

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

JULY 20, 2020

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting via the Zoom Virtual Platformer on July 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

President Andy Pushchak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mr. Shawn Matson, 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. Mr. Steve O'Donnell was absent.

Roll Call

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Dr. Pushchak instructed guests who wished to address the Board to utilize the Question and Answer feature and they will be allotted 5 minutes. He also recognized a correction to the addendum being M-8 should be M-1.

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

Agenda

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the meeting minutes of the June 15, 2020 Regular Board Meeting and Athletic Committee Meeting and the July 13, 2020 Work Session. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Dr. Pushchak recognized Mr. Berlin for School Reports. Mr. Berlin shared that the Principals have been drafting back-to-school plans and introduced Mr. Miller. Mr. Miller shared that the principals have been working together to piece the puzzle together to safely educate our students during each phase (green, yellow and red). They hope to finalize quickly and present the plan to the faculty via a virtual meeting next week. They are working on arrival and dismissal of students, lunch and common areas usage. Also, on plans for hygiene education, shared items, supplies and equipment. Face to face/virtual professional development on Pear Deck which will be an add on to TEAMS. The Technology Integrators are working with the faculty to make uniform platforms for TEAMS and grades 7-12 will practice TEAMS so we can go virtual with ease if necessary.

School Reports

Mr. Paris added that the middle school will be sending letters to parents on the necessary supplies for students. The staff of the middle school are trying to make the return to school easy and seamless.

Mrs. Barboni shared that the elementary center has been busy measuring rooms, playground and outside areas to ensure safe distancing with the

students. Also, they are working on areas of the building where students may be able to take off their masks.

Mrs. Pound questioned about capacity for fall and if the 6-foot distancing is going to work. Mrs. Barboni said they are working on setting up the rooms for the maximum distancing available and cutting class sizes.

Mrs. Farrell questioned if WAEC would be rotating classes. WAMS and WAEC will have one class in the halls at a time and will rotate teachers if necessary. If in yellow phase, WAEC specials teachers will come to classes instead of students going to specials. The high school has no reasonable way to alter class changes. They will operate as normal and utilize traffic patterns and spacing as much as possible.

Mr. Berlin added that Mr. Schultz and Mr. Landis are putting together custodial groups to ensure constant cleaning of common areas and rooms being cleaned to the highest extent possible.

Dr. Pushchak stated that there was a lengthy discussion at last week's meeting with 30+ questions answered. Should there be any other questions, please ask them at the building level meetings.

Mrs. Joy Biebel thanked the board, teachers, administrators and staff for all their work in making sure everything is in place. She questioned the difference between private cyber schools, homeschooling and district cyber school. Mr. Berlin explained the difference and noted the cost to the district for a student to attend a private cyber school which is about \$12,500 for a regular student and about \$20,000-22,000 for special education students. Last year the district paid \$650,000. for about 60 students to be cyber schooled. Mrs. Biebel asked if a question and answer time could be set up so people could get accurate information as most do not know this information.

Dr. Pushchak thanked Mrs. Biebel for her input and shared that the district is doing everything they can to ensure our students a safe learning environment.

Mr. Berlin shared that the district will keep in contact with teachers and parents regarding how the district will be initializing the return to school. It looks like we will be returning to school but information will guide our actions. This is by far has been the largest challenge in all the years of our administrators' careers.

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

- Revenue & Expenditure Reports for MONTH
[General Fund:](#) \$4,296,509.84
[YTD Budget to Actual Report](#)
[Capital Projects:](#) \$1,950,073.26
[Cafeteria:](#) \$153,282.63

Guest and Citizens' Comments

Superintendent's Report

Business Administrator's Report

Cafeteria Profit/Loss: \$(32,711.65)

- Checks and Invoices
 - Exhibit A1 Checks Already Written: \$189,772.57
 - Exhibit A2 Checks Already Written: \$16,071.24
 - Exhibit A3 General Fund Bills: \$481,032.57
 - Exhibit B2 Cafeteria Bills: \$14,354.33
 - Exhibit C Capital Project Fund Bills: \$150,000.00
 - Exhibit D SHS Activity Fund Report: \$62, 531.98

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

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the sale of Property Index Number 02-006-019.0-004.50 listed as Trailer from the Erie County Repository. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Sale of Parcel from
Repository for
Unsold Property
Taxes**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiwicz, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to accept the resignation of Steve O'Donnell from the Board of Directors effective July 20, 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Resignation of
Board Member**

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pound to advertise for applicants of parties interested in serving on the Board of Directors. Applications are to submit a letter of intent and a resume for the board to review." Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Advertise Board
Position**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs. actual report as outlined in Exhibit E. In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the monthly budgetary transfer. Motion carried.

Budgetary Transfer

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris authorize the district to file PDE-2071 Application for Plancon Part K Reimbursement for School Construction Project as outlined in Exhibit F. Exhibit E. In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound and Dr. Pushchak voted to authorize the district to file PDE-2071 Application for Plancon Part K. Motion carried.

Plancon Part K

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the Berkheimer Confidentiality Resolution as outlined in Exhibit G. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Berkheimer
Confidentiality
Resolution**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Child Development Services Inc. and Wattsburg Area School District to provide effective services for children and families from

**Child Development
Services MOU**

July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023 as outlined in [Exhibit H.](#) Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to accept the resignations of Sharon Gdaniec, high school English teacher for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2020 and Emily Manino, WAMS Special Education teacher effective August 19, 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Personnel
Resignations**

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the following appointments effective August 19, 2020:

**Personnel
Appointments**

- Shelby Chasko as the School Resource Officer effective August 10, 2020.
- Ronald Rairie as piano tuner/repair technician for the 2020-2021 school year at a rate not to exceed \$800.
- Mark Alloway as concert accompanist, vocal ensemble, Graduation and Baccalaureate for the 2020-2021 school year at a rate not to exceed \$1,950.
- Steve O'Donnell as high school Social Studies Teacher at Bachelors, Step 10.

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

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Pushchak 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. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to approve the following conference requests:

**Conference
Requests**

- Krista Wehan to attend NISL Course #2: Sustaining Transformation through Capacity and Commitment on September 21-22; November 2-3, 2020; February 1-2 and April 12-13, 2021 via virtual platform at no cost to the district.
- Krista Wehan to attend Foundations: Data to Action, July 5 through August 29, 2020 via virtual platform at no cost to the district.

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

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Wattsburg Education Association and Wattsburg Area School District as outlined in [attachment 1](#) and a Sabbatical Leave of Absence for Jennifer Malec effective August 19, 2020 through June 4, 2021. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**WEA MOA
Leave of Absence**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Paris approve the District's Phased Reopening Health & Safety Plan. required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and re-entry summary as outlined in [Exhibit J](#) and [Exhibit J1](#). In a recorded roll call vote, Mrs. Pikiewicz, Mrs. Pound, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mr. Paris and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the District's Phased Reopening Health and Safety Plan. Motion carried.

**District Phased
Reopening Health &
Safety Plan**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the Pandemic Instructional Resolution as outlined in [Exhibit K](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Pandemic
Instructional
Resolution**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to the Affiliation Agreements with Wattsburg Area School District and Gwynedd Mercy University as outlined in [Exhibit L](#) and Western Governors University as outlined in [Exhibit M](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Affiliation
Agreements**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the Agreement between Fort LeBoeuf School District and Wattsburg Area School District to provide reading and math instructional services in accordance with Title I programs as outlined in [Exhibit N](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Title I Agreement
for Services**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the Preliminary Third-Party Agreement for Title I Services for the 2020-2021 school year between the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit and Wattsburg Area School District as outlined in [Exhibit O](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Preliminary Third-
Party Contractor
Agreement for Title
I Services**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the Pilot Program Wit and Wisdom for Grades 1 - 3 at a cost not to exceed \$4,436.38 as outlined in [Exhibit P](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Wit & Wisdom Pilot

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the Emergency Instructional Time Assurance as outlined in [attachment 2](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Emergency
Instructional Time
Assurance**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the Pearson Online and Blended Learning as outlined in [attachment 3](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Online Learning
Proposals**

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the updated safety plan for sports and fall activities as outlined in [Exhibit Q](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Updated Safety
Plan for Sports and
Fall Activities**

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to accept the resignations of Sharon Gdaniec as English Department Chair effective June 30, 2020. And Megan Winstead Marching Band Advisor Steven Winstead, Marching Band Assistant Director and effective July 15, 2020. 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 appointment of Laura Vogel as English Department Head, Step 1 for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Extra-Curricular
Appointment**

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the coaching appointments of the following for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Jason Patterson, 7th Grade Girls' Basketball, Step 1.
- Katrina Barnhart, 5th/6th Grade Cross Country, Step 1.
- Dave Seyboldt, Other Assistant 7th/8th Grade Football, Step 1.

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

**Athletic
Appointments**

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the Joinder Agreement between Highmark, NOREBT and Wattsburg Area School District as outlined in [attachment 4](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Joinder Agreement

Dr. Pushchak thanked Mr. Berlin, and the school staff for many ways they have been preparing for the reopening of school. He asked that all families please be patient and understanding as plans are developed and revised to meet the requirements as guidelines are received. Information will be relayed to parents, students and the community as it becomes available.

Mrs. Pikiewicz shared that while her family was doing on-line learning in the spring, they would frequently be "bumped off". Unsure as to the reason.

Mrs. Pound questioned if there was a plan for Erie County Vo-Tech for getting students to and from tech. Mr. Berlin stated that Durham has a plan for transportation and the ECTS is working on structuring an A/B schedule.

Dr. Pushchak gave a shout out to the Board recognizing the commitment of time for reviewing documents and plans. Thank you, Board members for your dedication to the District.

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz seconded by Mrs. Pound, the meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
School Board Secretary

