

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 15, 2021

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting March 15, 2021 via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform. President Andy Pushchak called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and reminded citizens who wish to address the board to use the question-and-answer feature with their name and address to be recognized. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mrs. Nicole Lee, Mr. Shawn Matson, Mr. Stephen Morvay, Mr. Josh Paris, 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 recognized and welcomed Mr. Stephen Morvay to his position on the Board of Directors.

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Farrell 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 Mrs. Lee to approve the meeting minutes of the February 15, 2021 Regular Board Meeting, the March 8, 2021 Building and Grounds Committee, the Work Session, and Special Board meetings. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

During school reports, Mr. Berlin introduced Mr. Semrau, Science Teacher at middle school (Golden Apple Award Recipient). One of many members of our great staff. He and his students, Angel Troutman, Isabella Black, and Katelynn Gottschling shared class project Trout in the Classroom. The girls made a video about the trout which showed the progress of the fish from trout eggs to present, and they look forward their release of the trout in May. Mr. Semrau shared that the students do a project to be able to participate in the release. Dr. Pushchak thanked the girls and Mr. Semrau for sharing their video and what they are learning in class. Dr. Pushchak shared this is the Board's favorite part of the meeting; highlighting what our students are doing.

School Reports

Mrs. Kelley reported on the Academic State of the District. She shared how the different data for Keystone, PSSA, CDT data is utilized and gave curriculum updates for the CDT data on how our students are doing. She shared that the admin team is working to development intervention tiers for academic and social/emotional development to assist students.

Mr. Danny Carter congratulated Mr. Semrau on his Golden Apple award and Mrs. Kelley's presentation was nicely done. He expressed concern over

Guest & Citizen Comments

allegations of staff misbehavior, although he did not provide any detail. He spoke about the 7-8th grade softball/baseball program.

Mr. Berlin shared the Covid statistics with the Board. The numbers have not risen since last report. Teachers and district staff were vaccinated this week. He shared that 25% of Pennsylvania Public Schools statewide are teaching full in person, 43% are still Hybrid and 32% are still full remote learning. We are in the full in person and it is due to the diligence of the students, parents, and staff that we can continue full in-person.

Superintendent's Report

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

Business Administrator's Report

A. Treasurer's Reports

[General Fund](#): \$10,902,717.27

[YTD Budget to Actual Report](#)

[Capital Projects](#): \$17.84

[Cafeteria](#): \$143,243.55

[Cafeteria Profit/Loss](#): \$43,915.58

B. Bills

[Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$33,655.89

[Exhibit A2](#) Checks Already Written: \$22,351.19

[Exhibit A3](#) General Fund Bills: \$383,045.86

[Exhibit B3](#) Cafeteria Bills: \$42,989.75

[Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$77,376.35

Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition.

Mr. Stephen Morvay took the Oath of Office as a Board of Directors Member. Dr. Pushchak congratulated Mr. Morvay and thanked him for being willing to serve the district.

Oath of Office

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to appoint the firm of Kuhar Law, LLC with Mr. Mark Kuhar as the Labor Relations solicitor for the 2020-2021 fiscal year as outlined in [Exhibit E](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Kuhar Law LLC Labor Relations Solicitor

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the following transfers:

Transfers

- Monthly budgetary transfers from the budget vs. actual report as outlined in [Exhibit E](#).
- From the General Fund Reserve to Capital Funds in the amount of \$900,000 for the elementary center heat pump project.

In a recorded roll call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Matson, Mr. Morvay, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pound, and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the transfers as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the [Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit General Operating Budget for the 2021-2022 school year](#) in the amount of \$62,555,592 and to further approve Wattsburg Area School District's contribution to the School Improvement Services (Fund 020) budgets of the Intermediate Unit for the 2021-2022 fiscal year in the amount of \$37,280.06 and \$160,865 to the Special Education Services Consortium (Fund 23). In a recorded roll-call vote, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Matson, Mr. Morvay, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pound, and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the IU#5 budget as presented. Motion carried.

Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit 2021-2022 General Operating Budget

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the WAEC Heat Pump Replacement Project funded from Capital Projects as outlined in [Exhibit G](#). In a recorded roll-call vote, Mr. Paris, Mrs. Pound, Mr. Pushchak, Mr. Bloeser, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Matson, Mr. Morvay, and Dr. Pushchak voted to approve the Heat Pump Project. Motion carried.

WAEC Heat Pump Replacement Project

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the Lease Agreement between Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5 and WASD for rental of WAEC space July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 as outlined [attachment 1](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

IU Classroom Lease Agreement

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the facility request for use of the Athletic Field Complex by Q Sports League on Fridays/Saturdays for flag football April 16 – June 19, 2021 (2 hours/day) at an estimated cost of \$1,800. Motion approved with Mr. Paris voting against the request. Motion carried.

Facility Use

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded Mrs. Lee to approve Yvonne Bentley and Jennifer Lau as additions to the Kelly Educational Staffing Substitute List. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Kelly Educational Staffing Substitutes

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve a leave of absence for the following:

Leave Requests

- Dana Miller utilizing Family Medical Leave of Absence and sick/personal time beginning August 31, 2021.
- Cheryl Elder utilizing Intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence effective March 8, 2021.

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

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to accept the resignation of Kathleen Noonan, Cafeteria Aide effective March 8, 2021. 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 conference requests:

Conference Requests

- Eric Schultz and Vicki Bendig to attend the PASBO Annual Conference (Virtually) March 17, 19, 23 and 25, 2021 at an

estimated cost of \$200 each. Funds from Maintenance and Business Administrator Conferences.

- Shelby Chesko to attend the Pennsylvania Association of School Resource Officers on July 26-28, 2021 at a cost of \$275. Funds from Non-Instructional No Cert Professional Development.

Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried. Mrs. Pound asked if a virtual vs. in person cost comparison for conferences could be done for next meeting.

Motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the tuition reimbursements as outlined on [attachment 2](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Tuition Reimbursements

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

- [Executive Summary](#)
- 137.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students – [Exhibit H](#)
- 150 – Title – Comparability of Services – [Exhibit I](#)
- 314 – Physical Examination – [Exhibit J](#)
- 318 – Attendance and Tardiness – [Exhibit K](#)
- 332 – Working Periods – [Exhibit L](#)
- 334 – Sick Leave – [Exhibit M](#)
- 340 – Responsibility for Student Welfare – [Exhibit N](#)
- 810.01 – School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers – [Exhibit O](#)
- 810.3 – School Bus Drivers – [Exhibit P](#)

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

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the following science pilots for Wattsburg Area Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year

- Grade 5 Inspire at a cost of \$527.73 as outlined in [Exhibit Q](#).
- Grade 6 iScience at a shared cost of \$5,073.75 as outlined in [Exhibit R](#).

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

Science Pilots

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Pennsylvania State University and Wattsburg Area School District for Curriculum and Instruction Field Experience March 15, 2021 through March 15, 2026 as outlined in [Exhibit S](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

PSU – WASD Curriculum and Instruction Field Experience MOA

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve homebound instruction for a WAMS student anticipated March 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Homebound Instruction

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded Mrs. Pound to approve academic services of LearnWell for hospitalized students as follows:

- WAMS student anticipated February 25 through March 3, 2021.
- WAMS student March 3 through March 5, 2021,
- SHS student March 8 anticipated through May 16, 2021.

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

LearnWell Academic Services

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the participation of Seneca High School in the IU5 Education Leading to Employment and Career Training (ELECT) program as outlined in [Exhibit T](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

ELECT Program

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mr. Paris to approve the following Wattsburg Area School District Plans

- Comprehensive Plan – [Exhibit U](#)
- Gifted Plan – [Exhibit V](#)
- Induction Plan – [Exhibit W](#)
- Professional Development – [Exhibit X](#)

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

WASD Plans

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the Agreement for Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth between Bethesda Lutheran Services and Wattsburg Area School District for the 2021-2022 school year as outlined in [Exhibit Y](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Agreement for Alternate Education for Disruptive Youth

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Pound approve the Local Education Agency Letter of Agreement for Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness as outlined in [Exhibit Z](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Local Education Agency Letter of Agreement Homelessness

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to approve the subscription to Digital Theater for Seneca High School for the 2021-2022 school year as outlined in [attachment 3](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Digital Theater

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Bloeser to accept the resignation of Dana Miller as 1st Assistant Cross-Country Coach effective February 22, 2021. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Athletic Resignation

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Pound to appoint following athletic appointments for the 2020-2021 school year

- Jerry Adamus as Baseball 1st Assistant Coach, Step 2+.
- Alex Hopson as Track and Field 2nd Assistant 7 & 8 Grade Jumping at Step 1.

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

Athletic Appointments

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the addition of Yvonne Hammill to the WASD Volunteer List. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

WASD Volunteers

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Pushchak to approve the purchase of FinishLynx Timing System (Track and Field Automated Timing System) with \$14,300 of the purchase funded out of the Athletic Complex Contingency. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

FinishLynx Timing System

Motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the solicitation and sale of the ROTC Education Tour foreign trip to Ireland and Scotland in June of 2022 provided that all criteria of Policy 913 is met. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

ROTC Foreign Trip

Mrs. Lee reported that the Erie County Technical School's Business Administrator resigned the position, and they are looking to fill that vacancy. A video was done by the ECTS students that featured students of which some were SHS students. She also shared that at the February meeting, the vote to move forward with the bidding process for renovations was approved. She however voted against it and Millcreek also voted against it. She felt the proposed timeline was too aggressive. There was some discussion about the funding sources. Mr. Morvay also shared that a bid can be held 60-90 days.

Erie County Technical School

Dr. Pushchak shared that the IU is focusing on the vaccination of educators over the next few weeks. Their next meeting will be March 24, 2021.

NW Tri-County Intermediate Unit

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Mr. Paris, seconded by Mrs. Lee, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
School Board Secretary