

# WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 21, 2022

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting at the Wattsburg Area Elementary Center on February 21, 2022.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Jeremy Bloeser called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Britni Burlingham, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mrs. Lea Hetherington, Mrs. Nicole Lee, Mr. Shawn Matson, Mr. Steve Morvay, Mrs. Tara Pound, Dr. Andy Pushchak, and Mr. Jeremy Bloeser 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

Motion by Dr. Pushchak, 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 Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the meeting minutes of January 17, 2022 Regular Board Meeting and the February 14, 2022 Work Session. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

## Meeting Minutes

Col. Moses introduced senior Alex Libra. Alex is a recipient of the J100 Scholarship awarded by the Air Force. Alex shared information about himself, his interests, his school involvement, and activities he participates in. There were 400 applicants for this scholarship and 100 scholarships awarded. Alex plans on going to Ohio State. The scholarship will cover full tuition and room/board. He also plans to join the Air Force upon graduation from college. Col. Moses shared Alex is an outstanding student and represents the district positively.

## School Report

Jennifer Jefferson, Krista Arnold, Mike Benedict, Stephanie Gredler, Matthew Gredler, Marina Pugach, Run O'Sullivan, Emily Stafford, Lilah Hetherington, and Olivia Jefferson all addressed the board with their opinions on the Masking Mandate.

## Guest and Citizen Comments

Mr. Berlin shared that the Covid numbers are the lowest they have been since the start of Covid. He discussed the declining trends from a report which was linked to the board agenda.

## Superintendent's Report

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

- Revenue & Expenditure Reports
  - [General Fund: \\$11,441,147.46](#)
  - [YTD Budget to Actual Report](#)

## Business Administrator's Report

[Capital Projects](#): \$34.33

[Cafeteria](#): \$419,773.85

[Cafeteria Profit/Loss](#): \$13,420.52 Month \$84,244.12 YTD

- Checks and Invoices

[Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$128,212.33

[Exhibit A2](#) Checks Already Written: \$14,698.40

[Exhibit A3](#) General Fund Bills: \$409,620.85

[Exhibit B1](#) Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$228.98

[Exhibit B2](#) Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$35,991.49

[Exhibit C2](#) Capital Project Fund Bills: 547,453.50

[Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$77,635.74

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

Motion by Dr. Pushchak, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the following Mask Mandate Resolution:

*Resolved, that the Wattsburg Area School District universal masking requirement adopted by the board on January 24, 2021 be extended until further Board action in accordance with the current WASD ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan.*

In a recorded roll call vote, Dr. Pushchak and Mr. Bloeser voted to adopt the resolution. Mrs. Burlingham, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Hetherington, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Matson, Mr. Morvay and Mrs. Pound voted against the resolution. Motion failed.

Mrs. Burlingham addressed the public stating that the Board tries to make informed decisions that are best for our students. They too, have children who attend school in the district.

Mrs. Farrell expressed it is difficult to make decisions which affects everyone.

Mr. Bloeser read a statement in support of his voting to extend the resolution.

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the following transfers:

- Monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs. actual report as outlined in [Exhibit E](#).
- Transfer from Unassigned Fund Balance to Committed Fund Balance for office renovation in the amount of \$15,900.

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

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the [2022-2023 General Fund Operating Budget for the Erie County Area Vocational-Technical School](#) in Secondary Programs and Regional Career and Technical Center Adult programs as presented for adoption. The 2022-2023 General Fund Budget includes total expenditures of \$6,966,835 with total district contributions of \$4,577,796 and the WASD contribution of \$410,320. In a recorded roll-call vote, Mr. Morvay, Mrs. Pound, Dr. Puschak, Mrs. Burlingham, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Hetherington, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Matson, and Mr. Bloeser voted to approve the Erie

## Mask Mandate

## Transfers

## ECTS 2022-2023 General Fund Operating Budget

County Technical School 2022-2023 General Fund Operating Budget. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mrs. Burlingham to approve the proposal of office renovation as outlined in [Exhibit F](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Office Renovation**

Motion by Mr. Matson, seconded by Mr. Morvay to approve the use of the football field April 29 – July 1, 2022 by the Q-Sports League, LLC for flag football at an estimated cost of \$3,000. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Facility Use Request**

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

- Brooke Gibbs (retro to February 4, 2022), Britlee Skinner, and Garret Swearingen (retro to February 1, 2022) as additions to the Service Personnel Substitute List for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Permanently remove A. Rodger Shaw from the substitute custodian list and from the Durham bus driver list in the Wattsburg Area School District.
- Accept the following resignations:
  - Donald Einhouse, Health and Physical Education Teacher effective February 11, 2022.
  - Brooke Gibbs, Custodian effective February 4, 2022.
  - Becky Groenendaal, Cook effective February 28, 2022.
  - Rachael Smith, Support Aide effective March 5, 2022.
- Approve the following personnel appointments:
  - Janice Stalford as Temporary Cafeteria Aide, 2.50 hours/day, 180 days/year effective January 24, 2022.
  - Kala Lunger as Support Aide, 3 hours/day, 180 days/year effective January 27, 2022<sup>1</sup>.
  - Kristin Ray as Cook-Baker, 6 hours/day, 180 days/year effective January 31, 2022<sup>1</sup>.
  - Sandra Clark as Cafeteria Aide, 3.25 hours/day, 180 days/year effective February 3, 2022<sup>1</sup>.
  - Garret Swearingen as Custodian, 7 hours/day, 210 days/year effective February 22, 2022<sup>1</sup>.
  - Kayla Trapp as Test to Stay Medical Assistant 7.5 hours/day, 180 days/year effective February 14, 2022 anticipated through the end of the 2021-2022 school year<sup>1</sup>.
  - Jacob Cervik as Long-Term Health & Physical Education Substitute Teacher anticipated February 11, 2022 through June 10, 2022 at Bachelor's, Step 1<sup>1</sup>.
  - Jamie Trayer as Cafeteria Aide, Class B, 5 hours/day, 180 days/year effective March 7, 2022<sup>1</sup>.
  - Kathe Umlauf as Long-Term Substitute Art Teacher at WAEC anticipated February 22, 2022 through June 10, 2022 at a Master's, Step 1<sup>1</sup>.

**Service Substitute Additions**

**Permanent Removal**

**Personnel Resignations**

**Personnel Appointments**

<sup>1</sup> pro-rated for the 2021-2022 school year.

- Approve the following conference requests:
  - Matthew Calabrese to attend Aspiring Leadership via Zoom on February 4, 2022 at an estimated cost of \$159. Funds from Non-Instructional Development Professional Development.
  - Rebecca Kelley to attend Pennsylvania Association for Federal Program Coordinators April 3-6, 2022 at Seven Springs, Pennsylvania at an estimated cost of \$1,500. Funding from Title Iva.
- Approve tuition reimbursements as outlined in [attachment 1](#).

### **Conference Requests**

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

### **Tuition Reimbursement**

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Dr. Pushchak to approve the first reading of Policy 246 School Wellness as outlined in [Exhibit G](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

### **First Reading Policy**

Motion by Mrs. Burlingham, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the following:

- Transportation requests and ratification of field trips since last meeting as outlined in [Exhibit H](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.
- Solvett to provide transportation of BNI and NE students at a rate not to exceed \$300/day.

### **Transportation Field Trip Requests**

### **Solvett Transportation**

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

Motion by Mrs. Pound, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the following:

- Accept the resignation of Don Einhouse as Weightlifting Coach and Head Football Coach effective February 11, 2022.
- The following extra-curricular appointments:
  - Sean Sundy as after-school tutoring for History 9-12 anticipated February through June 2022.
  - Bretton Smith as after-school tutoring for Special Education 9-12 anticipated February through June 2022.
- The following athletic appointments for the 2021-2022 school year:
  - Randi Heitman as Head Coach Track & Field, Step 2+.
  - Branden Williams as 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Track & Field, Step 2+.
  - Nate Myers as 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Track & Field - Distance, Step 2+.
  - Sean DeMauri as 1st Assistant Baseball Coach, Step 1.

### **Athletic Resignation**

### **Extra-Curricular Appointments**

### **Athletic Appointments**

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

Mr. Morvay updated the Board on the January ECTS JOC meeting. Most of the meeting was on the proposed budget. They also discussed the building process. Most phases should be completed in 2022 with the completion of the renovation by the fall of 2023.

### **Erie County Technical School**

WASD students Alexander Crosby, Christian Wieczorek and Jesse Larson were recognized in the Be-Attitude Students at the Technical School.

The JOC is also looking into a potential program (Sports Medicine) to implement Fall 2022.

Dr. Pushchak will report next month on the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit Board meeting. Their next meeting is February 23, 2022.

**Northwest Tri-  
County  
Intermediate Unit**

Mr. Morvay commended the citizens and the board for how both sides conducted themselves and being respectful of each other's opinion during the discussion of masking, an emotional issue.

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Mrs. Lee, seconded by Mrs. Pound, meeting was adjourned at 8:06 P.M.

**Adjournment**

Signature on File  
Vicki Bendig  
School Board Secretary