

GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Discussion/Business Meeting
March 5, 2008
Warren Street School Library

I. Called to order by President Praught at 7:06 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| John David Praught | Robert Kosowicz | Russell Martin |
| Scott Miller | Susanne Fitzgerald | James Levin |
| Robert Curtis | Joanne Freeman | Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth |

OTHERS:

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| John S. Whelan | Katherine Sullivan |
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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. **SUPERINTENDENT'S/ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

- Mrs. Sullivan announced that approximately 91% of high school students taking the Math A exam had passed and 88% had passed the English 11 exam. She extended her appreciation to the staff for their hard work and to the students for doing a fine job.
- Warren Street School Principal Anne Christiano issued a welcome to everyone and asked for a moment to showcase the technology used to support and enhance learning at Warren Street. A PowerPoint presentation developed by Mr. McCullough's sixth graders regarding the six pillars of the character education program was shown. This was followed by a movie prepared using MovieMaker, which included a rendition of the school song, together with pictures to be used in their yearbook. Mrs. Christiano then demonstrated ways the internet is used in connection with the curriculum, highlighting the Harcourt and Saxson sites that correlate to student textbooks.

IV. **COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

- Academic Curriculum: Mrs. Freeman reported the committee reviewed support for the nature trail and continued their examination of declining enrollment. A donation made to the nature trail by Spray Nine Corporation in memory of Edward A. Pitcher was acknowledged.
- Audit: Mr. Levin reported the committee discussed the 2008-09 budget and noted that meetings had been taking place between department heads and administrators. A workshop was announced for 5 p.m. on March 19 at JHS. He also reported that there are six candidates for the school business manager position and that the committee reviewed the Maple Knolls tax resolution being added to the agenda.
- Extra-Curricular: Mr. Kosowicz indicated that the committee heard a report from Mr. Satterlee. Wrestlers Mark Gillen and Louis Emden will participate in the state tournament; there is a varsity awards assembly taking place tonight; three of our winter sports teams earned scholar-athlete status; varsity basketball player Katie Koehler was recognized as the WNYT and Dunkin' Donuts Player of the Week; spring sports have started with great numbers, approximately ½ of the student body is participating; the recent Family Fun Night enjoyed a huge turnout; Winter Guard held a well attended home show on February 16. Thanks were given to Nick Koehler for his help with a slide show during basketball.

C. STUDENT MATTERS

1. JHS International Club Trip to Woodworth Lake Boy Scout Camp

Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the JHS International Club trip to Woodworth Lake Boy Scout Camp from Friday, March 7, 2008 (departing at approximately 5:30 p.m.) to Sunday, March 9, 2008 (returning at approximately 9:30 a.m.). Transportation will be provided by parents.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL FIRE REPORT SUMMARY

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Curtis to approve the Annual Fire Report Summary of inspections conducted February 20, 2008 through February 22, 2008, effective March 5, 2008.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

2. TAX CERTIORARI STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT

Board Member Mr. Curtis presents the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Board Member Mr. Kosowicz:

RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the settlement of the pending tax certiorari proceedings commenced by Maple Knoll Apartments against the City of Johnstown (Index No. 94953) for the properties and tax years identified in the annexed Stipulation of Settlement, pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in such Stipulation, and hereby authorizes its counsel to execute said Stipulation on its behalf.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Mr. Simone said the Boy Scouts are ready to help with cleaning up the Nature Trail in the spring and he has lined up donations from various vendors, together with volunteers. Mr. Whelan indicated the district appreciates the assistance and reminded anyone who wishes to help that they will need to contact E.J. Maye.
- Mrs. Freeman commended the Boy Scouts for coming tonight and giving back to the community. She asked if there might be any Girl Scouts willing to help as well.
- Mrs. Christiano introduced several Warren Street staff members seated in the audience.

IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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| March 19, 2008 | Budget Workshop | 5:00 PM Public Session |
| | Business Meeting | 6:00 PM Public Session |
| | | Johnstown High School |
| April 2, 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 |
| | | Knox Jr. High Library |

X. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON

Motion by Mr. Kosowicz seconded by Mrs. Freeman to go to executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person at 7:39 p.m.

VOTE: 9 Yes 0 No

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Curtis, seconded by Mr. Miller, to adjourn at 9:27 p.m.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter,
District Clerk