

**GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Business Meeting**  
**February 14, 2008**  
**Johnstown High School**

I. Called to order by President Praught at 6:07 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

Robert Kosowicz	Susanne Fitzgerald	Scott Miller	Russell Martin
James Levin	John David Praught	Joanne Freeman	

EXCUSED:

Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth      Robert Curtis

OTHERS:

John S. Whelan                      Katherine Sullivan

II. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

*"In accordance with its practice, the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District does not permit oral comments from the public relating to specific personnel decisions regarding individuals employed by the District during the portion of its meeting where the Board permits public comment. Members of the public are welcome to send questions, comments or concerns regarding these or other matters to the Board in writing."*

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Levin to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on January 23, 2008.*

VOTE:              7   YES                        0   NO

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S/ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

- Mr. Whelan asked Mr. Praught to add a motion to the agenda (see section VI, part A, item 1b) regarding his resignation for purposes of retirement, which was then voted on and approved by board members.
- Mrs. Sullivan stated that teacher representatives asked if they could sign letters of support regarding the nature trail rather than conducting a survey. Letters from Pleasant Avenue and Warren Street have been received; letters from the other buildings are expected. Mrs. Freeman indicated while this was good, she feels a class syllabus is necessary, showing how they plan to incorporate the trail into lessons and what equipment is required. She said this could be shared with buildings & grounds to help decide how funds should be allocated. Mr. Miller indicated we need to think about what kind of money is needed for this and if we have it or where it can come from.
- Mrs. Sullivan noted she was "choked up" and said she is disappointed Mr. Whelan is retiring; that it's been a great run and he's done a lot of great things for the district.

V. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **PERSONNEL**

1. **Separations**

a. **Resignation of Ann Blackwood, School Monitor (Cafeteria)**

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Ann Blackwood as a School Monitor (Cafeteria), effective January 25, 2008.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

2. **Leaves of Absence**

3. **Abolishments**

4. **Creations/Appointments/Adjustments**

a. **Probationary Appointment of Harry Wiggins, School Monitor (Cafeteria)**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Harry Wiggins as a School Monitor (Cafeteria), \$7.15 per hour, 10 months per year, effective January 23, 2008.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

b. **Probationary Appointment of Anna Moudgil, Teacher Aide (one to one)**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Anna Moudgil as a Teacher Aide (one to one), \$7.76 per hour, 10 months per year, effective January 30, 2008.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

c. **Permanent Appointment of Sandra Johnson, Teacher Aide (one to one)**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the permanent appointment of Sandra Johnson as a Teacher Aide (one to one) effective March 2, 2008.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

d. **Substitute Appointment of Jeanna Remonda, Food Service Helper**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the substitute appointment of Jeanna Remonda as a Food Service Helper, pay per the 2007/08 classified substitute pay schedule, effective January 23, 2008 through June 30, 2008.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO





**c. Term Appointments of Coaching Staff**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Kosowicz to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve term appointments of the following spring coaches for the 2007-2008 school year:*

*George Werle, Boys' Tennis Head Coach \$2,000  
Johnathan Valovic, Track Assistant #3 \$2,114*

*VOTE:           7 YES                           0 NO*

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CSE, CPSE**

**1. Committee for Special Education**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meeting(s) held on 1/18/08, 1/23/08, 1/24/08, 1/31/08 and 2/6/08:*

*000183935    000163914    009140115    000184930    000140297  
000292007    000900167    000293477    000296938    000165043  
000125819    000123638    000900120    000186047    000176961  
000184937    000306157    000305898    000900171*

*VOTE:           7 YES                           0 NO*

**C. STUDENT MATTERS**

**1. JHS Senior Winter Guard Trip to Monmouth Junction, New Jersey**

*Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Kosowicz to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the JHS Senior Winter Guard trip to South Brunswick High School in Monmouth Junction, New Jersey, leaving Johnstown High School on Friday, March 14, 2008 at approximately 3:00 p.m. and returning at approximately 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 16, 2008.*

*VOTE:           7 YES                           0 NO*

Note: Mr. Martin inquired why this is being presented to the Board at such a late date, considering that the initial request appeared to have been prepared in November. Mr. Whelan indicated it was held until plans were firm. Mrs. Freeman asked why a list of chaperones for the trip wasn't included.

**VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS**

**1. Calendar of Events for Annual Election on May 20, 2008**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the calendar of events for the Annual Election to be held on May 20, 2008 as seen in addendum #5.*

*VOTE:           7 YES                           0 NO*

Note: Mr. Kosowicz asked to ensure that the calendar and events at Knox do not conflict.

2. **Appointment of Board of Registration**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint Emily Kralovic (R) of 213 Pleasant Avenue, Johnstown and Jacqueline Swatt (D) of 102 Fon Clair Street, Johnstown, to the Board of Registration for a one-year term as of February 13, 2008; that the Board of Registration Meetings shall be held at the high school from the hours of 12:00 NOON to 4:00 PM on May 6, 2008 or as otherwise needed; and that the flat rate of pay for each member shall be \$7.25 hour for a total of \$29.00 for each meeting consisting of four hours.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

3. **Authorization for District Clerk to Publish Election Notices**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to authorize the District Clerk to publish Notice of Voter Registration, to prepare Registers, and to provide for public notification of the Annual Meeting and Election of the Greater Johnstown School District to be held on May 20, 2008 for the election of three members to the Board of Education to serve three year terms to begin July 1, 2008 for the offices now held by:*

*Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth                            Robert Curtis                            Scott Miller*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

4. **Adoption of 2008-2009 District Calendar**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to adopt the District Calendar for the 2008-2009 school year effective February 13, 2008, as seen in addendum #6.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

5. **CAPITAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE ORDER**

*Board Member Mr. Miller presents the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Board Member Mrs. Fitzgerald:*

***WHEREAS***, the Greater Johnstown School District Board of Education requires Board approval for capital construction change orders amounting to over ten-thousand dollars (\$10,000) as part of the Board's oversight responsibilities, and

***WHEREAS***, the Greater Johnstown School District contracted with Capital Environmental Incorporated to provide asbestos removal work in the current \$12.5 million project, and

***WHEREAS***, following the discovery of additional work to remove unidentified asbestos materials, between the ceiling and floors, at Knox Junior High School, Capital Environmental submitted an estimate of \$13,050.00 to complete the specified work, and

***WHEREAS***, concurrently Greater Johnstown School District officials and Bonacci Architects negotiated a credit of \$3,558.00 since it was decided to leave a number of transite panels in place in the HS cafeteria and existing science rooms, and

***WHEREAS***, district officials also negotiated a \$1,500 credit for early issues related to scheduling and clean up for Capital Environmental, and

***WHEREAS***, the two credits stipulated above will be administered as deduct change orders to the contract, and

*WHEREAS, the Superintendent, Interim Business Administrator, Director of Building and Grounds, Clerk of the Works, and Bonacci Architects all recommend approval of the subject change orders,*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Greater Johnstown School District Board of Education approves the change orders stipulated above and directs the Superintendent to notify the appropriate parties to issue and execute the required SED paperwork for the subject change orders.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- Mr. Praught said he appreciated all of the things Mr. Whelan has done for the district and is sad he is leaving. He said we all should appreciate the low tax rates, capital project and his and Mrs. Sullivan’s stepping in to take over the business manager duties when it was needed.
- Mrs. Freeman asked if Mr. Whelan would change his mind.
- Mr. Kosowicz said it had been a personal pleasure to work with such a dedicated and hardworking individual as Mr. Whelan. He noted that his follower will have to aim high.

**IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

March 5, 2008	Extra-Curricular & Audit Committees	6:00 PM –6:30 PM
	Academic & Facilities Committees	6:30PM – 7:00 PM
	Discussion/Business Meeting	7:00 PM Public Session Warren Street Library
March 19, 2008	Business Meeting	6:00 PM Public Session Johnstown High School

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Mr. Kosowicz, seconded by Mrs. Freeman, to adjourn at 6:28 p.m.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter,  
District Clerk