

10149
Wyoming Area School District
Combined Work Session/Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education
20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, January 25, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

The combined work session/regular meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education was held this evening at the Secondary Center auditorium, 20 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, with approximately fifty people in attendance. A non-public personnel meeting preceded the regular meeting. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Nick DeAngelo, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Mr. David Alberigi – Due to death in the family.

Also in attendance were: Raymond J. Bernardi, Superintendent, Tom Melone, Business Consultant, Attorney Raymond A. Hassey, Vito Quaglia, Secondary Building Principal, Robert Kaluzavich, Elementary Principal of Montgomery Ave./SJD, Angelo Falzone, Attendance/Transportation, Deb Popson, Special Education Supervisor, Janet Boyer, Foodservice Manager, Jason Jones, Network Engineer, Dave Amico, Supervisor of Building and Grounds, Frank Parra, Athletic Director, Jillian Balberchak and Morgan Bilbow, Student Representatives.

Communications Report

Mr. Bernardi read the Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit submitting their regular meeting minutes for November 24, 2010.
2. Shea Riley, Music Teacher, requesting permission to attend the 2011 Music Educator's National Conference (MENC) All Eastern Conference in Baltimore, MD.
3. Lisa Barrett, FBLA Advisor, requesting permission to attend the Pennsylvania Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference in Hershey.
4. John Amico, Germania Hose Company Scuba Team, requesting permission to use the pool for scuba training.
5. Bill Petrucci of the Wyoming/West Wyoming Little League, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center gym for Little League try-outs.
6. Randy Spencer, Football Coach, requesting permission to attend the NIKE Coach of the Year Clinic, along with three assistant coaches in Atlantic City, NJ.
7. Jennifer Bonita, Montgomery Avenue PTO, requesting permission to use the football stadium for their annual FunDay.
8. Jennifer Hines, Math Teacher, requesting permission to extend her child rearing leave.

9. Robert Schlesinger, Scranton Public Theatre, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center auditorium for a production of "Snow White".
10. Dana Kuhns, Northeastern Pennsylvania Council Boy Scouts of America, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center gym for "District Derby Day".
11. Barbara Anzalone, Northeast Pennsylvania Academy of Dancing, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center auditorium for a dance recital.
12. Shea Riley, Music Teacher, requesting permission to attend the PMEA District 9 Band at Montrose High School, along with nine students.
13. Joseph Herbert, Secretary of the Wyoming/West Wyoming Memorial Day Parade Committee, inviting the school board, Wyoming Area Marching Band, Police vehicle and any other Wyoming Area group to participate in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30, 2011 at 9:15 a.m. starting at Dailey Memorial Park.
14. Coach Randy Spencer requesting permission to recognize Julian Campenni by displaying his athletic portrait among other outstanding athletes at our school.
15. Officer Alberigi notifying the Superintendent the district received crosswalk signs from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.
16. Janet Boyer, Foodservice Manager, requesting permission to attend a Child Nutrition Directors Seminar in State College.
17. Correspondence from Joe Valenti to the School Board regarding the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Summary of Applications Received

English – 2

Elementary – 1

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bernardi read his Superintendent's Report.

1. *Congratulations to the 7th and 8th grade **students of the month** for December:*

<i>Ryan Burton</i>	<i>Stephanie Chihorek</i>
<i>Laura Heinzlmeir</i>	<i>Zachary Lagrue</i>
<i>Megan Mattioli</i>	<i>Edward Neil</i>
<i>Krystina Stanczyk</i>	<i>Anna Thomas</i>
<i>Madeline Ambruso</i>	<i>Joseph Dacri</i>
<i>Nicholas Hromek</i>	<i>Amber Kuharchik</i>
<i>Maria Marcum</i>	<i>Jude Polit-Moran</i>
<i>Alexis Romanczuk</i>	<i>Peter Urban</i>

2. **Scholarship Information Night** was held on January 13th with over 100 parents and students in attendance. Parents were provided with information as to how to obtain various scholarships awarded to the Wyoming Area School District. Thanks to the Guidance Department, Administrators and Staff along with Student Council members for their help in making this event a success.
3. The **Penn State Cooperative Extension** will be conducting a Bullying Program for students in grades 3 through 5 on February 4, 2011 at the Montgomery Avenue and Sarah J. Dymond on January 28, 2011. Ms. Romanchick, Guidance Counselor, arranged this valuable program.
4. Congratulations to **Key Club** members and Advisor, Christine Rutledge, for the success of their December 21st Blood Drive, which exceeded their goal of 50 units donated, including a record number of first time donors. Other **Key Club** events included the Angel Tree Program, sponsored by the Salvation Army, where Key Club students adopted 75 needy children from our area and provided them with toys and clothing. I would like to thank all the faculty, staff and students who participated in the program.
5. On January 15, 2011, our District hosted the first ever **History Bowl** in the State of Pennsylvania. Twelve teams from five schools competed at the High School for the opportunity to attend National History Bowl.

Wyoming Area swept the awards:

Team C: Nate Miller, Captain, Nate Bague, James Scrobola and Jonathan Scrobola were quarter finalists and qualified for Nationals.

Team B consisting of Greg Cajka, Captain, Davide Fanelli, Alecia Panuski and Gared Zaboski were semi-finalists and qualified for Nationals.

Team A consisting of Samantha Scott, Captain, Mike DeAngelo, Debbie Gross and Eric Werbin were the tournament champions and qualified for Nationals.

Greg Cajka won the JV History Bee

Mike DeAngelo won the High School History Bee and was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

The team will compete in Washington D.C. on April 16th and 17th in the National Tournament.

Congratulations to the students and Mrs. Bullions, Mr. Hizynski, Ms. Day and Ms. Palmer, Academic Teams Coach.

At this time, Ms. Palmer reported that the National History Competition was established by Dave Madden, a former champion on Jeopardy. The students did a fabulous job and qualified for the National Competition in Washington, D.C. on April 16th and 17th. Ms. Palmer thanked the janitors the newspapers and everyone who helped them. Mr. Bernardi asked the students to stand for recognition.

6. **January in Pennsylvania** is "**SCHOOL DIRECTOR RECOGNITION MONTH**". I would like to recognize our **Board of Education**, for their many years of dedicated service. The Board of Education demonstrates a unique commitment to our community's future – our children. At this time, on behalf of the Wyoming Area Staff and Community, I would like to salute the dedicated men and women seated here this evening and all those who have served over the years. I applaud them for their vision and commitment to the quality education that we enjoy at the Wyoming Area School District.

7. **Wyoming Area ranks best in county! I am happy to report in a Study conducted by the *Center for American Progress* of 9,000 school districts Nationwide, Wyoming Area was ranked the highest of the 11 county school districts.**

In the report published in the Times Leader on Monday, January 24th, Education Reporter, Mark Guydish, stated that the residents of Wyoming Area are getting the “biggest bang for their dollars education-wise among Luzerne County Schools”. The report measured student achievement in relation to money spent. State math and reading tests in Grades 4, 8 and 11, mandated by No Child Left Behind, were the academic measures that were utilized. The Study showed that Wyoming Area’s total spending per pupil was the 3rd lowest in the county; however, was the highest ranked academically. Congratulations to our faculty, students, parents and our community at large. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the Board of Education and the Administration for this significant achievement, by providing Wyoming Area students with a quality education at a low per pupil cost.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mrs. Valenti, second by Mr. Bolin to accept the minutes of regular meeting of December 21, 2010. Dr. Casarella stated in the minutes where it stated (he) made a comment regarding the banks. Mr. Dominick made the comment. Dr. Casarella asked for it to be corrected. All remaining board members voted aye. Motion passed.

Student Representative’s Report

Morgan Bilbow read her report: Currently, the junior class is holding a fundraiser for their class trip to Ellis Island in May. Student Council will also be holding a cookie dough fundraiser in the near future. FBLA recently attended the Regional Conference at Luzerne County Community College and students that qualified advanced to the State Competition. Wyoming Area recently held a History Bowl, with our school being very successful. Congratulations to all who attended.

Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Bolin read the Treasurer’s Report.

<u>Bank</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Checking Account</u>
First National Community Bank	General Fund	7,419,290.08
Wachovia Bank	General Fund	35,116.87
PNC Bank	Payroll Account	.00
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	4,164.00
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	228,493.19
Landmark Bank	Student Activities Account	7,528.41

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First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	92,380.79
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	14,570.05
Landmark Bank	Athletic Fund Account	1,927.01
PNC Bank	Energy Performance Proceeds Fund	30,661.46
PNC Bank	Construction Fund Acct.	119,488.32
PNC Bank	Bank Investment Acct.	1,085,419.69

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

Finance Report

Mr. Bernardi read the Finance Report.

At this time, Mr. Melone gave a presentation on the preliminary budget report.

On the Question: Mr. Bolin made a suggestion within the next couple weeks or next month, with the guidance of Mr. Melone, form a public finance committee to discuss it with the public to decide where expenditures should go and to help the board make decisions to go forward. Dr. Campenni stated before we ask the public the board should get specific input from the administration. Dr. Campenni also stated when the last budget was voted upon, she had asked to form a budget committee. Dr. Campenni stated when she asked questions about what was being done in the last month to reduce cost, there was never an answer. When there were answers the board was referred to Mr. Melone. "It is not Mr. Melone's job to figure these things out." Dr. Campenni also stated that before we hear the public's ideas she would like a weekly report from the administration of what they think, what exactly do we need to do and not to be asking Mr. Melone. Dr. Campenni would like a weekly report e-mailed to the board so she can discuss it and think about it and have it in front of her and not make decisions in a one hour meeting.

Dr. Campenni made a motion: "That we get a weekly report from an administrative committee regarding suggestions and ongoing discussions among that committee regarding revenue generating and expenditure decreasing ideas." Second by Casarella.

Dr. Campenni: "So, I make a motion the administration make their own committee."

Dr. Campenni: "Motion for the administrators to work as a committee regarding revenue generating questions and would like the board reported to on a weekly basis."

Dr. Campenni felt this should come from administrators. "What does the public know about this?" Mr. Bolin responded that is why he wanted to form a committee. Mr. Bolin stated he didn't want this to be political. Dr. Campenni asked "What's political about it?" Mr. Bolin responded he wanted public input.

Mr. Dominick responded he liked the idea but asked if a weekly report from the administrators was too much to ask for. Mr. Dominick suggested a bi-weekly report or a monthly report.

Mrs. Valenti asked if the motion was for a weekly report.

Dr. Campenni stated her motion was for "The administration to work as a committee and come up with revenue generating suggestions, it's not going to happen overnight." "I would like the board reported to on a weekly basis." "So, this week here's what we did, this is where we're at." "When we come to our monthly meeting it's not the first time I'm seeing this, I see what's happening and I see what's going on."

Mr. Bernardi stated that at this time, last year, he went over cost cutting measures. "Dr. Campenni had ways to save money, we did go over that and I did do a report on that." "In fact, at the budget meetings I made recommendations for cuts in transportation and personnel." "Although I can only make recommendations, the board has to decide the budget cuts." "I had made recommendations." "You are misleading the public." "I did look at that sheet that you gave and it was a very good sheet." "Many of the things on that sheet didn't pertain to us because a lot of it was CDA issues." Mr. Bernardi stated they did lock in a gas rate with UGI. Mr. Bernardi informed Dr. Campenni that at the last budget meeting he did have recommendations such as transportation and realignment of staff. "We did act upon your suggestion, we did hear the administrators opinion, we did come up with suggestions." "If you listened to Mr. Melone's presentation, it's money authorized to spend but doesn't necessarily mean we spent it." "Our administration is part of that." "We don't order and spend every nickel in the budget." "We watch the budget and every expenditure." "That's the point that has to be made." Dr. Campenni stated that we are still in the hole. Mr. Bernardi responded, "Absolutely." Mr. Bernardi stated he had a newspaper article from 2005 and some of the things in the article were things that Mr. Bernardi asked the board to cut and they were not acted upon. "So, to say I haven't responded to you and haven't looked at the budget is misleading and not factual." "We do look at the budget and we do not order or spend money foolishly." Mr. Bernardi also report as per his Superintendent's Report Wyoming Area's total spending per pupil was the third lowest in the county which is due to administration. Mr. Bernardi pointed out that Dr. Casarella was shaking his head. Mr. Bernardi stated he wanted to cut transportation to save money and Dr. Casarella said no. Mr. Bernardi: "You can keep shaking your head, that's ok." "One of the things we done to save money is paperless electronic board meetings." "There are many things we can come up with." Although Mr. Bernardi said a weekly report would be a lot of paperwork, he said we can come back again with recommendations on the budget. Dr. Campenni stated, "I just watched CNN and 80% of school districts in the country are not filling all their retirement positions." Mr. Bernardi responded, "That is budget cutting, we can't cut staff now in January." Dr. Campenni responded, "I'm not talking about that now." "At that time, when you said I was doing this, I made a suggestion and yes, you did the very next day or the day after, you said I listened to transportation, I listened to staff reorganization, and then you say here's what I came up with and the board didn't approve that." "You can't talk about this in May or June." Mr. Bernardi responded, "I agree." "We'll continue to watch the budget." Dr. Campenni responded, "I want to know that, I need documentation, I want it in my hand." "I don't think that is too much to ask." Mr. Bernardi stated "I agree." "If you want me to give you a report of every purchase orders I denied, or handed down, or any vendor, I can certainly do that."

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Dr. Casarella stated regarding the transportation drivers that are paid \$14,000.00 per person, Dr. Casarella didn't want the drivers out of a job two days before school started. Dr. Casarella stated, "That was something I didn't want to do personally." "He's right, I did vote for it in retaining those people." "We have other issues the district needs to look into." "Over usage of the copy machines that cost us over \$230,000.00, that was not squashed." Dr. Casarella stated, "That's why we want weekly reports." "As a board and everybody seated here as an elected official, we have a responsibility not to just ourselves, but we have a responsibility to every person that voted for us and those who didn't vote for us, just as long as we do the right thing for the district." "And looking at things that need to be transparent, we use that word a lot, I think we have to continue doing that." Dr. Casarella stated that the article that Mr. Bernardi had, said this is not an accurate number because it goes back three years. Dr. Casarella also stated that we have a budget, after talking with Mr. Melone, a few days ago, it was a 1.9 million dollar deficit and these are facts the public needs to know. "They need to know 1.9 can easily be 50 mills if you want to put it in that category." "Twenty five mills for every one million dollars that to me is something management and this board needs to stay on top of." "The reason for voting for Dr. Campenni's motion was that we are aware, it's not Mr. Bernardi's or the administrators responsibility, it is the people who are elected to represent the people in the community." Dr. Casarella, "I need that information just like I need the information of the cost of reading and writing in every building, which I never received." "And all of the other things should be in a portfolio for every board member so we can make good judgments regarding this budget, and that to me is the most important thing." Mrs. Valenti stated that the business office is open every day and Dr. Casarella has the opportunity to look at all the files. Mrs. Valenti also stated that when she was secretary she looked at all the purchase orders and would not sign them unless she knew where it was going and knew everything being spent. "You have the same opportunity to look at the records." Dr. Casarella responded, "Why is everyone in this district afraid....put it in writing, that's what I want to see." Mrs. Valenti responded, "The records are in writing." "You can go in anytime and any secretary will pull out anything you want to look at." Mr. Bernardi reported to Dr. Casarella that he gave Dr. Casarella the transportation savings back in May not two days before school. This was May of 2010 and stated Dr. Casarella failed to act on it. Also we had \$50,000.00 as an extra expenditure to monitor the copy machines. Mr. Bernardi stated we decided not to use that money and this year we are manually monitoring it so we don't have the over run. Mr. Bernardi stated, "We provide the best education at the lowest cost for pupil." "We are ranked 47th top school district." Dr. Campenni asked Mr. Melone if the 11.2 million would that be the one to be modified. Mr. Melone responded yes, that would be modified.

Mr. Bob Trusavage commented that if you didn't want to do it once a week you can do it five weeks. Mr. Trusavage asked how many employees we have in the district. Mr. Bernardi responded, "Three Hundred."

Gerald Stofko stated as far as saving money he asked the board how many members went to Hershey. How many people signed up and actually went to Hershey. Board members raised their hands. Mr. Stofko stated Dr. Casarella signed up but didn't attend and stated the district should send him a bill for \$262.75. "That's a start." Dr. Casarella responded, "I'd like to know how you know that?" Mr. Stofko, "You wanted to start some place." "I think you should pay \$262.75." "That's a start." "You were arguing about a furnace three months ago over a 100 dollar bill." Attorney Hassey interrupted Mr. Stofko stating his comments didn't have anything to do with the motion on the floor.

Mr. Harry Skene of West Pittston, stated that Dr. Campenni has good ideas and according to the PSBA, the school board, according to their rules, are supposed to be able to ask administration for information. If the school board believes it can benefit by having that information they should be able to ask without a motion.

Mr. Skene stated Mr. Bolin’s idea was a very good one as long as the school board knows in advance of what’s going on. “We can’t push it off to the public, the responsibility of coming up with budget cuts.” “It’s not the public’s responsibility.” “You’re going to have a lot of different information and it’s eventually going to fall back on the board to make the final determination.”

An audience member stated it is important of what’s being spent. Asked about being able to see the agenda before the board meeting, Mr. DeAngelo stated that the agenda will be on the web site on Monday before the meeting for the public. Mr. Bernardi stated we can have the bill listing also on the web site with Attorney Hassey’s review. Only the expenditures are listed on it. The powerpoint presentation of the budget can also be placed on the web. Mr. Bernardi stated nothing gets spent without Mr. Melone the Board and his approval.

Harry Skene stated I know the school district is paying bills but that doesn’t say how we’re going to cut the expenses. Mr. Skene stated he would like to see the public’s input before we make a decision of what to do.

Mrs. Valenti stated that when she looks at the bill listing, she asks questions regarding what is being spent. Mr. DeAngelo stated this information is available Monday through Friday and weekends at the school district for any board member to see. When Mrs. Degan came up to the podium, Mr. DeAngelo asked her three times if her question pertained to the motion on the floor. Mrs. Mary Lou Degan commented that before you can approve the recommendations you’re supposed to be receiving information from Mr. Bernardi and the administration staff, that’s the way the caucus is supposed to go. Mr. Bernardi responded that we talked about doing some renovations, mechanical work, we talk to the board, we talk to the chairperson of facilities, running it by custodians, that’s how it works. We don’t make expenses without the board knowing. Mrs. Degan responded that Mr. Bernardi is the CEO and he should be giving the board information and the board needs to come up with a plan and this needs to be done weekly. Dr. Campenni stated that we need creativity and creative solutions and consolidated syncisized reports that keeps her informed as a board member not micro management. Dr. Campenni stated John Bolin had a good idea. Once the board sees it than we can ask the public.

Mr. DeAngelo stated: “There’s a motion on the floor by Dr. Campenni and that is for weekly and we have an amendment of her motion by Mr. Dominick for a bi-weekly.”

Roll Call: All board members present voted yes. The motion passed.

Mr. DeAngelo asked Dr. Campenni if she was withdrawing her motion. Dr. Campenni would withdraw since they had an unanimous agreement.

Finance Report

Mr. Bernardi read the Finance Report.

- 1. Received the following checks:

<u>Don Wilkinson Agency (Dec.)</u>	
Earned Income Tax	169,059.27
Local State Tax	2,215.67
Per Capita Tax	1,338.00
Delinquent Per Capita Tax	<u>33.00</u>
Total:	172,645.94

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Local Realty Transfer Tax

James Red O'Brien 5,662.77
Luzerne County

Dennis Montross 318.50
Wyoming County Total: 5,980.27

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The Luzerne Foundation

Lt. Jeffrey DePrimo Fund Grant 500.00

2010 Real Estate Taxes

George Miller 134,887.03
West Pittston Borough 8,327.28
Total: 143,214.31

Paul Konopka 54,431.90
Wyoming Borough

Tom Polacheck 157,835.47
Exeter Borough
2009 Supplemental 3,594.45
Total: 161,429.92

Robert Connors 129,248.62
West Wyoming Borough

Wayman Smith 165,071.56
Exeter Township, Luzerne County

Carol Bardzell 55,019.93
Exeter Township, Wyoming County 21,820.35
Total: 76,840.28

State & Federal Subsidy Payments

Social Security 48,562.00
Retirement 92,910.52
Title I – Improving Basic Programs 31,141.73
ARRA – Title I Part A 15,808.86
Title II – Improving Teacher Quality 8,572.27
Basic Education Funding 967,812.58
School District Transportation 497,354.50
Non Public Transportation 33,880.00
Reimbursement of Charter Schools 8,765.00
Total: 1,704,807.46

Miscellaneous

District Court 11-2-01 72.67
18.50
Total: 91.17

2. Approve the January payment of \$73,400.39 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit in accordance with the terms of the approved contract agreement for programs and services for the 2010-2011 school year.

3. Approve the January payment of \$47,128.00 to the West Side Career and Technology Center for the 2010-2011 school year.
4. Approve to authorize the Secretary of the Board to advertise the following bids for the 2011-2012 school year: General Supplies, Band Supplies/Equipment, Music Supplies, Marching Band, Art Supplies, Physical Education, Athletic Medical, Nursing, Janitorial Supplies, Science Supplies, Electrical/Maintenance Supplies, Award Jackets, Fuel Oil.
5. Approve retirement incentive payments for the following employee who have accepted an early retirement incentive as per contract:

Cathy Hague		
Retirement Incentive		\$4,155.80 (in 1 installment)
Unused Sick/Personal Days 141 days x \$30.00		4,230.00
Unused/Earned Vacation Days 29 days x \$159.84		<u>4,635.36</u>
		Total: 13,021.16

6. Approve the following property tax refund for the year 2010 as requested by Mr. Wayman Smith, Sr., Tax Collector, Exeter Township, Luzerne County. The refund reflects an abatement for the year 2010 as directed by the Luzerne County Courthouse Assessor's Office subsequent to the district receiving property tax payment from the affected property owner:

PIN#17-B10-00A-47C-000 73.41

7. Approve the February 15, 2011 Note payment to PNC Bank in the amount of \$102,280.22 associated with the Energy Performance Contract of the Wyoming Area School District.
8. Approve revised proposal for bid documents from Quad Three Group for Packaged Rooftop HVAC Units Repair Work for RTU-6 and RTU-7.
9. Approve the request of Janet Boyer to attend a Child Nutrition Directors Seminar on Sunday, April 3rd and Monday April 4, 2011 in State College, PA. Approximate cost is \$244.00 plus mileage.

10. Approve the General Ledger Sheet:

Bill Listing: 1-24-11	486,875.19	
Prepays: 12-23-10	<u>24,763.39</u>	511,638.58
Cafeteria Account:	88,633.67	
Athletic Fund Account:	<u>6,349.00</u>	<u>94,982.67</u>
		Total: 606,621.25

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

On the Question: Dr. Campenni questioned item #7. Mr. Melone responded that it was the semi annual payment due for the energy performance loan.

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Bob Truscavage asked the Board what are we paying Quad 3 to do? Mr. Bernardi responded they are an architectural firm and they write the specifications. Mr. Truscavage commented even though we have qualified people here, we're paying twice the people to do these jobs.

Mrs. Degnan questioned the money spent for seminars and conferences the staff and administrators attend. Mr. Bernardi responded that there are allocated funds for these programs. Mr. DeAngelo stated that in activities they used to give \$800.00 which is a lot, we don't do that no more. The parents association take care of their own transportation.

Mrs. Degnan responded that is not what she is talking about. Mrs. Degnan stated if Mr. Bernardi is at the helm he should take a look at this. We all need to be aware. The taxpayers cannot trust our government or the school districts.

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

Education Report

Mr. Bernardi read the Education Report.

1. Reporting as per Federal Regulations Requirements that the District's Federal Programs, (Title I, Title II, and Drugs and Alcohol) have been planned for the 2010-2011 school year. Anyone desiring information regarding these programs, contact Janet Serino, District Principal of Curriculum.
2. Approved the revised substitute teacher list for the 2010-2011 school year.
3. Approve the request of Jennifer Hines to extend her child rearing leave for the 2011-2012 school year.
4. Approve the Program of Studies additions for the 2011-2012 school year:
 - Ceramics 2
 - Contemporary Music
 - Guitar Ensemble
5. Approve the request of Lisa Barrett, FBLA Advisor, to attend the Pennsylvania Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference, along with ten students and two advisors in Hershey from Monday, April 4th to Wednesday, April 6, 2011. Total Registration and housing is \$3,194.00. Use of the school van is also requested.
6. Approve expulsion of student #01-2011 for one year for violation of district policy sections 218.1 and 227 and 24 P.S. 13-1317.2.
7. Approve a one year sabbatical leave for Rebecca Jones retroactive to December 16, 2010.
8. Approve the revised school calendar for the 2010-2011 school year:

Snow Day

Friday, January 7, 2011
 Wednesday, January 12, 2011
 Tuesday, January 18, 2011
 Friday, January 21, 2011

Snow Make-up Day

Monday, March 14, 2011
 Tuesday, April 26, 2011
 Wednesday, June 8, 2011
 Thursday, June 9, 2011

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

On the Question: Mrs. Valenti asked Mr. Bernardi if item #4 was going to cost us any money. Mr. Bernardi responded it would not. Dr. Campenni asked Mr. Bernardi how do we decide when it's a snow day. Mr. Bernardi responded that he speaks with Mr. Falzone and other superintendents of other school districts. Mr. Bernardi stated he also goes out on the road himself. Mr. Falzone responded he is up at 5:00 a.m., speaks with Mr. Pace, Mike Morreale, PennDot, he drives on the roads in Harding and then reports back to Mr. Bernardi.

Mr. Bernardi stated Mr. Falzone will say to him, there is no way you're putting a bus on the roads today. Mr. Falzone also said if all the districts are closed and were open and something happens it's going to be on Mr. Bernardi. Mr. Bernardi also stated if there are no bus accidents then it was the right call.

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

Activities Report

Mr. Bernardi read the Activities Report.

1. Approve the request of Shea Riley, Music Teacher, to attend the 2011 Music Educator's National Conference (MENC) All Eastern Conference in Baltimore, MD., with one student from Thursday, March 31 to Sunday, April 3, 2011. Total Registration is \$646.00 and hotel is \$412.35.
2. Approve the request of Randy Spencer, Football Coach, to attend the NIKE Coach of the Year Clinic, along with three assistant coaches, Jason Speece, Joe Pizano and Mike Fanti, in Atlantic City, NJ., from Thursday, February 10th to Saturday, February 12, 2011.
3. Approve the appointment of the following head spring coaches for the 2011 spring season at salaries per the collective bargaining agreement:

Chick Andrewsavage	Baseball	3,965.00
Ted Kross	Softball	3,965.00
Justin Desanto	Boys Tennis	1,340.00
Joe Pizano	Track/Field	3,965.00
Noah Pickett	Boys Volleyball	1,815.00
Michael Pryor	Girls Soccer	3,965.00

4. Approve the request of Shea Riley, Music Teacher, to attend the Pennsylvania Music Educator's Association (PMEA) District 9 Band, along with nine students, at Montrose High School from Wednesday, February 9th to Friday, February 11, 2011. Also requesting use of mini bus. Cost for registration is \$900.00 and \$237.62 for lodging.
5. Approve to designate an area for the portrait of Julian Campenni along with John Garibaldi, Charlie McDermott, Jimmy Pizano, Mark Sickler and Al Harris as Big 33 nominees.

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

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ON the Question: Dr. Campenni asked what item #2 will cost the district. Mr. DeAngelo responded there is no cost to the district. George Race asked the board if item #1 and item #4 comes out of the activities fund. Mr. Bernardi responded they come out of the music budget. An audience member asked if the whole group goes to the conference – item #2. Mr. DeAngelo responded yes, they go every year, drive their own vehicles and pay for it themselves. Mr. Bordzell asked if the salaries of the coaches stay the same. Mr. DeAngelo responded it's contractual.

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

Building Report

Mr. Bernardi read the Building Report.

1. Approve the request of John Amico, Germania Hose Company Scuba Team, to use the pool for scuba training on Wednesday, February 23, 2011 in the evening. Snow day will be February 24, 2011.
2. Approve the request of Robert Shlesinger, Scranton Public Theatre, to use the Secondary Center auditorium for a production of "Snow White" on Saturday, April 30, 2011 at 1:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal.
3. Approve the request of Dana Kuhns, Northeastern Pennsylvania Council Boy Scouts of America, to use the Secondary Center gym for "District Derby Day" on Saturday, April 9, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Friday is requested for set up, pending approval by the building principal and athletic director.
4. Approve the request of Bill Petrucci, Wyoming/West Wyoming Little League, to use the Secondary Center gym for Little League try-outs on Saturday, March 5, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and athletic director.
5. Approve the request of Jennifer Bonita, Montgomery Avenue PTO, to use the stadium for FunDay on Friday, June 3, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., pending approval by the athletic director.
6. Approve the revised substitute support personnel list for 2010-2011 school year.
7. Approve the request of Barbara Anzalone, Northeast Pennsylvania Academy of Dancing, to use the Secondary Center auditorium for a dance recital on Saturday, June 25, 2011 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with a dress rehearsal on Friday, June 24, 2011, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. pending approval by the building principal.
8. Approve Kim Reiners as part time cafeteria employee (2 hour cashier) at JFK Elementary School. (this item added from the floor)

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

On the Question: Mrs. Degnan asked what item #8 was. Mr. DeAngelo responded we added a cashier for two hours a day. Mr. Bernardi asked Mrs. Boyer to explain. Mrs. Boyer responded we were just filling a vacancy, not adding a position. At this time, Mr. Dominick stated according to a policy when Mr. Bernardi reads the report, a board member must read the addition to the agenda not Mr. Bernardi, that is why Mr. Bernardi was interrupted.

An audience member asked the cost to use the facilities. Mr. DeAngelo responded the gymnasium is \$300.00. They have to have their own insurance of one million dollars. Mr. Bernardi stated non-profit organizations with our students are not charged. Other organizations are charged \$500.00 for the auditorium plus the cost for a custodian.

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

Policy Report

Mr. Bernardi read the Policy Report.

1. Approve the revised Rules of Order procedures for the school board meetings.
2. Approve the first reading of revised policies:

Policy #113 – Special Education

Policy #113.1 – Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Policy #113.2 – Behavior Support

Policy # 114 – Programs for Gifted Students

3. Approve the first reading of the following policies:

Policy #200- Enrollment of Students

Policy #113.4 – Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities

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

On the Question: Mrs. Degnan asked what all the policies were. Mr. Bernardi responded they are special education policies. The policies come from the PSBA (Pennsylvania School Boards Association) and then are given to the board for revisions. Attorney Hassey responded depending on the policy we have some input on it. The PSBA monitors all the districts, changes in law, changes in federal law that directly affect the way boards operate so they recommend a policy to change. For special education they have a special education specialist. That's how it comes to the board for revision. Dr. Casarella stated they could come from court cases. Districts get involved in different legal matters and it can have an impact on the policy. Mrs. Valenti stated the board reads them and votes on them.

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

Open Discussion: Dr. Casarella commented about Mr. Guydish's report, "I was not referring to student achievement, I was referring to monies extended."

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“Let’s give our students credit for a job well done, and our staff and administration.” “It’s just that I think we have to monitor the funds a lot better than what did.” “That was my whole reason for making a statement, but our students are doing an excellent job.” Dr. Campenni stated in last months minutes it stated Mr. Bernardi and Mr. Quaglia would meet with the cheerleading parents. Dr. Campenni asked if that happened. Mr. Bernardi responded that Mr. Quaglia met with the cheerleader advisors. Dr. Campenni asked, “Did they meet with the parents?” Mr. Quaglia stated he did meet with the cheerleaders. Mr. DeAngelo asked Mr. Quaglia to meet with the cheerleading parents after the meeting.

Mr. Gerald Stofco of Exeter, stated he has been coming to the board meetings regularly since 2000, and has attacked a number of people here, including Mr. Marianacci, Toni, DeAngelo, off and on back and forth and was never attacked by the school board. Mr. Stofco stated he has been attacked by Frankie, referring to Mr. Casarella, because he is a little boy.

Attorney Hassey interrupted Mr. Stofco and stated there will be no personal attacks. Mr. Stofco stated after all the years coming up and giving his opinion to the board no one ever attacked his family like Dr. Casarella had. Mr. Stofco stated, “I would like an apology.” Dr. Campenni asked Mr. Stofco what Dr. Casarella did. Mr. Stofco responded that he said a comment but would not repeat it. Dr. Casarella apologized to Mr. Stofco if he offended him in any way. Mr. Stofco stated he hoped Dr. Casarella will never say anything about his family again. Dr. Casarella asked Mr. Stofco not to attack him either. Dr. Casarella informed Mr. Stofco that they could have had a nice conversation. Dr. Casarella commented that if he is under a doctors care and can’t attend something... Mr. DeAngelo banged his gavel.

Mr. Stofco then asked the board when they would be changing banks. When are they going to get rid of FNCB. Mr. Dominick stated they have better rates. Mr. Stofco responded that they still didn’t pay for the sign out there. They never paid for it. Mr. Stofco expressed his concern after reading FNCB is in trouble and asked the board how can we trust this bank. Mr. Stofco also said the district should have two or three banks and shouldn’t put all our eggs in one basket. Mr. DeAngelo stated when we changed bands they were supposed to pay for the sign up front and they didn’t. It has been paid out of the general fund.

Bob Truscavage stated when he watched the State of Union Address how interesting how all the democrats and republicans stick together. “Dr. Campenni mentioned how she wanted a weekly report and I had a bad feeling she wouldn’t get it.” He stated he hoped she wouldn’t take offense and with the bi-weekly report he hoped we will get something done with this board. Mr. Truscavage also asked at the last meeting, Mr. Melone said he would have information on ticket revenues. Mr. Melone stated he would have to fill out a Right to Know form. Mr. Truscavage responded he was told after the meeting not during. Mr. Melone stated he asked Attorney Hassey or Mr. Bernardi. Attorney Hassey responded he didn’t recall this and said all public records have to come through a Right to Know Request. Mr. Truscavage asked if the Right to Know forms can be picked up at the meeting instead inconveniencing the taxpayers. Mr. Bernardi responded they can put it on the web site. Mr. Truscavage stated he did some math and the salaries come to \$14,500,000.00. a year.

"If we were to cut 4-5 % of all employees salaries, we could make up approximately a million dollars a year." "The people benefiting from our taxes could chip in at 4%. for the next couple years and get a balanced budget."

Mr. Borzell asked how much the substitute teachers are paid and if subs are needed to replace the three coaches going to the clinic. (in activities). Subs are needed and they are paid \$75.00 per day.

George Race commented that he would like to see item #1 under policy tabled forever and if we had two meetings we wouldn't be here at 9:30 at night. Mr. Al Melone, in a newspaper ad, stated Pittston Area can't do anything for a couple years they are bound by a contract. That gives Wyoming Area a golden opportunity because we are not bound by any contract. We could save that money. Mr. Race stated there is a lot of conflict on this board with employees and he is afraid we're not going to get what we need. "If you can't go after the big things then nothing else is going to matter."

An audience member commented that when Mr. Bernardi makes a suggestion people on the board roll their eyes, when someone on the board makes a suggestions Mr. Bernardi rolls his eyes. He stated he doesn't know if Mr. Bernardi is giving Dr. Casarella information or if he is giving it and Dr. Casarella isn't using it. He stated there is a lot of bickering and the board needs to unite.

Mr. DeAngelo informed everyone the meeting will be held on February 15th which is a Wednesday.

Mr. Joe Valenti, West Pittston, stated he hoped tabling item #1 will be forever and applauds the board for tabling it and stated, "One thing we could all agree on is the 1st Amendment, the most sacred amendment, of the Constitution of the United States." Mr. Valenti stated he asked twice in the last eighteen months what we can do to stop the civil rights federal law suits, this is one. "It is a right move, a smart move and there is a healthy good debate here." "That is a good thing, that is a very good thing." Mr. Valenti stated he didn't know if Mark Twin or Abe Lincoln said this: "I may not always agree with what you have to say and you may not always agree on what I have to say but I'll defend you to the death, just say it."

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Valenti.

Nicholas DeAngelo, President

John Bolin, Secretary

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