

# WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

JANUARY 20, 2020

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting at the Wattsburg Area Elementary Center on January 20, 2020.

President Andy Pushchak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mr. Shawn Matson, Mr. Steve O'Donnell, Mr. Josh Paris, Mrs. Julie Pikiewicz, Mrs. Tara Pound, Mr. Marty Pushchak and Dr. Andy Pushchak attended. Mr. Kenneth Berlin, Superintendent; Mrs. Rebecca Kelley, Assistant to the Superintendent; Mrs. Vicki Bendig Business Administrator and Attorney Christine McClure, Solicitor also attended.

## Roll Call

Vivian McQuaid, Kamryn Hanson, and Maggie McLaughlin led in the Pledge of Allegiance. They were 3 of the winners from the WAEC Art Contest.

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

## Agenda

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to approve the meeting minutes of the December 2, 2019 Regular Board Meeting and the January 13, 2020 Work Session and Curriculum Committee Meeting as presented. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

## Meeting Minutes

During school reports, Mr. Jeremy Houle and Mr. Marty Butterbaugh of the North East VFW Post #4789 presented Amy Newcomer with an award and check for her essay on "Voices of Democracy." Dr. Pushchak congratulated Amy on behalf of the board. Amy shared that her essay topic was "What Makes America Great" and shared that she learned we should always make amends with people from doing this project.

## School Reports

Ms. Naughton introduced the young ladies from the middle school "Chick Chat Club" and shared a video from their project where they took animal toys and treats that they made to the Humane Society. Dr. Pushchak thanked the girls for their work and representing the school in a positive manner and he thanked the parents for bringing the girls to the meeting to be recognized.

Mr. Miller, Mr. Englert and Mr. Carter shared the work they are doing to change the school climate at the high school and to get students more involved. They are working to make the Student Council more student government oriented and less of a social club. They are working to correct issues and open communications and getting students and teachers more involved in decisions at the high school. There will be a survey of the student body for the new turf project which will give the students some say in the appearance of the turf on the athletic fields.

During the Guest and Citizen Comments, the following people addressed the Board:

### Guest & Citizen Comments

- Mr. Carter addressed the Board about coaches "growing teams" and having coaches meet teams such as little league so the members know the coaches and develop a repour. He would also still like to see sports have affiliation with the district.
- Mrs. Zaumseil expressed she was proud of the enthusiasm shown in the school reports. She had questions on the financial audit and wondered if the audit results will be released to the public. She then questioned the bond refinancing for the stadium project. She also expressed concern that the same Auditing firm used to preform our local audit was also the firm who conducted the recent forensic audit.
- Annette May, PTO President asked the Board if they would look at revising Policy 319, employees using school property for private enterprise as the PTO would like to have after-school programs offering art, music, karate, etc. and would like to utilize employees when able and compensate them.

Mr. Berlin recognized the Board members who volunteer their time and talents for the betterment of education in our community. Each board member was presented a keychain and certificate as a small token of appreciation.

### Superintendent's Report

Motion by, seconded by to approve the following reports, payments and invoices as presented:

### Business Administrator's Report

- Revenue & Expenditure Reports
  - [General Fund](#): \$10,229,667.57 December [\\$9,726,923.94](#)  
[November](#) (Revised)
  - YTD Budget to Actual Report – [Revenue](#) [Expenses](#)
  - [Capital Projects](#): \$1,888.63 December [\\$1,888.06](#) [November](#)  
(Revised)
  - Cafeteria: [December \\$83,630.91](#) [November \\$128,858.52](#)
  - Cafeteria Profit/Loss:
    - [December \\$\(13,702.84\)](#) YTD [\\$\(83,627.67\)](#)
    - [November \\$\(27,592.53\)](#) YTD [\\$\(69,924.83\)](#)
- Checks and Invoices
  - [Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$442,534.86
  - [Exhibit A2](#) Checks Already Written: \$4,402.08
  - [Exhibit A3](#) General Fund Bills: \$560,803.72
  - [Exhibit B1](#) Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$32,303.93
  - [Exhibit B2](#) Cafeteria Bills: \$30,646.03
  - [Exhibit C2](#) Capital Project Fund Bills: \$19,003.83
  - [Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$67,382.61

Mrs. Bendig explained that the November reports have been revised as the full reports were not available at the December 2, 2019 meeting due to the close of the end of the month and the early meeting. These reports reflect the actual amounts at the close of the month for November.

She also explained the budget vs. actual report and the cafeteria reports and expenses.

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the Business Administrator's Report as presented. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pikiwicz to ratify the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Wattsburg Area School District and the Wattsburg Education Association, PSEA/NEA, including all appendices effective August 16, 2020 through August 15, 2025. In a recorded, roll-call vote, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mr. O'Donnell and Dr. Pushchak voted to ratify the agreement. Motion carried.

**WASD/WEA  
Collective  
Bargaining Unit  
Agreement**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to reauthorize the District to utilize all procurement programs including materials and services under the PA Department of General Services for 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Procurement  
Programs**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the Local Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019 as prepared by Buffamante, Whipple, Buttafaro, P.C. In a recorded, roll-call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound, and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the Local Audit. Motion carried.

**Local Audit Report**

Attorney Tim Sennett explained the Bond Resolution to the board and public attendees. Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to adopt the bond resolution as outlined in [Exhibit E](#). In a recorded, roll-call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound, and Dr. Pushchak voted to adopt the resolution. Motion carried.

**Bond Resolution**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the IRS Mileage Rate of 57.5¢/mile for business travel effective January 1, 2020 as outlined in [Exhibit F](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**IRS Mileage Rate**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the budgetary transfers from Committed Fund Reserve to the Capital Project Fund in the amount of \$19,003.83. In a recorded, roll-call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound, and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the budgetary transfer. Motion carried.

**Budgetary Transfer**

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the following additions to the Kelly Education Staffing Substitute List: Karen Brumagin, Grace Ferrara, Kaitlin Hollarn, Gerald Hemmis, Raven Jones, Jessica Perrin, Sara Stoops, Tyler Silka, and James Miller. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Kelly Educational  
Staffing Substitutes**

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the addition of Jordyn Rathburn (retro-active January 6, 2019) and Kelsey Zasada to the Service Substitute List for 2019-2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

### **Service Substitutes**

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the following leave requests:

### **Leave Requests**

- A substantively identical to Family Medical Leave of Absence for Beverley Korn effective January 6, 2020.
- Intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence for Therese Wells effective December 12, 2019.
- Sabbatical Leave for Todd Talbot effective January 21, 2020 through June 30, 2020.
- Family Medical Leave of Absence for Stephanie Krzak effective December 4, 2019.
- A Leave of Absence utilizing paid time off and Family Medical Leave for Randi Cage anticipated effective date May 13, 2020.
- Family Medical Leave of Absence for Staci Wright effective November 19, 2019.
- A Leave of Absence utilizing paid time off and Family Medical Leave for Traci Steers anticipated March 2, 2020 through April 27, 2020.

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

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the following conference requests:

### **Conference Requests**

- Rebecca Kelley, Jessica Mathis, Chris Paris and Rob Englert to attend the 2020 PDE Data Summit March 15-18, 2020 in Hersey, PA at an estimated cost of \$3,202.44. Funding from Professional Development.
- Kelsey Cross, Elizabeth Diehl, Vincent DiMichele and Tim Malinowski to attend School Counselor Networking Session on January 29, 2020 in Edinboro, PA at no cost to the District.
- Merri Beth Knappenberger to attend Making a Difference: Educational Practices that Work, March 9-11, 2020 in Hershey, PA at an estimated cost of \$853.17. Funds from Special Education.
- Rebecca Kelley and Merri Beth Knappenberger to attend Future Ready Comprehensive Planning – New Portal Training on February 11, 2020 in Pittsburgh, PA at an estimated cost of \$155.83. Funds from Title.
- James Caspar to attend PMEA Annual Inservice Conference April 22-25, 2020 in Pocono, PA at an estimated cost of \$1244.22. Funds from Professional Development.
- Ken Berlin, Rebecca Kelly, Keith Miller, Chris Paris, and Hillary Barboni to attend NISL's System Design Benchmarking on February 25-26, March 10-11, and April 14-15, 2020 at an estimated cost of \$10,976.40. Funds from Principal Conferences, Superintendent's Conference.

- Derek Peterman and Paul Semrau to attend Vex Robotics on January 27, 2020 in Harborcreek, PA at an estimated cost of \$276.93. Funds from Professional Development.

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

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Pound to accept the resignation of Denise Hackenberg, custodian effective January 1, 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Resignation**

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the tuition reimbursements as outlined in [Exhibit G](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Tuition Reimbursement**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the following:

- The school calendar for 2020-2021 and August 25 and 26, 2020 as Act 80 days for dismissal at the start of the school year for a partial group of Kindergarten students as outlined in [Exhibit H](#).
- Academic services of LearnWell for a hospitalized SHS 10<sup>th</sup> grade student anticipated January 6, 2020 through February 2, 2020
- The following curriculum resources:
  - MyPerspectives by Pearson for 9th and 10th grade English
  - Foundations by Wilson Reading for grades K-2.

**School Calendar 2020-2021**

**LearnWell Academic Services**

**Curriculum Resources**

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

Motion by Mrs. Pound, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the TSA-4 Hosted Voice Service Agreement as outlined in [Exhibit I](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**TSA-4 Hosted Voice (VoIP) Service**

Motion by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to approve transportation requests and ratification of field trips since last meeting as outlined:

**Transportation Requests**

Group Requesting:	Date:	Destination:	Estimated Cost:	Funds By:
WAMS	Thursday, February 13, 2020	Peek n Peak Skiing Jamestown Ice Arena Presque Isle Event Center North East Lanes Peek n Peak Tubing Peek n Peak Pool	\$3,000.00	Students
Grade 8	Friday, May 29, 2020	Cedar Point, Sandusky OH	\$14,760.00	Students WAMS Student Body

Grade 10 select students	Tuesday, December 17, 2019	Walmart - Harborcreek	\$150.00	Special Education
K-12 Life Skills students	Tuesday, February 4, 2020	Erie Insurance Arena	\$548.00	Special Education
WAMS Robotics Team	Friday, January 17, 2020	Keystone Oaks High School	\$770.00	WAMS Student Body
Grade 4	Wednesday, June 3, 2020	Eastway Lanes/CiCi's Pizza	\$750.00	PTO
Grades 10-11 Students	Tuesday, March 3, 2020	Mercyhurst Erie Campus	\$350.00	Student Activities

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

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve David Cage, Melissa Coburn, Alyson Harris, Alexandra Jakubowski, Kristen Ray, Karli Van-Der-Volgen, Samantha Suddarth and Tyler Benden as additions to the WASD Volunteer List. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

#### **Volunteer List**

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Paris to accept the following athletic resignations:

- Ryan Murphy as 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Coach Track & Field effective January 6, 2020.
- Kyle Forte as 7th Grade Girls' Basketball Other Assistant effective January 17, 2020.
- Alyssa Forte as 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Other Assistant effective January 17, 2020.

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

#### **Athletic Resignations**

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the following athletic appointments:

- Don Einhouse as Varsity football head coach, for the 2020-2021 school year at step 1.
- Randi Cage as Track and Field 2nd Assistant for the 2019-2020 school year at step 6.

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

#### **Athletic Appointments**

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to accept the resignation of Todd Talbot from Science Olympiad Advisor, Science Department Head and Science Tech fund effective December 10, 2019. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

#### **Extra-Curricular Resignation**

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the following extra-curricular appointments:

#### **Extra-Curricular Appointments**

- Michelle Leone as Science Department Head, Step 1 retro to August 27, 2019.
- Michael Grove as Science Technology Club Advisor for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the video recording of board meetings and posting of recordings to the District's website for public viewing. In a recorded, roll-call vote, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mr. O'Donnell and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the video recording of meetings. Motion carried.

### **Video Recording of Board Meetings**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to declare miscellaneous kitchen items as surplus as outlined in [Exhibit J](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

### **Surplus Items**

Dr. Pushchak shared that the Northwest Tri-County IU are struggling to fill some of the same staffing as the districts such as substitute teachers, but also Occupational and Physical Therapists as well as Deaf Services continue to be a challenge to find qualified personnel to ensure adequate services to the school districts they serve.

### **Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit**

Mr. Paris questioned how recording and our policies may affect each other.

### **Board Correspondence and Dialogue**

Mr. O'Donnell addressed the student who spoke about what she can do about honor and academic classes with "you are doing exactly what you should be" reaching out to the board and administration regarding this matter.

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Pikiwicz, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

Signature on File  
Vicki Bendig  
School Board Secretary