

**WILLOW RUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
Ypsilanti, MI

**REGULAR MEETING**

**May 23, 2002**

The regular meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. at Willow Run High School, 235 Spencer Lane, with the pledge of allegiance, with colors being presented by ROTC students.

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

Also present were:

Dr. Gayle Green, Superintendent  
Joe Ann Allen, Principal, Ford Elementary  
Mary Brandau, Principal, Kettering Elementary  
Chester Carter, Assistant Principal, Willow Run High School  
Rosalind Coffey, Assistant Principal  
Todd LaPrairie, Supervisor, Grounds and Maintenance  
George MacLeod, Director, Special Education  
Bill McGill, Principal, Willow Run High School  
Ray Mellberg, Principal, Kaiser Elementary  
John Nickel, Director, Business Services  
Kim Searcy, Supervisor, Transportation  
Pete Silveri, Director, Human Resources  
Katie Smith, Director, Technology  
Robert Wells, Principal, Holmes Elementary  
Jane Williams, Principal, Thurston E.C.D.C.  
Regina Williams, Principal, Edmonson Middle School  
Teresa Wilson, Principal, Cheney Academy of Math and Science

**Consideration of Additions or Deletions to the Agenda**

Dr. Green informed the Board of the following additions to the agenda:

Item VIII.2.B.1 – Approval of Bid Award for Installation of RFP Network  
Item VIII.2.B.2 - Approval of Compaq Server Purchase

She also informed the Board of the deletion of item VII.B. – Adoption of Head Start Resolution

**Approval of Agenda**

#01020508 Ms. Braxton moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accepts the agenda as amended. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Excellence in Education**

Mr. Silveri presented the Second Annual “Extra Distance Awards”. These awards are given to employees who go above and beyond their job requirements. This year’s recipients are:

- Stephanie Faison, Custodian and Bus Aide.
- Mary Justice, Media Parapro, Kettering Elementary.
- Cheryl Plouffe, Social Studies Teacher, Willow Run High School.
- Barb Sartorius, Special Education Teacher, Kaiser Elementary.
- Evelyn Banks, Lunch Room Supervisor, Kaiser Elementary.
- V.K. Wilson, Behavior Support Parapro, Cheney Academy.

Next was the presentation of the Lawson Mathematics Scholarship. This award was presented by Mary Joe Cordell-Lawson, the widow of Allen Lawson, who served on the Willow Run School Board from 1969-1974. This year’s recipient was Linda Tran.

Mr. McGill then introduced his staff and students and gave a brief overview of some of the accomplishments the high school has achieved during his first year as principal. These accomplishments include successes in both academics and sports, the first R.O.T.C. military ball, the National Championship win by the robotics team, Sharon Maynard’s selection as Wal-Mart’s Teacher of the Year, and the award of Outstanding Instructor for 2001-2002 to both Colonel Bulley and Master Sergeant Eddie of the Air Force Junior R.O.T.C. program.

Willow Run High School student, Joseph Wisniewski, presented a video of the national competition in Orlando, Florida, at which the Willow Run Penguins Robotics Team won first place to become the national champions. He also demonstrated the winning robot and the mini-robot, Piger.

This demonstration was followed by Ms. Hunt-Loy introducing the winners of the National Teachers Day Writing Contest.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Meredith Smith
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Jacob Oliver
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Joseph Smith

The topic the students wrote about was Cultural Diversity and Its Impact to Me.

Drama Club students Kari Wynn and David Gearhart then gave a brief overview of the history and progress of the Drama Club at Willow Run High School from its origin four-years ago when a group of freshmen organized it through today.

Avery Henningburg then introduced Thomas J. Rivard who demonstrated how mind mapping works and Frank Silvenski who explained that students who use mind mapping show improved grades. A video clip of channel 62 CBS News' report on mind mapping at Willow Run High School was also shown.

Mr. Henningburg gave a brief report of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Dollars for Scholars Phone-A-Thon. He said more than 100 students volunteered to make over 3,000 phone calls as well as sending out mailers, which resulted in over \$40,000 in corporate and individual pledges being made.

Mr. Henningburg said that this year 45 Willow Run High School seniors were awarded \$30,000 in scholarship monies, which brings the eight-year total to \$150,000 being awarded to 75 students.

In conclusion, Mr. McGill thanked everyone for their continued support of Willow Run High School and of Willow Run Community Schools.

President Smith adjourned for a break at 9:28.

President Smith called the meeting back to order at 9:36.

**Approval of Minutes**

#01020509 Ms. Braxton moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approves the minutes from the Regular meeting of May 9, 2002. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Approval of Bills**

#01020510 Ms. Braxton moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approves payment of general fund bills in the amount of \$2,546,391.27 and Building and Site fund bills in the amount of \$347,054.41. Ms. Clay supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Communications**

Dr. Green shared three communications with the Board. The first was a thank you note for flowers; the second was a letter from Barbara Patterson praising Holmes Principal, Robert Wells; and the third as a letter from U.S. Congressman, John Dingle, congratulating the Willow Run High School Penguins Robotics Team on their National Championship win in Orlando, Florida.

**Board Committee Reports**

Ms. Clay reported that the Curriculum Committee met on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Those present were Mr. Wilde, Mr. Wilson, Dr. Green, Ms. Chew, Ms. Cross, and Ms. Clay. Topics discussed were Title I, Best Practices, the NCA District Team presentation on April 30, and the CSRD, which five schools (Thurston, Cheney, Ford, Holmes, and Kaiser) are applying for, the Muth Award, and I3 Technical Training, along with other items.

Mr. Wilson reported that the Public Relations Committee met on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Those present were Ms. Clay, Dr. Green, Ms. Smith, Ms. Rich, and Mr. Wilson. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the television advertising campaign and having professionals come into the district to tape a commercial, as well as to review the tape made by Flyer Productions to promote the district.

**Adoption of Resolution Appointing Election Inspectors**

#01020511 Mr. Blakita moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the attached Resolution Appointing Election Inspectors. Mr. Wilde supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Approval of Bid Award for Installation of RFP Network**

#01020512 Mr. Wilson moved that the Board of Education accepts the bid in the amount of \$223,759.84 submitted by WorldCom for the construction of the District Technology and Infrastructure. Expenses are to be charged to the 2001 Bond Project Fund. Mr. Wilde supported.

Ayes: Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wilde, Ms. Clay, Mr. Blakita, Ms. Braxton, Mr. Smith  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Approval of Compaq Server Purchase**

#01020513 Mr. Wilde moved that the Board of Education approves the purchase of Compaq server farm equipment in the amount of \$88,122. Expenses are to be charged to the 2001 Bond Project Fund. Mr. Wilson supported.

Ayes: Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wilde, Ms. Clay, Mr. Blakita, Ms. Braxton, Mr. Smith  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip**

#01020514 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve an out-of-state field trip to the Toledo Zoo, located in Toledo, Ohio, on June 5, 2002, for Ms. Koch's, Ms. Hargis', and Ms. Hood's second and third grade classes. Mr. Wilson supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip**

#01020515 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve an out-of-state field trip to the Toledo Zoo, located in Toledo, Ohio, on June 18, 2002, for the children in Mr. Goven's child care program. Mr. Wilson supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip**

#01020516 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve an out-of-state field trip to attend the Network SuperVision Network Analysis Workshop in Toledo, Ohio on June 5, 2002, for students in Mr. Heister's class as attached. Mr. Wilson supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Approval of Course Agreement- Heinemann/First Steps**

#01020517 Ms. Clay moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approves the Course agreement with Heinemann/First Steps for training on 6/24/02 & 6/25/02 for 25 staff members for an amount not to exceed \$8,125. Mr. Wilson supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Approval of Payment of Barton Malow Company Invoice**

#01020518 Mr. Blakita moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve payment of the Barton Malow Company invoice in the amount of \$32,945.57. Ms. Braxton supported.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0 – Motion carried

**Superintendent's Comments**

Dr. Green pointed out the third article in a series in the *Ann Arbor News*, written by Emma Jackson, highlighting Willow Run Community Schools. This one was about Ford Elementary School.

President Smith declared the meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

