

# WATTSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 20, 2024

The Wattsburg Area School District Board of Education held their Regular Board meeting at the Wattsburg Area Elementary Center on May 20, 2024. President Jeremy Bloeser called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The AFJROTC Cadets presented colors and 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; and Mrs. Vicki Bendig Business Administrator.

## 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 Mrs. Lee, seconded by Mrs. Burlingham to approve the meeting minutes of the April 15, 2024 Regular Board meeting and the May 13, 2024 Work Session. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

## Meeting Minutes

No guest/citizens requested addressing the Board.

## Guest and Citizen Comments

Dr. Berlin introduced Mr. Englert who introduced the AFJROTC Cadets Lt. Colonel Clayton Goodman and Cadet Lt. Colonel Elliot Buona who briefed the Board on the events and community service projects of the AFJROTC this year.

## School Reports

The Life Skills Class (grades 8 – age 22) updated the Board on their vending machine project and shared they intend to distribute their profits as donations. They also shared their community-based experiences of the year.

Mr. Bloeser thanked the students for being great representatives of the district and for sharing with the Board.

No report was given this evening.

## Superintendent's Report

Motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Dr. Pushchak to approve the following reports, payments, and invoices as presented:

- Revenue & Expenditure Reports for April

[General Fund:](#) \$10,227,498.84

[YTD Budget to Actual Report](#)

[Capital Projects:](#) \$386,301.74

[Cafeteria:](#) \$687,099.58

[Cafeteria Profit/Loss:](#) \$26,922.35 Month \$64,938.29 YTD

## Business Administrator's Report

- Checks and Invoices

[Exhibit A1](#) Checks Already Written: \$69,711.48

[Exhibit A2](#) Checks Already Written: \$13,492.20

[Exhibit A3](#) General Fund Bills: \$890,281.91

[Exhibit B1](#) Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$179.17

[Exhibit B2](#) Cafeteria Checks Already Written: \$44,098.24

[Exhibit B3](#) Cafeteria Bills: \$554.77

[Exhibit D](#) SHS Activity Fund Report: \$89,442.98

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

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Lee to appoint the firm of MacDonald Illig with Atty. Mark Kuhar as the Labor Relations solicitor for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Labor Relation  
Solicitor**

Motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Dr. Pushchak to appoint the firm of Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall and Sennett with Atty. Jennifer Gornall as the School District's solicitor for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**District Solicitor**

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve the In Lieu of Expulsion Agreement for an SHS student. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried..

**Student Discipline**

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

- Monthly budgetary transfer from the budget vs. actual report as outlined in [Exhibit E](#).
- The Sponsor-to-Sponsor Agreement with the YMCA Erie as outlined in [Exhibit F](#).
- To elect Andy Pushchak as the WASD Treasurer and designated signatory for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.
- Northwest Bank as the WASD Depository for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.
- To appoint Berkheimer Associates as the current delinquent per capita collector for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

**Transfers**

**Sponsor to Sponsor  
Agreement**

**District Treasurer**

**District Depository  
Delinquent Per  
Capita Collector**

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

Motion by Dr. Pushchak, seconded by Mrs. Burlingham to approve WASD to enter into an agreement with The Nutrition Group for food service management for the 2024-2025 school year with the option to renew for four additional years. In a recorded roll call vote, Dr. Pushchak, Mr. Williams, Mr. Young, Mr. Brumagin, Mrs. Burlingham, Mrs. Hetherington, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Morvay, and Mr. Bloeser voted to approve the agreement. Motion carried.

**The Nutrition Group  
Agreement**

Dr. Pushchak thanked the Nutrition Group for providing fresh, healthy food options to our students.

Motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Dr. Pushchak to approve the following:

- The use of Seneca High School auditorium, classrooms, commons, and media center by Pennsylvania Music Educators Association for the PMEA Jr. District Band on April 4-5, 2025, at no cost to the requestor.
- The use of Seneca High School and athletic facilities by Drum Corps International on August 4-5, 2024, at an adjusted fee of \$3,000.
- The Agreement between YMCA and WASD for the YMCA Child Care Program as outlined in [Exhibit G](#).
- To award the following bids for paving and concrete projects to the lowest responsive and responsible bidders:
  - Campus Paving to Cross Paving at \$174,803.20
  - Campus Concrete Projects to Paris Brothers & Company Inc. at \$155,700.00.

**Use of Facilities**

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

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

- Allisynn Bengel as additions to the ESS Substitute List.
- Maggie Curtis as an addition to the Service Substitute List.
- Accept the following resignations:
  - Crystal Ayers, WAEC Support Aide, effective May 17, 2024.
  - Kari Dahlstrand, Cafeteria Aide, effective May 10, 2024.
  - Maggie Curtis, WAEC Support Aide, effective May 11, 2024.
  - Justine Brink, high school English teacher, effective June 9, 2024.
  - Donna Banks, Grade 7 English teacher, for the purpose of retirement effective July 31, 2024.
  - Karen Bayhurst, Guidance Dept. Secretary, for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2024.
- Hawes as Extended School Year Autistic Support Teacher July 16 – August 8, 2024.
- The following conference requests:
  - Stephanie Boyd to attend K-12 SAP Online, June 25-27, 2024 at an estimated cost of \$325.00. Funds from Professional Development.
  - Alissa Pyle to attend ASCA Annual Conference, July 13-16, 2024 virtually at an estimated cost of \$199. Funds from Professional Development.
- The summer school appointments (June 17 – July 25, 2024) as follows:
  - High School
    - Sara McCall – Science
    - Susan Nolan – Mathematics
    - Christopher Langer-Williams – English Language Arts
  - Middle School
    - Donna Banks – 7/8 English Language Arts
    - Pam Burdick – 5/6 Math
    - Anna Chimera – 5/6 English Language Arts
    - Gretchen Ruprecht - 5/6 English Language Arts

**ESS Substitute Addition**

**Resignations**

**Extended School Year Appointment**

**Conference Requests**

**Summer School Appointments**

- Jennifer Turner – 5/6 Mathematics
  - Ashley Adamus – 7/8 Mathematics
- The appointment of Lynn Orton for Kindergarten Bootcamp on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, August 1-18, 2024.
- The following summer help appointments at \$12.42/hour effective June 7, 2024:
  - Maintenance
    - Christopher Lynde
    - Mackenzie Jones
    - Nicholas Vanhooser
    - Jaime Trayer
  - Information Technology
    - Gavin Bendig
    - Madison Morvay
- The following appointments:
  - Sylvia Applebee as Custodian, Class B, 7 hours/day, 210 days/year retro-active to May 6, 2024.
  - Joseph DiRaimo as District School Police Officer effective July 1, 2024 and approve the agreement between Joseph DiRaimo and Wattsburg Area School District.
  - Jennifer Morris as a Long-Term Elementary Substitute Teacher anticipated August 20, 2024 through January 17, 2025 at Bachelors, Step 2.
  - Erica Hawes as Autistic Support Teacher, Type 1 Certification with Educational Obligation effective August 20, 2024 at Bachelors, Step 2.
  - Jack Corey as Long-Term Substitute High School Business Teacher anticipated August 20, 2024 through June 6, 2025 at Bachelors, Step 2.
  - Laura Pushchak as a long-term district daily floating substitute for the 2024-2025 school year at Masters +15, Step 3.
  - Madison Hoover as Middle School Learning Support Teacher effective August 20, 2024 at Masters, Step 1.
  - Ryan Maloney as Middle School Social Studies Teacher effective August 20, 2024 at Masters, Step 11.
  - Isaac Kennedy as Middle School Primary Subject Area Teacher effective August 20, 2024 at Bachelors, Step 1.
- Tuition reimbursements as outlined in [Exhibit H](#).
- The following leave requests:
  - Intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence utilizing FMLA and paid time off for Hillary Barboni effective May 1, 2024.
  - Family Medical Leave and Family Medical Leave-Like Leave of Absence utilizing paid and unpaid time off for Rachel Graham anticipated beginning May 28, 2024.

### **Kindergarten Bootcamp**

### **Summer Help**

### **Personnel Appointments**

### **Tuition Reimbursement**

### **Leave Requests**

Motion approved by a voice vote with two abstentions: Mr. Morvay (Summer Help Appointment) due to a family member in the appointment and Dr. Pushchak (Personnel Appointment) due to a family member in the appointment. Motion carried with abstentions as noted.

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

- 200. Enrollment of Students – [Exhibit I](#).
- 202. Eligibility of Nonresident Students – [Exhibit J](#).
- 217. Graduation – [Exhibit K](#).
- 252. Student Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources – [Exhibit L](#).
- 254. Educational Opportunity for Military Children – [Exhibit M](#).
- 810. Transportation – [Exhibit N](#).
- 815. Employee Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources – [Exhibit O](#).
- 819. Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response – [Exhibit P](#).

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

Mr. Englert answered the Board’s remaining questions from the curriculum meeting prior to this evening’s board meeting. Dr. Pushchak thanked Mr. Englert for the update on dual enrollment, AP courses and RMU courses.

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

- The 2024 Junior/Senior Prom at Mound Grove on May 11, 2024.
- The 2024 Senior Banquet on May 23, 2024 at Eastway Lanes.
- Seniors who meet all graduation requirements to receive a Seneca High School diploma as outlined in [Exhibit Q](#).
- The adoption the following textbooks as outlined in [Exhibit R](#):
  - Business:
    - *Entrepreneurship Fundamentals McGraw Hill* (ISBN978-1-26-660679-3) copyright 2024
    - *Marketing Fundamentals* McGraw Hill (ISBN 978-1-26-660641-0) copyright 2024
  - History:
    - *Experience History: Interpreting America’s Past*, 9<sup>th</sup> edition, AP edition (ISBN: 1259541800). Copyright 2018.
    - *US History 101 Book* (ISBN: 1440586489) Copyright 2015.

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

Motion by Mr. Brumagin, seconded by Mrs. Burlingham to approve the transportation requests and ratification of field trips since last meeting as outlined in [attachment 2](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hetherington, seconded by Dr. Pushchak to approve Paula Demeter, Wendy Nelson-Dolph, and Jennifer Jefferson as additions to the WASD Volunteer List. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

## Second Reading Policies

## Jr./Sr. Prom Senior Banquet

## Graduates 2024

## High School Textbooks

## Transportation Requests

## Volunteer List Additions

Motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Dr. Pushchak to approve the agreement between Kidder Media and Wattsburg Area School District for the 2024-2025 newsletter production as outlined in [Exhibit T](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Kidder Media Agreement**

Motion by Mr. Morvay, seconded by Mrs. Lee to approve items as surplus as outlined in [Exhibit U](#). Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**Surplus Items**

Motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mrs. Burlingham to appoint Board member, Jesse Williams as WASD delegate(s) to attend the 2024 PSBA Assembly scheduled for Saturday, November 2, 2024. Motion approved by a voice vote with no opposition. Motion carried.

**WASD PSBA Delegate**

During Board Correspondence and Dialogue, Mrs. Burlingham shared after hearing from the students this evening, it's good to see our school offers all kids things outside the classroom to help with their mental health. She shared that some kids don't go to school for grades. Sometimes it's a hot meal and nurturing.

**Board Correspondence and Dialogue**

Mrs. Hetherington shared that she would like to see the Veterans' Dinner showcased in the newsletter.

Dr. Pushchak shared the Honors Breakfast at the middle school was a wonderful way to recognize our students and parents for their hard work.

Mr. Bloeser shared that Mr. Morvay, Mrs. Lee and himself would be the committee for the superintendent's annual review this year. They will meet with Dr. Berlin over the next four weeks to perform the review and there will be an executive session prior to the next board meeting for the entire board to review the evaluation.

Mr. Morvay congratulated all the seniors for this year as well as the achievements they have made through the course of their school years.

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Dr. Pushchak, seconded by Mr. Young, meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Signature on File  
Vicki Bendig  
School Board Secretary