

**Wells Town School District  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
Official Minutes  
October 26, 2010  
Location Wells Village School**

**Attendance:** Tammy Holcomb(Chair), Karen Stomski (Clerk), Linda O'Leary (Principal), Joan Paustian(Superintendent), Louis Milazzo(Business Manager), Elizabeth Ambuhl (Recording Secretary).

**Absent:** Charity Downs (Vice Chair)

Guests: Nicole and James Keyes  
Fay Smith and Alfred Brooks  
Kathryn Byrne Grossarth

1. **Call to Order:** Tammy Holcomb called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm.

2. **Approve Warrants:**

- a. Warrant #94 in the amount of \$20,155.34, dated 8/27/10
- b. Warrant #95 in the amount of \$27,034.48, dated 9/10/10
- c. Warrant #96 in the amount of \$40,706.08 dated 9/24/10

Karen Stomski made a motion seconded by Tammy Holcomb to approve the warrants. Motion passed 2-0.

3. Karen Stomski made a motion seconded by Tammy Holcomb to approve the sub list. Motion passed 2-0.

4. **Consent Agenda:** Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, to accept the consent agenda. Motion carried 2-0.

A. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes accepted as amended for the September 09, 2010 meeting.

B. **Superintendent's Report:**

Joan Paustin stated that her office will be replicating a report looking at the costs per student by classrooms for the other three elementary schools in the district. The goal is to present the reports in October.

Joan has visited all of the high school and elementary classrooms.

The new conference room at RSWSU offices has been a wonderful addition. Jay LaMora is working in all of the schools to ensure that teachers gain mastery of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. In the near future, Jay will also be showing administrators what is happening in the classrooms as well as what kinds of skills and outcomes administrators should be seeing when visiting classrooms. It is critical that the administrators also learn the skills and the host of opportunities that technology provides in order to maximize learning opportunities for our students.

C. **Principal's Report:** (No written report)

1. Students in grades K-5 have been invited to attend the Pushcart Players presentation of Peter & the Wolf on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> at the Maple Street School in Manchester. This wonderful presentation is subsidized by our friends at the Northshire Performing Arts in Dorset.
2. Fire Prevention Week began with our scheduled Evacuation Drill on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, followed by the annual training by the Wells Volunteer Fire Dept. on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. What wasn't planned was the actual evacuation on October 12<sup>th</sup> due to a car accident which caused a propane tank leak downtown. Since our primary evacuation site was too close for this situation we evacuated to the Town Offices. Town Office officials, Nora Sargent & Stephanie Smith were of tremendous assistance and the WVS faculty and staff once again stepped up to make a potentially dangerous situation for our students nothing more than a safe adventure. We actually had less of a reaction from students during the real event than the drill. I believe having had the practice made all the difference.
3. Our annual NECAP assessments are ready for return. Students in grades 3-6 spent a significant amount of time in preparation for, and in the actual taking of these annual state-wide assessments. Due to faculty illness and the importance of these exams, I actually administered these to students on multiple days. We are anticipating the results sometime in January.
4. Soccer season has seen a tremendous amount of activity by WVS students. The after school program has been running for two months under the direction of volunteer coaches: Barb Miceli, Dave Miceli, John "Opa" Sanders and Steve Kainen. Students in grades 3-6 have participated in structured games this season. Karen Stomski organized this entire effort. Not only do the students get a good work out, but they also get a chance to practice their good sportsmanship, which I am happy to say is evident and easily observed. It is

also evident that the skills of the game are being built over time (beginning in Kindergarten) and the teams are better prepared than in previous years.

5. Christine Scarlotta is once again coordinating the JISP/KAP/Skating Program which will begin in January. It appears that we will once again break our record for involvement in this new year. I am working on a schedule of programming for the students who will not be participating including snowshoeing, cooking and crafts for example. I am hoping to use this time to also allow for team planning time for teachers. Christine should have exact numbers soon to allow for this planning.
6. Our annual Halloween Parade will be held on Friday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> at 1 P.M. The PTO will be providing refreshments. I am always amazed at how many community and family members line the streets to view our little parade.
7. Katharina Schmelzle is our visiting German teacher. She is a guest of the Micelis' and we are fortunate to have her as an observer and guest. She will be teaching the children about the culture and country of Germany. She will also lead a German Language Club after school for a few weeks. Many thanks to Barb Miceli for allowing us to participate in Katharina's American adventure.
8. During our in-service day on November 11<sup>th</sup> we will be working with Jason LaMora, our Technology Integration Specialist. We have developed an agenda to include some teacher demonstrations, an opportunity for team work around the Reading Street Program and some new learning for everyone.
9. We will be holding our annual Thanksgiving Feast on Wednesday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be eating potatoes from our own garden. The kindergarteners helped in the harvesting, a job they thoroughly enjoyed.
10. The addition of more flexibility and choice to the recess schedule for grades 3-6 seems to be working well. We will evaluate at the end of the month as promised.
11. Louis Milazzo, Darren McIntyre and I have been working on the draft proposal FY'12 Budget. One of the areas that we are looking at for your consideration is a different model for food service. I felt that it was an opportune time to explore our options.
12. A gate has been added to the front entrance at the fence line.
13. The recent heavy rains have caused a significant leak. We have contacted Tim Makepeace to handle this repair which will be accomplished during the break.
14. Parent Teacher Conferences are occurring this week. For the first time we are conducting student led conferences.

**D. Business Manager's Report:**

The Business Manager presented a report with the areas of variance for the Board.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion seconded by Karen Stomski to accept the consent agenda. Motion carried 2-0.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski to enter into executive session at 5:32pm. Motion carried 2-0.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski to come out of executive session at 5:55PM. Motion carried 2-0.

**5. General Public Comments:**

Kathryn Byrne Grossarth commented on how well her Smart Board is enhancing her classroom experience with her students. It has helped her students with their gross motor skills, self esteem, and overall learning skills. She welcomes the board to visit her classroom at any time.

**6. New Business:**

- A. Discuss/Approve increase to Adult Lunch Prices. Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, to increase the Adult Lunch Prices to \$3.00 for an Adult portion. Motion carried 2-0.
- B. Update on Wells Medicaid Reinvestment Funds. The business manager gave an update on the Wells Medicaid Funds. Discussion ensued regarding using the funds to purchase laptop computers. Action tabled until next meeting.
- C. Approve sub grant agreement for KF Title 1 funding. Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, to approve sub grant agreement for KF Title 1 funding. Motion carried 2-0.

7. **Old Business:**

A. Water Treatment System. Tabled until next meeting.

B. Review Siding Bids. Tabled until next meeting.

C. Discuss Heating Zones in Basement. Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski to have J.Keyes install radiators and temperature controls in the basement and computer room not to exceed \$3,000.00. Motion carried 2-0.

8. **Polices:**

Truancy, Grade Advancement, Retention and Acceleration of Student Policies were tabled until the next meeting.

Karen Stomski made a motion, seconded by Tammy Holcomb, to approve the policies, F120, F3 and F4. Motion carried 2-0.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, for a 5 minute break at 7:02pm.

Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, to come out of break at 7:07pm. Motion carried 2-0.

9. **Action on Personnel Contract:**

- i. New Hires: Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, to hire Laura Dailey as 50% Para educator. Motion carried 2-0.  
Tammy Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Karen Stomski, to hire Kelly Festa for the afterschool program at minimum wage to be paid out of the revenues collected for the afterschool program. Motion carried 2-0.
- ii. Resignations: None
- iii. Termination: None

**FY12 Budget Discussion:**

The business manger presented the board the FY Budget. After lengthy discussion the board recommended adding the Afterschool Program to the budget with some minor changes.

10. **Executive Session:** Tammy Holcomb made a motion seconded by Karen Stomski at 8:40pm to enter into executive session to discuss to discuss student issues. Motion carried 2-0.

11. **Other Lawful Business:** None

12. **Next Regular Board Meeting:** ( November 10, at 7:00pm)

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Ambuhl