

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

AUGUST 17, 2020

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting via the Zoom Virtual Platform on August 17, 2020.

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.

Roll Call

Dr. Pushchak informed the public that if you would like to address the Board, to please use the Q & A feature and you will be recognized.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Mr. Paris, 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. Pound, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the meeting minutes of the July 20, 2020 Regular Board Meeting, the August 3, 2020 Special Board Meeting and the August 10, 2020 Work Session. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Berlin introduced the school principals for updates on each building.

School Reports

Mr. Miller shared the admin team met today to get a head start planning student and teacher expectation for remote learning should the Board decide to open in the Yellow Phase with remote learning for Grades 7-12 and based on feedback from parents and students are trying more robust and more consistent. Professional Development has been done by staff to allow teachers to effectively teach their curriculum with engaging activities and informative assessments. Microsoft TEAMS for distance learning and foundational functions such as attendance, grading, testing and tutoring. The platform will be constant across grades 7-12 in TEAMS to allow students and parents to easily navigate through the assignments and activities for each class.

Mr. Englert shared that the high school welcomes four new teachers to their staff this year. Colonel Eric Moses (AFJROTC), Justine Brink (9th Grade English), Angela Patrino-Shaner (Emotional Support) and returning member Steven O'Donnell (Social Studies).

Mrs. Wehan shared that the middle school also is welcoming new staff members this year. Amber Hill (5-8 Learning Support Math), Samantha

Szoszorek (Learning Support) and Joseph Dunn is a long-term substitute in Health & Physical Education.

Mr. Calabrese introduced the new staff at the elementary center. Lauren Zamperini (3rd Grade), Erie Peirce (LT Substitute 3rd Grade), and Amanda Ewanick (2nd Grade).

Dr. Pushchak shared that on behalf of the board, we welcome the new faculty and look forward to meeting you in person. We welcome you to our district where we are student centered and future focused.

Mrs. Zaumseil voiced on going unrest and dissatisfaction with board. It seems like the appointment of new member was done without any concern of public. Clearly it was not an emergency but was placed on the special board meeting agenda. Feels some of the Board has lost sight they are publicly elected. Dr. Pushchak reminded Mrs. Zaumseil that she has already addressed the Board and to please move on to something new. Recorded Board vote cannot be just erased it is legally binding. Not sure how they can vote again tonight on something that was already voted upon. Wants an explanation as to why. Dr. Pushchak stated there will be an explanation to these two items when we get to that point.

Jodi Gray voiced that they saw the community members letters of intent and resume for the vacant seat and she feels most of the board members did not vote for the most qualified person. Dr. Pushchak reminded Mrs. Gray that she is not to direct any questions to individual board members. But to address the board as a whole.

Steve Morvay asked that the Board consider the incident rate of COVID and the plan that is laid out seems very thought out and very consistent to our district. Feels that opening in the Green Phase would be best for our district and manageable. Would like to see us open in the Green Phase as this would be best for our students. The whole experience of school is not just knowledge and facts. Feels we lost spring and does not want to see us lose fall also. Public sector workers have been safely working. Teachers can return to work to teach face to face in the Green Phase.

Danielle Styborski appreciates the professionalism and preparedness of this Board. Understand the challenges you face in these unprecedented times and appreciates your dedication to keeping our community safe. With regards to the Snow Removal Contract, feels that you are satisfied with the current service, we should stay with the contractor and contract. Also had a word of support for Mrs. Lee. Her resume shows her job duties were expansive. She is a very active community member. Diversity of Board is a strength. Feels Mrs. Lee would be a great asset to the Board.

**Guest
and
Citizen
Comments**

Mr. Berlin shared the updated PA Department of Health & Education Guidance. The recommendations in the guidance relies on two standard public health metrics: incidence rate and percent positivity of diagnostic testing. He went over the numbers for our area and went over the mask requirements for school reopening and how the district would respond to and cases of COVID-19 in the school setting and guidance of closing if necessary.

**Superintendent's
Report**

Dr. Pushchak stated that the Board and Administration are trying their best utilizing the information they have available to make the decisions necessary.

The Board asked questions relating to COVID phases, building closures, operating each building independently, contract tracing.

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

**Business
Administrator's
Report**

- Revenue & Expenditure Reports for MONTH
 - [General Fund](#): \$3,356,552.46
 - [YTD Budget to Actual Report](#)
 - [Capital Projects](#): \$1,800,368.80
 - [Cafeteria](#): \$191,031.39
 - [Cafeteria Profit/Loss](#): \$3,691.88
- Checks and Invoices
 - [Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$1,565.94
 - [Exhibit A2](#) Checks Already Written: \$2,869.89
 - [Exhibit A3](#) General Fund Bills: \$509,400.07
 - [Exhibit B2](#) Cafeteria Bills: \$7,735.31
 - [Exhibit C](#) Capital Project Fund Bills: \$731,666.23
 - [Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$62,651.68

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

Attorney McClure explained the reason LA1 and LA2 are on the agenda this evening. She noted the Special Meeting was held on August 3, 2020 and at the close of the meeting it became apparent that through no intentional act, the meeting was capped at 100. We don't know for sure but to be prudent we must assume there were citizens who wanted to attend but could not due to the cap. She recommended these items be placed on the agenda to ensure that anyone who wants to hear, see or participate may do so ensuring we are following the Sunshine Act.

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the appointment of Nicole Lee as Board Member to serve the remaining term of office vacated by Steven O'Donnell effective August 3, 2020. In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Piekiewicz, Mr. Pushchak and Dr. Pushchak voted to appoint Mrs. Lee to fill the Board vacancy. Mr. Matson and Mrs. Pound voted against the appointment. Motion carried.

**Appointment of
Board Member to
Fill Vacancy**

Mrs. Lee was administered the Oath of Office by Dr. Pushchak and was welcomed to the Board. Mrs. Lee was asked if she would be the Committee Chairperson for the Transportation Committee. She accepted.

Oath of Office

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve delay of opening the school for the 2020-2021 school year until September 8, 2020. In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Matson, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiewicz, Mr. Pushchak and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the delay of opening for the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Pound voted against the delay. Motion carried.

**Delay of Opening
School Year until
September 8, 2020**

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the District All Hazards Plan 2020-2021. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

All Hazards Plan

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the Title IX Interim Resolution as outlined in [Exhibit E](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Title IX Interim
Resolution**

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs. actual report as outlined in [Exhibit F](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Budgetary Transfers

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Bloeser reauthorize the District to utilize all procurement programs including materials and services under the PA Department of General Services for the year 2021. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Procurement
Programs**

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the Agreement between YMCA and WASD for the YMCA Child Care Program as outlined in [Exhibit G](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**YMCA Child Care
Program Agreement**

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the snow removal agreement between Nelson Trucking and the Wattsburg Area School District as outlined in [Exhibit H](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Snow Removal
Agreement**

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the 2020-2021 Kelly Educational Staffing Substitute List as outlined.

**Kelly Educational
Staffing Substitute
List**

Eric Amendola	Shannon Cunningham	Kathleen Mineo
Nicole Bennett	John Eisenman	Jessica Perrin
Elizabeth Bille	Elain Fazekas-Dodick	Diane Phillips
Catherine Borgia	Amy Franklin-Craft	Travis Pietkiewicz
Kedron Brocious	Gerald Hemmis	Susan Robinson
Michael Brown	Albert Hilinski	Lewis Rundell
Karen Brumagin	Caitlin Hllarn	Kiera Singer
Julie Canter	Steve Huzar	Brittnee Tenon
Logan Carnes	Kimberley Kloecker	Grace Trocki

Carolyn Carter Marcia Kowalczyk Ashley Wells
Kimberly Chase Destiny Matson-Warner

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

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the approve the Service Personnel Substitute List for the 2020-2021 school year as outlined.

Pauline Boyd	Susan Oleski	BeckySue Troutman
Brook Gibbs	Rebecca Peterson	Margaret Webb
Debra Firestone	Carolyn Post	Amanda Werner
Celly Hinkler	Darcia Snyder	

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

Service Substitute List

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement for Robert David Hammer, Life Skills Teacher effective September 1, 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried. Dr. Pushchak thanked Mr. Hammer for his service to the district.

Personnel Resignations

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the following appointments for the 2020 – 2021 school year:

- Lauren Zamperini as elementary teacher at master's, Step 1.
- Justine Brink as high school English Language Arts Teacher at master's, Step 3.
- Amber Hill as middle school Special Education Teacher at master's, Step 6.
- Angela Shaner as high school Special Education Emotional Support Teacher at master's +30, Step 7
- Joseph Dunn as WAMS Long-Term Substitute Physical Education Teacher at Bachelors, Step 1 anticipated through November 9, 2020.
- Eric Peirce as WAEC Long-Term Substitute Elementary Teacher at Bachelors, Step 1 anticipated through June 14, 2021.

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

Personnel Appointments

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

Tuition Reimbursements

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Paris to delegate authority to the Superintendent to negotiate a MOA regarding cyber school instruction on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Superintendent, subject to ratification by this Board and including a stipend not to exceed \$ 5,760. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

WEA/WASD MOA Regarding Cyber School Instruction

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the first reading of Policy 338 Sabbatical Leave as outlined in [Exhibit J](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

First Reading Policy 338

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to waive the presentation/first reading of Policy 221.1, Dress, Grooming Supplement. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Waive
Presentation/First
Reading of Policy
221.1**

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Parris to adopt the Policy 221.1 Dress, Grooming Supplement as outlined in [Exhibit K](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Adopt Policy 221.1
Supplement**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the revised school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year as outlined in [Exhibit L](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Revised 2020 – 2021
School Calendar**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the renewal of online licenses for Fuel Education and the addition of elementary K-5 online licenses with the possibility of purchasing additional licenses across all grade levels as outlined in [Exhibit M](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Renewal of Online
Licenses for Fuel
Education**

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the reopening of school in the Yellow Phase for the first nine-week period with K-6 learning on campus and 7-12 learning remotely. Discussion of possible options of opening in yellow for a few weeks and other alternative options ensued. In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Pushchak and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the reopening of school in the Yellow Phase. Mr. Matson, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiewicz and Mrs. Pound voted against the reopening in the Yellow Phase. Motion carried.

**Reopening in
Yellow Phase**

Motion by Mrs. Lee, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to Durham Bus Drivers for the 2020-2021 school year as outlined in [Exhibit N](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Durham Bus Drivers
For 2020-2021**

Motion by Mrs. Lee, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the bus routes for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Bus Routes
2020-2021**

Motion by Mrs. Lee, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the following transportation requests:

**Transportation
Requests**

- Students in Academic Sports League to travel to competitions during the 2020-2021 school year. Dates and locations to be determined. Funds from SHS Student Activities.
- Students in AFROTC to travel to area locations during the 2020-2021 school year. Funding from ROTC.
- Students in Community Based Experience Program to travel to area locations during the 2020-2021 school year. Funding from Special Education.
- Students in SHS Autistic to travel to area locations weekly during the 2020-2021 school year. Funding from Special Education.

- Students in Grades K-6 LSS class to travel to area locations weekly during the 2020-2021 school year. Funding from Special Education.
- Students in Science Olympiad to travel to competitions during the 2020-2021 school year. Funding from Student Activities.

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

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to accept the resignation of David Seyboldt as Second Assistant Football effective July 28, 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Athletic Resignation

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the following extra-curricular appointments for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Jim Caspar as Marching Band Director Step 2+
- Donald Pearce as SHS History Club Advisor
- Cheryl Krider as SHS A.P. Club Advisor
- Kim Webb as Team Leader, Grade 3, Step 2+

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

Extra-Curricular Appointments

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the appointment of Seth Hembre as Second Assistant Football for the 2020-2021 school year at step 1. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Athletic Appointment

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve an activity account for the 2020-2021 school year for the organizations as outlined in [Exhibit O](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Activity Accounts

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the following game help list for the 2020-2021 school year:

Game Help List

Jerry Adamus	Sheri Hoffman	Lisa Smith
Donna Banks	Stacey Mattocks	Eric Sonny
Samantha Black	Dana Miller	Walter Staab
Julie Canter	Sue Nolan	Janice Stalford
Don Einhouse	Elizabeth Oslak-Diehl	Ray Trejchel
Alyssa Forte	Debby Peck	Therese Wells
Kyle Forte	Derek Peterman	Cindy Widdowson
David Frank	Cecilia Polumbo	Brandon Williams
Becky Groenendaal	Paul Semrau	

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

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to open the athletic positions of Softball Head Coach and Softball First Assistant. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Open Position

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the updated safety plan for sports and fall activities as outlined in [attachment 1](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

WASD Plan for Resocialization of Sports

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the resolution regarding the retention and destruction of Special Education, Gifted Education and Chapter 15/Section 504 records as outlined in [Exhibit P](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Retention &
Destruction of
Special Education
Records**

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to declare items as surplus as outlined in [Exhibit Q](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Surplus Items

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Piekiewicz to appoint Mrs. Nicole Lee as the WASD Representative to the Joint Operating Committee of the Erie County Technical School to complete the term of Mr. O'Donnell effective August 17, 2020 through December 1, 2022. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition.

**Erie County
Technical School
Joint Operating
Committee
Representative**

There were no reports for the Erie County Technical School nor Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit this evening.

During Board Correspondence and Dialogue, Mr. Paris expressed his disappointment by the vote to open in Yellow Phase. He expressed concerns for the needs of students in grades 7-12.

Mrs. Farrell thanked the teachers and administrators for working hard and trying to make the best choices for our students.

Mrs. Pound expressed concerns similar to those state by Mr. Paris regarding students in grades 7-12.

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mr. Bloeser, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
School Board Secretary