

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting of December 17, 2007

The regular meeting of the Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education was held on Monday, December 17, 2007 at Wattsburg Area Elementary Center.

Mr. Elwin Rose called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Sue Afton, Eric Duda, Scott Rose, John Rzepka, Linda Smith, James Thompson, Joseph Walko, Kenneth Watkins, and Elwin Rose. Also in attendance were Mr. Jay Badams, Superintendent, Ms. Nancy Sadaly, Assistant to the Superintendent, and Mr. Steve Maksimuk, Business Manager.

Roll Call

Mr. McGarvey reported on Study Island.

Study Island

Minutes of the November 19, 2007 Regular Board Meeting, minutes of the December 6, 2007 Organization Meeting, and minutes of the December 10, 2007 Regular Work session were reviewed.

Minutes

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Duda, seconded by Mr. Thompson. In a recorded roll call vote, all members present voted "Yes." Motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. E. Rose called on Mr. Badams to report to the Board concerning the water overflow at the Wattsburg Area Elementary School Bookroom. Mr. Badams responded by saying that the take home books that were distributed to the Board at the work session were books that had been taken out of circulation and were not sent home with the children. Mr. Badams reported that the bookroom was flooded due to a power outage and the water in question came from the overflow of a clean urinal and contained no sewage. On Wednesday, November 7th, the most damaged book was dropped off at Microbac for testing, and the bookroom was closed for cleaning and disinfecting while waiting for culture samples to come back. On November 16th the Microbac report came back negative for E. Coli. Since the Coliform was a non-detect, the room was reopened for student access. Again, all damaged books were removed by Mr. Porter's staff, and Mr. Porter had sent an e-mail asking for the return of the books that were distributed at the work session.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Badams reported that 12 staff members had left the district in the past three years for reasons other than retirement, and only 3 left due to dissatisfaction with the district. Mr. Badams also pointed out that the district has many applications on file from teachers seeking employment, and he has approximately 13 teachers who have approached him because they are interested in working for the Wattsburg Area School District.

Mr. Badams announced that both Rob Hart and Michelle McAvoy had recently received the Golden Apple Award, and efforts are presently underway to tally the number of Golden Apple recipients from Wattsburg Area School District since the number is disproportionately high.

Mr. Badams praised the diligent efforts of Lesa Kimball for her commitment to efficiently updating the Pennsylvania Information Management System.

He also reported on the successful December 17th professional development session designed to introduce district teachers to Tech Paths, the curriculum mapping tool.

Mr. Maksimuk noted cash in the bank in the amount as of \$4,205,849.38 of November 30, 2007 and cash in the capital reserve account in the amount of \$3,581.71 as of November 30, 2007.

Mr. Maksimuk reported the amount of General Fund Bills, Exhibit “A” to be \$68,658.01; Checks Already Written, Exhibit “A1” to be \$717,472.42; General Fund Bills, Exhibit “A2” to be \$136,122.51; Checks Already Written, Exhibit “A3” to be \$613,463.33, and Cafeteria Bills, Exhibit “B” to be \$34,276.45.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Walko, seconded by Mr. Rzepka. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted “Yes”: Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mr. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Maksimuk noted cash in the Seneca High School Activity fund to be \$69,668.15 and cash in the Special Revenue Report (Athletics) to be \$9,968.69.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. S. Rose, seconded by Mrs. Rzepka. In a recorded roll call vote, all members present voted “Yes.” Motion was carried unanimously.

IRS Mileage Rate – **Motion:** To approve the IRS Mileage Rate from 48.5 cents to 50.5 cents effective January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Walko, seconded by Mr. Duda. In a recorded roll call vote, all members present voted “Yes.” Motion was carried unanimously.

Approve Volunteer Application and Background Check Agreement – Exhibit F – **Motion:** To approve the Volunteer Application and Background Check Agreement for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year pending development of a Volunteer Policy as outlined in **Exhibit F**.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. S. Rose, seconded by Mrs. Smith. In a recorded roll call vote, all members present voted “Yes.” Motion was carried unanimously.

Erie County Vocational-Technical School Sale of Vacant Land to Summit Township – **Motion:** To approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Real Estate Purchase Agreement between Summit Township as Purchaser and the eleven school districts participating in the operation of the Erie County Vocational-Technical School as Seller for the sale of 10.63 acres of vacant land on the west side of Hamot Road in Summit Township is hereby approved. The Board President and Secretary are hereby authorized to execute all documents on behalf of the Wattsburg Area School District to effectuate this sale including, without limitation, the Real Estate Purchase Agreement, the deed and the Petition for Court Approval of the sale of unused and unnecessary lands as required by the Pennsylvania Public School Code.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Duda, seconded by Mrs. Smith. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted “Yes”: Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. The following member voted “No”: Mr. S. Rose. Motion was carried.

Per Capita Tax Exemptions – Exhibit G – **Motion:** To approve Per Capita Tax Exemptions as outlined in **Exhibit G**.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Duda, seconded by Mr. S. Rose. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted “Yes”: Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Reports/
Payment of Bills

Seneca High School
Activity Fund/
Special Revenue
Report

Legal Advisement

Finance

2008-09 General Fund Budget Resolution – Exhibit H – Motion: To approve the attached resolution as outlined in **Exhibit H**.

Finance (cont'd)

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Duda, seconded by Mr. S. Rose. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted “Yes”: Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Purchase of Generator for Bus Garage – Motion: To purchase a Generator from Grainger for a cost of \$5,499.00.

Building and Grounds

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Walko, seconded by Mr. Watkins. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted “Yes”: Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Building Requests – Motion: To approve district participation and facilities’ use at Seneca High School for the Erie Free Taxes Earned Income Tax Credit Program to provide free tax preparation for qualified taxpayers, Monday and Saturday, January 16, 2008 through April 14, 2008.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Walko, seconded by Mr. Thompson. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted “Yes”: Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Family Medical Leave – Motion: To approve a Family Medical Leave for Mrs. Kristen Ward, effective January 2, 2008 through June 5, 2008, in accordance with Policy 4152.4 – Anticipated Disability/Medical Leave (Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993).

Personnel

Appointments – Motion: To appoint Mr. Anthony Bille as a Class B Bus Driver, effective December 18, 2007; **Motion:** To appoint Mrs. Emily Ewings as Long Term Substitute for Wattsburg Area Middle School Elementary Teacher position, at Step 1, Masters, at a salary in accordance with collective bargaining unit agreement (pro-rated), effective January 2, 2008 through June 5, 2008; **Motion:** To appoint Ms. Lynne Herman as a Special Education Teacher to tutor two students in Cyber Services, after school, up to one hour per student each week in the home, at a salary in accordance with the bargaining unit agreement, effective December 12, 2007; **Motion:** To appoint Ms. Lynne Herman as a Special Education Teacher to tutor one student in Cyber Services, after school, up to one hour per student each week in the home, at a salary in accordance with the bargaining unit agreement, effective January 2, 2008, and **Motion:** To appoint Mr. Joseph Vitelli as a Class A Mechanic, effective December 18, 2007, at a rate of \$17.00 per hour after successful completion of a probationary period provided that Mr. Vitelli receives his CDL Class S and P Endorsement prior to the end of his probationary period. Pending completion of the required endorsements, Mr. Vitelli will be compensated at a Journeyman Mechanic rate of \$13.20 per hour. Mr. Vitelli will receive a \$1.00 less per hour in either case mentioned above during his probationary period and will be subject to the requirements of new employees outlined in the collective bargaining unit agreement.

Conference Requests – Mr. Tim Malinowski – Senior Transition Staffing at ECTS, Erie, Thursday, January 3, 2008 (No Cost to the District) (Act 48); Ms. Leslie Drumm, Ms. Donna Sherrange, Mr. Doug McGarvey, Mr. Dave Hammer, and Mrs. Sonja Meehan – Making the Grade in Math – PSSA Math Workshop, Grades 3-8, Erie, Monday, February 4, 2008, \$916.00 (Funds from Math Learning Support Grades 5-8) (Act 48); Ms. Juliette Nies, Mr. Francis Striney, Ms. Mary Kate O’Connell, Mrs. Joni Swackhamer, Mrs. Jackie Wismer, and Mrs. Jeannie Striney – 2008 National Reading

Recovery and K-6 Classroom Literacy Conference, Columbus, Ohio, Sunday, February 10, 2008 through Tuesday, February 12, 2008, \$2,736.00 (Funds from Reading, Grades K-4) (Mrs. Striney to pay her own conference costs) (Act 48); Mrs. Arete Calabrese – AP Workshop – French Language, Buffalo, New York, Saturday, March 8, 2008, \$275.00 (Funds from Foreign Language, Grades 9-12) (Act 48); Mr. Chad Porter – Interview Session for I.U. #5 Emergency Substitutes, Edinboro, Tuesday, January 8, 2008, \$23.00 (Funds from All, Grades K-12) (Act 48); Mr. Donald Pearce, Mr. Ray Bennett, and Mrs. Lori Dellamedaglia – The Odyssey Math Professional Development Session, Monaca, PA, Wednesday, January 9, 2008, \$714.00 (Funds from Odyssey Math Research Study) (Act 48); Mrs. Mary Rea – Ensuring Successful Post-School Outcomes for Youth with Special Health Care Needs, Tuesdays, January 15, 2008, February 5, 2008, March 4, 2008, and April 1, 2008, \$90.00 (Funds from Nursing, Grades K-4); Board Members – Ready, Set, Govern! I’m a New Board Member, Now What? Edinboro, Tuesday, January 22, 2008, \$112.00 each (Funds from Board Member Account), and Board Members – Ready, Set, Govern! Budget Basics for School Boards, Edinboro, Tuesday, February 12, 2008, \$112.00 (Funds from Board Member Account).

Personnel (cont’d)

Additions to the Emergency Teachers’ Substitute List – **Exhibit I** – **Motion:** To approve additions to the Emergency Teachers’ Substitute List as outlined in **Exhibit I**.

Motion for approval was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. S. Rose. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted “Yes”: Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Student Activities Request – **Motion:** To approve Wattsburg Area Middle School, Grade 8, to travel to Harrisburg, Gettysburg, and Hershey, Thursday, May 22, 2008 through Saturday, May 24, 2008 for Class Trip, \$250.00 - \$270.00 per person (Funds from Fundraising and Personal Monies).

Curriculum

Approval of Courses – **Exhibit J** – **Motion:** To approve the following courses, as outlined in **Exhibit J** – CP Statistics, Fitness, and Art History.

Wattsburg Area Middle School Summer School Proposal – 2008 – **Exhibit K** – **Motion:** To approve the Summer School Proposal for 2008 as outlined in **Exhibit K**.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. S. Rose, seconded by Mrs. Afton. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted “Yes”: Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Mrs. Hengelbrok gave a report. Mrs. Rullo reported on Wattsburg Area Elementary Center. Mr. McGarvey reported on Wattsburg Area Middle School. Mr. Rinke gave a brief report on Seneca High School. Mr. Schultz reported on the Maintenance Department. Barb Schock gave an update on the Transportation Department. Mrs. Mullaney reported on the cafeteria, and Robert LaPlacca gave an update on the Technology Department.

Principals’ Special Reports

Transportation Requests – **Motion:** To approve Seneca High School Art and Communication and Human Services Academies’ students, Grades 9-12, to use the facilities at Toni and Guy Hairdressing, Erie, Times News, Erie Playhouse, and Warner Theater, Erie, Monday, January 7, 2008, \$90.00 (Funds from Career Account); **Motion:** To approve Wattsburg Area Middle School, Science Olympiad Team, Grades 6-8, to travel to Clarion University, Tuesday, March 18, 2008, \$435.00 plus shared busing with

Transportation

Seneca High School (Funds from WAMSAG and Substitute Accounts); **Motion:** To approve Seneca High School Science Olympiad Team, Grades 9-12, to travel to Clarion University, Tuesday, March 18, 2008, \$560.00 (Funds from WAMSAG, Shared Busing, Seneca High School Student Activities, and Substitute Accounts), and **Motion:** To approve Wattsburg Area Middle School, Grade 7, to travel to Cleveland Science Center, Ohio, Thursday, April 17, 2008, \$2,163.00 (Funds from WAMSAG and Student Activities Accounts).

Transportation
(cont'd)

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Walko, seconded by Mr. S. Rose. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted "Yes": Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Athletic/Extra-Curricular Resignations – **Motion:** To approve the resignation of Ms. Melissa Vallimont as Homework Detention Monitor, effective November 16, 2007 and **Motion:** To approve the resignation of Mr. Philip Cote as Boys Soccer Co-Head Coach, effective November 20, 2007.

Athletic/Extra-Curricular

Athletics/Extra-Curricular Appointments for 2007-2008 – **Motion:** To appoint Ms. Sandra Gulnac as Head Track and Field Coach, Step 1, at a salary in accordance with the bargaining unit agreement, **Motion:** To approve Mr. Michael Ellicott as 7th/8th Grade Girls' Soccer Coach – Intramurals (40) hours at an hourly rate in accordance with the bargaining unit agreement, and **Motion:** To approve Ms. Carrie Maines as JV Girls' Soccer Coach, Step 1, at a salary in accordance with the bargaining unit agreement.

Seneca Baseball Trip to Tennessee – **Motion:** To approve the Seneca High School Baseball Team to travel to Millington, Tennessee, Monday, March 17, 2008 through Saturday, March 22, 2008, to scrimmage and practice with other baseball teams and to view top notch baseball teams in action plus other educational sites, at a cost of approximately \$250.00 per player (Funds from fundraising activities and students).

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Watkins. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted "Yes": Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Surplus Computer Equipment – **Exhibit L** – **Motion:** To declare the Wattsburg Area School District technology equipment as surplus as outlined in **Exhibit L**.

Miscellaneous

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Afton. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted "Yes": Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Declare Wattsburg Area School District Piano as Surplus – **Motion:** To declare the Wattsburg Area School District piano as surplus.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. S. Rose, seconded by Mr. Watkins. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted "Yes": Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

Resignation – **Motion:** To approve the resignation of Mrs. Audrey Coburn as Baker at Wattsburg Area Middle School, effective December 21, 2007.

Personnel

Motion for approval was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. S. Rose. In a recorded roll call vote, the following members present voted "Yes": Mrs. Afton, Mr. Duda, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. Rzepka, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Walko, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. E. Rose. Motion was carried unanimously.

As there was no further business to discuss, upon motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. S. Rose, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Adjournment

Cheryl Nye
School Board Secretary

