

School Board Work Session Meeting  
November 20, 2006

A Work Session Meeting of the Redbank Valley School Board was held, Monday, November 20, 2006, 6:30 P.M., Redbank Valley High School Library. The following members were in attendance Dee Bell, Louise Clemens, Theodore Minich, Glenn Watson and Lou Ann Williams. Vince Markle, Shirley Pastor and Kim Walls were absent.

Mr. Minich opened the meeting by stating that this work session is scheduled to interview candidates for the vacant school board director seat for Region II comprising of Porter Township, Oak Hall Independent and New Bethlehem Borough held by Jeffrey Merwin who resigned on November 6, 2006. The school board elected to accept letters or interest and resume from people within the region and conduct interviews before it is to appoint a candidate for the unfilled 1-year term on December 4, 2006 Special/Reorganizational meeting. Mr. Minich also stated that after the interview session a work session of additional items will be discussed as to facilities issues.

A. Board Candidate Interviews

The following individuals were interviewed in an open meeting:

1. Jeffrey Hornberger 6:40-6:55pm
2. Anne Callenburg. 7:00-7:15pm
3. Randy Frampton 7:20-7:35pm

Additional items discussed are as follows:

B. Enrollment Study

Dr. Cornish stated that Mr. Markle was planning to do a presentation on the enrollment study but was unavailable to attend tonight session. Dr. Cornish asked the board members to postpone discussion of this item until later when everyone is in attendance.

**Recommendation:** It was determined that the board would postpone the discussion.

C. Parking at New Bethlehem Elementary:

Dr. Cornish presented information on the issue of parking at New Bethlehem Elementary whereas Dee Bell was asking for clarification on prior discussions as to access and parking on Vine Street from a property owner. Dr. Cornish explained that if the property owner wished to pursue into purchasing that same tract of curbside he/she would need to contact the district solicitor. Dr. Cornish then explained to the board that if an inquiry is made into the sale of property the board would then need to advertise for the sale of property and accept bids on the curbside sale. Mr. Bell stated that was not the understanding the property owner was informed of and was just clarifying the issue.

**Recommendation:** It was determined that the board was satisfied with the clarification and the information would explained to property owner by Mr. Bell.

D. Hawthorn Timber, Parking Lot

Dr. Cornish presented information on the survey work to be done at the Hawthorn Elementary. Dr. Cornish asked the board for direction as to additional items that have been discussed since the last work session as to timbering and possible drilling for natural gas. A lengthy discussion as to surveying, possible design of a parking lot and the opportunity to explore well drilling was discussed by board members.

**Recommendation:** It was determined that the board would wait for the property survey at Hawthorn.

E. Gas Well Drilling:

Dr. Cornish once again informed board that he has been approached by a company in regards to drilling gas wells at the district properties. Dr. Cornish asked the board consideration as to this matter. Discussion on the Hawthorn elementary property and what if any limits are there for drilling next to adjacent properties and water rights, whether or not the district can bid or negotiate a gas lease to a single company were discussed.

**Recommendation:** It was determined that the board would wait for the property survey at Hawthorn and for an opinion from the district solicitor on the bidding process for gas leases.

F. Mahoning Building Renovation:

Dr. Cornish stated that information prevalent to this issue would have to be discussed with the Enrollment Study and asked the board to postpone discussion until all the presentations can be presented.

**Recommendation:** It was determined that the board would postpone the discussion.

G. Press box:

Glenn Watson informed the board of his findings in having the press box repaired or replaced. Dr. Cornish informed the school board that if a redesign is in order to repair the structure additional angle steel would be needed to support the structure and the roof support would need to be reinforced to handle the estimated capacity, this would not help the need for additional space. In replacing the structure the cost would be what was presented to the board early in the year around the \$60,000 to \$80,000. Dee Bell questioned if a redesign is necessary would the district still be obligated to pay the architect for the present design work that has been submitted. Dr. Cornish stated that the amended contract for the design work would need to be reviewed for payment of design work submitted.

**Recommendation:** It was determined that the board would wait for review of the amended contract.

H. High School Building Issues:

Dr. Cornish reviewed with the board information for the renovation of the high school which was presented in March, 2006. The existing conditions of the paved lots,

windows, EIFS, roofing and boilers at high school were discussed. Discussion centered on Option-2 construction which would replace the existing wrestling buildings with an expansion of the existing high school to include wrestling room and fitness room adding approximately 6,625 square feet at an estimated cost of \$1,450,000.00 with an additional cost of \$190,000.00 for the freezer and storage units for the kitchen area.

**Recommendation:** It was determined that this item would be considered at the next board meeting.

I. Transportation Need:

Dr. Cornish informed the board of a transportation request by a parent along Shrub Road. Dr. Cornish stated that the parent requested that the evening bus route be changed to its original route before the previous school year whereas the parent's children are dropped off at the residents instead of a bus stop located 800 feet away at the intersection of Curlsville and Shrub Road. Dr. Cornish explained that in the past the bus travels up Shrub Road to pickup additional students but this year no additional students needed to be pickup causing the route to change due to this fact. Dr. Cornish informed the board that no changes would create a safe situation for the bus stop. Dr. Cornish brought this issue to the board for consideration because the school board approves all bus re-routing or stop changes and that he himself could not accommodate the parent's request. After discussion as to the past bus route before the previous school year and the current routing the board made the following recommendation.

**Recommendation:** It was determined that the evening bus route be changed adding 3 miles. The board asked Dr. Cornish to grant the parents request.

The work session adjourned at 8:53 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack E. Loughner, Jr.  
Board Secretary