

**WILLOW RUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**Ypsilanti, Michigan**

**WORK/STUDY MEETING**

**June 3, 2010**

The Board Meeting opened at 6:34 p.m. at Willow Run High School, 235 Spencer Lane, Ypsilanti, Michigan, with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Those present were:

Sheri Washington, President  
Mark Wilde, Secretary  
Dorothy Stewart, Treasurer  
Don Garrett, Trustee  
Clifford Smith, Trustee  
Anglesia Brown, Trustee  
Kristine Thomas, Trustee

Those absent were:

Aricka Terry, Student Representative

Members of the Administrative Council Present Included:

Laura Lisiscki, Acting Superintendent  
JoeAnn Allen, Principal Ford Elementary  
Renee Smith, Principal Cheney Academy  
Delores Jenkins, Principal Holmes Elementary  
Charles Raski, Principal Kaiser Elementary  
Kelly Webb, Secondary Complex Principal  
Cecilia Queener, Human Resource Coordinator  
Dr. Joe Yomtoob, Consultant to the Board  
Bert Emerson, Finance Consultant  
Lynne Schweinsberg, Director of Dining Services

Ms. Washington called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

**Excellence in Education**

**Service Learning Group Presentation**

Ms. Boyer-Littlefield's and Ms. Przybylski's students gave a presentation on the service learning project. Two (2) students presented the board with a hand out and a copy of the CD that contained the song that our students created and recorded. Three (3) students shared a power point presentation with the Board. A Kaiser Elementary 6<sup>th</sup> grade student shared her perspective of the service learning project with the Board. Mr. Heister gave an update on the garden. Ms. Washington thanked everyone for the presentation. Mr. Wilde stated that it was nice to have kids give the presentation. Ms. Boyer-Littlefield let the Board know that the students did it all on their own.

**Approval of Agenda**

#0910060301 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the Agenda as amended.  
Ms. Brown supported.  
Ayes – 6  
Nays – 0 – motion carried

**Discussion**

Additions: V.b. Appointment of Board Member

### **Approval of Minutes**

#0910060302 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the minutes as amended from the Work/Study Board Meeting of May 27, 2010.

Mrs. Stewart supported.

Ayes – 6

Nays – 0 – motion carried

### **Discussion**

Mrs. Stewart indicated the changes that needed to be made to the minutes:

- Page 3, second paragraph, line 4, should state Freshman Academy, not Sophomore Academy.
- Page 3, donation to Cheney Academy, discussion, line 4, NASSA should be NASA.

### **Communications**

#### **Appointment of Board Member**

#0910060303 Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education approve the appointment of Kristine Thomas to the vacated seat, effective June 3, 2010.

Mr. Smith supported.

Ayes – 6 – Mr. Smith, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

### **Discussion**

Ms. Queener swore Kristine Thomas into office.

### **Board Committee Reports**

**Finance** – Mrs. Stewart did not have any minutes to share. She gave an update on the committee. The finance continues to work on the deficit elimination plan. The budget is continually being adjusted and balanced. JRROTC has been added. The Air handlers at Cheney Academy need to be replaced, some monies have been found but more is needed. There is a group that is interested in renting Kettering Elementary and negotiations continue.

**Education Reform** – Mr. Heister informed the board that the committee met several times and continue to work with school improvement teams. They discuss different initiatives. They are looking at constructive education this summer. This weekend, Robotics was invited to Oakland University and the Makers Fair in Ann Arbor. They are also working on having a carnival in July; each building will have a booth and offer the community booths for a small fee.

**Policy** – Mr. Wilde gave a copy of the policy committee report to the Board. He reported that he and Dr. Joe went to MASB and met with Bob Ebersal and Randy to discuss how to replace our current policy manual. MASB has a boiler plate that can be revised for customization. The cost would be \$8,200 and we would own the policy manual. If this is purchased, the new policy manual could be completed by the beginning of the school year. Mr. Smith commented that this is the “Bible for the District” and we should get to it immediately. The last revision was done in 1995 and a handful of changes were done in 2005. This is an old piece of work that needs to be changed. There are 21<sup>st</sup> century issues that need to be addressed. Dr. Joe suggested that two (2) people go over the draft of the policy manual and have it ready for Board review by the end of the summer. Ms. Washington wants to be sure the policy manual is aligned with our district in areas such as technology.

**Athletic Council** – Mr. Garrett reported for the Athletic Council. They met the May 23<sup>rd</sup>, which was last Wednesday. He commended Administration and Coaches on how well they worked together and that they bridged communication. They sat down and reviewed and changed the handbook. He wanted to let the Board know that the football team does a lot for the community, such as feed the homeless. Ms. Washington charged all the committees with keeping a binder of all the minutes at central office.

**New/Old Business**

**Food Service Presentation**

Lynne Schweinsberg, Director of Dining Services, and Jody Taratuta gave a power point presentation on the food service program. They are asking for the Board to support the 2010/2011 school year renewal. Our future looks bright. Mrs. Thomas asked if parents were going to prepay online. There is a small transaction fee. The system is ready to go, but has not been implemented here.

**Financial/Administrative Services**

Mr. Emerson advised the Board that we are going to ask you to approve a working capital loan from the Michigan Finance Authority. He gave a brief description and explained that we are we are required to have information for the public on our website. The estimated amount of the loan would be 6.5 million.

**Personnel**

#0910060304

**Acceptance of Retirement**

Ms. Brown moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Guy Dobies, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mrs. Stewart supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060305

**Acceptance of Retirement**

Mrs. Thomas moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Carolyn Dzialo, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mr. Smith supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060306

**Acceptance of Retirement**

Ms. Brown moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Patricia Cahill, Psychologist effective June 30, 2010.

Ms. Stewart supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060307

**Acceptance of Retirement**

Ms. Brown moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Priscilla Hargis, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mrs. Thomas supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060308

**Acceptance of Retirement**

Mr. Wilde moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Robert "Sam" Still, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mrs. Thomas supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060309 **Acceptance of Retirement**

Mrs. Thomas moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of John Vardigan, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mr. Smith supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

**Discussion**

Ms. Washington, "I am speechless." Ms. Brown commented that Mr. Vardigan had all three (3) of the Brown children.

#0910060310 **Acceptance of Retirement**

Mr. Smith moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Janet Warner, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mr. Wilde supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060311 **Acceptance of Retirement**

Mrs. Thomas moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Susan Koch, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mr. Smith supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060312 **Acceptance of Retirement**

Ms. Brown moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Lynn Barr, Speech Therapist effective June 30, 2011.

Mr. Smith supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060313 **Acceptance of Retirement**

Mrs. Stewart moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Dianne Smith, Management Support effective June 30, 2010.

Ms. Brown supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060314 **Acceptance of Retirement**

Mr. Garrett moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Mary Galligan, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mr. Smith supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060315 **Acceptance of Retirement**

Ms. Brown moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Diane Elliott, Teacher effective June 30, 2010.

Mrs. Stewart supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

#0910060316 **Acceptance of Retirement**

Mrs. Thomas moved that the Willow Run Board of Education accept the retirement of Joe Ann Allen, Elementary Principal effective June 30, 2011.

Mrs. Stewart supported.

Ayes – 7 – Mr. Smith, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Wilde and Ms. Washington

Nays – 0 – motion carried

**Citizen's Time**

Delana Cook, Anthony Fisher and Jailyn McClee modeled the elevated dress code. It does not look like a uniform.

Lisa Lewis commented on Food Service. She eats wraps 2-3 times per week and the food served on Professional Development days tastes good. The food tastes good and is healthy. Kudos to Food Service!

Cheryl McClee wanted the Board to know that one of the models was her daughter and that she is proud of her. The elevated dress code still allows the students to be individuals. She wanted to publicly thank Food Service and Lynne. She goes beyond the call of duty. She wanted to know How Dr. Joe would maintain the position of Consultant to the Board while being the Principal at the Middle School.

**Miscellaneous**

**Laura Lisiscki:** When Chartwells elevated Lynne, it was the best decision they made. She publicly thanked Lynne. Teachers and staff went out on Tuesday to distribute brochures and signs and will continue to do so.

**Kristine Thomas:** Thanked the Board for selecting her to fill the vacant seat. She looks forward to working for the district. She thanked the retirees for their years of service.

**Sheri Washington:** Retirement is a big step. She would love to see the retirees volunteer and she challenged the retirees to mobilize a volunteer group.

**Dr. Joe:** Dr. Joe read a letter that was sent to all 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents inviting them to meet the Acting Superintendent and the incoming Middle School Principal on June 9, 2010. Dr. Joe spoke to Laura Chew and Ray Mellberg and they will chair the retiree volunteer group.

Meeting Adjourned 8:22 p.m.