

**WIL LOU GRAY OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12, 1997**

The budget committee of the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Board of Trustees met on February 12, 1997, at 5:30 p.m. in the Research and Training Center. Present were Ms. Wilhelmina McBride, Mr. Vince Rhodes, Mr. Russell Hart, Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill, Dr. Louise Scott, Dr. Mary Catherine Norwood, Mr. Pat Smith, and Ms. Brenda Stork.

The following issues were reviewed/discussed by the committee:

I. Student Accident Insurance Program for Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School: Mr. Smith distributed information on this matter which was reviewed by the committee at a previous meeting. Dr. Norwood said the cost of the insurance program would be \$54.00 per year per student (as long as they are attending WLGOS). Regarding the previous survey of students, we received only one positive response. We have no support from parents on this issue. The committee recommended not to have the insurance program. Dr. Norwood said new students could be surveyed and she would notify the committee if there was any change in response.

II. Budget:
Dr. Norwood reported the Governor is proposing a 3% pay increase. We received a survey on how this increase would affect WLGOS. She said her response was an average 3% pay increase at WLGOS for classified employees October 1997 through June 1998 would amount to \$39,233.28 including benefits. We do not anticipate any carry forward from this fiscal year, therefore, providing an average 3% increase would require holding 2 to 3 positions vacant. JROTC positions would especially be at risk which we now fund from institutional and carry forward revenue. The turnover in positions that we have occurs in the student affairs area. Holding positions vacant there reduces the safety and supervision level for students. She further reported we do not believe we are in a position to reduce staff further and maintain the current program for our students.

Dr. Norwood reported she has been attending Ways and Means committee meetings this week. Recommendations are being made for the first three items on our list as follows: Youth Counselors, temporary funds and funds to raise salaries, JROTC instructors, and 2 buses. Ms. McBride asked Dr. Norwood to notify the budget committee chair and Dr. Scott of Ways and Means meetings they may want to attend.

The committee recommended having a reduction in force plan in the event

it is needed. Dr. Norwood said she felt there was not enough information at this time for a plan. If there is a reduction of staff, we need to give them notice to find other employment. Dr. Norwood was directed to prepare a plan.

The committee also recommended having a plan for increased enrollment.

At this time Mr. Smith and Ms. Stork were excused from the meeting.

III. Financial Reports:

Ms. McBride reported she will talk with the personnel committee regarding issues discussed. The committee reviewed changes to the financial report which was provided to the board at the January extended meeting. The committee agreed to move "budget" to the first column of the report, the second column would be "what was spent", and the third column would be the "balance". The committee agreed to have Mrs. Busenlehner provide a financial report with accurate figures to cents with no rounding.

The committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Wilhelmina McBride, Chair
Budget Committee

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