

WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Work Session
January 8, 2024

The meeting of the Board Work Session convened on December 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Wattsburg Area Elementary School.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Gregory Brumagin, Mrs. Britni Burlingham, Mrs. Lea Hetherington, Mrs. Nicole Lee, Mr. Steve Morvay, Dr. Andy Pushchak, Mr. Jesse Williams, Mr. Brian Young and Mr. Jeremy Bloeser attended. Dr. Kenneth Berlin, Superintendent; Mrs. Rebecca Kelley, Assistant to the Superintendent; Mrs. Vicki Bendig Business Administrator also attended.

Roll Call

School Reports will be given next week and will be recognizing a student for their outstanding academic achievement.

School Reports

No guest/citizens requested addressing the Board.

Guest and Citizen
Comments

Brief report on some upcoming items including what the governor's budget might look like in February. The administrative team has been discussing all the recently released test scores. We would like to have a curriculum meeting in February to go over this in February and go over Benchmark, Acadience, and PSSA testing results. Next week we will look at the local audit during a Finance Committee meeting before the Regular Board Meeting.

Superintendent's
Report

Mrs. Bendig gave the Treasurer's Report General Fund: \$14,404,431.49; Capital Projects: \$379,682.39; Cafeteria: \$747,102.72 and a review of Exhibit A1 Checks Already Written: \$265,710.08; Exhibit B1 Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$44,197.80; and Exhibit D SHS Activity Fund Report: \$68,514.26. A full report with be given at the January 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Board discussed the exoneration of delinquent property taxes for parcel number 26-003-011.0-13.50. This item to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

Exoneration of
Delinquent
Property Taxes

The Board discussed the monthly transfers. This item to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

Transfers

The Board discussed the IRS Mileage Rate of 67¢/mile for district business travel effective January 1, 2024. This item to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

IRS Mileage

The Board discussed the Local Audit Report for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023. This item to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

Local Audit Report

Reminder to the public that there will be a Finance Committee meeting to go over the Local Audit Report on January 15, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

The Board discussed the Notice of Assignment between WASD and Mid-American Natural Resources. This item to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

Notice of
Assignment

The Board discussed the following items:

- ESS Substitute Additions
- Tuition Reimbursements
- Personnel Resignations of
 - Lisa Gottschling, custodian effective December 12, 2023.
 - Shirley Avila, cafeteria aide effective December 14, 2023.
 - Thomas Banks, SHS teacher effective December 20, 2023.
- The appointment of Adam Gottschling as Custodian, Class B, 7 hours/day, 210 days/year effective January 16, 2024.
- Elizabeth Diehl to attend PASSHE Counselor Information Day on April 12, 2024 in Edinboro, PA at an estimated cost of \$28.95. Funding from Instructional Staff Development Travel.
- An Extended Disability Leave for Sandra Paulsen effective January 11, 2024,

ESS Substitute List
Tuition
Reimbursements
Personnel
Resignations

Personnel
Appointment
Conference
Request

Leave Request

These items to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

The Board discussed the transportation requests and ratifications of field trips since the last meeting. This item to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

Transportation
Requests

The Board discussed the following:

- Volunteer list additions.
- Extra-curricular appointments for the 2023-2024 school year effective December 20, 2023:
 - Kara Barczyk as Rainbow Facilitator, Step 1.
 - David Segoviano as SAP Case Worker for SHS at Step 1.
 - Stephanie Boyd as SAP Case Worker for WAMS at Step 1.
 - Shelly Bojarski as Assistant Cheerleading Advisor at Step 1.
 - Gretchen Ruprecht as WAMS Detention Supervisor.
 - Courtney Shumac as Stage Director, at Step 1.
- The Cooperative Sports Agreement for Boys' Swimming and Diving and Girls' Swimming and Diving between North East School District and Wattsburg Area School District. It was questioned if the district would be able to provide transportation for this? Dr. Berlin will investigate this.

WASD Volunteers
Extra-Curricular
Appointments

Athletics Co-Op
Sports Agreement

These items to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

The Board discussed the following items as surplus:

- Cannon 211 color ink cartridges: quantity 2
- Cannon 210 XL black ink cartridges: quantity 4
- RCA VHS Camcorder: AutoShot 12x zoom: quantity 1
- Novel: Flush by Carl Hiaasen: Publisher Yearling-2005: quantity 102
- Novel: Bud not Buddy: Christopher Paul Curtis: Publisher Yearling-1999: quantity 128.

Surplus Items

This item to be placed on the January 15, 2024 agenda.

Mr. Morvay shared that the Erie County Technical School Report will be given next week.

ECTS Report

Dr. Pushchak shared that he will report on the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5 board meeting next week.

NW Tri-Co
Intermediate Unit

Mr. Brumagin questioned if the public is offered paper agendas for meetings, he remembered something about meetings being paperless. Dr. Berlin explained that printed copies of the agenda are available on the table when entering the auditorium.

Board
Correspondence
and Dialogue

Mr. Brumagin shared his feelings on the public comment portion of the December meeting. He stated he had sent an email asking that some thought be put into some guidelines to be published for the public to have before speaking so they know what they can or cannot talk about. Mr. Bloeser shared that he was prepared with a script to clarify the rules of etiquette for public comment, as needed, noting that no one had signed up to speak. Mr. Bloeser also mentioned that a printed copy of The School Board Meeting Guide is available on the table at the back of the auditorium. The guide has been utilized and available for about ten years.

Mr. Brumagin questioned where the exhibits for the agenda were and shared that he wasn't aware of what committee chair he was. Dr. Pushchak explained that information regarding committee chairs was shared in the weekly update from Dr. Berlin. Other Board members shared that the exhibits, agenda, and other supporting documentation are available on the Board Member Login Page for the board members usually on Thursday and on the Board of Education link on the district website for public viewing usually on Friday. An explanation about the purpose and process of the work session was given; it's the time to ask questions and discuss agenda items. Dr. Berlin explained that any additional items between the work session and the regular board meeting would be added to an addendum. It was added that if there are questions after reviewing the agenda and related exhibits to contact Dr. Berlin or Mrs. Bendig prior to the meeting so the administration has time to research and respond.

Dr. Pushchak reiterated that it is the job of a board member to keep up on the weekly updates and review the agenda to be prepared for meetings. To have questions ready at the work session or send them to the administration ahead of time. The work session is the time to discuss, the regular board meeting is the time to conduct the business of the school district. It is the time to vote on items, not the time to discuss items.

Dr. Berlin commented that the board's commitment to having structured meetings along with their support for the schools and administration has allowed us to make great strides together.

There being no further business, upon motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Dr. Pushchak the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Adjournment

Signature on File
Vicki Bendig
Board Secretary