

# Board Minutes September 8, 2014

WESTERN WAYNE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
1970C Easton Turnpike  
LAKE ARIEL, PA 18436

The regular meeting of the Western Wayne Board of Education was held on September 8, 2014 in the Western Wayne Administration Building located at 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436.

The meeting was advertised in the legal section of the August 29, 2014 edition of the Wayne Independent.

Board President Alvin Hollister called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

Miss Faliskie offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Secretary, Rose Emmett took roll call. (7) Board Members were present and are listed as follows:

Board President – Alvin Hollister	Board Member – David Lindow
Board Member – Donald McDonough	Board Member – Doris Pliss
Board Treasurer – William Gershey	Board Member – Gary Podunajec
Board Member Bernice Fiorella	

Vice President Donald Olsommer Jr. will join the meeting by phone, Board Member Andrew Gaudenzi was absent.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Dr. Clayton LaCoe, Business Manager/Board Secretary Rose Emmett, Assistant Superintendent Patrick Sheehan, High School Principal Dr. Matthew Barrett, Middle School Principal Kristen Donohue, EverGreen Principal Ellen Faliskie, Robert D. Wilson Principal Maria Miller, Assistant Principal Mary Ann Olsommer, Director of Special Education Tanya Carrelle, Assistant Director of Special Education Cynthia LaRosa, Early Intervention Supervisor Elizabeth Gregory and Food Service Director Maria Liptak.

## **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mrs. Pliss and seconded by Mr. Gershey to accept the minutes generated from the Regular Board Meeting of August 11, 2014.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

## **Treasurer's Report**

A motion was made by Mr. Gershey and seconded by Mr. McDonough to accept the Treasurer's reports generated from the General Account, the Food Service Account.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Approval of Bills**

A motion was made by Mr. Gershey and seconded by Mrs. Pliss to pay the bills generated from the General Account and the Food Service Account.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Accounting of Taxes**

There were no questions regarding the accounting of taxes.

### **Recognition of Public**

Christina Salak read a statement regarding the agenda item that is proposed to reduce her work hours. She asked that the Board reconsider and keep her at 32.5 hours.

Joellen Forney asked about the AM/PM Pre-K inequality and what is going to be done, the groups have differences with the arts.

Roger Shaffer Jr. asked what a mentor teacher was and why it's a paid position, asked if Board sees anything wrong with this, shouldn't they volunteer.

Joe Espisito asked if we can say no to mandates from the State. He wanted to know how much of new tax dollars went into debt. He was told, none, tax dollars were for pensions, salaries, healthcare, and utilities.

Kevin Urian, from the National Wild Turkey Federation (Northern Counties) donated Archery Equipment for the Middle School in conjunction with a state grant. The Board thanked him for the donation.

Amanda Johnson stated that the audio of the meeting was not clear when you try and listen on-line; also asked about video-taping the meetings. Dr. LaCoe said the Board will review at the next work session.

**Enrollment: DAY #3 – 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR**

GRADE	EVERGREEN	SN	P	RDW	SN	P	MS	SN	P	HS	SN	P	TOTAL
EARLY INT.		6			5								11
PRE K	63			36									99
KDG	75	6		38	7								126
GR. 1	58	13		47	8								126
GR. 2	90	8	1	44	8								151
GR. 3	75	9	1	41	12								138
GR. 4	67	14		29	5								115
GR. 5	79	9	3	43	20								154
GR. 6							102	38	0				140
TOTAL	507	65	5	278	65	0	102	38	0	0	0	0	1,060
GR. 7							123	39	3				165
GR. 8							145	33	2				180
GR. 9										138	34	2	174
GR. 10										109	40	10	159
GR. 11										132	36	7	175
GR. 12										164	29	7	200
TOTAL	507	65	5	278	65	0	370	110	5	543	139	26	2,113

Key: SN – Special Needs, P – Placement outside of District  
 Totals: EverGreen-577; RDW-343; MS-485; HS-708      TOTAL 2,113  
 June 2014 Total 2,133

Mr. Olsommer joined the meeting by phone at this time (eight board members present).

**Winter Sports Passes/Admission**

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mrs. Fiorella to approve the Winter Sports Pass System and set admission prices at \$2.00 for students and \$3.00 for adults. A Family Pass will cost \$15.00 for the Winter Sports Season home events and a Resident Pass will cost \$10.00 for the Winter Sports Season home events.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

**Real Estate Tax Rebate**

A motion was made by Mr. Gershey and seconded by Mr. Podunajec to approve a Real Estate Tax Rebate for Property #26-0-122768 in Sterling Township for the School Years 2011-12 and 2012-13 at a total of \$270.80. The rebate is due to an acreage calculation error during those tax years.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

**PSBA Officer Election**

A motion was made by Mrs. Pliss and seconded by Mr. McDonough to authorize the Board Secretary to cast its majority vote for the 2015 PSBA officer as decided:

- 1. At-Large Representative (East) – Robert M. Schwartz

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

**Transportation Contractors, Drivers and Substitutes**

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mr. Podunajec to approve the attached list of Western Wayne School District Transportation Contractors, Drivers and Substitutes for the 2014-2015 school year. ATTACHMENT I

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

**Dual Enrollment Agreement – Pennsylvania State University**

A motion was made by Mr. Podunajec and seconded by Mr. Gershey to approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement between Western Wayne School District and Pennsylvania State University for the 2014-2015 school year.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

**Agreement**

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mr. Podunajec to approve an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Loving Care Agency, Inc. for Nursing Services for one-on-one medical care to a child with medical needs while attending School at the rate of \$40.00 per hour as needed.

The motion carried with seven affirmatives and one no vote from Mr. Lindow.

**Agreement**

A motion was made by Mr. Podunajec and seconded by Mrs. Fiorella to approve an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Northeast Counseling Associates, Inc. for Mental Health Out Reach Counseling at a rate of \$360.00 per day effective September 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

**First Reading – Adoption of Board Policy**

A motion was made by Mrs. Fiorella and seconded by Mrs. Pliss to consider the adoption of the following Policies – First Reading:

- 210.2 POSSESSION/USE OF EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTORS
- 211 STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE
- 212 REPORTING STUDENT PROGRESS

- 213 ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS
- 214 CLASS RANK
- 215 PROMOTION AND RETENTION
- 216 STUDENT RECORDS
- 216.1 AFFIRMATION OF PRIOR DISCIPLINE RECORD
- 216.1 SUPPLEMENTAL DISCIPLINE RECORDS
- 216.2 STUDENT RECORDS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
- 217 GRADUATION
- 218 STUDENT DISCIPLINE
- 218.1 WEAPONS
- 218.2 TERRORISTIC THREATS/ACTS
- 907 SCHOOL VISITORS

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Final Adoption of Board Policy**

A motion was made by Mrs. Fiorella and seconded by Mr. Gershey to consider the final adoption of the following Policies – Second Reading:

- 130 HOMEWORK
- 200 ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS
- 201 ADMISSION OF STUDENTS
- 202 ELIGIBILITY OF NONRESIDENT STUDENTS
- 203.1 HIV INFECTION
- 203 IMMUNIZATIONS AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
- 204 ATTENDANCE
- 205 POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS
- 206 ASSIGNMENT WITHIN DISTRICT
- 207 CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OF STUDENTS
- 208 WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL
- 209 HEALTH EXAMINATIONS/SCREENINGS
- 210.1 POSSESSION/USE OF ASTHMA INHALERS
- 210 ATTACHMENT
- 210 USE OF MEDICATIONS

The motion carried with all affirmatives. Mr. Hollister thanked the committee along with Mr. Sheehan for their work.

### **Personnel**

#### **District Substitute List**

A motion was made by Mr. Gershey and seconded by Mrs. Fiorella to approve the following personnel to be added to the District Substitute List for the 2014- 2015 school year per Certification, Act 24/34/151/114 Guidelines, Employment Eligibility Verification - U.S. Department of Justice:

1. Bryce Baumgardner – Area of Certification: Elementary
2. Mark Durdach – Area of Certification: Technology Ed/Industrial Arts
3. Trudy Enslin – Area of Certification: Elementary/English
4. Michael Gorman – Area: Custodial
5. Nichole Musewicz – Area of Certification: Elementary/ESL/Science
6. Kimberly Ortola – Area: Clerical
7. Elaine Schweinsburg – Area: Custodial/Secretarial/Teacher Assistant

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Resignations**

A motion was made by Mrs. Pliss and seconded by Mr. Olsommer to accept the resignation of Michael Cole effective August 12, 2014.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Resignation/Retirement**

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mr. Podunajec to accept the resignation for retirement purposes of Ruth Washine, Food Service effective October 4, 2014.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Salary Adjustments**

A motion was made by Mr. Podunajec and seconded by Mr. McDonough to adjust the salary steps for the following Temporary Professional Employees:

1. Justin Collins to Step 1M+24 effective January 6, 2014
2. Joshua Rowe to Step 2B effective the start of the 2014-2015 school year

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Adjustment**

A motion was made by Mr. Hollister and seconded by Mr. Olsommer to adjust the hours of Christina Salak, Assistant Nurse from 32.5 hours/week to 25 hours/week effective the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year.

The motion carried with five affirmatives and three no votes from Mr. Lindow, Mr. Podunajec and Mr. McDonough.

### **Appointment**

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mr. Olsommer to appoint Paul Gregorski to the position of Assistant Principal at the pro-rated salary of \$65,000.00 effective September 9, 2014.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Appointment – Temporary Professional Employee**

A motion was made by Mr. Podunajec and seconded by Mrs. Pliss to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the following appointment:

1. Mara Cianfichi - Temporary Professional Employee – Early Intervention Speech/Language Therapist - Step 1M - \$48,633.00 pending adjustment upon updated contract - with applicable fringe benefits effective the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year.

The motion carried with seven affirmatives and one no vote from Mr. Lindow.

**Appointment – Long Term Substitute**

A motion was made by Mr. Podunajec and seconded by Mr. Olsommer to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the following appointment:

1. Kerry Williams - Long Term Substitute – Music – Middle School - Step 1M - \$48,633.00 pending adjustment upon updated contract – with applicable fringe benefits effective for the 2014-2015 school year.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

**Appointment – Mentors**

A motion was made by Mr. Podunajec and seconded by Mr. McDonough to appoint the following Mentor teachers for the 2014-2015 school year at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract pending adjustment upon updated contract:

<b>MENTOR</b>	<b>PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE</b>	<b>SALARY</b>
1. Mary Malec	Ashley Klim	\$1,445.00
2. Gregory Butler	Justin Collins (1/2 year)	\$ 722.50
3. Julie Conklin	Mara Cianfichi	\$1,445.00
4. Maria Arneil	Kerry Williams	\$1,445 .00

Mr. Lindow read this prepared personal statement prior to the vote:

I don't know when the scale tipped in my mind, whether it was from hearing taxpayer after taxpayer complain under the strain of paying taxes, parents upset from the loss of programs, while standing at the football game thinking that the loss of such community gatherings where hoards attend to be entertained by students who have spent scores of hours preparing was not only possible but probable, or when I was passing a cross walk that leads to a corn field that the state in their infinite wisdom forced upon the taxpayers. Perhaps it was the culmination of these things plus a hundred more insanities that I've come across since being a school director. Regardless, the scale has tipped.

As taxpayers have faced years of stagnation in their incomes, the state and Federal governments have continued to hand down one "mandate" after another. These mandates, in turn, have caused local governments to increase taxes thereby reducing the buying power of the taxpayers' stagnant wages. While some would argue that governments handing down unfunded mandates constitutes "tyranny," no rational person would argue that a government that compounded such actions with the refusal to pay the obligations to which they have committed themselves is not tyrannical. Indeed, this is the

situation in which we find ourselves today. Not only has the state handed down to us vague laws which incur to us endless lawsuits, but they have also foisted upon us a pension system which is unsustainable. On top of this they refuse to pay the obligations owed to us through the Plan Con program even refusing to let us know where we stand in the line for payment. Additionally, when the school districts of the county gathered to inform their legislators and Senator of the crises they have sent our way, Sandra Major alone attended the meeting with none of the others so much as sending an emissary.

By Constitution the General Assembly is responsible for education.

The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public education to serve the needs of the Commonwealth.

To accomplish this task the assembly created the entity of the school board of directors which is elected locally. Upon election, school board members swear to uphold the Constitution of the US and Pennsylvania and stand as the only entity between the General Assembly and the taxpayer. By virtue of handing down to the school boards laws and mandates which are impossible to sustain, the General Assembly itself is in violation of its own Constitution as these laws have left school districts broke and taxpayers overburdened as well as removing any possible hope of a "thorough and efficient system of public education..." let alone providing for its "maintenance and support." To be sure, they not only have let their people down in not providing such means, but they have crossed a line which makes it impossible to carry it out on our own. With this in mind it leaves school directors with no choice but to break the Constitution which they have sworn to uphold. The directors will either break the Constitution by upholding these laws and mandates which preclude the possibility of education, or they will break the Constitution by breaking those very laws which were handed down to them by the General Assembly itself. In such cases it's incumbent upon such directors to side with the Constitution while standing for the taxpayer. In effect, the board is the only protection from such tyranny that exists; and the board must not accommodate any law that prevents any child from being equitably educated or placing an undue burden on the taxpayer. In other words, if either decision will cause a breach in the Constitution it is the duty of the board to side with the children, parents, and taxpayers of their district.

To be sure, such a tyrannical government will do what it can to enforce its will upon its subjects; however, it's also the duty of the people to force such a government to uphold its own laws. Having in mind that it is the education of our children coupled with our ability to live freely without undue taxation, this is a struggle into which we must devote great energy. In effect, the future of our community and way of life is at stake. Some will say that such actions will lead to the bankruptcy of the school district, but due to the actions of the General Assembly the district is very close to it anyway.

Getting to the point at hand, mentors, I would point out that I am a mechanic in a specialized field. Not having a background in education I very much doubt if the bureaucrats in Harrisburg respect much my position; however, I do not work for them but rather the taxpayers of the Western Wayne School



District. Having acquired some relative skill in my trade I am often called upon to mentor those with lesser skill and experience and give advice, this without any compulsion from a government and with no thought of remuneration. It is a naturally occurring course of events, and it's driven by a love for the trade and desire to see it passed on with excellence. By doing this I am giving back just a little of what the trade has given me. I cannot bring myself to believe that the same is not true of the teaching profession at Western Wayne and across the state. It is mandates such as this one that are handed down from the state that strap taxpayers and impede a "thorough and efficient system of public education." As a result I must vote no on this issue as I will be on many more such issues in the future.

The motion carried with five affirmatives and three no votes from Mr. Lindow, Mr. Olsommer, and Mrs. Fiorella.

### **Appointment – Advisors**

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mr. Podunajec to appoint the following as Advisors for the 2014-2015 school year at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract pending adjustment upon updated contract:

1. Samantha David	MS Student Government Advisor	\$2,016.00
2. Christine Carey	Varsity Club Co-Advisor	\$ 750.00
3. Rachael Perri	Varsity Club Co-Advisor	\$ 750.00
4. Annette Shepard	Varsity Club Co-Advisor	\$ 750.00
5. Colleen Carmody	Varsity Club Co-Advisor	\$ 750.00
6. Elaine Ort	Pit Director Musical	\$1,748.00
7. Elizabeth Sandrowicz	Assistant Director Musical	\$1,093.00

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Volunteers**

A motion was made by Mrs. Fiorella and seconded by Mr. McDonough to approve the following volunteers contingent upon receipt of clearances:

1. Clayton LaCoe II – Middle School
2. Michael D. McDonnell Jr. - Football
3. Bonita Wadell - Tennis
4. Hope Reingold – Marching Band
5. Kelly Elder – Marching Band
6. Marie Jellock – Marching Band

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Volunteer:**

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mrs. Fiorella to approve the following volunteer contingent upon receipt of clearances:

1. Jason Sauter – Football

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### **Informational Items**

#### District Open House Programs 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Thursday, September 11, 2014 – EverGreen Elementary School

Wednesday, September 17, 2014 – Robert D. Wilson Elementary School

Wednesday, September 24, 2014 – Middle and High School

### **Student Teacher/Intern:**

BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE – Aaron Clark – Elementary – EverGreen Elementary School – Jill Butler – August 27, 2014 to October 22, 2014

MARYWOOD UNIVERSITY – Evan Baier – Intern – Social Work – Susan Schlasta – Fall 2014

### **Correspondence**

Dr. LaCoe received three letters from the community about their concern of the Elementary Music Program.

### **Superintendent's Report**

No questions.

### **Assistant Superintendent's Report**

No questions.

### **Principal's Report**

No questions.

### **Federal Program Report**

No report.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Hollister mentioned the death of Richard Wycoff, a bus driver for our district. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

### **Future Meetings:**

Wednesday, October 01, 2014 - 6:00 P.M. Board Committee Meeting, District Board Room, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

Monday, October 06, 2014 - 7:00 P.M. Public Board Meeting, District Board Room, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

**Meetings held:**

August 18, 2014 – 9:00 A.M. Board Policy Committee meeting, District Board Room, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

August 27, 2014 – 6:00 P.M. Board Executive Session, District Board Room, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

September 3, 2014 – 6:00 P.M. Board Committee Meeting, District Board Room, Administration Building, 1970 C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. McDonough and seconded by Mr. Lindow to adjourn the regularly scheduled meeting of the Western Wayne Board of Education at 8:11 PM.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rose E. Emmett  
Board Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_