

# WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

JANUARY 15, 2018

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting at the Wattsburg Area Elementary Center on January 15, 2018. President Andy Pushchak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by kindergarten students at the elementary center, JD Kula, Adam Glaspell, Cheyanne Brown, Kailyn McKenney, Jaxon Gibbons and Paityn McGuire.

Mr. Eric Duda, Dr. Bill Hallock, Mr. Josh Paris, Mrs. Julie Pikiwicz, Mr. Marty Pushchak, Mrs. Brenda Sandberg, Mr. Aaron Snippert, and Dr. Andy Pushchak attended. Mrs. Amanda Thayer-Zacks was absent. Also in attendance were Mr. Kenneth Berlin, Superintendent; Dr. Leslee Hutchinson, Assistant to the Superintendent; Mrs. Vicki Bendig Business Administrator and Attorney Christine McClure, Solicitor.

## **Roll Call**

Motion by Mr. Duda, seconded by Mr. Snippert to approve the agenda and addendum as presented. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

## **Agenda**

Motion by Mrs. Sandberg, seconded by Dr. Hallock to approve the meeting minutes of the December 11, 2017 Regular Board Meeting and the January 8, 2018 Work Session, Finance Committee and Building & Grounds Committee meetings as presented. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

## **Meeting Minutes**

During the school reports, Mr. Miller introduced Officer Knight and Mrs. Manino who shared the Community Knights Program at Seneca. The program targets students who are not involved in other school activities and emphasizes being bully free, drug free, and stress free. There are about 35 students who participate regularly in the program.

## **School Reports**

Serena Spencer, Hannah Brigley and Ally Brooks, members of the middle school Robotics Team, shared their experiences of the robotics competition held at Penn State Behrend. The middle school had two teams that participated in the competition. The team placed 1<sup>st</sup> for core values and 5<sup>th</sup> (out of 47) in robotics. Mr. Semrau is the advisor for the Robotics Team.

Mr. Calabrese introduced Cheyanne Brown. Cheyanne is the WQLN Reading Competition winner this year. During a three-month period, Cheyanne read 980 books. School wide, the elementary center students read 5,417 books. Cheyanne received a trophy, books and a Kindle Fire. The WAEC Library received \$250 for new books.

Mr. Berlin thanked all the students for representing the district so positively.

No guests requested speaking to the Board.

**Guest/Citizen  
Comments**

Mr. Berlin updated the Board on Senate Bill 2 (SB2), which may be moved out of committee to the floor for a vote. The bill would provide a \$5,700 voucher at the expense of public schools to subsidize private school tuition. This could take much-needed funds from the district if it becomes law. Mr. Berlin said he would provide a draft resolution opposing SB2 for the Board to consider at the February board meeting

**Superintendent's  
Report**

January is also Board Appreciation Month and each member was given a small gift from the District and one from the WEA as a token of appreciation. Mr. Berlin applauded the board members for their dedication and time to the District and for working together to ensure the District meets the expectations of the community in providing a high quality education for our students.

On behalf of the Board, Dr. Pushchak thanked the District and WEA for the recognition and gifts.

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Snippet to approve the following reports, payments and invoices as presented:

[General Fund:](#) \$10,618,653.90

[Cafeteria Report:](#) \$(15,810.66)

A. Bills

[Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$51,728.79

[Exhibit A2](#) General Fund Bills: \$397,994.59

[Exhibit A3](#) Checks Already Written: \$4,188.64

[Exhibit B](#) Cafeteria Bills: \$21,461.62

[Exhibit B1](#) Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$47.95

[Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$61,068.22

Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Business  
Administrator's  
Report**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Dr. Hallock, to approve the Local Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017 as prepared by Buffamante, Whipple, Buttafaro, P.C. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Local Audit  
for year ending  
June 30, 2017**

Dr. Pushchak commented that the Audit Report was clear, clean, and meets the guidelines. He commended the administration for their continuous diligence and striving to obtain accuracy.

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Snippet to approve the IRS Mileage Rate of 54.5 cents per mile for business travel effective January 1, 2018 as outlined in [Exhibit E.](#) Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**IRS Mileage Rate**

Motion by Mr. Snippet, seconded by Mrs. Sandberg to direct HRLC Architects LLC to develop plans and bid specifications for a stadium complex storage building. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Stadium Complex  
Storage Building**

Motion by Mrs. Sandberg, seconded by Mr. Snippert to approve Troyer Bauder, Jaclyn Seymour, Kayla Windsor and Angela Wisniewski as additions to the Kelly Education Staffing Substitute List. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition and one abstention (Mr. Duda). Motion carried.

**Kelly Educational  
Staffing  
Substitutes**

Motion by Mrs. Sandberg, seconded by Mr. Snippert to approve the following:

- Rebekah Stolar as a long-term secondary Social Studies substitute anticipated effective January 22, 2018 through June 8, 2018 at Masters, Step 1, \$42,732 (prorated for the 2017-2018 school year).
- Tuition reimbursement requests as outlined in [Exhibit F](#).
- The following conference requests:
  - Leslee Hutchinson to attend PA Early Learning Council Meeting in Harrisburg, PA on February 7 & 8, 2018. Estimated Cost: \$700. Funds from Superintendent's Conferences.
  - Liz Ozlak, Joe Yuhas, Christopher Langer-Williamson, Valerie Zampogna, Keith Miller and Mary Beth Hengelbrok to attend School Climate Pilot on February 1, March 6, and April 26, 2018 in Edinboro, PA. Estimated cost: \$792.24. Funds from Professional Development.
  - Shelley Ochterski and Janice Sayers to attend SDE PA Conference for Kindergarten Teachers on February 8-, 2018 in Harrisburg, PA. Estimated Cost: \$1,800. Funds from WAEC Professional Development.
  - Keith Miller to attend PIAA meeting on January 24-25, 2018 in Mechanicsburg, PA. Estimated cost: \$482.59. Funds from Athletics.

**Appointment**

**Tuition  
Reimbursement**

**Conference  
Requests**

Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Dr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Snippert to approve the following:

- The school calendar for 2018 - 2019 and August 28, and 29, 2018 as Act 80 days for dismissal at the start of the school year for a partial group of Kindergarten students as outlined in [Exhibit G](#).
- The homebound instruction of an Eighth grade student beginning December 20, 2017 with an anticipated end date of March 20, 2018.
- Approve the School Nurse Practicum Agreement between WASD and Gannon University as outlined in [Exhibit H](#).

**School Calendar  
2018-2019**

**Homebound  
Instruction**

**Nurse Practicum  
Agreement**

Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Duda, seconded by Mrs. Sandberg to approve the following:

- Transportation requests and ratification of field trips since last meeting:

**Transportation Requests**

Group Requesting:	Date:	Destination:	Estimated Cost:	Funds By:
WAMS Sports Day Students	Thursday, February 15, 2018	Peek N Peak Jamestown Northwest Arena Presque Isle North East Lanes	\$2,360.00	Students and Activity Fund
9-12 Health Students	Tuesday, January 16, 2018 Thursday, January 18, 2018	Erie County Prison 1618 Ash Street Erie, PA	\$380.00	Student Activities Sub Account
AFJROTC	Saturday, February 3, 2018	Norwin High School, North Huntingdon, PA	0	ROTC
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Monday, June 4, 2018	Eastway Bowling CC's Pizza, Buffalo Road	\$440.00	PTO
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Thursday, May 17, 2018	Hurry Hill Farms, Edinboro	\$440.00	PTO
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Thursday, May 24, 2018	Erie Zoo Eat and Park	\$440.00	PTO

**Durham Bus Drivers**

- Approve the following as Durham bus drivers for the 2017-2018 school year:
 

Randy Fedei	Pam Swanson	Bonita Turner
Jeffrey Franklin	William Swanson	Randy Wheeler
Kathleen Hendricks	Susan Thompson	Dennis Williams

Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Dr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Snippet to approve the following:

- Britlee Skinner as an addition to the WASD Volunteer List.
- Bretton Smith as the Boys' 7th Grade Basketball Coach for the 2017-2018 school year with the compensation of \$1,763.00 as per the WASD/WEA Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement.
- the revision of the Head Track & Field Coach salary and the creation of additional Assistant Coach position for the purpose of establishing a grade 7 & 8 Track & Field Team as outlined in [Exhibit J](#).

**WASD Volunteer Athletic Appointment**

**Coaching Revision & Additions**

Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Mr. Duda reported that in addition to discussions on remodeling the Erie County Vocational/Technical School, Dr. Jackson has announced his retirement and the JOC board will be working to fill his position.

**Erie County Technical School**

No report for Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit this evening. Dr. Pushchak reported at the work session.

**NW Tri-County Intermediate Unit**

There being no further business, upon motion Mr. Snippert, seconded by Dr. Hallock the meeting was adjourned.

Signature On File  
Vicki Bendig  
Secretary