

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

APRIL 17, 2023

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting at the Wattsburg Area Elementary Center on April 17, 2023.

President Jeremy Bloeser called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Bloeser announced that the Board met in executive session after the work session on April 10, 2023 to discuss Local 2 negotiations.

Mrs. Britni Burlingham, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mrs. Lea Hetherington, Mrs. Nicole Lee, Mr. Steve Morvay, Mrs. Tara Pound, Dr. Andy Pushchak, and Mr. Jeremy Bloeser attended. Dr. Kenneth Berlin, Superintendent; Mrs. Vicki Bendig Business Administrator and Attorney Christine McClure, Solicitor also attended. Mr. Shawn Matson was absent.

Roll Call

Motion by Dr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Morvay 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. Pound to approve the meeting minutes of the March 20, 2023 Regular Board meeting and the April 10, 2023 Work Session and Finance Committee meetings. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Danny Carter addressed the Board with his concerns regarding the baseball field.

Guest and Citizen Comments

Melissa Kingen of The Nutrition Group updated the Board on our food services recap of this past year and the outlook for next year. She also went over The Nutrition Group goals for the coming year.

The Nutrition Group

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

- Revenue & Expenditure Reports for March
 - [General Fund:](#) \$10,482,039.28
 - [YTD Budget to Actual Report](#)
 - [Capital Projects:](#) \$493,875.07
 - [Cafeteria:](#) \$597,568.00
 - [Cafeteria Profit/Loss:](#) \$18,256.98 YTD \$27,049.46
- Checks and Invoices
 - [Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$80,333.39
 - [Exhibit A2](#) Checks Already Written: \$10,856.71
 - [Exhibit A3](#) General Fund Bills: \$465,127.39
 - [Exhibit B1](#) Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$879.15
 - [Exhibit B3](#) Cafeteria Bills \$44,478.25

Business Administrator's Report

[Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$85,479.11

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

Motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Pound to approve the District ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan as outlined in [Exhibit E](#). In a recorded roll call vote, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Hetherington, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Morvay, Mrs. Pound, Dr. Pushchak, Mrs. Burlingham and Mr. Bloeser voted to approve the Health and Safety Plan. Motion carried.

**ARP ESSER
Health & Safety
Plan**

Motion by Dr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Morvay to approve the Waiver and Stipulation and Agreement In Lieu of Expulsion for a SHS student. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Student Disciplinary
Placement**

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

Transfers

- Monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs. actual report as outlined in [Exhibit F](#).
 - Unassigned Fund Balance to Committed Funds in the amount of \$50,000 for wrestling mats.
 - Unassigned Fund Balance to Committed Funds in the amount of \$162,000 for future paving and concrete projects.

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

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Burlingham to approve the renewal agreement with The Nutrition Group for food service management for the 2023-2024 school year as outlined in [Exhibit G](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**The Nutrition Group
Food Service
Agreement**

Dr. Pushchak thanked Mrs. Kingen and staff for continuing to meet and exceed expectations in providing meals for our students.

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

- Brianna Fies and Emma McDermott as additions to the ESS Substitute List.
- Susan Sherwood (retro to April 3, 2023) and Dale Will as additions to the Service Personnel Substitute List for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Accept the resignations of Jennifer Manno, Special Education Aide effective April 4, 2023 and Raymond Trejchel, Special Ed Teacher for the purpose of retirement effective June 13, 2023.
- Sabbatical Leave of Absence for Betsy Walker March 30, 2023 through June 12, 2023.
- The following appointments:
 - Andrew Foster as Educational Support Aide, Class B, 7 hours/day, 180 days/year retro to April 3, 2023.
 - William Chilcott as Custodian, Class A, 8 hours/day, 260 days/year effective March 22, 2023.
 - Sharon Gibbs as Custodian, Class B, Level I, 7 hours/day, 210 days/year effective April 3, 2023.

ESS Substitute

Service Substitutes

**Personnel
Resignations**

Leave Request

Appointments

- Joseph DiRaimo as District School Police Officer effective July 1, 2023 and approve the agreement between Joseph DiRaimo and Wattsburg Area School District.
- Lynn Orton as Long-Term Substitute Life Skills Support Teacher at the elementary center at Masters, Step 1 anticipated May 1, 2023 through June 12, 2023 [Approved Emergency Permit].
- Lynn Orton as Life Skills Support Teacher at the elementary center at Masters, Step 11 effective August 23, 2023 contingent upon her obtaining Special Education PK-12 certification from PDE prior to August 23, 2023.
- The following conference requests:
 - Jessica Mathis to attend A/CAPA Spring 2023 on April 12-13, 2023 virtually, at an estimated cost of \$100. Funds from Professional Development.
 - Elizabeth Smith to attend the 2023 Drug Diversion in Healthcare on May 11-12, 2023 in Titusville, PA at an estimated cost of \$221.13. Funds from Professional Development.
- Summer Remediation Appointments (June 19 – July 21, 2023):
 - SHS
 - Math 9-12 – Susan Nolan
 - Science 9-12 – Sarah McCall
 - Special Education 9-12 – Jenna Wright, Elizabeth Linza
 - English Language Arts – Christopher Langer-Williamson
 - Social Studies – Megan Shindledecker
 - Medical Assistant
 - Amanda Green
- Special Education Extended School Year Appointments:
 - Teachers
 - Pam Carson
 - Elizabeth Garcia
 - Victoria Pawlak
 - Special Education Aides
 - Jerry Adamus
 - Kayla Ballew
 - Cara Connolly
 - Rebecca Heitzenrater
 - Doreen Johnston
 - Kelly Niskanen-Carey
 - Medical Assistant
 - Melissa Pence

Conference Requests

Summer Remediation Appointments

ESY Appointments

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

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

- 011 Principles for Governance and Leadership – [Exhibit H.](#)
- 137 Home Education Programs – [Exhibit I.](#)

Policy First Reading

- 137.1 Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students – [Exhibit J.](#)
- 137.2 Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students – [Exhibit K.](#)
- 137.3 Participation in Career and Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students – [Exhibit L.](#)
- 200 Enrollment of Students – [Exhibit M.](#)
- 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students – [Exhibit N.](#)
- 204 Attendance – [Exhibit O.](#)
- 217 Graduation – [Exhibit P.](#)
- 221 Dress and Grooming – [Exhibit Q.](#)
- 233 Suspension and Expulsion – [Exhibit R.](#)
- 251 Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability – [Exhibit S.](#)
Merge and replace the following with revised policy 251:
 - 251 Homeless Students
 - 255 Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care
- 810 Transportation – [Exhibit T.](#)

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

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

- The contract for Language Instructional Education Program Services (LIEP) between Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit and Wattsburg Area School District as outlined in [Exhibit U.](#)
- The IU5 Consultative Language Instruction Supervisory Services Agreement as outlined in [Exhibit V.](#)
- Academic services of LearnWell for a high school student anticipated March 23 through April 22, 2023.
- The Wattsburg Area School District Special Education Plan effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 as outlined in [Exhibit W.](#)

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

Dr. Pushchak commended Mrs. Wehan for her efforts in completing the Special Education Plan and all the work that went into it.

Motion by Mrs. Burlingham, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the transportation requests and ratification of field trips since last meeting as outlined in [Exhibit X.](#) Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Burlingham, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve Trista DeSanti as Durham Driver for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion approved by a voice vote. Motion carried.

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

- Kyle Yaple as an addition to the WASD Volunteer List.

LIEP Services Agreement

LIEP Supervisory Services

LearnWell Services

Special Education Plan

Transportation Field Trip Requests

Durham Driver

Volunteer List

- Accept the resignations of Shawn Miller as 1st Assistant Wrestling Coach effective March 22, 2023 and Isaac Merritt as Head Wrestling Coach effective March 28, 2023.
- The following athletic appointments:
 - Faith Bartlett as Track & Field 2nd Assistant Coach (7 & 8) for the 2022-2023 season at Step 2+.
 - Charles Kennedy as Track & Field 2nd Assistant Coach (7-8) for the 2022-2023 season at Step 2+.

**Athletic
Resignations**

**Athletic
Appointments**

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

Motion by Dr. Pushchak, seconded by Mrs. Farrell to approve the agreement between Kidder Media and Wattsburg Area School District for the 2023-2024 newsletter production as outlined in [Exhibit Y](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Kidder Newsletter
Agreement**

Mr. Morvay reported on the Erie County Technical School meeting in March. Articulation Agreements are being finalized; they have bought a half-ton pickup for the maintenance department. All districts have approved the 2023-2024 budget; Richard Emerick has agreed to be the Superintendent of Record for next year. Classes are at 84% capacity and no program has less than 60%; Recruitment for the next school year is now closed; Renovations are still on track to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

**Erie County
Vocational
Technical School**

Dr. Pushchak shared that he updated the Board following the March IU Board meeting with the report that was emailed.

**Northwest Tri-
County
Intermediate Unit**

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Mrs. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Lee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
School Board Secretary