

November 9, 2015

The West Perry School District Board of School Directors met on Monday, November 9, 2015 in the District Office Board Room. An Executive session for personnel matters was held at 7:00 PM prior to the regular meeting. President Charles Thiemann called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with board members and audience members standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ROLL CALL**

Those board members responding to roll call were:

Mr. Boose - here  
Mrs. Dell - here  
Mrs. Egolf - here  
Mrs. Fry - here  
Mr. Kent - absent  
Mr. Kling - here  
Mr. Rice - here  
Mrs. Rice - here  
Mr. Thiemann - here

**Members Present: 8**

**Members Absent: 1 (Kent)**

## **OTHERS PRESENT**

Others present at the meeting were: Dr. O'Brien, Dr. Snyder, Scott Kelley, Leonard Jumper, Chris Rahn, Paula Jones, Stephanie States, Liz Derr, Joe Stasyszyn, Karen Sheaffer, Kathleen Kassirer, Duane Wright, Renee LeDonne, Chris Young, Kristi Wickard, Luke Roman (PCT), and approximately 30-35 teachers/students/citizens.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*October 12, 2015*

Mr. Kling moved, seconded by Mrs. Fry, to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2015 board meeting.

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

*Revenue and Expense Report-  
October 2015*

*Treasurer's Report – October 2015*

No report was given due to Mr. Kent being absent.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Capital Area Intermediate Unit*

Mrs. Rice reported the CAIU meeting was held October 22<sup>nd</sup>; reconciliation of the services that were granted last year by the CAIU, netted in most districts getting a refund of what they had anticipated; the CAIU had a couple members leave due to not fulfilling re-election or choosing not to go to the CAIU anymore for meetings.

*Cumberland-Perry Area Vocational*

Mr. Kling was not in attendance at the regular meeting, but did attend the open house on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Rice reported the meeting consisted of budget discussions and upgrades in the HVAC during the next 3-5 years.

*Harrisburg Area Community College*

Mrs. Dell reported HACC will hold a meeting on November 11, 2015. She will have a report at the December Board meeting.

*Pennsylvania School Boards*

Mrs. Dell reported the Urban/Rural focus group has not met yet; nationally looking at ESEA; a local meeting was held in October.

*Athletic Committee*

Mr. Rice reported the next meeting will be held November 19<sup>th</sup>.

*President's Report*

Mr. Thiemann reported the artwork in the Boardroom was done by West Perry High School art students; elementary and middle school parent/teacher conferences were held; started working on the 2016-2017 budget process; pulled around \$3 million from reserve funds to keep programs running; early projections show a \$3.6 million shortfall for the 2016-2017 budget; increase in PSERS pre-retirement payments and health benefits; attended an education seminar; next Monday (11-16-15) PSBA will

## APPROVAL OF BILLS

### *Regular Bills*

hold an event at the Capitol concerning the budget.

Mr. King moved, seconded by Mrs. Rice, to approve the regular bills as presented.

A copy is attached to the original minutes.

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

### *West Perry Senior Cheerleaders – National High School Cheerleading Competition*

Members of the West Perry Senior Cheerleading squad requested permission to attend the National High School Cheerleading Competition in Ocean City, Maryland, from February 25, 2016 to February 28, 2016. They gave an overview of the benefits from attending this competition, the cost of the trip, fundraisers to help off-set these costs, and the rules which each student must follow while on the trip.

### *Re: motion – National High School Cheerleading Competition*

Mrs. Fry moved, seconded by Mr. Boose, to approve the West Perry Cheerleaders request to attend the National High School Cheerleading Competition from February 25, 2016 to February 28, 2016.

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

### *Transportation – Mr. Kelley*

Mr. Kelley gave an overview to the Board on how he has realigned bus routes to reduce ride time for students, which has also reduced the number of miles for the bus routes. By realigning the routes, the congestion on route 274 in front of the high school has also improved. Mr. Kelley has also looked at the safety and security of certain bus stops. The transportation for the Pre-K Class at Carroll Elementary has been running smoothly.

### *Staff Spotlight – Dr. O'Brien and Mr. Rahn/Mrs. Jones*

Mr. Rahn and Mrs. Jones spotlighted Mr. Gary Comp, High School Custodian, for continually going above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Comp is a team leader and an anchor to the high school custodial staff.

Mr. Rahn and Mrs. Jones also spotlighted Kate Dunkelburger for her role in creating the Leadership Council. A letter was composed and sent to all co-curricular and extra-curricular advisors asking them to select leaders in their activities to join this council. As of now, there are around 15 members in the council. The first meeting will be held 11-19-15.

STEAM members Paige Steffy and Adele Shirmer gave a presentation to the Board showing their PowerPass system they have created to help improve the accountability within school(s). They will be presenting this system at the STEAM competition sponsored by TE Connectivity.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### *Review and Importance of the District's Five Focus Points*

Dr. O'Brien gave an overview of the district's five focus points (1. Use of Educational Time; 2. Literacy; 3. Keystone Exams; 4. Academic Assessments; 5. Student Performance Data) and the importance these five points have on our district in helping our students succeeding.

### *Building Presentations – Principals West Perry High School*

Mr. Rahn reported the following: Ten students attended the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Six of the members earned a spot to compete against the rest of the nation in their respective categories; Morgan Stum placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Plant Science Division of the Agri-Science Fair; Haylee Reisinger placed 9<sup>th</sup> in the Environmental and Natural Resources Division of the Agri-Science Fair; The Parliamentary Procedure team ranked 16<sup>th</sup> on the exam portion and earned a bronze medal overall in the Parliamentary Procedure Competition; the "Mustang" Marching Band placed 10<sup>th</sup> out of 21 bands at the 2015 Tournament of Bands Atlantic Coast Championship held at Landis Field in Harrisburg; the color guard finished second place and Sarah Carter won a \$1000 scholarship from Tournament of Bands; West Perry High School will present its production of *Lizzie Borden of Fall River* on Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM; Girls' Field Hockey

and Boys' Soccer qualified for Districts; Boys' Cross Country Runner, Dylan Rowles, qualified for states where he competed last weekend; winter sports officially begin Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>; individual plans to maintain fidelity of the virtual academy program; weekly meetings with administration, coordinator of the online learning, and the guidance counselors to track progress and develop plans for students who are not making adequate progress; School Performance Profile: review specific data at a later date, our preliminary data looks strong.

*West Perry Middle School*

Ms. LeDonne reported the following: Use of ELO to increase math minutes (40/day) 4 days a cycle; Building initiative Text dependent analysis and Close reading; spring 2016, 46 students will be eligible to take Algebra Keystone Exams, spring 2017, 80+ students should be eligible due to the increased population taking Algebra 1A in seventh grade this current school year; Building-wide goal documenting types of assessments and average scores per instructional period in all courses. Analyzing assessment data per instructional period for all courses to make informed decisions for progression of instruction; Student Performance Data: continue to use PSSA, switched local assessment to Study Island. Baseline data in September, mid-year assessment to determine growth in January, end-of-year assessment in May for total growth and to assist in scheduling students for the 2016-2017 school year.

*Blain Elementary*

Ms. Wickard reported the following: PTO fall fundraiser, Walk-a-Thon, was held on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Students were able to raise \$5,500 for the PTO; Students have been submitting reading logs for our "Be a Blain S.T.A.R" (Student That Always Reads) program. Our goal is to read 750,000 minutes over the course of the entire school year. For the months of September and October our students have read a total of 154,103 minutes. Students are recognized for their hard work with certificates, pencils, and restaurant coupons if they read the amount of minutes required for each month; the Backpack Program is being used by 55 participants at this time and is running very smoothly; Parent/Teacher conferences were held for the 1<sup>st</sup> marking period; 79% of our population scheduled and attended conferences; November 10<sup>th</sup> we will be honoring our Veterans and Grandparents. An assembly will be held, and the grandparents will be able to visit classrooms.

*Carroll Elementary*

Mrs. Kassirer reported the following: On October 7<sup>th</sup> 25 parents attended a kindergarten workshop from 7-8 PM; October 8<sup>th</sup> was Fire Prevention Safety Day, the Shermans Dale Fire Department came to the school; October 16<sup>th</sup> the PTO sponsored Donuts for Dads was held from 7-7:45 AM, there was over 250 in attendance; a pumpkin painting contest was sponsored by Verizon in Shermans Dale; October 30<sup>th</sup> a Halloween parade and party was held; Reading incentive program; the PTO bought new rubber mulch for the playground, they also gave \$100 to teachers for reimbursement for instruction/room materials, books, etc.; November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> parent/teacher conferences were held; November 20<sup>th</sup> and December 18<sup>th</sup> Family Movie Night will be held at Carroll Elementary at 7:00 PM

*New Bloomfield Elementary*

Mr. Clouse was absent, but created a student video presentation which reported the following: Mrs. Anderson is running a mentoring program with the cadets from Carson Long. This program matches a small group of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys with a mentor from Carson Long; Student Council will sponsor a week long food drive to benefit the backpack program for county elementary schools; Mrs. Dillman's Life Skills class project is to help unpack the delivered boxes each week and distributes the backpacks to the classrooms.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

*West Perry Education Association*

Nothing to report at this time.

*West Perry Education Support  
Professional Association*

No one present

*Other*

None

## NEW BUSINESS

### *Resolution – District Solicitor*

*Kim Smith of Barley Snyder*

1. Mr. Rice moved, seconded by Mrs. Rice, to approve the Resolution for Kim Smith of Barley Snyder, to serve as the District Solicitor, effective November 2, 2015 through June 30, 2017.

Mrs. Dell questioned if the term should be on until June 30, 2016. She has concerns about the current cost and what the cost may be under the new firm. Mrs. Dell noted she would be voting no if the term remains as listed on the agenda.

Mrs. Rice commented Hartman, Underhill, and Brubaker are also the solicitor for the CAIU. The CAIU has also approved a similar resolution. Hartman, Underhill, and Brubaker have acknowledged they would not be changing their fee structure for at least a year.

Mr. Thiemann noted this is an appointment based on the current fee structure. Any changes to the fee structure would need to be discussed and approved to continue.

A copy is attached to the original minutes.

All members present voted: **Motion carried. 7 Yes 1 No (Dell)**

### *Maintenance/Transportation Secretary job description*

2. Mr. Kling moved, seconded by Mrs. Fry to approve the Maintenance/Transportation Secretary job description.

Mrs. Dell expressed her concerns about how this new position will affect the role of the district office secretary who is currently performing some of these duties.

Dr. O'Brien stated this would be discussed in Executive session.

A copy is attached to the original minutes.

All members present voted: **Motion carried. 6 Yes 2 No (Dell, Egolf)**

### *Personnel*

#### *Leave of Absence:*

3. Mrs. Fry moved, seconded by Mr. Kling, to approve the following leave of absence:

#### a. Leave of Absence:

1. Amanda Dittmer, West Perry Middle School, Science Teacher, is requesting a paid leave of absence from approximately February 16, 2016 through approximately March 31, 2016 to be followed by an unpaid leave of absence from approximately April 1, 2016 through the end of the 2015-2016 school year. Mrs. Dittmer has met all requirements for said leave in accordance with the agreement between West Perry School District and the West Perry Education Association.

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

### *Employment*

- b. Employment - Pending receipt of required documentation:

Mr. Boose moved, seconded by Mr. Fry, to approve the following employment items 1-3:

1. Karen Mohny, West Perry High School, Science-Biology Teacher, effective upon release from current employer; Salary: \$40,751 (prorated at \$215.61 per day) Step 1 of the Bachelor's Scale. Ms. Mohny will be filling the vacant position of Jessica St. Clair, due to resignation, Personnel, Item 2-a, of the October 12, 2015 Board agenda.
2. Benjamin Wacker, West Perry High School, French Teacher, effective upon release from current employer; Salary: \$40,751 (prorated at \$215.61 per day) Step 1 of the Bachelor's Scale. Mr. Wacker will be filling the vacant position of Marissa Dietrich, due to resignation, Personnel, Item 1-a, of the September 21, 2015 Board agenda.

3. Kathy Heaster, West Perry High/Middle School, In-School Suspension Paraprofessional, 5 ½ hours, effective November 10, 2015; Salary: \$9.25 per hour. Ms. Heaster will be filling the vacant position of Debra Nailor, due to resignation, Personnel, Item 2-d, of the October 12, 2015 Board agenda.

All members present voted: **Motion carried. 7 Yes 1 No (Kling)**

4. Mr. Rice moved, seconded by Mr. Boose, to approved the 2015-2016 West Perry High School Club Advisors (2015-2016 Co-Curricular Salaries, Item f-3, of the May 11, 2015 Board agenda).

**STAFF**

**POSITION**

Kristin Davis	Yearbook Club Advisor
Lynne Reeder/Celia Elmes	Co-National Honor Society Advisors
Roger Austin	Varsity Club Advisor
Nathan Grippin	School Newspaper Advisor
Harold Weaver	Student Senate Advisor
John Hines/Ayla Miller	FFA Club Advisors
Betsy Riter	Shakespeare Festival Advisor
Matthew Wieseman	Chorus Club Advisor
Jennifer DiLissio	Show Choir Advisor
Matthew Wieseman	Choral Director
Matthew Wieseman	Concert Band Director
Matthew Wieseman	Jazz Band Director
Molly Knisley/Jody Heberlig	Art Club Co-Advisors
Lori Ellerman	Cheerleading Club
Nathan Grippin	Drama Club Advisor
Nathan Grippin/Lindsay Ewing	Musical Co-Directors
Thomas Abeling	Class of 2016 Advisor
Ashley McMillen/Kristin Davis	Class of 2017 Advisors
Tricia Miller/Thomas Abeling	Class of 2018 Advisors
Nicholas Hall/Robert Darden	Class of 2019 Advisors
Lindsay Ewing	Spanish Travel Club Advisor
Betsy Riter	REACH Out Club Advisor
Emily Harne	Environmental Stewardship Club Advisor
Mary Courage	Science and Engineering Club Advisor
Charles Kembring/Chad Shipp	TSA Club Advisors
Patrick Guyer	Horizons Club Advisor
Gretchen Barrick/Alexa Line	Student Council Advisors
Joseph Cirulli	Outdoor Adventures Club Advisor
Joseph Cirulli	Math Club Advisor
Joseph Cirulli	Ultimate Frisbee Club Advisor
Harold Weaver	Strategy and Tactics Advisor

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

Mr. Kling moved, seconded by Mr. Rice, to approved employment items 5-7:

5. The Administration is recommending the following coaches for approval: (Title IX note: The filling of these previously Board-approved positions does not imbalance gender equity.)
- a. Karen Barclay, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Middle School Girls' Basketball Coach; Stipend: \$1,896.60. Ms. Barclay was the MS coach last year.
  - b. Jodi Lavenberg, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade MS Girls' Basketball Coach; Stipend: \$2,346.60. Mrs. Lavenberg will be replacing Matt Harmon who is now the JV Girls' Basketball Coach.

- c. Stanley Urich, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball Coach; Stipend: \$1,701.60. Mr. Urich will be replacing Troy Deveney who resigned.
  - d. Scott Kelley, Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach
  - e. Emma Harris, Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach
  - f. Jared Weibley, Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach
6. Day-to-Day Substitute Teacher
- a. Amanda Lightner, English 7-12
7. Bus/Van Drivers:
- a. Helen Spangler for Dennis Dum & Dum's Bus Service
  - b. Earl Knapp for Dennis Dum & Dum's Bus Service
  - c. Merle Nolt for Dennis Dum & Dum's Bus Service
  - d. Holly Sweger for Dennis Dum & Dum's Bus Service

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

## ADDENDUM NEW BUSINESS

### *Personnel Employment*

1. Mr. Kling moved, seconded by Mr. Rice, to approve the following personnel item:
  - a. Employment - All Pending Receipt of Required Documentation:
    1. Joseph O'Toole, West Perry High School, Life Skills Support Teacher, effective upon release from current employer; Salary: \$56,763 (prorated at \$300.33 per day) Step 4 of the Master's +45 Scale. Mr. O'Toole will be filling the vacant position of Alexa Schaeffer, due to resignation, Personnel, Item 2-b, of the August 10, 2015 Board agenda.

All members present voted: **Motion carried. 7 Yes 1 No (Egolf)**

## EDUCATION

### *Federal Programs Update*

1. Dr. Snyder reported she attended a Federal Programs webinar; Title I grant will shift from solely a compliance grant to one that will be measured by annual goals. This will require changes to how we write the grant, and measure the success of our Title I and Title II grants; a Title I parent education event was held at the high school for all three elementary buildings. There were about 40 families that attended. The reading specialists provided literacy strategies that parent can do with their children at home.

### *Smithsonian Institution Agreement*

2. Mrs. Fry moved, seconded by Mr. Kling, to approve the agreement with the Smithsonian Institution for the "Let's Do History Tour". There is no cost to the district associated with this agreement.

A copy is attached to the original minutes.

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

### *2015-2016 Manito Laurel Life*

3. Mrs. Dell moved, seconded by Mr. Kling, to approve the contract with Manito Laurel Life to provide school-based counseling services for qualifying students during the 2015-2016 school year. Cost not to exceed the amount of \$7,000.00 (funded through Ready to Learn Grant).

A copy is attached to the original minutes.

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

## FISCAL

### *2014-2015 Budgetary Transfers*

Mrs. Fry moved, seconded by Mr. Boose, to approve fiscal items 1-2:

1. 2014-2015 Budgetary Transfers

### *2015-2016 Budgetary Transfers*

2. 2015-2016 Budgetary Transfers

Mrs. Dell asked why the 2014-2015 transportation salaries and benefits, and transportation bussing transfers were not completed before June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Thiemann and Dr. O'Brien stated they would need to ask Mrs. Davis due to her

being absent at the meeting. They will follow-up on these items.

A copy is attached to the original minutes.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mrs. Dell - yes

Mrs. Egolf - yes

Mrs. Fry - yes

Mr. Kent - absent

Mr. Kling - yes

Mr. Rice - yes

Mrs. Rice - yes

Mr. Thiemann - yes

Mr. Boose - yes

**Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Thiemann noted the Board met prior to the meeting in Executive session for personnel matters, and with no further business to discuss, Mr. Thiemann asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and move back into Executive session for personnel matters.

Mr. Kling moved, seconded by Mr. Rice, to adjourn the meeting and move into Executive session for personnel matters.

All members present voted in the affirmative. **Motion carried. 8 Yes 0 No**  
Meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Stevie J. Davis  
Board Secretary

SJD/cls

Board Minutes: November 9, 2015