

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session
May 9, 2022

The meeting of the Board Work Session convened on May 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Wattsburg Area Elementary School.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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 also attended.

Roll Call

No guests or citizens requested to address the Board.

Guest and Citizen
Comments

Mr. Berlin shared the State of Education Funding in PA outlining the revenue shares and ranks nationally and the statistics of state funding vs. mandated costs. Our two largest mandated costs are pensions and Charter School Tuition.

Superintendent's
Report

Mr. Bryan Lee from the WASD Foundation updated the board on the Foundation and their fundraising efforts and how they are utilizing their funds with scholarships and mini grants at each school. The foundation is looking into a large fund raiser at the end of the year. They are also part of the Erie Gives this year.

Mrs. Bendig gave the Treasurer's Report of: General Fund: \$9,785,245.92; Capital Projects: \$1,346,561.22; and Cafeteria: \$506,020.87 and a review of bills totaling: Exhibit A1 Checks Already Written: \$224,772.47; Exhibit B1 Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$295.96; and Exhibit D SHS Activity Fund Report: \$78,165.41. A full report will be given at the May 16, 2022 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Board discussed the appointment of the firm of MacDonald Illig with Mr. Mark Kuhar as the Labor Relations solicitor for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Labor Relations
Solicitor
2022-2023

The Board discussed the appointment of the firm Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall and Sennett with Ms. Christine McClure as the School District's solicitor for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

District Solicitor
2022-2023

The Board discussed the monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs. actual report. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Budgetary Transfer

The Board discussed the appointment of Steven Morvay as WASD Treasurer and designated signatory for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

WASD Treasurer
2022-2023

The Board discussed the appointment of Northwest Savings Bank as the WASD Depository for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Depository
2022-2023

The Board discussed the appointment of Berkheimer Associates as the current delinquent per capita collector for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Per Capita
Collector
2022-2023

The Board discussed the Proposed General Fund Budget for 2022 – 2023 in the amount of \$27,494,251 and to authorize the Secretary to post the following notice: The Board of Directors tentatively approved the proposed final budget for the Wattsburg Area School District for the fiscal year of 2022-2023 on May 16, 2022. A copy of the said budget in the amount of \$27,494,251 open for inspection by the public on the District Website. Adoption of the final budget is scheduled for June 20, 2022, 7:00 p.m. at the Wattsburg Area School District Elementary Center. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Proposed General
Fund Budget for
2022-2023

The Board discussed the ESSER Grants: ESSER I \$239,368; ESSER I SEA (PCCD2) \$38,168; ESSER II \$1,060,182; ARP ESSER \$2,144,442; ARP ESSER SEA (7% Set Aside) \$166,670. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

ESSER Grants

The Board discussed the high school auditorium sound and lighting project. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda. Mr. Morvay questioned whether we should do the bid process instead of using Costars.

High School
Auditorium Project

The Board discussed the additions to the Kelly Educational Staffing Substitute List. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Kelly Substitutes

The Board discussed the appointment of Taylor Hewitt as Long-Term Substitute Grade 6 ELA Teacher at Bachelors, Step 1 anticipated May 2, 2022 through June 10, 2022.

Personnel
Appointment

The Board discussed the resignations of: Col. Eric Moses, AFJROTC Instructor effective July 31, 2022; Holly Fromknecht, Assistant Pandemic Coordinator effective April 25, 2022; Yvette Parra, Custodian, effective April 26, 2022; MerriBeth Knappenberger, Special Education Supervisor for the purpose of retirement effective November 26, 2022; and Sherry Wnukowski, Teacher for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2022. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Personnel
Resignations

The Board discussed the leave requests for Jerome Adamus utilizing paid time off and Family Medical Leave Act effective May 5, 2022 through June 9, 2022 and Leave of Absence utilizing Family Medical Leave Act effective May 4, 2022. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Leave Requests

The Board discussed the Summer Remediation Appointment of Justin Richter – WAMS Math 7-8. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.

Summer
Remediation
Appointment

The Board discussed the Kindergarten Boot Camp appointments: Shelley Ochterski Behr, Barb Burdick, Pam Burdick, Elizabeth Garcia (Special Education),Michelle McAvoy, Haley Ottaway, Emily Stratton, and Amanda Green (Nurse). This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Kindergarten Boot Camp Appointments
The Board discussed Brittany Smiley to attend Spring Science of Reading on May 4 th and 11 th virtually at an estimated cost of \$50. Funding from ESSER II Grant. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Conference Request
The Board discussed the Summer Maintenance and IT Help. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Summer Help
Mrs. Kelly updated the board on testing scores which ranked Wattsburg low in their school ranking and how the media doesn't fairly compare districts "apples to apples" when presenting test scores. She also shared how are students are doing and how the school scored according to state testing data.	School Ranking
The Board discussed academic services of LearnWell for a hospitalized WAMS student anticipated April 15, 2022 through April 27, 2022. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Academic Services
The Board discussed the seniors who meet all graduation requirements to receive a Seneca High School diploma. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Seniors for Diplomas
The Board discussed the purchase of Common Core Algebra 1, Larson 1 st Edition and Common Core Algebra 2, Larson, 1 st edition textbooks for the high school. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Textbooks for High School
The Board discussed the homebound instruction for a WAMS student anticipated May 9 – June 9, 2022. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Homebound Instruction
The Board discussed the transportation/field trip requests. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Field Trip Requests
The Board discussed the additions to the WASD Volunteer List. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Volunteer List
The Board discussed the addition of Samantha Borland to the 2021-2022 Game Help List. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Game Help
The Board discussed the non-curricular club Tri-M Music Honors Society. The purpose of this club is to promote our music and complete service projects throughout the year as outlined. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Tri-M Music Honors Society
The Board discussed the agreement between Safe Harbor Behavioral Health (UPMC) and WASD. This item to be placed on the May 16, 2022 agenda.	Safe Harbor Affiliation Agreement

During Board Correspondence and Dialogue Mr. Bloeser talked about the tax assessment where the school district can file an appeal when a house is sold above their assessed value for more tax revenue.

There being no further business, upon motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Lee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
Board Secretary