

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

September 13, 2021

The Board Work Session convened on September 13, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at the Wattsburg Area Elementary School.

Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mr. Shawn Matson, Mr. Steve Morvay, Mr. Josh Paris, Mrs. Nicole Lee, 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. Name was absent.

Roll Call

No guest/citizens requested to address the Board.

Guests & Citizens

Mr. Berlin gave a report on COVID updates and the Health Department's updated procedures for quarantining and isolation along with COVID-19 case statistics in the district and surrounding area.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Berlin then answered questions the Board had regarding masks, teachers keeping track of students to ensure they are wearing masks correctly, and social distancing. Mr. Berlin explained that the cafeteria and lunch are the most exposed time as students are at tables eating lunch unmasked. The building principals are planning to move lunches to desks and utilize gathering areas to spread out students, similar to last school year to slow transmission rates.

Mr. Berlin explained that the proposed Assistant Pandemic Coordinator position funded by Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) grant would lead the contact tracing process and serve as a liaison to the ECDOH. This position will free up the principals and enable them to reinforce positive behaviors, enforce proper mask wearing, and get back to their normal responsibilities.

Dr. Pushchak thanked the superintendent for his report and recognized the efforts of the administration, faculty, and staff and thanked them for their continued diligence in addressing these pandemic related issues.

Mrs. Bendig gave the Treasurer's Reports: General Fund: \$5,747,664.34; Capital Projects: \$30.01; Cafeteria: \$358,762.44 and a review the of Checks Already Written Exhibit A1 Checks Already Written: \$271,379.54; Exhibit B1 Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$2,582.00; Exhibit C1 Capital Project Fund Bills: \$212,783.00. A full report will be given at the September 20, 2021 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Board discussed the monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs. actual report. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Transfers

The Board discussed the 2020-2021 budgetary amendment. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Budgetary Amendment

The Board discussed the use of the athletic fields on Sundays, September 19 through October 24, 2021 from noon to 4:00 P.M. by Seneca Bobcat Fall Baseball at no cost to the requestor. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Facility Use

The Board discussed the building maintenance and repair projects from the committed fund. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Building Maintenance
and Repair Projects

The Board discussed the Kelly Educational Substitute additions. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Kelly Substitutes

The Board discussed the additions of Debbie Firestone, Carolyn Post and Rachael Smith (retro to August 31, 2021) to the Service Personnel Substitute List for the 2021-2022 school year. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Service Substitute List

The Board discussed the following appointments:

Personnel
Appointment

- Deputy Daniel Sokolowski as School Resource Officer effective September 7, 2021.
- Erin VanDyke as Long-Term substitute Life Skills anticipated August 25, 2021 through June 10, 2022 at Bachelors, Step 1.
- Sean Sundy as Long-Term Substitute WAMS anticipated August 25 – November 2, 2021 at Bachelors, Step 1.
- Amanda Stalford as Special Education Aide, Class B, 7 hours/day, 180 days/year effective August 25, 2021.
- Hallie Runser as Cafeteria Aide, Level II, Class B, 5.25 hours/day, 180 days/year effective August 31, 2021.
- Christopher Ballew as Custodian, Level II, Class B, 7 hours/day, 210 days/year effective August 23, 2021.
- Shawn Bowman as Custodian, Level II, Class B, 7 hours/day, 219 days/year effective August 23, 2021.
- Cheryl Elder as Custodian, Level II, Class B, 7 hours/day, 210 days/year effective August 31, 2021.
- Rachael Smith as Support Aide, Level II, Class C, 3 hours/day, 180 days/year effective September 14, 2021.

This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

The Board discussed the tuition reimbursements. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Tuition
Reimbursements

The Board discussed the following conference requests:

Conference Requests

- Mary Ray and Elizabeth Smith to attend the 2021 Professional Immunization Seminar on October 29, 2021 in Erie, PA at an estimated cost of \$60. Funds from Professional Development.
- Elizabeth Diehl to attend PHEAA on September 28, 2021 in Erie, PA at no cost to the district.

This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

The Board discussed the resignation of Debbie Firestone, support aide effective August 23, 2021. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Personnel
Resignation

The Board discussed the following leave requests:

- Intermittent Family Medical Leave for Hillary Barboni effective August 23, 2021.
- Family Medical Leave for Raymond Trejchel effective September 13, 2021.

This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Leave Requests

The Board discussed the Erie County Enhanced Screening Agreement between Erie County Department of Health and the Erie County School Districts. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Erie County Enhanced
Screening Agreement

The Board discussed the second reading of the following policies

Executive Summary Revisions

- 218.1 Weapons – Exhibit J
- 218.2 Terroristic Threats – Exhibit K
- 236.1 Threat Assessment – Exhibit L
- 247 Hazing - Exhibit M
- 249 Bullying/Cyberbullying – Exhibit N
- 805 Emergency Preparedness Response – Exhibit O
- 805.2 School Security Personnel – Exhibit P

This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Policy
Second Reading

The Board discussed the first reading of the following policies to make them compliant with the Sunshine Act. As of August 29, 2021, Act 65 officially amends the PA Sunshine Act by requiring public notice of board business by posting agendas of open board meetings with the intent to facilitate transparency. Act 65 includes specific exceptions for when items of business can be added to the agenda after posting.

- Policy 006. Meetings – Exhibit Q
- Policy 903. Public Participation in Board Meetings – Exhibit R

This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Policy
First Reading

The Board discussed the Schoolwide Title I School Plan. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Schoolwide Title I
School Plan

The Board discussed the homebound instruction for a WAMS student anticipated September 14th through October 5th, 2021. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Homebound
Instruction

The Board discussed proposed staff instructional technology use research study. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Research Study

The Board discussed the field trip/transportation requests. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Field Trip Requests

The Board discussed the parent transportation agreement for the 2021-2022 school year. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Parent Transportation
Agreement

The Board discussed the additions to the WASD Volunteer list. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Volunteer List

The Board discussed the extra-curricular appointment of Alissa Pyle as SAP Case Manager for the 2021-2022 school year at Step 1. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Extra-Curricular
Appointment

The board discussed the athletic appointment of Walter Chevalier as football, other assistance, step 1 and the winter/spring athletic appointments. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Athletic
Appointments

The Board discussed the additions of Sam Borland, Jay Pikiewicz, Tim Schweitzer, David Segoviano, and Emily Sonney to the 2021-2022 Game Help List. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Game Help List

The Board discussed the non-curricular Speech and Debate Club. The purpose of this club is to help young people develop and enhance their skills in critical thinking, research, academic honest, argumentation, professionalism, and public speaking. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Speech & Debate
Club

The Board discussed declare the following as surplus items:

- KXE700M Panasonic display mate electronic typewriter as surplus.
- SHS Library Weeding List as outlined in Exhibit W.

Surplus Items

This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

The Board discussed the Resolution for Renovations and Additional Project for the Erie County Technical School. This item to be placed on the September 20, 2021 agenda.

Erie County Technical
School Resolution for
Renovations

During Board Correspondence and Dialogue, Mr. Bloeser questioned that due to COVID, what are we looking at for winter sports. Mr. Berlin explained that we need to look at venue capacity closer to the start of the season. Last year there were governor mandates regarding venue capacity that are no longer in effect. The board however can set capacity limits as it deems appropriate due to COVID-19 conditions.

Board
Correspondence
and Dialogue

Mrs. Pound asked if the Department of Health mask mandate applies to indoor sporting events. Mr. Berlin confirmed that it does apply and that the District will provide clarification to parents regarding mandated mask wearing at inside sporting venues.

There being no further business, upon motion by Mrs. Pound and seconded by Mrs. Farrell, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
Board Secretary