

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 17, 2020

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting at the Wattsburg Area Elementary Center on February 17, 2020. President Andy Pushchak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Taylor Supski, Cheyanne Brown Rachel Burlingham and TJ Hedderman, WAEC top winners of the WQLN Reading Challenge and classroom reading, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mr. Shawn Matson, Mr. Steve O'Donnell, Mrs. Julie Piekiewicz, 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. Mr. Josh Paris and Mrs. Tara Pound were absent.

Roll Call

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

Agenda

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the meeting minutes of January 20, 2020 Regular Board Meeting and Finance and Technology Committee meetings and the February 10, 2020 Work Session and Policy Committee Meeting. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Barboni introduced Mrs. Hedderman, Librarian and STEAM teacher. Mrs. Hedderman shared that the students who led the pledge of allegiance were some of the top winners in the WQLN Reading Challenge. This is the fourth year in a row that Wattsburg Area Elementary Center won the top school, top class and top student. The school read 21,393 books and the top winner read 1,049 books.

School Reports

Mr. Berlin and Dr. Pushchak presented Mrs. Barboni an award for the elementary center being chosen as a Distinguished Title I School.

Mr. Paris introduced Mrs. Henry and Mrs. Miller who are advisors for the middle school student council. It's been several years since the middle school has had a student council. There are about 20 students in grades 5-8 who serve on the council and they have been planning activities for the student body.

Mr. Englert introduced Ms. Anderton and the cast of The Little Mermaid. They performed the song Under the Sea for all attending the meeting. The musical will be held on March 6-7, 2020 at Seneca High School .

Dr. Pushchak thanked all the students this evening. He said that recognizing all our students are doing is the Board's favorite time of the Board meeting.

Questions from the guests and citizens concerning the Finance Committee Meeting prior to tonight's meeting were addressed. Mrs. Biebel questioned the WAMS project savings and budgeted contingencies and how it relates to what can be done about the athletic fields. Mrs. Bendig explained how we have budgeted contingencies, how the fund balance cannot be greater than 8%. . When the fund balance reaches the 8% limit, funds are transferred to the committed fund balance for specified purposes such as capital improvement projects. She also shared that during the next month, she will be working to try lower the deficit in the preliminary budget.

**Finance Committee
Question & Answer
Time**

Lori Zaumseil commented that the District's preliminary local audit was shared with a community member by Mr. Berlin via a Right to Know request before the board approved it. She expressed concerns over the separation of duties in the business office, and the process of preapproval of the WAMS renovation. She then commented on the timeline of the foundation creation and work undertaken by Mr. Berlin and Mr. Bloeser as per an email she obtained from Mr. Berlin via a Right to Know request.

**Guest & Citizen
Comments**

Jodi Gray stated that she is happy with the changes the Board has made. She commended them for listening to the public. She spoke regarding the Superintendent Performance Evaluation. She also stated that the solicitor works for the Board not an individual.

Joy Biebel voiced concern over the drainage of the ballfield and that the taxpayers cannot keep covering costs. She had questions on money for Capitol Projects and where the money comes from.

Amy Newcomer addressed the Board about students harassing others such as the LGBT students. She would like to see if a plan to address this could be formulated. Dr. Pushchak thanked Amy for her comments and concerns and for representing the student body.

Dr. Pushchak thanked those who addressed the Board this evening.

No Superintendent's report this evening.

**Superintendent's
Report
Business
Administrator's
Report**

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

- Revenue & Expenditure Reports
 - [General Fund:](#) \$10,006,135.19
 - YTD Budget to Actual Reports: [Revenue](#) - [Expense](#)
 - [Capital Projects:](#) \$1,889.51
 - [Cafeteria:](#) \$208,319.89
 - [Cafeteria Profit/Loss:](#) \$17,904.05

- Checks and Invoices
 - [Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$37,116.96
 - [Exhibit A2](#) Checks Already Written: \$8,185.63
 - [Exhibit A3](#) General Fund Bills: \$433,061.44
 - Exhibit B1 Cafeteria Checks Already Written:
 - [Exhibit B2](#) Cafeteria Bills: \$27,784.02
 - [Exhibit C2](#) Capital Project Fund Bills: \$53,686.73
 - [Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$66,887.88

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

Motion by Mr. Puschak, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to approve the budgetary transfers:

- From the Committed Reserve Fund to the Capital Project Fund in the amount of \$1,184,890.98.
- \$310,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance to the Committed Fund Balance for the Outdoor Stadium Complex Renovation Contingency.
- Monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs actual report as outlined in [Exhibit E](#).

In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mr. Shawn Matson, Mr. Steve O'Donnell, Mrs. Julie Pikiewicz, and Dr. Andy Pushchak voted to approve the budgetary transfers. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the 2020-2021 General Fund Operating Budget for the Erie County Area Vocational-Technical School in Secondary Programs and Regional Career and Technical Center Adult programs as presented for adoption. The 2020-2021 General Fund Budget includes total expenditures of \$6,913,417 with total district contributions of \$4,287,511 and the Wattsburg Area School District contribution of \$333,495. In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mr. Shawn Matson, Mr. Steve O'Donnell, Mrs. Julie Pikiewicz, and Dr. Andy Pushchak voted to approve the 2020-2021 General Fund Operating Budget for the Erie County Area Vocational-Technical School. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust Resolution as outlined in [Exhibit F](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the addition of a javelin runway and ballfield walkway to the Outdoor Athletic Complex Project to be funded from the Outdoor Stadium Complex Renovation Contingency as outlined in [Exhibit G](#). and to approve the student choice for the field color and center logo for the Outdoor Athletic Stadium Complex as outlined in [Exhibit H](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the additions to the Kelly Educational Staffing Substitute List as outlined.

Budgetary Transfers

ECTS 2020-2021 General Fund Operating Budget

Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust Resolution

Javelin Runway Ballfield Walkway Field Color and Center Logo

Kelly Educational Staffing Substitutes

Gerald Bowling Kedron Brocius Logan Carnes Jael Lippert Brittnee Tenon
Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the following personnel appointments:

- Sarah Stoops as a long-term substitute teacher at WAMS anticipated March 2 – April 24, 2020 at Masters, Step 1.
- Meckenzie Jones as Custodian, Level II, Class B, 8 hours/day, 180 days/year effective February 18, 2020.

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

Personnel Appointments

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

- Vicki Bendig to attend Orientation to Food Service Operations – Part 2 on May 6-7, 2020 in Harrisburg, PA at an estimated cost of \$694.53. Funds from Business Administrator Travel.
- Krista Wehan to attend PULSE (Principals Understanding How to Lead Special Education) on June 23-25 and October 15, 2020 in Edinboro, PA at no cost to the district.
- David Knight to attend Bomb Threat Management Planning on March 4, 2020 in Erie, PA at no cost to the district.
- David Knight to attend Protective Measures Course on March 3, 2020 in Erie, PA at no cost to the district.
- David Knight to attend the 17th Annual Safe Schools Initiative Seminar on March 19, 2020 in Buffalo, NY at no cost to the district.
- Rob Englert to attend the While You Don't Choose Tragedy, You Can Choose Your Response on March 19, 2020 in Buffalo, NY at an estimated cost of \$112.70. Funds from Professional Development.
- Savannah Anderton and Rob Englert to attend SAP Training on February 11-12 and 20, 2020 in Edinboro, PA at an estimated cost of \$554.28. Funds from Professional Development.
- Mary Beth Hengelbrok to attend PDE STEM Toolkit Project on March 4-11, 2020 in Clarion, PA at no cost to the district.
- Jamie Kotlar to attend Exploring the Possibilities of Alternative Access in Edinboro, PA on March 4, 2020 at an estimated cost of \$158.88. Funds from Special Education.
- Jeffrey Gifford to attend Site One University on March 12, 2020 in Girard, PA at an estimated cost of \$57.80. Funds from Maintenance.

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

Conference Requests

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

Tuition Reimbursement

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. O'Donnell to approve a leave of absence utilizing paid time off and Family Medical Leave for Alyssa Forte anticipated May 26, 2020 through December 22, 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Leave Request

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the first reading of the following policies:

- 004 Membership ([Exhibit J](#))
- 201 Admission of Students ([Exhibit K](#))
- 204 Attendance ([Exhibit L](#))
- 208 Withdrawal from School ([Exhibit M](#))
- 209 Health Examinations/Screenings ([Exhibit N](#))
- 227.1 Student Athletic Drug Testing ([Exhibit O](#))
- 233 Suspension and Expulsion ([Exhibit P](#))
- 333 Professional Development ([Exhibit Q](#))
- 705 Facilities and Workplace Safety ([Exhibit R](#))
- 709 Building Security ([Exhibit S](#))
- 805 Emergency Preparedness and Response ([Exhibit T](#))
- 805.1 Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies ([Exhibit U](#))
- 805.2 School Security Personnel ([Exhibit V](#))
- 808 Food Services ([Exhibit W](#))

Motion approved by a voice vote with not opposition. Motion carried.

First Reading Policies

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve homebound instruction for a Sixth Grade Wattsburg Area Middle School Student anticipated January 16, 2020 through April 15, 2020 and the 2020 Seneca Prom to be held May 9, 2020, 7:00 – 10:00 p.m., at the Masonic Temple, 32 West 8th Street, Erie, PA. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Homebound Instruction

SHS Prom 2020

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the agreement between WASD and Reabah Inc. d/b/a Networking Technologies as outlined in [Exhibit X](#) and the agreement between Eidex and WASD for data analysis software for a three-year agreement effective February 15, 2020 through February 14, 2023 as outlined in [attachment 1](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Networking Technologies Agreement

Eidex Agreement

Motion by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve Catherine Bailey to the Durham Bus Drivers 2019-2020 list and to approve the transportation requests and ratification of field trips since last meeting as outlined:

Durham Driver

Transportation Requests

| Group Requesting: | Date: | Destination: | Estimated Cost: | Funds By: |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Grade 6 Discovery Students | Tuesday, March 31, 2020 | Northwest Tri Co. IU#5 | \$500.00 | Gifted - WAMS |
| AFJROTC Students | Friday, February 28, 2020 | University of Pittsburgh | \$533.00 | AFJROTC |
| Vocal Ensemble II | Tuesday, March 17, 2020 | Mercyhurst University | \$389.00 | Student Activities |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Grade 1 | Thursday, March 5, 2020 | Asbury Woods | TBD | Grant/PTO |
| WAMS VEX Robotics | Friday, February 21, 2020 | Franklin Jr. High | \$1,126.00 | WAMS Student Body, Substitute |
| SHS Cast of Little Mermaid | Wednesday, March 4, 2020 | WAEC | TBD | Student Activities |

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

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to approve the following as additions to the WASD Volunteer list:

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Christopher Battista | Erika Fischer | Timothy Kosiorek | Brittany Spiker |
| Ashleigh Camp | Gary Hanes | Carla Rzepka | Keith Yost |
| Amanda Biebel | Andrew Fisher | Sarah Wasson | |

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

Volunteer List

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to accept the resignation of Randi Cage as Track and Field Varsity Head Coach effective January 21, 2020.

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

Athletic Resignation

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the opening of the following positions for football

- 1st Assistant
- 2nd Assistant
- Other Assistant (2)
- Other Assistant 7th & 8th (3)

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

Opening of Football Positions

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve Branden Williams as Track and Field Varsity Head Coach at Step 1 and Kym Braine as Girls' Soccer 2nd Assistant Jr. High at step 1 for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Athletic Appointments

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve a non-curricular club , Seneca High School History Club. The purpose of the club is to expose students to local history through community-based activities, programs and activities as outlined in [Exhibit Y](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Extra-Curricular Club

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to the Agreement between Therapy Dogs United and WASD as outlined in [attachment 2](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Therapy Dogs United Agreement

Mr. O'Donnell updated the Board on the Eric County Technical School budget and the on-going renovations talks.

Erie County Vo-Tech

During Board Correspondence and Dialogue, Mrs. Pikiewicz asked about a "fan bus" for playoffs when our teams make playoffs. It was shared that fan buses have been done but the last few did not have enough student interest.

**Board
Correspondence
and Dialogue**

There being no additional items to be brought before the Board, upon motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
School Board Secretary