

**WILLOW RUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
Ypsilanti, MI

**REGULAR MEETING**

**February 21, 2002**

The regular meeting opened at 7:35 p.m. at Cheney Academy of Mathematics and Science, with the pledge of allegiance lead by the student body in sign language and then repeated in Spanish.

Those present were:

Clifford Smith, President  
Andreas Blakita, Vice President  
Claudette Braxton, Secretary  
Brenda Clay, Trustee  
Mark Wilde, Trustee  
Scott Wilson, Trustee  
Pauline Wilde, Student Advisor to the Board

Absent:

Earl Roberson, Treasurer  
Gayle Green, Superintendent

Also present were:

Peter Silveri, Director, Human Resources  
John Nickel, Director, Business Services  
Katie Smith, Director, Technology  
Robert Wells, Principal, Holmes Elementary  
Teresa Wilson, Principal, Cheney Academy  
Ray Mellberg, Principal, Kaiser Elementary School  
Regina Williams, Interim Principal, Edmonson Middle School

**Citizens Time**

Heather Wilson, high school student commended the Board on the approval to add a student advisor to the board.

President Smith called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

#01020208 Ms. Braxton moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accepts the agenda as presented. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes:           6  
Nays:           0 - Motion carried

**Cheney Academy of Mathematics and Science Report**

Ms. Teresa Wilson, Principal welcomed the Board of Education to Cheney Academy. A Jeopardy skit was performed with student Jeren Thompson acting as the game show host and teachers Shannon Dibbles, Marlo Bearman and Brandon Seaver (student teacher) acting as contestants. As the Jeopardy contestants continually failed to answer questions correctly, various student groups were called to the rescue to help answer the questions.

**Highlights:**

Cindy Bowers, P.E. Teacher did a jump rope presentation with two students to demonstrate how the activity affected the heart rate. She also showed a slide show of the recent African Dance Assembly held at Cheney.

Renee Smith and The Curious Community presented information on Harriet Tubman.

A group of students sang a "Freedom" song accompanied by Mr. Thibbedeau, (Music Teacher) on guitar.

Two students from the Soaring Eagles helped answer a math question.

A group of students brought out a banner representing the number of Accelerated Reader Books that have been read by Cheney Students this year (10,601).

Students responded to the question "Why do people run for government office?" Two responded by reading "Civic Virtue & Common Good", two responded with a response done as a rap song.

The Beehive students displayed several questions that they have about electricity.

Kelly Webb's class performed a short "Westside Story" skit.

A group of students performed a Spanish Salsa Dance.

Lastly, each Board member was given an apple as a reminder that Cheney Academy was awarded the "Golden Apple Award".

Mr. Smith commented that the students did a great job tonight and that he was very proud of both the staff and students.

**Approval of Minutes**

#01020209 Ms. Braxton moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approves the minutes of the Regular meeting of February 7, 2002. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 - Motion carried

**Approval of Bills**

#01020210 Ms. Clay moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approves payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$3,101,817.79 and Building and Site Fund bills in the amount of \$252,293.85. Mr. Wilson supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 - Motion carried

**Communications**

Frank Delinsky gave the annual report for Dollars for Scholars, reporting that 48 scholarships were awarded to the class of 2001 and a total of 236 scholarships have been awarded to Willow Run graduates since June, 1995. Bill Young, President of Dollars for Scholars commented that the Board, the Community and the Staff have all shown tremendous support for the Dollars for Scholars Program. Last years phonathon met its goal and raised \$35,000. Last year they also introduced the Donna Adams-Johnson Memorial Scholarship. The 2002 phonathon will be April 13, 2002, with a new goal of \$40,000. Also new this year is the 20/20 neighborhood program which is a goal to get 20 neighbors to donate \$20, and the 100/100 program which is a goal to get 100 businesses to donate \$100. Sharon Maynard was introduced as the coordinator for the ABC3 Program which is an organization originally founded by University of Detroit Mercy, to work with college bound students. They have now partnered with Dollars-for-Scholars and help with fundraising. Sharon talked to the board about Mind Mapping, a technique to help learn how to retain information. Three training sessions were held in Willow Run, one in January, February and March by Master Trainer Jamie Nast. Fifty students and 10 staff members were involved in the training. Jamie Nast will return to Willow Run on April 11, 2002 for another training session. Board members were encouraged to register for the training.

**Approval of Correction to Tech Designer Contract**

#01020211 Mr. Blakita moved that the Willow Run Board of Education corrects the contract with Barton Malow for technology designer services, as attached. Mr. Wilson supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 - Motion carried

**Superintendent's Comments**

Pete Silveri (filling in for Dr. Green) reminded the Board that there will be a study session on the budget on Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 at the Willow Run High School – Forum Room.

**President's Comments:**

Mr. Smith distributed the Superintendent Evaluation forms to the other Board members and asked that they be completed and returned to him by March 7, 2002. The actual evaluation will be on March 21, 2002.

**Other comment from Board:**

Mr. Wilson commented that he picked up a good book on public education at the recent MASB conference and will be asking Superintendent Green to purchase some additional copies for the Board.

Mr. Smith mentioned that he had attended a very good session on “Bullying” at the MASB. Mr. Blakita commented that he too had attended the “Bullying” session and agreed that it was very good.

Ms. Clay commented that a lot of the things being talked about at the MASB Conference are things that we are already doing here in Willow Run. It’s a good feeling to know that we are a step ahead in a lot of areas.

Mr. Blakita commented that he thought there should be a place on the agenda for comments from the Student Advisor.

Pauline Wilde, student advisor, reminded the Board that there will be an Academic Pep Assembly tomorrow, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:50 a.m. at the high school.

President Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.