

**WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Work Session**

April 12, 2021

The meeting of the Board Work Session convened on April 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform.

Dr. Pushchak 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 also attended.

Roll Call

Mr. Danny Carter addressed the Board with his concerns of the accessibility to the athletic fields for the disabled, conditions of the baseball and softball fields and the activity bus.

Guest & Citizen's
Comments

Mr. Berlin gave the "State of the District" report highlighting the advancement of the district from 2013 through the present time. He shared how the district had a recurring deficit of approximately \$800,000, budgets having no monies allocated for technology and curriculum and buildings in desperate need of repairs. How we have refinanced high-rate interest bond debt, outsourced bussing, which has saved the district money and updated the fleet of busses, we now have \$300,000 in technology and \$250,000 in curriculum budgets to ensure our students are receiving a quality education. The parking lots have been repaved, a new water system has been installed ensuring safe drinking water and the sewer plant primary filtration tank has been upgraded. All buildings have new roofs, door security, WAMS has been totally renovated and improvements to all buildings have been done and updates continue using Guaranteed Energy Savings Program saving the district \$250,000 annually. The new Athletic Complex has been completed along with walkways to all fields enabling handicapped accessibility. The district continues to strive to improve. Mr. Berlin thanked the Board for their support in making these improvements.

Superintendent's
Report

Dr. Pushchak thanked Mr. Berlin for the wonderful presentation to show us where we were and where we are now. He recognized Mr. Berlin's efforts in leading the way and identifying what needed to be addressed and bringing them to the Board with a plan both financially and resource-wise. Together, we have done a lot in short amount of time and done it well.

Mrs. Bendig gave the Treasurer's Report General Fund: \$10,553,085.20, Capital Projects: \$17.84, Cafeteria: \$285,402.96 and a review the of Exhibit A1 Checks Already Written: \$55,187.57 and Exhibit D SHS Activity Fund Report: \$77,873.61. A full report will be given at the April 19, 2021 Board meeting.

Treasurer's
Report

The Board discussed the following transfers:

Transfers

- Monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs. actual report as outlined.
- Funds transfer from Committee Fund-Athletic Complex Contingency to General Fund-Student Athletic Supplies in the amount of \$14,300 for the purchase of FinishLynx Timing System.

This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

The Board discussed the Budgetary Amendment. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Budgetary
Amendment

The Board discussed the Kelly Education Staffing Substitute and WASD Service Substitute lists additions. These items to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Kelly Educational
And WASD
Substitute Lists

The Board discussed the appointment of Bethany Gibson as Cafeteria Aide, Class C, 3.25 hours/day, 180 days/year effective April 26, 2021. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Personnel
Appointment

The Board discussed the Summer Remediation Appointments:

- SHS
 - Sue Nolan – Mathematics
 - Laura Vogel – English Language Arts
 - Angela Paterniti-Shaner – Special Education
- WAMS
 - Traci Steers – 8th Grade English Language Arts
 - Donna Banks – 7th Grade English Language Arts
 - Samantha Szoszorek – Special Education
 - Jennifer Turner – Grade 5
- WAEC
 - Theresa Bricker
 - Lauren Geniesse
 - Julie Sierota
 - Janice Sayers
 - Rebecca Haener
 - Riley Petrucelli

Summer
Remediation
Program
Appointments

This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

The Board discussed the Special Education Extended School Year/Summer appointments:

- Teachers
 - Victoria Pawlak
 - Elizabeth Garcia
 - Pam Carson
- Special Education Aides
 - Jerome Adamus
 - Kayla Ballew
 - Rebecca Heitzenrater
 - Dorene Johnston
 - Jennifer Manno

Special Education
Extended School
Year/Summer
Appointments

- Medical Assistant
 - Melissa Pence

This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

The Board discussed the resignation for retirement of Vince DiMichele, WAMS Guidance Counselor effective June 29, 2021 and Lynne Brozewicz, WAEC Secretary effective June 30, 2021. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Personnel
Resignations

The Board discussed the tuition reimbursements. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Tuition
Reimbursement

The Board discussed the leave request for Michelle Kappler anticipated May 27 through June 14, 2021. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Leave Request

The Board discussed the second reading of the following policies:

Second Reading
Policies

- 137.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
- 150 – Title – Comparability of Services
- 314 – Physical Examination
- 318 – Attendance and Tardiness
- 332 – Working Periods
- 334 – Sick Leave
- 340 – Responsibility for Student Welfare
- 810.01 – School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers
- 810.3 – School Bus Drivers

This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

The Board discussed the first reading of Policy 903 – Public Participation in Board Meetings. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

First Reading
Policy

The Board discussed the academic services of LearnWell for hospitalized students:

LearnWell
Academic
Services

- WAEC student March 12 through March 18, 2021.
- WAMS student March 18 anticipated through March 31, 2021.
- WAMS student anticipated April 7, 2021 through June 14, 2021.

This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

The Board discussed Study Sync for grades 8-12 beginning the 2021-2022 school year and the novel list. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Study Sync

The Board discussed the participation of eighth grade students in the AFJROTC program at Seneca High School. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Eighth Grade
AFJROTC
Participation

The Board discussed the addition of Jeffrey Kimmy to the WASD Volunteer list. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Volunteer List

The Board discussed the resignation of Ashleigh Sontheimer as Head Coach Varsity Girls' Soccer effective April 1, 2021. This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Athletic
Resignation

The Board discussed the extra-curricular appointments of extra-curricular appointments effective April 20, 2021:

Extra-Curricular
Appointments

- Steve O'Donnell as SAP Case Manager at Seneca High School, Step 1.
- Elizabeth Garcia as SAP Case Manager at Wattsburg Area Middle School, Step 1.

This item to be placed on the April 19, 2021 agenda.

Mrs. Lee shared that blueprints for the construction project have been delivered and that steel cost estimates alone will add an additional \$1.2 million to the project due to Covid. Mr. Berlin shared that Goerie had an article on Erie County Technical School curtailing programs. This was misinformation. Mr. Berlin will attend an Advisory Council meeting on Friday, April 15, 2021. Mrs. Lee will have a report on the Erie County Technical School at the April 19th meeting.

Erie County
Technical School

Dr. Pushchak shared he will have an update on Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit at the April 19th meeting.

NW Tri-County
Intermediate Unit

Mr. Matson asked about the progress of the new bleachers for the baseball/softball field. Mr. Schultz shared that three units have been assembled and they are working on the last one. They will then be taken to the fields.

Board
Correspondence
and Dialogue

Dr. Pushchak informed the public that the Board will meet in Executive Session following the Work Session this evening on Personnel/Collective Bargaining Unit items. No other business will take place.

There being no further business, upon motion by Mr. Bloeser, seconded by Mrs. Farrell, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
Board Secretary