



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
AMERICAS  
MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT  
WEST POINT SCHOOLS  
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY  
WEST POINT, NEW YORK 10996-1196

September 7, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of West Point School Board Meeting, 7 September 2016

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the West Point School Board was called to order by Mrs. Helen Balilo, on Wednesday, 7 Sept 2016, at 4:35 PM in the West Point MS Information Center. Mrs. Balilo welcomed the new board and Dr. Emily Marsh. Dr. Marsh swore in those board members that were not at the June meeting. Mr. David Morrow was sworn in.

Election of the School Board President was conducted. Mrs. Balilo counted the slips and declared Mrs. Heather Evangelista. Mrs. Evalgelista assumed the office of President and the meeting was turned over to the President.

Election of the School Board Vice President was conducted. Mrs. Balilo counted the slips and there was a four way tie. Mrs. DeGregory made a motion to table the election for the VP. Mr. Morrow seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote the election of Vice President will be tabled until the October meeting. At the end of the meeting, a vote was taken for the Vice President. There was a run off due to a tie. Rebecca Hyleman was elected as Vice President.

Mrs. Balilo discussed with the board the three year term of office with a chance to run again for office for one more term.

2. **Members Present were:**

Christine DeGregory, Board Member  
Heather Evangelista, President  
Rebecca Hyleman, Board Vice President

Helen Balilo, Community Superintendent  
Dave Morrow, Board Member  
Tim Viles, Board Member

**Others Present:**

CSM Roderick Taylor  
Denise Eves, School Board Clerk (VTC)  
Denise Cochenour, ES Principal  
Corey Algood, ES Asst Principal  
Edgar Perry, Admin Officer  
Gala Edgar, Union Representative  
Ms. Elizabeth Rowe  
Ms. Ronnie Coffey

Dr. Emily Marsh, Superintendent  
Michi Carl, School Liaison Officer  
Miles Shea, MS Principal  
Ms. Sue Kerns  
Mrs. Rhonda LaVenuta  
Maura DuMoulin  
Mr. Mark Salvati  
Ms. Rebecca Tiffany, PTO

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mrs. DeGregory made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Morrow seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the agenda was approved.

4. **APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES:** The minutes from the June 2016 meeting were reviewed. Mrs. DeGregory motioned for the approval of the past minutes. Mr. Morrow seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the June minutes were approved. Motion was made to have Denise Eves continue to be the school board clerk. By unanimous vote the motion was approved.

5. **BOARD PRESIDENT COMMENTS:** The board welcomed meeting attendees. Thanked the new board for their confidence and expectations.

6. **INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SCHOOL BOARD:** Parameters for the individual to address the board. Mrs. DeGregory motioned. Mr. Morrow seconded. Discuss began about the parameters for the School Board meetings.

Parameters:

5 minute limit for those to address at the board meetings.

Person speaking to the board can be terminated if the president doesn't feel they are in the parameters of the meeting.

Eliminate names in the speeches

Handouts should be given to the board prior to the call to order before distributed.

Mrs. DeGregory motioned to accept the parameters. Mr. Morrow seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the parameters for the School Board meetings were approved.

7. **REPORTS:**

a. **PTO Report:** Rebecca Tiffany – 134 members.

Resources that the PTO has financially supported:

Brain Pop, Reading A to Z, Discovery education, student agendas, deployed luncheons, Ice cream social, Jingle Bell run treats, Middle School play

September 26, 2016: PICTURE DAY!

September 26 – 29, 2016: Annual Health Screenings WPES 0900-1115; WPMS 0745-0900

September 28, 2016: PTO General Meeting, 12:00 pm WPMS Cafeteria September 28, 2016: this week send home flyers re Read-A-Thon

b. **Superintendent's Reports:**

(1) The Education Operations Report was provided. Mrs. Balilo stated that if there were particular items that the board would like her to present, please let contact her. Question was asked: Who do the parents contact to address the access road? She discussed that DoDEA has no control over where the access road for the MILCON project can be placed. Mrs. Balilo stated the Garrison Command and DoDEA. In discussing the MILCON Charrett meeting, one school board member has been asked to attend the meetings. If there is anyone is interested, please let the President know. The date and time of the MILCON meetings are not controlled by the Community Superintendent's office. The board will coordinate who will attend the meeting via Mrs. Evangelista. Parents would like more input on the landscaping and gardening on the outside of the MILCON project. A request was made to view the Design Charret design boards.

(2) Staffing Update: Ms. Balilo provided the current Staffing update.

(3) Enrollment Report: Ms. Balilo reported the numbers have been consistent and we are fully staffed for all of the positions to support the following enrollment numbers:

Elementary School – 418

Middle School – 242

(4) School Updates: Sue Kerns, ET Ronnie Coffee Reported on the 200 Year of Education at the Academy. More information to come on the festivities.

c. **SLO Report:** Ms. Carl provided the SLO Report.

1. See the Point - Pilot program we ran this past summer was a huge success! Incoming MS students toured WP, MWR facilities and more to include a principal guided tour and Q & A at WPMS. We plan to offer this again next summer.

2. CYSS Transition Boat ride was held in conjunction with the JIO freshman/new student orientation, also a success with 110 in attendance.

3. Interstate Compact Commission - I am a member of this committee, we met in April, August and will meet again in November. Ms. Imaj, Director of the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission will be joining the committee to discuss issues and NYS perspectives.

4. WPS is once again working in partnership with USMA EOO, multi-cultural awareness programs. September is Hispanic Heritage awareness month and WPMS will work with the USMA Spanish Forum and Latin Dance Club and plan a school assembly to honor this effort. The EOO committee would like to highlight a WPMS student/poem at the luncheon, add to the program and allow the student to sit as a guest at the Superintendent's table. Art work will once again be displayed by both WPES and WPMS students, at the luncheon.

There was a discussion about the calendar and how to schedule holiday breaks with the local school district.

8. CONTINUING BUSINESS:

9. NEW BUSINESS:

a. A motion was made to have the School Board training on August 8, 2017 with the first School Board meeting on August 9, 2017. Mrs. Hyleman seconded the motion. The motion was approved pending availability of all involved. A motion was made to accept the first weds of the month at 4:30 PM for all School Board meetings. The motion was seconded and approved.

b. Fence for the safety and security of the students due to the bear sitings. Supervision is provided by the schools and not the SRO. Mrs. Balilo asked that this would be tabled until next month so a presentation could be made on this item. Discussion continued on the logistics of the fence line and the safety of the children.

c. Blue Ribbon packet - DoDEA looks at the data and makes the decision which school is determined the Blue Ribbon School. The parents feel that it would be nice to have some input in helping with the determination of the Blue Ribbon School. Dr. Marsh stated that she had not received information on the new qualifications, but agreed to look into the Blue Ribbon Selection Criterion for this past year (2016) and provide any feedback from DoDEA on the review/assessment of WPMS and WPES.

d. School Budget – School Board with like a copy of the current budget. Dr. Marsh stated that each Principal would provide copies of their current budget and share their 2017 budget on October 1<sup>st</sup> or once received depending on its release from Congress.

e. Policy letters – Mrs. Balilo stated that the schools do not have policy letters. Policies are determined at the DoDEA level not at the school level. Dr. Marsh stated that the schools make procedures and the Principals would provide copies of those procedures along with any standing Memorandums of Agreement (with the USMA or outside organizations) to the board members.

f. School times – Mrs. Hyleman requested consideration for the possibility of changing the start times for the middle school next school year. The School Board will gather the research for the school times. Mrs. Balilo stated that the research needed to be shared with the community.

10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the West Point School Board will be held on October 5, 2016, 4:30 PM, in the MS Information Center.

11. ADJOURN MEETING: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:40 PM.

Approved by:

  
Helen Balilo  
Community Superintendent

  
Heather Evangelista  
President, West Point School Board