

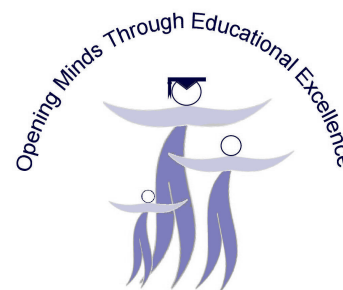
West York Area School District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 19, 2013

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WEST YORK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDIES STAFFING NEEDS

At the March 19, 2013 Board Meeting, the West York Area School Board approved a resolution that directed its administrators to study the District's professional staffing needs for the 2013-2014 School Year. The study will include an evaluation of the instructional program requirements, student enrollment, and fiscal situation. The outcome will likely be a recommendation to reduce professional staff. Dr. Emilie M. Lonardi, Superintendent, reported that many considerations will go into the evaluation of programs. Considerations include whether or not the program is required by law, its effectiveness on student academic success, specific course offerings, and the logistics of students' schedules if a program is eliminated. "Every program is important to student success," said Dr. Lonardi. "Although administration and staff have done an outstanding job of reducing operational costs, additional cuts are needed. There has been a perfect storm brewing on our financial front that is leading us to consider the elimination of programs. The state has reduced its funding to education, increased mandates, minimized each district's ability to increase taxes, required districts to fund cyber and charter schools in a manner that allows them to profit, and sharply increased contributions to PSERS. Couple that with increases that are beyond our control such as utility costs, and it is easy to see why we need to make difficult decisions about academic programs." Dr. Lonardi will report her findings to the School Board at the April 9, 2013 Work Session.

For more information, please contact Dr. Emilie Lonardi, Superintendent.