

**Canon-McMillan School District Parent Council  
Meeting Minutes - May 19, 2023**

The May 2023 meeting of the CMSD Parent Council was held at Wylandville Elementary School and was called to order by Mary Lynn Yurko at 9:34 AM by Mary Lynn Yurko. The 2023 Parent Council Board members in attendance included:

*Mary Lynn Yurko (Vice President), Eileen Landucci (Secretary)*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Approval of last meeting minutes (April 21, 2023)**

Kristie (First motion); Jen Beers (Second motion)

**PRINCIPAL UPDATES: Principal Shannon Balch**

Wylandville Elementary Updates

- Mrs. Balch has been at WES for 10 yrs; from South Central Elementary.
- WES is part of WQED "Ready to Learn" grant for last few years; other neighborhood partners include Sarris Library, City Mission
  - Ready to Learn is a family community learning opportunity for kindergarten families, science learning, dinner, story time, parents meet with staff and PTO, guidance counselor, readiness skills for K-garden, over the course of several evenings. Makes students feel more comfortable with school.
- Neighborhood Map - 4th grade - created questions and interviewed local business people about jobs, education, what they like, what's hard about their job, etc. Debuted video at Sarris Library 5/20/23. "World of Work" will showcase different jobs including interviews with principal, nurse, secretary.

**Guest Speaker Introduction: Joni Mansmann, Director of Business and Finance**

- Here for 16 years; worked at Mellon Bank for 13 years. Working on PhD, teachers degree.
- Summer season - time to ramp up for district audit; start the budget
- Personnel forecast for the school, priorities for budget.
- Last few years: building buildings, staff required for growth
- Responsible for negotiations, district insurance, accounts payable, account receivable
- Proposed budget - will be final in June- passed out preview copy
- \$106M (16 yrs ago it was around \$38-40 M) - definitely growing. Local revenue is main source, the district is becoming wealthier.
- Market value - 3x state average. Almost at the top tier of wealthiest districts in PA.
- Index - how much the school board can raise taxes; we haven't had adjustment in at least 5 years.
- Budget added 6% increase - curriculum, technology, buildings, athletics.
- Now at .4920 mills – proposing .26 mill increase - but may be lower.
- Top 5 spending areas (page 1) - all online too - education, 350+ teachers, special ed, debt service, facilities/operations, transportation

- Transportation big jump this year because bus fleet + private transportation contractor for parochial + special needs. Contractor quit after 2020 so we used money to purchase new buses. Purchased new buses, new students, new neighborhoods, and price of gas.
- Huge expense: retirement for CM employees. 34+% (future, goes to 40% in next 5-6 years); was only at 2% when she started.
- Last year, the budget was a bit too low. Our market and personal income was higher which is why there was a discrepancy.
- For buildings, district saved \$13M by going to state legislators; visiting Harrisburg in June to try to get money to put aside. Being considered for Wylandville project since we aren't getting reimbursed in other areas.
- Expenses - a lot going on. Federal money is difficult; have to adjust year to year. Coaches, tech resources, people, 14% increase healthcare, clubs, 4 TDAs for professional staff, support staff; collective bargaining agreement hopefully by June for budget approval.
- Non salary expenses: cyber/charter almost \$2M; English as a second language increased significantly; vocational and placement, HR software for hiring, (28 open positions right now), increases in legal fees, insurance went up \$30K, girls wrestling, final phase of middle school.
- Police agreements are working.
- Adjustments for inflation (ie., copy paper up significantly)
- June 13 budget finance meeting, June 14 agenda meeting (summary notice given).
- .26 mills - what does that mean? \$26 a year if your property is \$100K. Didn't go to the max
- In relation to other schools, see handout.
- District has been very careful about planning which has helped significantly as we grow.

*Question: Who's on the Team?*

Fantastic staff with Joni, (CFO of CM) Asst Business Manager (retiring soon), District Accountant (she is new, being trained by ABM; they do balance sheet, journal entries, fixed assets, cash management, depreciation, etc ), 2 accounts for everything (holding account and then move it over for security). "Each number they see has many numbers behind it". They do payroll, sign checks personally, A/P, A/R, budget, insurance RFPs, cafeteria including free & reduced items, taxes; School Cafe, piloting Hometown Ticketing; anything that's needed to run a business is done by Joni's Business & Finance team. Very low turnover; everyone is cross-trained.

*Question: Do you think about speaking to our high school girls about career pathing? Good role model for girls in business.*

Did NSIS career days, Food Meeting once a year with students, speaking at Women in STEM workshops, open to any speaking engagements!

Always a new challenge, continuous learning, end of the day, they're helping kids,

*Side Note: Joni recommended filling out Homestead Form on the county website - to get money off your taxes*

Mr. Chambers - Updates:

- Dollar amount for field trips - \$15 seemed acceptable, \$10 was not enough. Increasing to \$15 per student pending any opposition. If doing something free or with a grant, use the money for another grade that needs more than \$15.
- Fundraising - can use staff as well as number of students in total numbers.
- Fall Dates - discussion around dates - Sept 18-29? Occurs during Open Houses; add Spring fundraising (can cancel if not needed); First motion : Kristie, 2nd Amelia Beatty – passed by number of hands (10).
- Social-economic:
  - Percent eligible for free/reduced: Peters 5%, USC 10%, we're at 20+%, Trinity is at 40%, good districts for comparison include Montour, CV, Irwin - same size population, same size free/reduced.
- Enrollment has been abnormal the last few years since COVID; curious to see where we are in a couple years. Shift to/from public education?
- 2030 demographic study - Wylandville has already reached those projections.
- Will continue to monitor K and 1st to see if we need to add any classrooms, etc. Trailers at Wylandville, etc. Borland + Wylandville would attend new school at Wylandville.
- NEXT YEAR: we had 2 evening meetings - continue with this option? Majority say Yes.
- Get a list of speakers, topics for next year - send to Mr. Chambers; can even bring in an outside person, if helpful.

*Question: Saw listing for Principal?*

Mr. Theodore is retiring from Muse.

*Question: Is there a name/contact for corporate sponsorship? Specific process?*

There is an overarching policy for sponsorship on school property but if it's through boosters clubs, they don't have to follow the district. New scoreboard has side panels and a digital screen for advertising opportunities. Varsity Club utilizes advertising opportunities for all athletic clubs. Varsity Club would include marching band; club is launching next year so it is a good time to get band involved.

#### **Old Business:**

- The current amount for field trips was \$10 but was raised to \$15 ✓

#### **New Business:**

- This is the last meeting of the 2022-2023 school year.
- We will resume meetings during the 2023-2024 school year.

We would like to thank Mrs. Balch and WES for hosting our Parent Council meeting today. The Parent Council board also wishes to thank our guest speaker, Joni Mansmann.

#### **Motion to Adjourn:**

Ann Thomas (First Motion), Mel McGurty (Second Motion)

Meeting adjourned: 10:45 AM