

Minutes
Committee of the Whole
June 5, 2006

The Penn Manor School Board met at 6:00 p.m. in Executive Session to discuss legal matters and the Superintendent's evaluation and goals. Present were Mr. DeLuca, Dr. Frerichs, Mrs. Friedman, Mr. Geist, Mr. C. Willis Herr, Mr. Kreider, Mr. Rintz and Mrs. Wert. Mr. Lyon was absent. Present from the administrative staff were Mr. Stewart and Ms. Pollock. The Executive Session adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

The Penn Manor School Board met as a Committee of the Whole at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at Manor Middle School. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Mr. C. Willis Herr. Present were Mr. DeLuca, Dr. Frerichs, Mrs. Friedman, Mr. Geist, Mr. C. Willis Herr, Mr. Kreider, Mr. Rintz and Mrs. Wert. Mr. Lyon was absent. Present from the administrative staff were Mr. Stewart, Mr. Johnston, Ms. Pollock, Mr. Skrocki and Dr. Leichliter. Also in attendance were Mrs. Rhoades, Mr. Reisinger, Penn Manor residents, Millersville University students and Mrs. Howard.

Mr. Herr asked if there were any Citizen's Comments. Mr. Jay Clark, 1055 Hearthstone Rd. approached the board about personal student issues.

Mr. Stewart welcomed the Millersville University students. He explained the format of the three types of board meetings. He said the Sunshine Law allows school boards to meet privately for specific types of issues, such as, personnel issues, negotiations with the teacher's association and the purchase of real estate. Mr. Stewart stated an Executive Session was held this evening and the current board session is the Committee of the Whole, where the board will have discussions about issues. Some of these items will be placed on the voting meeting agenda. The third meeting is a voting meeting. The law requires anytime a school district takes action that results in the expenditure of public tax dollars, personnel matters and policies that it occur in a public voting meeting.

Mr. Herr asked the committee whether there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of the May 8, 2006, Committee of the Whole Meeting. Hearing none, on a motion by Mr. DeLuca a second by Friedman, and a unanimous voice vote, the Minutes were approved as printed.

Mr. Reisinger explained the process used for searching for a new online in-service management system. He demonstrated how the district professional development in-service courses are chosen and showed an example of a finished in-service contract. He also presented the building principal information link and explained the approval process. Ms. Pollock explained the Act 48 requirements for all professionals holding a Pennsylvania certificate. She said with the Online Training System the district will be able to upload the completed professional staff development hours to the state for Act 48 credits. Ms. Pollock stated that 95% of the district in-services this year will be taught by district teachers knowledgeable in a particular area. Only two outside presenters will be paid for in-services. Approval for placement of the Online Training System Contract on the June School Board Meeting Agenda was approved on a motion by Mrs. Wert, a second by Mr. Kreider and a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Stewart reviewed information received in the spring regarding action the legislature anticipated approving on property tax reform. Because of this information, two additional board meetings were added to the schedule relating to the 2006-2007 budget. Mr. Stewart reminded the board of the June 15 meeting to approve the budget. He asked which board members will be present for the necessary quorum to pass the budget. He explained that the proposed Penn Manor tax rebate program. It would match the state tax rebate program for eligible citizens. Mr. Stewart asked if the board would want to continue with the Penn Manor proposed tax rebate program regardless of what happens on the state level. Mr. Skrocki explained the details of the state tax rebate program, eligibility and documentation required for the approval of a rebate. After some discussion the board gave the direction to proceed with a maximum \$500 tax rebate plan for qualified Penn Manor taxpayers. Mr. Skrocki reported information about the tax rebate program will be in the summer edition of *Above and Beyond*, posted on the web site and sent to local newspapers.

Mr. Stewart explained the details of the Manor Church request for the waiver of taxes on approximately 7 acres of property from the Shertzer farm to be purchased. Mr. Skrocki explained Clean and Green and rollback taxes. Mrs. Wert supports the waiver of taxes for the church. Many Penn Manor students have benefited from the services of the church. Mr. Gerlach, from Manor Church, presented a plan to develop the property into a community park. Mr. Johnston provided information on the amount of taxes and deed restrictions on a previous waiver of taxes. Questions and discussion relating to this topic ensued. A motion for placement of the waiver of taxes on the June School Board Meeting Agenda was offered by Mrs. Wert and a second by Mr. Kreider. The following call vote was taken on this motion. Joe DeLuca, no; Richard L. Frerichs, yes; Johnna Friedman, no; Frank Geist, abstained; C. Willis Herr, abstained; Jeffrey Kreider, yes; Jeffrey E. Lyon, absent, Carlton Rintz, abstained; and Donna J. Wert, yes. The motion failed. This item will not be placed on the June School Board Meeting Agenda.

Mr. Stewart provided information about a student trip to Germany. On June 10, 13 Penn Manor high school students will visit Germany for 21 days under the direction of Nadine Smith. He reviewed some areas of the program and a packet of information. He said that all rules, policies and standards of the school board will remain in force while the students are on the trip. Questions were asked for clarification and about student health insurance while in Germany.

Mr. Stewart reviewed the IU service contracts for 2006-2007. He reported the estimated total cost for services is a reduction from previous contracts. The reduction is due to the transfer of entities of a high school life skills class and a reduction in support services for speech, occupational and physical therapy. He said the high school life skills class will have 7-8 Penn Manor students and approximately 4 students from other school districts. The sending school districts will pay 85% of the IU charges to Penn Manor for their students in the class. Questions were asked for clarification. Approval for placement of this item on the June School Board Meeting Agenda was approved on a motion by Dr. Frerichs, a second by Mrs. Wert and a unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Leichliter presented an overview of Project 720. The goals of the program are to increase the rigor of educational programs, enhance postsecondary access and credentialing for increasing numbers of students, and produce active and productive

citizens. He explained the key strategies of the program and listed some of the areas Penn Manor could use the funds. The grant application is due by June 16. If awarded the grant Penn Manor would qualify for approximately \$70,000. Dr. Mindish stated if awarded the grant, the after school tutoring program would be expanded to include all subject areas and snacks would be provided for the students receiving tutoring. Mr. Geist asked if the Dual Enrollment Program was a success. Dr. Mindish said the majority of the students benefited from taking the college class. General questions were asked about the Project 720.

Mr. Stewart commented to the board about a letter to the editor regarding the absence of pages dedicated to the Music Department. Dr. Mindish explained it was a decision of the yearbook committee to place Music Department pictures throughout the yearbook rather than dedicate 2 pages with group pictures. She also said a letter will be sent to the parents of the students in the music groups explaining the decision.

Mr. Stewart explained the Compensatory Education Resolution. It will provide twenty hours of compensatory education for a student receiving exceptional education services. Approval for placement of this item on the June School Board Meeting Agenda was approved on a motion by Dr. Frerichs, a second by Mrs. Friedman and a unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Frerichs explained there is pending legislation in Harrisburg regarding public schools starting school after Labor Day. Dr. Frerichs requested the opinions of board members regarding the pending legislation so he could represent the district. Board members are not in favor of legislation mandating the school calendar and prefer to let the local school boards decide their own calendar. It was felt that the tourist industry is dictating this legislation. Dr. Frerichs commented that the legislation has no educational implications for starting the school year after Labor Day. Additional discussion ensued on this topic.

Mr. Stewart announced that the proposal, Utilizing Available Technology to Streamline Your Superintendent Evaluation Process, submitted for presentation at the PSBA conference in October has been accepted. It was decided that Dr. Frerichs, Mr. Reisinger and Mr. Stewart would be the presenters at the conference.

Mr. Johnston announced that the search for an executive director for the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau has been completed. Mr. John Jabour has been selected and will begin on June 19. Mr. Johnston reviewed Mr. Jabour's credentials. He said that Mr. Jabour will be examining the operations and recommending a course that will bring greater revenue from earned income tax.

Mr. Johnston presented the revised Tax Collection Policy for a first reading. He said the policy was changed to bring it in line with the district's current handling of delinquent taxes by removing reference to the county Tax Claim Bureau. Approval for placement of the revised policy on the June School Board Meeting Agenda was approved on a motion by Mrs. Wert, a second by Mr. Kreider and a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Stewart reported that there are plans to develop the Silar Farm property, which is located next to the high school. Millersville Borough is requiring the development to have an additional access. He showed, on a diagram, the area of the proposed right-of-

way which would include a very small portion of Penn Manor property. Discussion ensued about granting the right-of-way for the development. The board granted permission for Mr. Stewart to pursue discussions about granting the right-of-way but to make no firm commitment until specific plans are presented. It was suggested that a donation to the Penn Manor Foundation would be considered for the access.

Mr. Stewart said there was consideration for a 10 hour 4 day work week for employees, during the month of July, as a cost savings measure for the district. He said a large percentage of the employees were in favor of the proposal while others disliked it. Since there are a few issues to consider before this could be implemented, it will be considered for July 2007.

Mr. Geist expressed a concern about board meeting time utilization. His concern involved lengthy comments from a parent that could have been directed to the administration.

Mr. Stewart reminded the board of high school graduation on Tuesday, June 6. He announced that the Quiz Bowl team competed in national competition in Washington, DC. They won 4 out of 6 events and placed in the elite 8 in the nation.

The Committee of the Whole adjourned at 9:02 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Wert, a second by Mr. Rintz, and a unanimous voice vote.

C. Willis Herr, President

Paula E. Howard, Secretary