

**WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Work Session
September 11, 2023**

The meeting of the Board Work Session convened on September 11, 2023, 7:00 PM at the Wattsburg Area Elementary School. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mrs. Britni Burlingham, Mrs. Amanda Farrell, Mrs. Lea Hetherington, Mr. Steve Morvay, Mrs. Tara Pound, Dr. Andy Pushchak, and Mr. Jeremy Bloeser, attended. Dr. Kenneth Berlin, Superintendent; Mrs. Rebecca Kelley, Assistant to the Superintendent; Mrs. Vicki Bendig Business Administrator also attended. Mrs. Nicole Lee and Mr. Shawn Matson were absent.

Roll Call

Next week during school reports, each principal will give a brief presentation on academic performance and goals of their building.

School Reports

No visitors requested addressing the Board.

Guest and Citizen
Comments

Dr. Berlin covered the proposed Bocce Team. This is the Special Olympics Unified Sports Team. The Special Olympics does provide a mobile bocce court and bocce set, outfits for teams including the coach attire. We will host at least one meet and competitions in one of the gymnasiums with practices held in the cafeteria. There will likely be 6-8 on roster from grades 9-12 with both special education students and non-special education students. We are to treat this sport like a PIAA sponsored sport to provide the students with a genuine experience. Several items on the agenda will need to be approved by the Board and there will likely be at least one on the addendum next week. WEA has been working with the administration to secure a coach and coaching stipend for the team. This will be a positive program for the students.

Superintendent's
Report

Mrs. Wehan answered questions pertaining to PIAA rules, academics, and shared that the sport is treated as any varsity sport. Volunteers referee the matches. Iroquois and Harborcreek also have teams and the students have the opportunity to go to state level competitions.

Mrs. Bendig gave the Treasurer's Report on the General Fund: \$6,207,141.46; Capital Projects: \$504,331.66; and Cafeteria: \$683,787.62 and the bill lists of: Exhibit A1 Checks Already Written: \$ 60,472.10; Exhibit B1 Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$53.54 and Exhibit D SHS Activity Fund Report: \$71,012.97. A full report will be given at the September 18, 2023 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Board discussed the ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan and the Unified Champions Schools Memorandum of Understanding between Special Olympics Pennsylvania and Seneca High School. These items to be placed on the September 18, 2023 agenda.

ARP/ESSER Health
& Safety Plan
Special Olympics

The Board discussed the monthly budgetary transfers and the Sponsor-to-Sponsor Agreement with the YMCA. These items to be placed on the September 18, 2023 agenda.

Transfers
Sponsor-to-Sponsor
Agreement

The Board discussed the Agreement between the YMCA and WASD for the YMCA Child Care Program for the 2023-2024 school year. This item to be placed on the September 18, 2023 agenda.

YMCA Child Care
Agreement

The Board discussed the following items:

- Additions to the ESS Substitute List.
- Sarah Wasson as an addition to the Service Personnel Substitute List.
- The following resignations:
 - Jessica Sambuchino, grade 6 teacher effective August 22, 2023
 - Victoria Pawlak, Emotional Support teacher effective August 22, 2023
 - Laura DeAngelo, special education aide effective August 22, 2023.
 - Laura Holmes, cook/baker effective October 14, 2023.
- The following appointments:
 - Laila Alimahmoodi as Emotional Support Teacher at Masters, Step 6 effective August 23, 2023.
 - Anna Chimera as Grade 6 ELA Teacher at Bachelors, Step 3 effective August 23, 2023.
 - Hunter Wagner as Special Education Aide, Class B effective August 29, 2023.
 - Sophia Worner as Special Education Aide, Class B effective August 29, 2023.
 - Mr. Justin Grossman and Dr. Lisa Jablonski as Truancy Officers for the district effective August 29, 2023.
 - Brooke Gibbs as WAEC Support Aide, Class B, 3 hours/day, 180 days/year effective August 30, 2023.
- Tuition Reimbursements.
- the following conference requests:
 - WASD teachers to attend various Regional In-Service training sessions on October 9, 2023 with permission from their building principal with a total cost not to exceed \$300/building. Funds from Professional Development.
 - Erica Young to attend PETE & C, virtually, February 5-7, 2024 at an estimated cost of \$760. Fund from Title IV.
 - Rebecca Kelley, Krista Wehan, Erica Fox, Steve O'Donnell, Theresa Bricker, Stephanie Boyd, Pam Burdick and Chris Paris to attend PETE & C, February 5-7, 2024 in Hershey, PA at an estimated cost of \$15,000. Funds from Title IV.
 - Erin Fonzo and Heather Hedderman to attend Power Library/Access PA Training on October 10, 2023 in Grove City, PA at an estimated cost of \$55.20. Funds from Professional Development.
- Leave of Absence utilizing Family Medical Like Leave for Bethany Gibson beginning September 1, 2023.

ESS Substitutes
Service Substitute
Resignations

Appointments

Tuition
Reimbursement
Conference
Requests

Leave Requests

These items to be placed on the September 18, 2023 agenda.

The Board discussed the second reading of the following policies:

- 006 - Meetings
- 216.1 – Supplemental Discipline Records
- 237 – Electronic Devices

Second Reading
Policies

- 251 – Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability

This item to be placed on the September 18, 2023 agenda.

The Board discussed the following:

- The affiliation agreement for academic field experience between WASD and Mercyhurst University as outlined.
- The Behavioral Consultant Agreement with the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit.

These items to be placed on the September 18, 2023 agenda.

Mercyhurst
University
Affiliation
Agreement
IU-5 Behavioral
Agreement

The Board discussed the transportation requests and ratification of field trips since the last meeting. This item to be placed on the September 18, 2023 agenda.

Transportation
Requests

The Board discussed the following items:

- Donald Herrmann and Lauren Kelly as additions to the WASD Volunteer List.
- The resignation of Steven O'Donnell as Student Assistant Program Case Manager effective September 1, 2023.
- The following extra-curricular appointments for the 2023-2024 school year:
 - Stacey Mattocks as Rainbow Coordinator at step 1.
 - Kimberly Webb as Rainbow Facilitator at step 1.
 - The Winter/Spring Athletic Appointments.

These items to be placed on the September 18, 2023 agenda.

Volunteer List

Extra-Curricular
Resignation
Extra-Curricular
Appointments

Mr. Morvay shared that he will give his report on the Erie County Technical School August Board meeting at the September 18, 2023 meeting.

ECTS Report

Dr. Pushchak shared he will have a brief report on the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit meeting at the September 18, 2023 meeting.

IU5 Report

During Board Correspondence and Dialogue, Dr. Pushchak shared that the WAMS Orientation was the best ever and Mrs. Farrell shared she appreciated the time, effort and information that was shared. Mr. Morvay added that the Open House for Seneca High School will be held Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

Board
Correspondence
and Dialogue

There being no further business, upon motion by Dr. Pushchak, seconded by Mrs. Hetherington, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
Board Secretary