

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 7, 2020

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Re-organization and Regular Board meeting via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform on December 7, 2020.

President Andy Pushchak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mrs. Nicole Lee, Mr. Shawn Matson, Mr. Josh Paris, Mrs. Julie Pikiwicz, 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.

No guest or citizens requested addressing the Board.

Dr. Pushchak opened the floor for nominations for the Temporary Board President. Mr. Paris nominated Mr. Pushchak. There being no further nominations, the Board elected Mr. Pushchak by a voice vote with no opposition.

Nominations for permanent President were opened. Mr. Paris nominated Dr. Pushchak. In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Matson and Dr. Pushchak voted for Dr. Pushchak as president. Motion carried.

Nominations for Permanent Vice-President were opened. Mr. Bloeser nominated Mrs. Farrell. In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Matson Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pikiwicz, Mrs. Pound, Mr. Pushchak, and Dr. Pushchak voted for Mrs. Farrell for vice-president. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Paris that public meetings for Work/Study and Regular Board begin at 7:00 P.M. via virtual meeting platform or at the Wattsburg Area Elementary Center, 10780 Wattsburg Road, Erie, PA 16509 as follows:

Work Sessions

January 11, 2021	May 10, 2021	October 11, 2021
February 8, 2021	June 14, 2021	November 8, 2021
March 8, 2021	August 9, 2021	
April 12, 2021	September 13, 2021	

Regular Business Meetings

January 18, 2021	May 17, 2021	October 18, 2021
February 15, 2021	June 21, 2021	November 15, 2021

Roll Call

Guest/Citizens Comments

Temporary President

Permanent President

Permanent Vice-President

Public Meetings for Work/Study Sessions and Board Meetings

March 15, 2021

August 16 2021

December 6, 2021 (following
Re-organization agenda items)

April 19, 2021

September 20, 2021

Board Reorganization Meeting December 6, 2021 at 7:00 .

Committee meetings on Mondays as requested by the committee chairperson at a time and place designated by the President of the Board.

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

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the appointment of Julie Pikiewicz as Assistant Board Secretary for the WASD beginning December 7, 2020 through the next School Board Reorganization Meeting on December 6, 2021. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Assistant School
Board Secretary**

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to appoints the following Erie County Tax Claim Commission delegates:

**Erie County Tax
Claim Commission
Delegates**

- Primary voting delegate: Vicki Bendig
- First alternate voting delegate: Marty Pushchak
- Second alternate voting delegate: Tara Pound

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

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to approve the appointment of Debra Nuhfer as Board Recording Secretary for the WASD beginning December 7, 2020 through the next School Board Reorganization Meeting on December 6, 2021. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Recording Secretary

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

Agenda

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the meeting minutes of November 16, 2020 as presented. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Belin updated the Board on remote learning option during snow days. During Covid, we have had a grant which has enabled us to provide internet service to students with no usual access. However, during the normal school year, we do not have the funds to provide access. So remote learning for snow days is not an option for our district. Also, to participate in the remote learning option, the district would have had to file with PDE in June to use flexible/remote snow days and the district did not. Our CARES Grant currently is providing funding for the district to offer hot spots for student internet access. This will not be available yearly.

**Superintendent's
Report**

The Department of Health has issued directives on mask wearing requirements for athletes. Students must wear masks unless they are in high intensity drills or engaged in competition and find it difficult to breath. PIAA is being hands-

off on this and making districts make the decision of when masks are to be utilized by athletes. With the school conducting in person instruction, we will comply with the mitigation orders and recommendations. School closing and athletic competition will be done case by case.

Mr. Berlin went over the Covid-19 statistics and shared that the Pennsylvania Department of Health has lowered the requirements of 7 days of quarantine with a day five testing and masks use inside and outside. Those traveling out of state must quarantine or be tested. He also shared the district statistics of Covid cases.

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

- Revenue & Expenditure Reports for November
 - [General Fund](#): \$10,883,769.55
 - [YTD Budget to Actual Report](#)
 - [Capital Projects](#): \$30,300.34
 - [Cafeteria](#): \$171,621.03
- Checks and Invoices
 - [Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$33,892.91
 - [Exhibit A3](#) General Fund Bills: \$148,258.00
 - [Exhibit B2](#) Cafeteria Bills: \$252.03
 - [Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$73,049.68

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

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

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the Erie County CARES Grant Award Agreement as outlined in [Exhibit F](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve Lauren Frazier as an addition to the Kelly Educational Staffing Substitute List for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Pikiwicz to approve the appointment of Cara Connolly as Special Education Aide, 7 hours/day, 180 days/year effective December 14, 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

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

**Business
Administrator's
Report**

Budgetary Transfer

**CARES Grant
Agreement**

**Kelly Educational
Staffing Substitutes**

**Personnel
Appointment**

**Tuition
Reimbursements**

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve Vincent DiMichele to attend the PA School Counselors Association – Facing Challenges Together virtual conference on December 3, 2020 at no cost to the district. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Conference Request

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the second reading of the following policies:

Policies Second Reading

- Policy 111 Lesson Plans ([Exhibit H](#))
- Policy 113.1 Discipline of Students with Disabilities ([Exhibit I](#))
- Policy 113.2 Behavioral Support ([Exhibit J](#))
- Policy 113.4 Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information ([Exhibit K](#))
- Policies 122 ([Exhibit L](#)), 123 ([Exhibit M](#)) and 123.2 ([Exhibit N](#)) Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Electrocardiogram Testing

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

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve academic services of LearnWell for the following

LearnWell Agreement

- A hospitalized WAMS student beginning November 20, 2020 and anticipated through December 12, 2020.
- A hospitalized SHS beginning December 1, 2020 and anticipated through December 28, 2020.

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

Motion by Mrs. Pikiewicz, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve homebound instruction for a WAMS student anticipated December 1, 2020 through March 1, 2021. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Homebound Instruction

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to accept the resignation of Ryan Murphy, head wrestling coach November 20, 2020. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Athletic Resignation

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Pikiewicz to open the wrestling 1st assistant coach position. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Open Athletic Position

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

Athletic Appointments

- Isaac Merritt as head wrestling coach at step 1.
- Shawn Miller as 1st assistant wrestling coach at step 2+.

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

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the revised WASD Gameday Protocols for Spectators as outlined in [Exhibit O](#). Motion approved by voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Revised Gameday Protocols

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Pikiwicz to approve Thomas Lynde as an addition to the WASD Volunteer List Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Volunteer List

Mrs. Lee reported the Board on the Erie County Technical will meet on December 15, 2020 via Zoom and will hold their reorganization meeting and discuss the construction project. She encouraged everyone to attend. The link to the meeting will be on the Tech School's webpage.

**Erie County
Technical School**

There was no report for the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit this evening. Next meeting December 16, 2020.

**NW Tri-County
Intermediate Unit**

During Board Correspondence and Dialogue, Mrs. Farrell questioned if the school is having any difficulty obtaining cleaning supplies and personal protection equipment and if the custodial staff can keep the buildings cleaned properly. Mr. Berlin stated that we are not having any difficulty getting supplies and PPD. He stated that the custodial staff is keeping the buildings cleaned properly and Mr. Schultz and Mr. Landis frequently inspect the buildings and make sure everything is being done properly. We have a good group of people working and doing the best they can.

**Board
Correspondence
and
Dialogue**

Mr. Berlin shared that the retention pond fencing has been installed and looks like the other fencing that was put in during the stadium renovation. The company did a very nice job and will keep our kids safe. Dr. Pushchak thanked Mr. Schultz for facilitating that project.

Dr. Pushchak recognized the Board members. He thanked them for their service for this past year. It has been an interesting year and they have still provided dedication we need for our students and making the decisions with them in mind. Although the decisions are not easy, we make them to the best of our ability, and we applauded them for their diligence. He also wished everyone and safe and Merry Christmas.

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Mr. Bloeser and second by Mr. Paris, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
School Board Secretary

