

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
July 29, 2014

President, Louis M. Elmy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Superintendent Dr. Bernard S. Prevuznak led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Board Secretary Leonard B. Przywara called the roll.

9 MEMBERS PRESENT: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

President Elmy stated:

- The chair wishes to announce that the Board held an Executive Session prior to the Regular Board Meeting of July 29, 2014.
- THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RELATED SOLELY TO MATTERS OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, LABOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND/OR THREATENED OR ACTUAL LITIGATION.

Miss Katsock moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 9, 2014 and dispense with the reading of those minutes. The vote was as follows:

All In Favor: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

Unfinished Business

Miss Katsock asked for a status report in regard to the renewal of the required clearances for teachers and all other individuals who have contact with the students of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District.

Dr. Prevuznak responded to Miss Katsock that the clearances are required for the beginning of the school year and he (Dr. Prevuznak) will follow up with the HR Department regarding the status of the clearances.

Mr. Galella updated the Board in regard to the solicitation of adds that would be displayed in Wilkes-Barre Memorial Stadium, to increase revenue for the Wilkes-Barre Area School District. Mr. Galella informed the Board that the Athletic Committee is looking into the possibility of purchasing tents that would house the ads and the ads would be printed by the District.

Mr. Evans addressed the Board in regard to the reinstatement of the IST Program. Mr. Evans noted that the Special Education Program is bursting at the seams. Mr. Evans noted that he understands the IST program was eliminated for financial reasons, however, he (Mr. Evans) does not believe it was ever looked at to determine the loss of money to the District. Mr. Evans noted that he is going to make a motion to reinstate the IST Program and expressed to the Board that is he trying to save money for the District and the taxpayers and requested that the Board also consider the children of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District.

Mr. Evans motioned, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to reinstate the IST program as part of the Elementary Education Curriculum of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and hire an additional two (2) teachers to serve as Instructional Support Teachers. The vote was as follows:

4 Ayes: Evans, Quinn, Thomas, Elmy

5 Nays: Caffrey, Galella, Katsock, Susek, Walker

Motion Failed

Communications from Citizens

1. Ronald Filippini, 28 Perkins Street, Plains, PA
Mr. Filippini addressed the Board regarding his concerns that no transportation is being provided from day cares to and from schools within the Wilkes-Barre Area School District.
Mr. Filippini also asked what process was used in selecting the day care that was chosen by the Wilkes-Barre Area School District to provide services within the schools and also stated that the day care that was chosen does not provide services to parents on Federal Holidays. Mr. Filippini also asked if the day care that was chosen provides transportation.

Dr. Prevuznak, Superintendent, informed Mr. Filippini that a decision was made to no longer provide transportation from day cares to the Wilkes-Barre Area School District. Dr. Prevuznak noted that under Federal law the District has an obligation to provide transportation where applicable. Dr. Prevuznak informed Mr. Filippini that several years ago there was a bus that ran from Dan Flood Elementary and several other Elementary schools specifically to the CYC and that practice was stopped. In my initial year as Superintendent, it was brought to my attention that the District had a Solomon/Plains bus that transported students solely to two (2) day cares and the cost of that bus to the taxpayers and the District was \$45,000.00. Dr. Prevuznak noted that is the obligation of the District to pick up and transport students to designated bus stops near their homes. Dr. Prevuznak further stated that the District is not in the day care business and the District is not being compensated for the cost of bussing by the various day cares. Dr. Prevuznak informed Mr. Filippini that the District became proactive in March of 2014, and he (Dr. Prevuznak) met with all the day cares that would be affected and informed them that the District is not obligated to provide transportation and is no longer going to do so. Dr. Prevuznak noted that he met with the day cares, along with the Director of Elementary Education and the Early Childhood Coordinator, and presented the District's concerns regarding bussing. Dr. Prevuznak noted that they met again and part of the discussion was a pilot program that would be instituted at Solomon/Plains and Kistler Elementary Schools, in order to try to accommodate some of the issues that parents may have. Dr. Prevuznak stated that he felt the District was being proactive in trying to initiate a pilot program within our schools to try to accommodate parent's, however, the accommodation does not include paying for transportation to day cares. In regard to the question regarding the selection process of the day care that was chosen, Dr. Prevuznak stated that it is a "Professional Personal Service" and a bid process is not required, and Dr. Prevuznak noted that we are leasing Solomon/Plains and Kistler Elementary for early morning day cares. Dr. Prevuznak stated that at the meetings that were held with the various day cares, he (Dr. Prevuznak) asked for proposals from those day cares present, in regard to a pilot program day care and only one day (1) care submitted a proposal and that was the day care that was selected. Dr. Prevuznak informed Mr. Filippini in regard to his (Mr. Filippini) concerns, regarding the day care not being open on Federal Holidays he (Dr. Prevuznak) would address those concerns with the day care.

2. Mary Melodick, 34 Sand Street, Plains, PA
Ms. Melodick asked if students who live in the Solomon/Plains District can receive transportation from a bus stop that is not by their residence.

Dr. Prevuznak informed Ms. Melodick that there are designated bus stops for residence's in order to establish the number of students who can be transported on a bus according to law. Dr. Prevuznak also noted that he would reach out to the Director of Transportation and request that he contact Ms. Melodick, in order to provide more specific/detailed information.

3. Linda Scarantino, 52 Ketchum Street, Wilkes-Barre Township, PA
Ms. Scarantino informed the Board she had an application on file for a teaching position and she wanted to personally introduce herself to the Board.

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
July 29, 2014

4. Noelle Kovaleski, 18 Manchester Drive, Laflin, PA
Ms. Kovaleski expressed to the Board that most of her questions were answered in regard to transportation to day cares. Ms. Kovaleski also noted that she was disappointed in the District's decision regarding the lack of transportation being provided to and from school for students in the Wilkes-Barre Area School District who attend day cares.

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Galella presented the following report and recommendations for the Board's approval:

1. That approval be given to renew the District's Student and Athletic Insurance for the 2014-2015 school year with IDM Consulting Services, 174 Lawrence Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA at a premium in the amount of \$74,785.00. The Interscholastic Sports Program, which also includes gym classes, intramurals, field trips, band, majorettes and cheerleaders, is administered by Bollinger Insurance Solutions, 101 JFK Parkway, Short Hills, New Jersey.

Voluntary student plan rates are as follows:

School time only	\$30.00
24 Hour Coverage	\$113.00

Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Miss Katsock, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:
9 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Susek presented the following report and recommendations for the Board's approval:

A. Professional

1. That **Courtney Sawicki** be appointed a temporary professional employee as an Elementary Teacher, effective August 21, 2014.
2. That **Leah Zelinka** be appointed a temporary professional employee as an Elementary Teacher, effective August 21, 2014
3. That **Gerry McGroarty** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Secondary Guidance Counselor, effective August 21, 2014.
4. That **Karen Coyne** be appointed a temporary professional employee as Special Education Teacher, effective August 21, 2014.
5. That **Megan Petrylak** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Speech Pathologist, effective August 21, 2014.
6. That **Alissa Lukasavage** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Library Teacher, effective August 21, 2014.

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
July 29, 2014

7. That **Lauren Stamm's** status be changed from half time temporary professional employee to full time temporary professional employee, effective August 21, 2014.
8. That **Molly Gorman** be appointed a long term secondary math substitute for the first semester of the 2014-15 school year.
9. That **Inez Weinstock** be appointed an Elementary Assistant Principal, effective August 21, 2014.
10. That **Justin Correll** be appointed an Elementary Dean of Students, effective August 21, 2014.
11. That **Melissa Myers** be appointed a Secondary Dean of Students, effective August 21, 2014.
12. That **Tashara Teart** be granted a FMLA leave, beginning on or about September 15th for a period of twelve weeks.
13. That **Juliann Defalco** be granted a sabbatical for the second semester of the 2014-15 school year.
14. That the following professional employees be appointed to the STEM Curriculum Committee:

Mike Sulcoski, Coordinator
Sam Elias
Vito Pasone

Rick Simon
Keith Eberts

B. Crossing Guards

1. That **Richard Tomko** be appointed as a substitute crossing guard, effective August 25, 2014.

C. Athletics

1. That the resignation of **Deiza Rae Height** as the GAR Jr. High Assistant Field Hockey Coach be accepted with regret, effective July 23, 2014.

ADDENDUM

1. That **Jill Hall** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Special Education Teacher, effective August 21, 2014.
2. That **Samantha Kishbach** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Special Education Teacher, effective August 21, 2014.
3. That **Meghan Buckley** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Special Education Teacher, effective August 21, 2014.
4. That **Dora Samartzis** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Special Education Teacher, effective August 21, 2014.
5. That **Maria Deno** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Special Education Teacher, effective August 21, 2014.

Dr. Susek moved, seconded by Miss Katsock, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

1 Nay: Katsock – A - Professional - #4

New Business

CONTRACTED SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Susek presented the following report and recommendations for the Board's approval:

1. That approval be given Mark J. Sobeck Roof Consulting, Inc., 15 South Franklin Street, Suite 210, Wilkes-Barre, PA for the following activities:
 - a. to perform an inspection, and prepare a design in respect to the re-roofing of the Daniel J. Flood Elementary School at a cost of \$7,200.00.
 - b. to perform an inspection, and prepare an on-site report on the existing roof of the Edward Mackin Elementary School at a cost of \$1,400.00. Core sampling, an alternate to this proposal would cost \$108.00 per core. It is estimated that one (1) to three (3) cores would be required.
 - c. to perform a core sampling study to determine the condition of the existing roof on the Heights/Murray Elementary School at a cost of \$2,040.00
2. That approval be given to Dunmore Roofing & Supply Co., Inc., 158 Tigue Street, Dunmore, PA to perform test cuts (cores) of twenty (20) to thirty (30) samples, and patch same on the existing roof of the Heights/Murray Elementary School at a cost of \$85.00 per hour, not to exceed sixteen (16) hours, plus material, not to exceed a cost of \$100.00.
3. That approval be given the Apollo Group, Inc., the District's Project Manager to solicit proposals from the combined three (3) District approved Architects/Engineering firms to perform an inspection, and prepare a report and design for the replacement of the water line and boiler, and other work which needs to be completed, in respect to the Edward Mackin Elementary School to ensure compliance with current building code requirements.

Dr. Susek moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

1 Nay: Katsock – #1 and #3

Mr. Galella motioned, seconded by Miss Katsock, to grant permission to Video Innovations/Service Electric to broadcast Wilkes-Barre Area School District football games for the 2014 football season that will be held at Wilkes-Barre Memorial Stadium.

Prior to the vote being taken on the above motion, Ms. Thomas and Mr. Quinn expressed serious concerns in regard to Video Innovations and a particular member of their staff being granted permission to broadcast Wilkes-Barre Area School District football games.

Mr. Galella noted that he did not hear the broadcast that they (Ms. Thomas & Mr. Quinn) were referring to, however, he (Mr. Galella) was told, statements that were made, were not made at a Video Innovations/Service Electric broadcast, but the statements of concern to Ms. Thomas and Mr. Quinn were made on a radio show.

The vote on the above motion was as follows:

5 Nays: Evans, Katsock, Quinn, Thomas, Elmy

4 Abstentions: Caffrey, Galella, Susek, Walker

Motion failed

MATERIAL SUPPLIES REPORT

Mr. Galella presented the following report and recommendations for the Board’s approval:

The Material Supplies Committee respectfully makes the following report and recommendations:

1. That approval be given to purchase a John Deere Gator TH 6X4 gas multi-purpose tractor from Lindsey Lawn & Garden, Inc., 83 Hazleton Street, Ashley, PA at the quoted price of \$8,111.59.

A tabulation of quotes received is as follows:

QUOTE	VENDOR
\$8,111.59	Lindsey Lawn & Garden, Inc.
\$8,300.00	Two Jacks Cycle
\$9,800.00	Valley Power Equipment

Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Miss Katsock, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

There were no **Communications from Solicitor**

Board Secretary Report

August– 2014

Committee Meeting

Monday, August 11, 2014 – 5:30 PM

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, August 11, 2014 – 7:00 PM

Miss Katsock moved, seconded by Rev. Walker, to adjourn the Meeting.

President Elmy adjourned the Meeting at 7:48 PM.