Band Director – 1

Head Football Coach – 1  
 Head Cross Country Coach – 1  
 Head Field Hockey Coach – 1  
 Head Golf Coach – 1  
 Head Boys Soccer Coach – 1  
 Head Girls Soccer Coach – 1  
 Head Girls Tennis Coach – 1  
 Head Girls Volleyball Coach - 4

#### Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bolin asked the board for approval of the regular meeting minutes of March 26, 2013.  
 All board members vote aye. 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 "Seussical" on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at the Secondary Center Auditorium. Also, Congratulations to Sarah Pellegrini, Drama Club Director and Assistant, Felicia Featherby.*
2. *Congratulations to the SECRETARIES of our District who will be honored on "Secretaries" Day (April 24<sup>th</sup>):*



<i>Ann Agolino</i>	<i>Debbie Andiario</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 Macheay</i>	<i>Doreen Marianacci</i>
<i>Betty Mazzitelli</i>	<i>Dawn Fasciana</i>	<i>Rachelle More</i>
<i>Lori Napkora</i>	<i>Jean Marie Radle</i>	<i>Ann Marie Parente</i>
<i>Theodora Rabel</i>	<i>Rosalie Schultz</i>	<i>Kathy Youells</i>
<i>Toni Scalzo</i>	<i>Deborah Wharton</i>	<i>Gina Steve</i>
<i>Kimberly Thomas</i>		<i>Jackie Vasquez</i>

3. *Congratulations to Melissa Collevechio, Food Service Director, and her Staff for receiving a positive report on the second round of USDA's on site inspections performed by William Luvender, Department of Agriculture's Food Sanitation Program.*

4. *The Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2012 requires that 25% of all National School Lunch Sponsors who are certified to receive the extra .6 cents must also be "validated". Out of 40% of PA Schools that have submitted for certification, Wyoming Area was randomly selected for the Validation Review, which consists of a thorough evaluation of all documentation that was submitted for certification along with meal observation and meal documentation to ensure that ongoing meal service operations are consistent with certification documentation. I am pleased to announce that the report found no violations or concerns and PDE stated that the food service program is in excellent standing. Again, we congratulate Ms. Collevechio and the Food Service Staff for a great job.*
5. *Thanks to the Wyoming Area Key Club for holding an all night RAVE Dance-A-Thon on January 26, 2013 to benefit Eric Speicher, 8<sup>th</sup> grade student, who is battling a serious medical condition.*
6. *April 22<sup>nd</sup> was Earth Day. In celebration of Earth Day, Erica Robaczewski and her students in the Environmental Science classes re-did the mulch and planted flowers at the front entrance at the Secondary Center. On behalf of the Wyoming Area School District, I would like to thank Erica and the 150 students who participated in this activity and Ted Harris, Wyoming Valley Pallet, who donated the mulch.*
7. *Eleventh grade student, Kevin Carroll, received Honorable Mention through Barnes & Noble "My Favorite Teacher Contest" for his Essay describing how Gordon Williams, Secondary Center Chemistry Teacher, influenced his life. Contest winners were recognized at a special event at the Arena Hub Plaza Store. Congratulations to Kevin and Mr. Williams.*
8. *The Lackawanna County Swat Team held a live shooter drill on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at Tenth Street Elementary Building. Officers from Wyoming, West Wyoming, Plains Township, West Pittston, Hughestown and Main Township in Columbia County took part in the drill. I would like to thank Officer Tom Farrell from Wyoming Police Department who initially suggested this training take place, Officer Alberigi and Mr. Pollard, Principal at Tenth Street Elementary and all the officers who volunteered their time to participate in this drill.*
9. *The Scholarship Celebration will take place on May 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Secondary Center Cafeteria. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> annual celebration. Since the beginning of this project in 2009, 23 new scholarships have been donated by members of the community totaling approximately \$90,000 in new scholarships for the graduates of our District. Congratulations to Mrs. Fedor and all those who assist in this celebration.*
10. *Junior Achievement Program is an 8 week economics education program offered at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level that introduces students to personal financial planning and career exploration. Eighth Grade Social Studies teachers teach lessons and activities during this time period and the programs culminating activity is a visit to Junior Achievement Finance Park in Pittston. On their visit to Finance Park, students apply what they have learned. Ms. Ashley Aritz and several 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are present this evening and will explain the program.*

The following students involved with the Junior Achievement Program were Madison Beppler, Nik Athmann, Kara Moscatelli, Dante LeLuca, Madison Mulhern, Ryan Shuleski. The first part involved six weeks of classroom instruction and activities led by social studies teachers, Mrs. Aritz and Mrs. Gillespie-Bartoli. The second part was a trip to Junior Achievement Center in Pittston where they put all their newly acquired skills to work. Financial instruction included banking and use of debit, credit cards, and impulse buying especially with credit cards and balance of a check book with paying mortgages, investments, deposits and stocks. They also had to make decisions regarding purchases for food, clothing, utilities and medical care. For instance, they couldn't buy a sports car with three kids. If they bought more than their budget allowed they had to go back and re-budget. The students also were informed to start saving money now for their future. The students thanked everyone for this opportunity.

Mr. Bernardi stated that was terrific and acknowledged Mrs. Bartoli who was also present. That was terrific for eighth graders to come up here and do public speaking. That was excellent. You can tell they have been exposed to public speaking in the past. Mr. Bernardi stated he had one more item. He reported that out of 21,000 public high schools evaluated throughout the country I'm happy to report that the Wyoming Area Secondary Center has received a silver medal for academic achievement from US News and World Report. They just released this information this afternoon. Out of 21,000 high schools evaluated, 500 hundred districts received a gold medal, 1,790 a silver medal and we were one of them and 2,500 a bronze medal. The criteria used for achievement is based on the PSSA scores in reading and math and advanced placement courses. In reading 77% of our students were proficient and in math 70% of our students were proficient. 20% of our students participated in advanced placement courses with 80% participant pass rate. Criteria factored in economically disadvantaged students, we have a total population of 28%. The methodology used is based on a principal that High School must serve all students not just college bound and must be able to produce measureable academic outcomes to demonstrate that the school is successfully educating the entire student body in a class of range performance indicated. In the state there are 619 high schools and we rank number 61. Mr. Bernardi congratulated the administration, the teachers, parents and students and community. That will probably break in the news tomorrow. Thank you very much and congratulations. Mr. Bernardi also stated this shows the students of Wyoming Area have the opportunity to succeed not only in high school but beyond high school. Mr. Bolin also praised the students from Junior Achievement for coming up and doing a great job.

#### Student Representative's Report

Brian Wisowaty read his report.

The History Bowl A&B teams will be attending the Nationals this weekend in Washington D.C. The Science Olympiad Varsity and Jr. Varsity teams will be attending their states competition at Juniata College this Friday. The softball team recently had their annual fundraising pasta dinner and craft show. FBLA recently attended their States competition in Hershey and Sal Polit placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state qualifying him to move on to the Nationals in California. The Key Club held a soccer tournament in order to raise money for Stephanie Jallen so she can attend the 2014 Special Olympics. The Key Club will also be holding their annual Mark Dushok Scholarship Volleyball Tournament.

AT this time, Mr. Melone gave a brief presentation regarding the budget.

#### Treasurer's Report

Dr. Casarella read the Treasurer's Report

First National Community Bank	General Fund	6,625,161.23
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	4,639.49
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	136,730.93
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	66,709.79

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First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	16,068.89
Landmark Bank	Athletic Fund Account	1,948.49
PNC Bank	Energy Performance Proceeds Fund	30,743.94
PNC Bank	Capital Projects Fund Bank Construction Account	23,245.19
PNC Bank	Capital Projects Fund Bank Investment Account	0.00
First National Community Bank	Purchasing Account	500.00
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust	Earned Income Tax Revenue	310,321.93

The Treasurer's Report will be kept on file for audit.

#### Finance Report

Dr. Casarella read the Finance Report.

1. Received the following checks:

##### Berkheimer Tax Administrator

Earned Income Tax	18,209.86
Earned Income Tax	16,363.31
Earned Income Tax	54,395.89
Earned Income Tax	19,920.59
Earned Income Tax	13,435.86
Earned Income Tax	7,721.64
Earned Income Tax	32,612.74
Earned Income Tax	32,537.90
Earned Income Tax	7,049.95
Local Services Tax	864.58
Local Services Tax	544.14
Local Services Tax	544.88
Local Services Tax	272.64
Per Capita Tax	1,937.25
Per Capita Tax	4,376.99
Per Capita Tax	627.68
Per Capita Tax	3,225.55
Per Capita Tax	1,332.31
Per Capita Tax	3,489.88
Per Capita Tax	<u>3,481.02</u>

Total: 223,054.66

##### Local Realty Transfer Tax

Luzerne County	13,328.52
Wyoming County	<u>1,225.00</u>
Total:	14,553.52

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Berkheimer Tax Administrator

Collected from Centax (Earned Income Tax)	65,741.50
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Reimbursements

Enerwise Global Technologies	1,155.25
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The Luzerne Foundation

The Earthly Angels Autism Fund	517.00
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Wyoming Area Wrestling Club

Purchase of wrestling mat	4,107.50
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Miscellaneous

Right to Know Request Payment	1.50
District 11-2-01	<u>56.33</u>
	Total: 57.83

State & Federal Subsidy Payments

Social Security	42,469.22
Retirement	208,126.55
Title I- Improving Basic Programs	44,569.33
Title II – Improving Teacher Quality	7,327.53
School District Special Education	204,248.00
Out of State Special Education Placements	17,577.00
School District Transportation	<u>293,699.00</u>
	Total: 818,016.63

2. Approve the April payment of \$76,854.35 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit in accordance with the terms of the approved contract agreement for programs and services for the 2012-2013 school year.
3. Approve the April payment of \$29,015.25 to the West Side Career and Technology Center for the 2012-2013 school year.
4. Approve the authorization of Albert B. Melone Company, Business Consultant, to solicit quotes for securing a 2013-2014 Tax Anticipation Note.
5. Approve the payment to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18 for ESL (English as a Second Language) instructional hours for December 12, 2012 to February 28, 2013 as follows:

December (total of 96.5 hours at 48.35)	4,665.78
January (total of 132.5 hours at 48.35)	6,406.38
February (total of 143 hours at 48.35)	<u>6,914.05</u>
	Total: 17,986.21

6. Approve the following refund of paid property taxes for the year 2011 as requested by The Luzerne County Board of Assessment Appeals and George Miller, West Pittston Tax Collector:

PIN# 65-E11NE1-025-026-000    \$249.96

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7. Approve a settlement in the amount of \$22,500.00 regarding the Special Education Student/Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
8. Approve the appointment of Bob Dellarte of Golden Photo Studio as school photographer for elementary and high school for the 2013-2014 school year.
9. Approve that the board authorize the solicitor and business manager to draft the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the Wyoming Area School District Educational Tax Credit Tax Exempt Organization, Inc. which tax exempt organization shall be formed for the purposes of providing extra funds from private citizens by the way of tax deductions and tax credits allowed under applicable law for the purposes of providing and adding to the curriculum of the Wyoming Area School District including the hiring of additional educational personnel, the establishment of additional scholarships and other assistance in improving the quality of education at Wyoming Area School District. The President, secretary, superintendent, solicitor and other appropriate employees and agents of Wyoming Area School District are hereby authorized and empowered to do any and all acts reasonable necessary and proper to carry out the foregoing resolution so as to form a corporation and establish it as a tax exempt organization under section 501(C) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code.
10. Approve the request of tax payer #17-B11S1-001-020-000 for a refund in the amount of \$304.47 for penalties and 2% discount for property taxes for 2012.
11. Approve the payment of \$2,649.75 to Mark J. Sobeck Roof Consulting Inc., for Montgomery Avenue Roof Inspection/Consulting to be funded from the capital projects fund.
12. Approve the General Ledger Sheet:

Bill Listing:	April 2013	546,214.15
Prepays:	March 2013	<u>64,282.85</u> 610,497.00

Cafeteria Account:	88,721.28	
Athletic Account:	<u>1,213.14</u>	<u>89,934.42</u>

Total: 700,431.42

13. Motion to accept proposal from Redevelopment Authority of Luzerne County Municipal Revenue Service for the sale of delinquent real estate taxes due to the Wyoming Area School District for the 2012 tax year and the anticipated 2013 and 2014 tax years. The closing for the above will be conducted upon the drafting and approval of the appropriate resolutions by the district solicitor.

Motion by Dr. Casarella, second by Mr. Dominick, to accept the finance report.

On the Question: Carl asked a question on a bill for \$4,700.00 if it was for the tractor. Response was yes. A bill from Mechanical Services for \$9,300.00 was questioned. Mr. Pugliese responded it was the rebuilding of the bleachers in the auditorium.

Tuition from other schools was questioned. Mr. Bernardi responded they are our students attending other schools. Mr. Yorina commented, so we are reimbursing them. Mr. Bernardi responded yes. Mr. Yorina this is Salisbury School District \$9,500.00. Mr. Yorina asked if they moved. Mr. Bernardi responded no, that is probably for a special needs student who is a resident of Wyoming Area. Mr. Yorina asked where Salisbury was. Mr. Bernardi responded he didn't know but would get him the information. Dr. Campenni asked if we ever looked into an ESL in-house. Mr. Bernardi responded yes, we have looked at that over the years.

Mr. Bernardi responded the difficulty with ESL is the census goes up and down and the way it's structured, if you have a child from Russia and they have limited English you need someone to give this person five hours of intense instruction. One student can take five hours of a teacher's day. And then if you have three or four depending on their level of speaking English that's the number of instruction they need. Currently, I believe, we have eleven students and it has gone up to eighteen. Sometimes it goes down to ten. It's a very difficult program to manage. For a small district, we don't get that many ESL students. We have Russian students and Spanish speaking students. Mrs. Gober-Mangan asked if their instructors are fluent in their languages. Mr. Bernardi responded, Beth, you don't teach them their language, you teach them English. You are instructing them in English. Mr. Dominick stated there are a limited number of students in each building and it would be more expensive to hire a full time teacher. Mr. Bernardi responded, that is a good point, Gil. If you have ten or eleven students, that doesn't necessarily mean they will all be in one building. Right now the LIU services our students and they need more than one professional staff member to handle the ten or twelve students we have. Mr. Melone also added that the volatility in the program in prior years we spent \$77,000, \$90,000, this year it's only \$36,000. So, there is volatility based on census on how much the district puts towards it each year.

Dr. Campenni asked when the transportation contract is up with Pace. Mr. Bernardi responded he believed it goes out to 16/17. Melissa Dolman asked the board at what point do you start to plan the teacher's contract? She stated the teachers were outside picketing, handing out literature, and it's been 1,169 days since they negotiated the last contract. How long is to long? Next year it will be four years. Other districts, Scranton, West Pocono, they waited a year. We have been waiting three, I think we have been patient. I think there comes a time in that budget you have to take a look at where is the money to actually award a contract for the teachers. Mr. Dominick asked Mrs. Dolman when were they going to bend and make it fair? I'm waiting too, he stated. Mrs. Dolman responded at the last negotiation the last contract that they proposed the other evening was quite a bit. Attorney Ferentino stated he didn't want to get into it. Dr. Casarella responded they did take into consideration what funds are available and made offers based on availability of funds. The proposals were based on what affordability the district has. Dr. Casarella stated they were meeting again on the first and stated they're going to get some progress. Attorney Ferentino also added that the Business Manager is also a part of the proposals. Mrs. Dolman stated the teachers are the school and they are not accounted for.

Cindy Lynch, Secondary Center Teacher, mother of two graduates from Wyoming Area, graduated from Wyoming Area herself and stated I just saw \$11,000 go by to fix equipment without batting an eye. Aren't we part of your equipment that Wyoming Area has? Aren't we the ones you should be taking care of, we are the ones who teach the children? You don't bat an eye at fixing equipment. You don't care that we're the ones there day in and day out and Mr. Dominick asked when are we going to bend? We bend every day. Mrs. Lynch commented again that money is spent on equipment without batting an eye, which is budgeted. Aren't we the ongoing thing that makes Wyoming Area? Just like your equipment? Dr. Casarella responded he couldn't discuss the contract but understood and stated the board has to collectively come up with what they need to do. Dr. Casarella stated we do plan and have planned and I'm looking forward to May 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Dominick commented he has four daughters that are teachers and stated he represents the taxpayers his mother gets \$650 social security check. We have to work together to get this legislator off our backs. Mrs. Lynch responded she understood. Mr. Dominick stated the casino was put in to eliminate school taxes, were not getting any. Mrs. Lynch commented the board is talking about doing things such as resodding the grounds for the outside appearance and they're not given anything. Mr. Dominick responded, you are.

Mrs. Lynch stated when you're talking about the future you planned for expenses and when you do the balance you know you're going to spend X amount of dollars. But, this is for you Frank, she stated. Dr. Casarella asked Mrs. Lynch if she knew what the percentage of income is with this stuff? An increase in salary? Mrs. Lynch responded not as much as you may think. Dr. Casarella responded 2.5%. When we look at things we have to factor those numbers in. I don't know too many people that get a 2.5% raise per year. Mrs. Lynch responded but we haven't gotten 2.5% in four years. Dr. Casarella stated but that's the norm. We have to look at what the district can afford when we look at a percentage. This is not contractual, this is just budgetary. Mrs. Lynch stated, you are here as the board to create an environmental education. Dr. Casarella responded yes. But, by not taking care of the people who provide that education.....I'm a taxpayer too, but your position is not to protect the taxpayers but to make an educational body. We are number 61 in the state, why? Not because our buildings are pretty or our maintenance gets done but because the people who are behind it. And you know that. Dr. Casarella stated that the taxpayers pay for everything. Mrs. Lynch responded she hasn't had a raise in four years. Dr. Casarella stated he wanted to move forward on this. He just told Melissa that and the board will. But he couldn't give particulars because they are negotiating. Mrs. Lynch stated, the point is take care of your equipment, we are your equipment.

Ree Ree DeLuca, West Pittston, asked the board if Mr. Bernardi has 80 to 90 days before he can get his contract renewed. Mr. Bolin responded 150. He doesn't have to sign anything for a whole year? Right? Mr. Bolin responded 150 days prior which would be October. Mrs. DeLuca asked, and the teachers are waiting 1,169 days, does that seem fair? Mr. Bolin responded they have been working very hard.....Mrs. DeLuca stated I don't understand why he gets..... Attorney Ferentino responded it's the law. Mrs. DeLuca stated she had a question on the contract. Mr. Bolin responded she could direct it to Jarrett...we don't discuss it. Mrs. DeLuca stated then we won't discuss it then.

Mr. Yorina commented to Mrs. Lynch that the Renge lawnmower that was repaired was purchased used in 1998, it was bought used. A new one is about \$40,000. Mr. Pugliese responded \$42,000. It was basically sitting broken and we were cutting grass with it on the football field. This has an eight foot cut. You get to the point where you try to throw some money into it or buy something brand new or do you try to get a couple more years out of it. Mr. Yorina stated from personal experience when he worked here he welded metal plates for a dump truck box in his driveway on a Saturday to try to save the district some money with my own equipment and my own welder so we wouldn't have to go buy a \$4,000 dump truck box. I totally respect the fact that this has gone on too long, absolutely way too long. And it seems that every time we talk we come together on some things then get farther apart on others. I think the public and the teachers need to know that coming to work the moral is half of it, if you have a good attitude when you walk in you're probably going to do a little more of a good job. Not having a contract kills the moral, but not to have a contract for a couple of years, that absolutely destroys it. And I think we're all aware of that. When we slip the numbers into the budget we always go back to Mr. Melone with those numbers and the board convenes and discusses it. We have to try and meet in the middle somehow. Mrs. Farrell stated her daughter is a teacher here and she isn't happy about it either.

Bob Trusavage of West Pittston addressed Mrs. Lynch and stated that she should have been here ....Mr. Trusavage stated he didn't miss a meeting... and stated \$10,000 is nothing compared to what they've been spending for a long time. Mr. Trusavage stated we watched every nickel they spend, budgeted and balanced a check book. He thought they did a very good job. His son attended Junior Achievement. We watched every meeting and heard oh it's only \$80, it's only \$100, it's only \$300, its only \$400. There is no reason for this school...I asked years ago do they have a maintenance budget, do they have an administrative budget, what other budgets? No one could give him an answer on the budget.

I think if everything is run right, the district should be able to make a buck, the employees should be able to make a buck if things are budgeted properly.

John Pegg of West Wyoming questioned page nine, the general fund account of FNCB. The fund balance on the powerpoint presentation is that 2.1 million balance a part of that general fund account? Mr. Melone responded it is a part of that. Mr. Pegg asked so, when I see that account number go up over a year, two years, it goes up and down, two million, four million, six million, up to eight million, I assume there is some kind of revenue coming in that makes it go up a little bit. Mr. Melone responded our property tax calendar, for example, taxes for real estate are levied in July and homeowners have until December to pay. So, typically what happens in a school district environment along with some state funding, we get a lot of money up front during that process. So, if you look at these reports, I'm ventured to say, the tax position would look very enticing through April or whatever. But, if you look on the back end May, June, July, August you're going to see where that window because we're on the back end of the cycle. The past balances do not always equate the fund balance because there are certain liabilities that need to be subtracted. Mr. Pegg questioned the drop in the health care presentation from 7.1 to 3.6, why? Mr. Bernardi responded he is the manager representative on the Trust and stated we are making in roads with the Trust, with the Board of Trustees. I must say we are working collaboratively. Melissa comes to the meetings. Phil Russo, a former teacher of this district, he's the labor representative. So, we've been working collaboratively. We're saving money and giving it back to the district. Charges are based on experience. So if you have good experience, people are not getting sick as in the past, there is money left over and we're reducing the rates because everybody knows at the Trust, the Board of Trustees, that the districts are financially strapped. Mr. Pegg stated it's my opinion but I'll throw running scared, would that be a fair assessment from my point of view? Everybody's sending a letter in from a lot of the districts. The Trust is saying, hey, you know what, let's knock it down a few percentages. You don't have to agree or disagree.

Mr. Bernardi stated let me say this, before I was the manager rep, in the past historically, they did keep a hefty fund balance and now they are giving it back. Dr. Casarella stated that each of our custodial areas, as far as building and grounds and cafeteria, they all have a budget. They all have a set amount they have to work with. We do ask them to make cuts in those areas as the budgets get formulated from year to year, so what you said is not totally correct, but I will say this, in the past, yea, we did have issues. We operated in the red for four years. All I know, is you can't operate in the red for four years and expect us to solve the problem right now. Mr. Trusavage responded over a year ago he asked and he was told there were no budgets. Dr. Casarella stated I know Mr. Pizano has a set budget, right Mr. Melone? Mr. Melone responded yes. Dr. Casarella stated we're doing the best we can. I didn't want you walking away thinking we don't, we do.

Roll Call: Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted yes, Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan, yes, Dr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Yorina voted no on item #7 and yes on the remaining report. Dr. Casarella, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Marianacci, 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) have been planned for the 2012-2013 school year. Anyone desiring information regarding these programs, contact Janet Serino, Assistant Superintendent, at the District's Business Office.

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2. Accept, with regret, Barbara Bullion's letter of intent to retire on the last scheduled day of school of the 2012-2013 school year.
3. Accept, with regret, Joseph Gillespie's letter of intent to retire effective July 24, 2013.
4. Approve the Summer Academy of the Languages to start Monday, June 17, 2013 to Friday, June 21, 2013.
5. Approve the S.A.T. Verbal/Math Summer Classes to start mid June to mid August 2013.
6. Approve to ratify the request of Janet Serino, Assistant Superintendent, to attend the Pennsylvania Association Federal Program Coordinators Annual Conference (PAFPC) in Pittsburgh, Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, April 17, 2013. Costs of \$804.00 for registration and lodging to come out of Title II funds.
7. Approve the appointment of Nicholas Bilski as a long term substitute teacher for Joseph Gillespie retroactive to November 5, 2012 through the end of the 2012-2013 school year, subject to the duration of Mr. Gillespie's leave.
8. Approve the appointment of Michael Stefanik as a long term substitute teacher for Renee DeAngelo retroactive to November 8, 2012 through April 9, 2013.
9. Approve the revised calendar for the 2013-2014 school year:

Monday, April 10, 2013	Act 80 Day/1/2 day for students
Tuesday, April 11, 2013	Act 80 Day/1/2 day for students
Wednesday, April 12, 2013	Act 80 Day/1/2 day for students

The correct dates are listed below.

Approve the revised calendar for the 2012-2013 school year:

Monday, June 10, 2013	Act 80 Day/1/2 day for students
Tuesday, June 11, 2013	Act 80 Day/1/2 day for students
Wednesday, June 12, 2013	Act 80 Day/1/2 day for students

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

On the Question: Dr. Campenni questioned item #9. Mr. Bernardi responded that was a mistake, it should be June 10, 11 and 12, not April. Mr. Bernardi commented, Denise you did that to see if I was paying attention, right? I caught it. So, that should be June 10, June 11, June 12. Mr. Bernardi stated it will be  $\frac{1}{2}$  days for students. There are a lot of students here, that means you come in the morning, then you don't have to come in the afternoon, but you have to come in the morning, O.K.? Mrs. Farrell asked does that mean we're losing a day and  $\frac{1}{2}$  or gaining a day and  $\frac{1}{2}$ ? Mr. Bernardi responded we're putting on the agenda to change full days to half days for students on 10, 11 and 12. Dr. Campenni asked if the last day of school was on the 12th. Mr. Bernardi responded the last day of school is on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> but our last day of school is already a half day. Dr. Campenni asked so, originally it was not correct? We're taking off a half day. Mr. Bernardi responded, no, I'm requesting from the board to ask if we can change Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday from full days to half days in the district. My plan is to do some staff development work with teachers. As you heard we did an active shooter drill at Tenth Street on Saturday and I would like to do some active shooter drills with the teachers from the district, here, at the Secondary Center to get the teachers involved. So, that is the reason for the request for staff development with teachers. Someone also brought up the year in item #9. Mr. Bernardi responded it should be this year. She just does that to trick me. It's not 13-14. Mrs. Degnan asked, the half day counts for a whole day for the students attending? Mr. Bernardi responded yes.

Mrs. Degnan asked, and then you're using the other half a day to in-service teachers? Mr. Bernardi responded we're going to do active shooter staff development drills. Mrs. Degnan asked, the teachers are going to be trained to shoot? Mr. Bernardi responded no, no, no. Mr. Yorina informed everyone they had a drill down at Tenth Street on Saturday with police officers. The teachers are going to be active in the shooter drills. Officer Alberigi explained how the Lackawanna Police Officers will come in and do an active shooter drill and the teachers will be educated on what to do in case of an emergency of this magnitude.

Dr. Casarella commented, Mr. Bernardi I think part of the confusion is that we have a certain number of hours that we have to comply with the state, we have those hours therefore this is possible to be done accordance with the 990 and 900 elementary hours. Mr. Bernardi responded that's correct.

Mrs. Degnan questioned items #4 and #5 discussed at the work session for the enrollment of last year and if there was any impact toward the district and if we had enough of enrollment for both those programs. Mr. Bernardi responded Mary Louise in your board packet I have the breakdown of students that participated in the Summer Academy of Languages. There was fifty students and it generated \$1,100 and the instructor was \$1,440. That's in your packet. Mrs. Degnan stated she didn't see it. You put it in tonight, this afternoon? She wanted to follow up. She asked how much it cost to run it. That cost us \$340 to run that program. Mrs. Degnan asked about the S.A.T. Mr. Bernardi stated the S.A.T. he didn't get the correct information on that and will try to get it for the next meeting. But we usually try to get it so it pays for itself. But we don't know if it was, Mrs. Degnan asked. Mr. Bernardi responded I can probably say quite confidently it was close, but just like the Summer Academy it was \$340 more expense than revenue.

Roll Call: Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted yes, Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan abstained on items #4 and #5 and voted yes on the remaining report. Dr. Campenni abstained on items #4 and #5 and yes on the remaining report. Mr. Yorina, yes, Dr. Casarella, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

#### Activities Report

Mrs. Farrell read the Activities Report.

1. Approve to vacate all extra-curricular positions at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. Positions will be posted as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
2. Approve the request of Molly Kearns to attend the Pennsylvania Academic Competition, along with five students, on Friday, May 3, 2013. The district is asked to cover the cost of lodging at \$462.87. The school van is also requested for transportation.
3. Approve the appointment of Leonard Costello, Jr., as Marching Band Director at a salary of \$4,076.00 for the 2013-2014 school year.
4. Approve the appointment of Kristen Costello as Assistant Marching Band Director at a salary of \$1,561.00 for the 2013-2014 school year.

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5. Approve the request of Lisa Day, Secondary Teacher, to attend the National History Bowl and Bee Competition, along with ten students, Juel Anne Klepadlo and Barbara Bullions in Washington D.C., Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, April 28, 2013. The district is asked to cover the cost of registration and lodging at a total of \$2,466.60 and a van rental from EZ Car and Truck Rental at \$100.00 per day and parking at a total of \$52.00.

6. Approve the appointment of the following head fall coaches for the 2013 fall season:

Randy Spencer	Football	6,727.00
Michael Stefanik	Cross Country	2,210.00
Gordon Williams	Golf	1,682.00
Nicholas Hufford	Boys Soccer	3,965.00
Tiffany Callaio	Girls Tennis	1,340.00
Lunda Comiskey	Field Hockey	3,965.00

7. Approve the request of Juel Anne Klepadlo, FBLA Advisor, to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference, along with one student, in Anaheim, CA., Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> to Monday, July 1, 2013. The district is asked to cover the cost of the registration and travel package at a total of \$3,120.00. Some meals may be additional.

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, second by Mrs. Gober-Mangan, to accept the activities report.

ON the Question: Mr. Yorina questioned item #7, one student, was there a qualification? Brian Wisowaty, Student Representative, responded he made it through the State Competition for Computer Problems. Mr. Yorina asked who it was. Mr. Wisowaty responded it was Sal Polit.

Roll Call: Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted yes, Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan abstained on items #3, #4, #6 with the exception of Mike Stefanik and Lunda Comiskey and voted yes on the remaining report. Dr. Campenni voted, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Dr. Casarella, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

#### Building Report

Mr. Yorina read the Building Report.

1. Approve the request of Ann Marie Taggart, President of the West Pittston Rams, for the football Rams and cheerleaders to use the football field, (press box, score board, rest rooms) practice fields and cafeteria fields for practice and games starting in June through November. Games to be held on Sundays, from August 18<sup>th</sup> through October 27, 2013, pending approval by the building principal and athletic director. A \$25.00 per hour fee may be charged if a custodian's services are needed.
2. Approve the request Ann Marie Taggart, President of the West Pittston Rams, to use the Secondary Center cafeteria/kitchen for the Rams Awards Banquet Ceremony on Sunday, November 24, 2013, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and food service director. A \$25.00 per hour fee will be charged to their organization for a food service worker's services.
3. Approve the request of Ron Musto, General Manager of the Greater Pittston American Legion Program, to hold practices and games at the Atlas Field at the conclusion of the high school season. Games to be held at 5:30 p.m. on weekdays, 1:00 p.m. on weekends and some Saturdays at 10:00 a.m., pending approval of the building principal and athletic director. Proof of insurance will be provided.

4. Approve the request of Judy Buckman, Wyoming Area Boys Soccer Parents, to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for "Meet the Warrior Soccer Team" on Monday, August 26, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and food service director. A \$25.00 per hour fee may be charged if a custodian's services are needed.
5. Approve the revised support personnel substitute list for the 2012-2013 school year.
6. Approve the request of Juel Anne Klepadlo, Key Club Advisor, to use the Secondary Center gym, gym hallway and multipurpose room to hold a Volleyball Tournament to raise money for the Mark Dushok Memorial Key Club Scholarship on Saturday, May 11, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and athletic director.
7. Approve the request of Frank Parente, Teacher at Montgomery Avenue School, to use the girls' softball field for practices for their U14 Travel Softball Team (nine Wyoming Area girls are on the team) on Tuesdays, Thursdays and some weekends, after the Wyoming Area softball season is complete, pending approval by the building principal and athletic director. Proof of insurance will be provided.

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

On the Question: Mrs. Degnan questioned item #7 what travel softball team it is. Mr. Bolin asked if anyone knew. Mr. Bernardi responded he had the back up. There are nine Wyoming Area girls and two Pittston Area girls. The team is Northeast Explosion. Dr. Campenni stated in #1, when this was listed before, there was a fee, it was originally \$1,000 fee and we were saying that... I thought Mr. Pizano was looking into what would need to be done for the wear and tear of that field, maybe reseeding it or something. We tabled it before because we were waiting for that break down and now it's here without that, did something change? Mr. Bernardi stated this was explained in personnel. Ms. Holmes, the Board's Secretary, responded she spoke to the Mrs. Taggart of the Rams on the phone and they asked us to waive the fee. Mrs. Degnan stated as according to the policy that we have been discussing repeatedly. On her note pad Mrs. Degnan stated it's a class C. Mr. Bernardi responded that's correct. Mrs. Degnan read, Organizations of a service or semi-educational nature to school or children not associated with the school as scout groups, little league and mini football groups. When we were discussing the Kiwanis, Boy Scouts, there was no fee that should have actually been placed on the agenda. That is the actual policy. Other organization categories are Class E and Class F. The only things listed in the current policy is the football field, the auditorium...Dr. Casarella responded the cafeteria. Mrs. Degnan responded that the cafeteria wasn't listed. Mr. Bernardi responded the gym. Mrs. Degnan stated the gym, that's correct, there is only those three. Mrs. Degnan stated what they are going to look at now, with Mr. Dominick for use of facilities is come up with something that is more up to date. Dr. Casarella stated I recommend that we pass that we charge what is appropriate and I believe that our students in our activities, such as football, basketball, track, whatever, they use the stadium and that is part of what we do. Other groups that use the stadium should be charged the fee and I still believe that to be true. We used to charge the men that used to use the gym at Tenth Street so much per night and nobody seems to care about that part because we had people working at that time of day, but still the upkeep has to be done whether nets get ripped or grass gets torn up or whatever. I'm not asking for a lot of money but I think \$1,000 for the field is too high. We need to start looking at everybody paying their fair share if they're not directly involved in Wyoming Area activities sponsored by the school not outside groups. That's my opinion. Thank you.

Mrs. Degnan commented it states a \$25.00 fee may be charged. Are we charging it or aren't we? By policy we're supposed to be. Mr. Bernardi responded by policy, it's may. What we do is ask them to clean up after, but if they don't do it, we have to have a custodian do it. So, in the past the board has waived that so when we revise our policy we can have a stronger language or take it off completely, whatever the pleasure of the board is. Mrs. Degnan stated looking at it here it says all the organizations are to pay the custodians. Especially with the Rams, their weekly games. Mrs. Degnan stated she read the policy a couple of times and asked Attorney Ferentino to clarify it. Attorney Ferentino asked with regards to the custodian fee? Is that what you're asking me to clarify? Mrs. Degnan responded yes, as the policy reads. Attorney Ferentino stated my reading of the policy is that the district....even in the classes, can charge a fee even for the class groups. And the board obviously can waive that. I'm looking at the section with regards to the maintenance fee, I believe that can be waived like any other policy however..... Mrs. Degnan asked but it should be charged? It can be waived but per policy it's supposed to be charged. Mr. Bolin stated Mr. Dominick is having a meeting with the policy on Thursday, it has to be revisited, it has to be redone or recalculated whatever the case may be at that point it should be taken care of. My opinion for this year, I think we should waive the fee for the West Pittston Rams. They are our kids playing the game and they don't play every week at the home stadium, maybe every other week or every other two weeks. And they're parents, they are taxpayers of the area and I think Mr. Dominick and policy committee should revisit this and it should be waived for this year. If it comes back up then we revisit it for next year. Dr. Campenni stated if we have a pretty straight forward policy it says \$25.00 fee, if we're trying to set a standard, we have a policy we follow policy, we have a policy, it's just a matter of changing that to maybe to visit. Dr. Casarella stated if there is a change in fees that are more reasonable. A \$1,000 for use of the stadium is not a reasonable fee to me. Various voices said we are talking about the \$25 fee. Dr. Casarella stated that is a settlement committee. I don't think we should do this again. It's over. Mr. Bolin stated it should stay as written and if there is a charge for it then there's a charge, if not, then we will have to amend the motion. Dr. Casarella stated he would like to amend the motion on number one, if there is a new policy....Mr. Bolin stated it won't be for next year. Dr. Casarella responded next year is September, as far as I'm concerned, that's the new school year. It's the new fiscal year. Mrs. Degnan asked can I make a motion? Attorney Ferentino stated right now the policy states in the event a custodian is needed, that's why you have a may. If no custodian is needed there is no need to pay the fee. If a custodian is needed then the \$25 per hour will be assessed and approved by the board tonight. Mrs. Degnan asked, so if there is a custodian assigned to the game then they have to pay the fee? Is that what it means? Attorney Ferentino responded yes. Mrs. Degnan stated that's the understanding, that's good because that's what the policy is.

Ree Ree DeLuca, West Pittston, commented that regarding the Rams, if there is no Friday night football game, it's beautiful, if there is a Friday night football game and the Rams have a game on Sunday, it's gross. Mrs. DeLuca asked not to charge them for not cleaning up after Friday night's game. Mr. Yorina responded that would involve overtime on Saturday to clean again. Mr. Yorina stated normally they would let it go and clean up on Monday during regular working hours and let the stadium go for the weekend. If the intent is to clean up the stadium for a Rams game then we have to pull the overtime to come in. Mrs. DeLuca responded then don't blame the rams for the mess from Friday night. Mr. Yorina stated no but the overtime is directly related to the fact that the Rams have a game on Sunday. Mrs. DeLuca stated they are not a rich organization so try to give them at least two years. They have a lot of expenses and equipment. Dr. Casarella responded it's not that I want to charge them, it's the upkeep of the stadium that benefits you as well as us. It's a shared expense. It should be fair. I don't believe \$1,000 is a fair fee. That will be determined by the committee. Mrs. DeLuca asked for it to be fair and not to blast them. Mrs. DeLuca stated after the game on Sunday she lines them up to clean. Mrs. DeLuca also asked that when they do the lines in the back for practice if they can put numbers for the cheerleaders to practice. Dr. Casarella stated that should be coordinated with the athletic director and policy committee. Mrs. Farrell stated the Rams have an advantage of playing at the football field. Mrs. DeLuca responded they have asked the Panthers to be the home team to play them.

Roll Call: Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted yes, Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan voted no on item #5 and yes on the remaining report. Dr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Yorina, yes, Dr. Casarella, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

#### Bids Report

Mrs. Degnan stated she is not recommending this because she didn't meet with anyone for the bids that were put out. She will read it but not recommending it. Mr. Bolin responded, do what you want to do.

Approve to award the football bids for supplies and reconditioning advertised on the three dates listed in the following newspapers:

Citizen's Voice/Times Leader

Monday, January 21, 2013  
 Monday, January 28, 2013  
 Monday, February 4, 2013

(Successful bidders)

#### Football Supplies

BSN Sports	5,437.26
Locker Room Sporting Goods	4,817.10
Sportsman's	4,709.02
Anaconda Sports	1,921.50
Metuchen Center, Inc.	<u>260.00</u>

Total: 17,144.88

(Successful bidder)

#### Football Reconditioning

Anaconda Sports	4,603.75
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Motion by Dr. Casarella, second by Mrs. Farrell, to accept the bids report.

ON the question: Mr. Yorina asked Mrs. Degnan if she was the bid chairman. Mrs. Degnan responded she was appointed, yes. Mr. Yorina asked you never saw the bids at all? Mrs. Degnan responded she wasn't aware of anything related to the bids. Mr. Yorina asked so, all you see is what is in front of you, you didn't examine anything? Mrs. Degnan responded no, I didn't. Mr. Bolin asked Mr. Yorina to interject and explained the football team get a budget for equipment. They may need five new helmets, it was advertised in the paper what they need. It was advertised in the paper right? Ms. Holmes, Board Secretary, responded yes. In the paper it states what they need for that budget. Ms. Holmes responded football supplies/equipment and football reconditioning. Mr. Bolin explained whatever they need they put it out and it comes back to the secretary to the school district. The secretary opens the bids and the lowest bid is taken to fulfill that. That is how they come up with the \$17,144.88. Mr. Yorina asked if Mrs. Degnan was notified of the opening. Mr. Bolin responded that in past practice he believed in the last seven or eight years he didn't think it was done. It is put out by the coach, the coach gives it to the athletic director, the athletic director puts it out to bid in the paper and after the bids come in the secretary opens it up and sees who is the lowest bidder. Mr. Yorina asked Mrs. Degnan if she requested to be present at the bid opening? Mrs. Degnan responded she asked to be notified of all committee meetings. She hasn't received any notification. Mrs. Farrell asked what the purpose was of the bid committee.

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Mr. Yorina responded that is what he is trying to find out. Mr. Bolin responded there are bids, bids for capital projects. Mr. Yorina stated when there is a bid for a capital project he wants to be notified of it. He may not be able to attend but at least he is notified. He knew they spent \$9,000 on the Range, and was totally aware of it before the meeting started. He asked to be notified. And the roof, he may not be there to micromanage it but he wants to know what's going on. If he is asked a question by the public at least he can explain it. And he's not sitting here not having any answers at all. Mr. Yorina stated Mrs. Degnan is expressing her frustration of not be there for the bid opening. Dr. Casarella asked if Mr. Melone was present and Mr. Melone replied he spoke with Mr. Pizano to go over the award amount. His job is to see it is under the budget. Dr. Campenni asked if the bid committee can decide what this board committee does. Maybe this board defines a bid committee in one way and hasn't been defined before or has been defined differently. So, separate from that we should decide together what we need to do so that we agree. Mr. Bolin asked Ms. Holmes, Board Secretary, to notify Mrs. Degnan of any bids. She responded she would.

Roll Call: Mrs. Gober-Mangan voted no because she didn't have a detailed listing of what \$20,000 is going to be spent on. Mr. Dominick, yes, Mrs. Degnan, no, Dr. Campenni, no, Mr. Yorina, no, Dr. Casarella, yes, Mrs. Farrell, yes, Mr. Bolin, yes, Mr. Marianacci, yes.

Motion passed.

#### Police Report

#### **Wyoming Area Police Department Monthly report for March 2013 Total Calls for Service 29**

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COUNT</u>
0002 – Transport	2
0627 – Theft - \$50 to \$200 – from buildings	1
2400 – Disorderly Conduct	1
2450 – Harassment	2
2664 – All Other Offenses – All Other (Misc.)	2
3100 – Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
3400 – Mental Health	2
3500 – Suspicious Persons, Autos, Circumstances	1
3870 – Medical Emergency	1
3900 – Traffic & Parking Problems	2
4090 – Non-criminal – reports	6
JUVA – Juvenile Allegation Complaint Filed	2
TRUA – Compulsory School Attendance	6

#### **Open Discussion:**

Mr. Yorina commented on the active shooters drill held on Saturday that he thought this was going to be a pony show and not realistic and a waste of time. Boy, there were a lot of colorful adjectives used by the police officers there, he stated. This was an extremely real exercise. We really have to send a thank you to the Lackawanna Swat Team. There had to be thirty police officers there, doing drills simultaneously and every one of them volunteered their time to come to this thing. It didn't cost us anything, they brought their own equipment for simulation and they were extremely realistic, absolutely out of the box, proactive, nice job seeing this come to fruition. I hope we never have to use that knowledge. What I saw with the police forces there was back and forth collaboration with people talking to each other and trying to get on the same page with them. We're going to take it a step further and I'm telling you when the teachers go through this their eyeballs are going to be this big when they go through this exercise. They did a very nice job and I thank you (Officer Alberigi)for doing that. I feel safer as a parent with my two kids that this exercise took place. Mr. Yorina also informed the public that they are pursuing potentially getting Malcolm Baldridge quality certification for the school district. It is extremely rigorous and it is the premier quality award in the United States.

Basically what it is, this award brings private industrial ideas in for quality control and puts those quality control issues across the entire organization. Mr. Yorina stated there are only a few of these awards received by school districts, with one in Alaska. He stated it is rigorous and by the end of the day he didn't know if we would have the resources to go forward with this. We're going to be out of the box with the quality side of it and how we conduct business and maybe we can save some money.

Mrs. Gober-Mangan congratulated Sarah Pellegrini, Drama Advisor, for the great job she did with the spring musical "Seussical" and keeping the theatre alive at Wyoming Area. Mr. Yorina also stated he didn't have a chance to attend but his daughters were thrilled. The shows are getting better, better and better. Absolutely fantastic.

Mrs. Farrell commented she'd like to apologize to Cindy and all the teachers that have been so patient and it's not because we are not trying and they will continue to try and stated hopefully within the next couple of months they can reach an agreement. In spite of the differences between board, teachers, board members, we still collaborate, get along and have maintained one of the best schools in the state due to the parents, students and teachers.

Bob Borzell, Wyoming, stated that adding up a page on the agenda it comes to \$34,000 right there. Something he did on his own. Mr. Borzell asked under the education report if #3 and #4 were related. Dr. Casarella responded they are husband and wife, I believe. They were the applicants for the position. Mr. Borzell asked Mr. Yorina how old the machine was. Mr. Yorina responded it was purchased in 1998 and it was used when they bought it. It probably was five or six years old when they bought it. It was an effort to find a used machine. That machine is extremely difficult to get parts for. Mr. Borzell asked Mr. Yorina if that machine was in the shop in West Pittston a couple of times. Mr. Yorina asked, the Range? The Old Mill? Mr. Borzell responded no. The electrical shop. Mr. Yorina responded not to his knowledge. Mr. Borzell stated well, I knew that. Mr. Frank Pugliese, Buildings and Grounds, informed Mr. Borzell what was fixed. Mr. Yorina stated if we're looking at the right bill it was \$9,000. There's no description on the bill listing. Mr. Borzell asked what kind of guarantee warranty is there. Mr. Pugliese responded none.

Bob Trusavage of West Pittston, stated there was no budget when he brought it up at a previous meeting. Every department should have a budget. Every piece of equipment should be listed. Every machine should have a maintenance record. Dr. Casarella agreed it should be a matter of operations. It is better than spending \$40,000 or \$45,000 on a new piece if it can be repaired. Dr. Casarella stated he spoke to Mr. Pugliese about keeping a maintenance log and when they should be repaired and if the life expectancy should be over we should plan for the next piece of equipment. Dr. Casarella stated it's all budgetary and he wanted Mr. Trusavage to know that we did have one.

Cindy Borzell, West Pittston, asked Mr. Bolin that when he was made president he took it upon himself to give the board members a title, and made the decision on his own. Mrs. Borzell commented Mrs. Degnan was given the bids, she didn't see the bids. Who else on the board, besides Denise saw the bids? No one responded. She asked Mr. Bernardi who responded no, the coaches and athletic director did. Mrs. Borzell stated she should have been there, she is in charge of the bids, besides Denise. Ms. Holmes stated she only advertises the bids. Mrs. Borzell stated a secretary opens them and oversees the bids. Mr. Bolin stated they take the lowest bid. Mrs. Borzell commented but we don't know they took the lowest bid. Mrs. Borzell stated she understood but Mr. Bolin gave everyone their title. She should have seen the bids. Correct? Mr. Bolin responded yes. Mrs. Borzell stated she is shocked that the board voted yes. Four voted no. Mr. Bolin stated in the future Denise will let Mrs. Degnan know. Mr. Dominick stated anyone is invited to see the bids. Mrs. Borzell responded Mrs. Degnan didn't hear of it.

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Dr. Casarella explained the way we did the bids in the past, the bids go to the athletic department, the head of that department, the athletic director, oversees that and he knows...he's been instructed he has to give us the lowest bid because we knew his budget...last year it was 20, this year is it 18? Response was yes. He came under budget and did what he is supposed to do. Dr. Casarella stated he feels comfortable because he (Pizano) felt comfortable, that's his job. Mrs. Borzell responded she is in charge of the bids and that is her job. Dr. Casarella responded you are right but I'm just telling you why.

John Paul Bonin, Harding, agreed that the teachers have been working way to long without a contract. I agree you guys should have a fair contract that the taxpayers can afford. I think part of the problem is an oversight of spending when you look at fixing variable costs. And I think it comes down to, the board has heard me talk about financial metric system incorporations.

Mr. Bonin asked why has non-health insurance policies gone up \$143,000? Mrs. Farrell asked non-health? Mr. Bonin responded buildings, vehicles, workers comp, etc. Dr. Casarella responded the increase, one was caused over by the school when we had that explosion. There were other increases caused by that. Dr. Casarella asked if Mr. Melone recalled this from Mr. Joyce. Mr. Melone stated he didn't want to speak for Mr. Joyce but he believed he indicated it was based on experience ratings. We talked about various proposals but I don't want to speak for him. Attorney Ferentino stated he spoke with Mr. Joyce and stated John, I know you spoke to Mr. Joyce on this too. There's a metric stat where you look at the worker's comp claims, physical claims like the explosion, the flooding, leadership liability claims, anything like that. It's all set into an actuary formula. The district is assessed based on risks. When a risk assessment is done the rates rise if the utilization is high. The district experienced a high utilization in almost, I believe, three of the five workers comp type claims, without getting into specifics, and I did provide them to you. Mr. Bonin asked how many years going back like that. Attorney Ferentino responded he didn't know but he saw five years going back. Mr. Bonin stated there was only a \$20,000 increase in 09-10. Everything else is 10-13, 11-13. Attorney Ferentino responded that could have been when the policies were up. You would have to ask Mr. Joyce. The problem is there's not one particular incident or one particular case or one matter that skyrocketed the insurance when the incidents were plugged into that formula, those are the costs. Mr. Bonin asked Mr. Melone regarding the fixed variables, if they've been evaluated yet. Mr. Melone responded we get an annual quote. We'll be in the process of filling out an application for our 13-14 school year for annual quotes. And I'll be able to use that number to plug in numbers for the actual 13-14 budget. Attorney Ferentino commented, another example, tonight we discussed potentially securing another policy on the SJD water plant in the event of environmental cleanup. Now that proposal has increased from last year. The bottom line is the insurance companies also raise their rates based on payments they made across the board. Mr. Bonin asked Mr. Melone next year marks the tenth year of increased taxes. Mr. Melone started to responded and Mr. Bolin responded there's a lot of history there, John, we didn't do that on purpose. That goes back to 2005. Mr. Bonin responded, actually it goes back before that because this will be the tenth year. Mr. Bolin responded since I've been on the board from 2005. Do you think I want to raise taxes all the time. There's a lot of history there that transpired us to make that decision to raise the tax.

John LaNunziata, West Pittston, stated he was here tonight because I've witnessed a disturbing trend in a column written by a local reporter. Mr. LaNunziata read the column out loud: As much as I try to keep Wyoming Area Superintendent Ray Bernardi's name off these pages is not an easy task. The most recent episode is Bernardi's attorney sent a cease and desist letter to the nine members of the board. When I go down it says: The most recent episode Bernardi had was to write up District Police Chief, Chris Alberigi because ..... I don't want to go into the details. And it talks about Ray Bernardi's 180 day termination notice. I can only assume these matters were discussed in executive session. There is no other way this reporter could have been notified. Mr. LaNunziata read from the PSBA Understanding Basic Legislation, it says, it is highly unethical and sometimes illegal for

board members to divulge the contents of a closed session to outsiders whether to members of the press or others. Doing so can open up the district to lawsuits or civil penalties. Now I have a couple questions, how did this reporter find out about these things if it is not public knowledge? What is the motivation behind putting this stuff out to the public especially just before elections? I think a lot of this is personal and political. And Ray Bernardi and I have worked together twelve years in this Board. He is a professional, he's highly educated, and he's very good at what he does. So, I think this is a personal and political vendetta of somebody on the board. Can somebody on the board tell me who told a reporter these things? Attorney Ferentino stated, Mr. LaNunziata I first want to caution the Board not to discuss personnel issues in public like this. I can appreciate your comment. Mr. LaNunziata stated that's my problem, it was discussed in public. Then you should investigate as to who leaked this information. This is political, personal and vindictive for this man and damaging to his reputation and I don't like that because he is a friend of mine and a good educator. Attorney Ferentino stated, believe me Mr. LaNunziata that has been brought to my attention and it is going to be addressed. Mr. LaNunziata stated you should contact this reporter and ask him who said this. He tells everyone he's not a reporter, he's a blogger and doesn't have any expectation or confidentiality. Attorney Ferentino responded, I can't speak on behalf of the blogger. Mr. LaNunziata stated you should probably get a subpoena and find out. It's illegal and unethical and disparaging of this man because of politics and personal vendetta and I'm tired of it. Mr. LaNunziata stated he hasn't been here for four years and he doesn't want to come back. I'm tired and hungry but I am upset about this. Thank you. Dr. Campenni stated that as long as she has been here on the board she has been upset every single time there's been a leak from the board room since she's been on the board. Dr. Campenni stated she has been on there herself and stated she supports that idea.

Mike Thomas, Exeter, a representative on behalf of the tennis parents, stated the tennis courts are in disrepair and they took it upon themselves to organize a group parents to raise funds for the tennis courts. He stated he will follow up with the board with any activity that they do. Mr. Thomas informed the board they are looking to solicit grant applications because they're looking for a pretty sophisticated fix. He appreciated the board for diligently repairing the courts up to this point, and on behalf of the public, they appreciated everything done and he stated they are going to do their part as parents. Mrs. Gober-Mangan responded the \$12-15,000 that lasted for maybe a year and a half. What would be the actual cost to do the right thing with the tennis courts? Mr. Thomas responded that with the exception of lighting you're looking at \$50-75,000, which is a 20-25 year court. Mr. Thomas stated he was given Jim Devers name. He has done other school districts and he has known Mr. Devers a long time. Mr. Pugliese also contacted him to get the survey done. Mr. Thomas also contacted a good friend of his and had a great discussion. Not to step on any feet, Mr. Thomas asked if there were a master plan. Mr. Thomas stated with the board's approval he would like to get a copy of the report from Mr. Pugliese so they can look at other bids.

Dr. Casarella stated we usually use our architect to do all this, but you went outside, so I don't know if that will be a conflict for us. We would probably use our architect and the services of use our people with whatever has to be done to find out what the actual cost will be. The thing here is when everyone looks at the budget or close to that time when we have to, we haven't gotten to a point yet, that I can see anyway. I don't know, Mr. Melone might have a different view, my view is this, we should put money aside, a little at a time, to designate what repairs need to be done and when we have that money we do them, and instead of going out and taking out another loan. I hate to do that, but at some point we have to do that or start charging for the use of whatever it is to make sure it is kept up. We have to tighten our belts which we're trying to do to the dismay of others. Everybody wants what they need right now and we can't afford it right now. I don't know when we're going to get to that project and it will be up to the board, not myself, when they'll be able to do that project. We're looking at a \$100,000 for the entrance and other things that involve children's safety.

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Dr. Casarella stated there may be even fewer coaches this year. We don't know but there's a possibility. WE might need more volunteers. We cut what we can cut without impacting the students. That's important. That's my opinion. Thank you.

Tony Callaio, West Pittston, stated he has been in contact with the United States Tennis Association (USTA). They don't normally deal with high schools, public schools and have made an exception to the rule. Mr. Callaio stated when you send a letter to the USTA asking for help for tennis courts, you usually get a form letter. He e-mailed them Tuesday night and got a phone call Wednesday, which is highly unusual. Mr. Callaio discussed with a rep from the USTA that the district was in financial distress and our area was in a devastating flood. He said we are in the hole. The rep told him they just finished six courts in Berks County which included total destruction and digging up the asphalt, fencing, new lighting and apparently the school district put in some money and the parents association. The majority was done by the USTA. Mr. Callaio stated the rep told him they would work with him very closely and they said they don't want to see it fail. With some projects they will offer up to \$50,000.00 up to 20% of the total cost. The district will have to file for certain criteria, to get dimensions, take pictures of the court and fill out forms, etc. Dr. Casarella asked Mr. Callaio if he did this because of his district responsibilities. Mr. Callaio responded no. Dr. Casarella stated he would like Mr. Callaio to meet with Mr. Bernardi. You can't do it in isolation. Mr. Callaio stated he wasn't able to see him until today and another thing is that the USTA bring in their own architects to do their own surveying and once they come up with a recommendation, once they grant us money, they give us the money and walk away. The district then does the rest of the job. If we can get  $\frac{3}{4}$  of this project paid for by the USTA, we're ahead of the game. Mr. Callaio stated he will keep everyone informed. Dr. Casarella stated "Good Job Tony."

Ree Ree DeLuca, West Pittston, informed the tennis team they are more than welcomed to join in with the use of the weight room. Regarding the blog, Mrs. DeLuca stated that is very entertaining but she did make a comment on there regarding public communications because if we don't know what you are doing (the board) and what the teachers are saying there is no way to know what is going on. We do need to get more information out there because we have no knowledge. I specifically asked what are we allowed to know and my response came back with nothing, we're not allowed to know nothing but then something was put in the paper and then on the web site so, if you're going to have rules let's follow them. Dr. Casarella stated you know everything if you saw either one of those articles. Mrs. DeLuca asked then why was she told she wasn't allowed to know. Attorney Ferentino responded there is certain protocol for something to be made public and when it can be made public. When it can be made public the information was made public to you or anyone who chose to look at it. There are times when personnel matters cannot be discussed publicly, including negotiations and that is to protect the board and process and that is just the way it is. Mrs. DeLuca asked, so, when those people made it public they had the right to do it. Attorney Ferentino responded yes. That time, yes. Mrs. DeLuca asked Attorney Ferentino if she could poll the board as to how they are going to vote regarding Mr. Bernardi's contract. Attorney Ferentino responded no. Mrs. DeLuca asked if there is ever a time she could ask that. Attorney Ferentino responded no. Mrs. DeLuca asked then we'll know after they vote? Attorney Ferentino responded yes. Mrs. DeLuca asked when they will vote on his contract. Attorney Ferentino responded he didn't know at this point.

Melissa Dolman, Secondary Teacher, stated at the last meeting some board members asked for the cost saving ideas from the teachers, so, she collaborated with the teachers on ways to reduce costs in the district. First, mail coming from the guidance department, numerous transcripts that cost thousands of dollars in paper, ink and postage. There is a statewide initiative called PEASTARS in which all transcripts could be sent electronically. The scholarship application process is a large undertaking for our district. Some of the applications are 60 pages in length and she had to make forty two copies. Another think are cell phones are paid and provided to all administrators and almost all maintenance staff. In the private sector employees are required to purchase and maintain their cell phones and plans and submit for reimbursement for business related calls.

The Secondary Center sends progress reports home four times a year. Often, the reports are blank because teachers may not have any comments to make on that particular student. It would be more cost efficient to have the reports online and only send copies if requested by a parent. Another thing that came up was it may be more cost effective to house the IU's extended school year program at the Secondary Center rather than JFK. If we keep the Secondary Center up and running anyway, why not house it here and save on electricity at our elementary buildings. We're keeping the temperature in the pool at approximately 73 degrees, the swim season is only four months long so we're wasting heat and electricity and the last one is regulating the heat in the building. At the elementary schools and sometimes at the Secondary Center in the winter time windows are being opened because they can't control the heat, sometimes getting up to 80 degrees in the classrooms. A lot of the heat is going out the window. Mrs. Doman stated they were asked to collaborate and these are some of the things the teachers came up with. Dr. Campenni asked Mrs. Dolman to send it to the board secretary so she can send it to all the board.

Bob Trusavage, West Pittston, stated at the last meeting he believes Dr. Campenni brought this up. Teachers should help to come up with cost saving measures. Every teacher and employee should be given a sheet and they must fill it out.

John Marianacci, Board Member, stated last night he attended a meeting, along with Mary Louise, and a rep from Lake Lehman was there and he said they were replacing their artificial turf and are asking other schools districts if they want it free to use. The athletic department should look into it.

Mr. Bolin informed everyone there will be a combined meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium and the board did meet for executive session for a half hour and forty minutes prior to the meeting.

Dr. Campenni informed everyone the meeting is combined because of election day.

Mr. Bolin stated if there was anyone in the room he wished them a happy secretaries administrative day.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Farrell.

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Mr. John Bolin, President

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Mr. John Marianacci, Secretary