

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District of which all members were duly notified and of which due public notice was given as required by Act 84 of 1986, was held on Tuesday evening, September 21, 2021, beginning at 6:01 PM in the Auditorium of the Williamsport Area High School, 2990 West Fourth Street, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

The President, Lori A Baer, called the meeting to order with the following members:

PRESENT: Lori A. Baer, Patrick A. Dixon, Jennifer Lake, Lisa M. Nible,
Jane L. Penman, Barbara D. Reeves.

ABSENT: Cody L. Derr, Star Poole, Adam C. Welteroth

OPENING EXERCISES were provided by Mrs. Barbara Reeves.

A motion was made by Dr. Penman, seconded by Mrs. Nible, for an omnibus to include the agenda, addendum, and the minutes for the September 7, 2021 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting – September 7, 2021

BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Ms. Lori A. Baer

- A. Authorize the board secretary to vote for the following candidates based on the ballots received to serve as officers for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association for 2022.

President Elect – David Schaap

Vice President – Allison Mathis

PSBA Insurance Trust Trustee (term ends December 31, 2024)

Richard Frerichs
William LaCoff
Nathan Mains

School Board Secretaries Forum Steering Committee (term ends December 31, 2023)

Jennifer Davidson
Deana Lancenese
Bethanne Zeigler

FINANCE REPORT

- 5.1 Approve the following financial reports:

- A. Treasurer’s Report for the month of August 2021:

FINANCE REPORT CONT'D:

- 5.2 Authorize payment of invoices and services rendered by the list submitted from September 8, 2021 to September 21, 2021 and direct the officers of the Board of School Directors to execute the same:

General Fund	\$2,080,554.27
Athletic Fund	2,723.00
EIT Operating Fund	925.93
Food Service Fund	43,888.48
Payroll Fund	4,096,619.08
PLGIT Capital Projects Fund	3,233.08
Student Activities Fund	1,813.90
TOTAL	<u>\$6,229,757.74</u>

BOARD POLICY – None

CURRICULUM REPORT

- 7.1 Approve the purchase of an AutoComp Elite On-Car Brake Lathe at a cost of \$14,858.05 from Total Equipment Solutions. This equipment will be utilized to help students gain a thorough understanding of state mandated industry competencies in the Automotive program and enables students to utilize the latest technology in the automotive industry. The equipment purchase will be funded through the 2021-22 Perkins Grant.
- 7.2 Approve the purchase of a Xante En-Press w/Enterprise Feeder, Stand, and Conveyor at a cost of \$16,811 from TOPP Business Solutions. This equipment will be utilized by students in the Commercial Art and Advertising program to gain a thorough understanding of state mandated industry competencies. The equipment purchase will be funded through the 2021-22 Perkins Grant.
- 7.3 Approve the purchase of the following items from Singer Equipment Company at a cost of \$16,175.26:

True Refrigerated Deli Display Case	\$6,226.30
Vulcan Gas Floor Fryer	\$2,542.56
Groen 6-pan Steamer	\$7,406.40

This equipment will be utilized to help students gain a thorough understanding of state mandated industry competencies in the Culinary program and enables students to utilize the latest technology in the industry. The equipment purchase will be funded through the 2021-22 Perkins Grant.

- 7.4 Approve an Independent Educational Evaluation agreement between Shirley A. Woika, Ph.D. and the Williamsport Area School District to complete a psychoeducational evaluation for a special education student. The cost of \$1,500.00 will be paid through the Special Education budget.

CURRICULUM REPORT CONT'D:

- 7.5 Approve a Letter of Agreement with LearnWell to provide instruction to WASD students hospitalized at Residential facilities in PA where LearnWell provides educational services. Inpatient educational services will be provided by Learn Well at a rate of \$43 per hour, for up to six hours per week for the 2021-2022 school year.

PERSONNEL REPORT

8.1 RESIGNATIONS

Accept the following resignation(s), effective on the dates and for the purposes indicated:

- A. Cindy L. Ryder, full-time Aide (Special Education) at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School, for the purpose of retirement, effective September 14, 2021.

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Cindy L. Ryder from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 21 years of dedicated service to our school system as a an aide. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- B. Jody J. Schefsky, full-time Special Education teacher at the high school, for other employment, effective November 5, 2021, or possibly sooner, as administration has determined to hold Ms. Schefsky for up to 60 days per PA School Code.
- C. Laura K. Mullins, full-time 5th Grade teacher at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School, for personal reasons, effective September 25, 2021.
- D. Mary Beth Lingle, part-time Administrative Support I (225 days) in the Student Services Department at the DSC, for personal reasons, effective September 7, 2021.
- E. Terminate employment with the Williamsport Area School District for Cheyenne A. Snyder due to job abandonment of her position as a part-time Food Service Worker at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, effective September 22, 2021.
- F. Seth R. Hensler, full-time CTE Business Computer and Information Technology teacher at the high school, for personal reasons, effective September 17, 2021.

8.2* LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Approve the following leave(s) of absence:

- A. Zoie Cipriani, part-time Aide (Special Education) at Cochran Primary School, for an unpaid leave effective September 8, 2021, through September 30, 2021.

8.2* LEAVE OF ABSENCE CONT'D:

- B. Teresa Gansel, part-time Food Service Worker at Stevens Primary School, for an unpaid leave effective September 8, 2021, through October 8, 2021.
- C. Eric S. Weaver, full-time Special Education teacher at the middle school, for an unpaid leave effective September 24, 2021, through October 29, 2021.
- D. Steven C. Wright, part-time Aide (Non-Special Education) at Jackson Primary School, for an unpaid leave effective September 30, 2021, through November 23, 2021.

8.3* ELECTION OF STAFF

Elect the following staff, for the purpose and on the date indicated:

- A. Beckham B. Sibiski as a long-term substitute teacher effective September 29, 2021, through the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year only (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022), unless terminated sooner, to be currently assigned primarily at the high school but may be used at any level where there is need and to support a remote platform if needed, at a salary rate of Step 1, bachelor's, \$52,582, prorated (new position approved for the 2021-2022 school year).
- B. Nancy E. Kinley to be currently assigned to full-time Health Room Technician (up to 185 days, 7 hours per day) at Curtin Intermediate School, with a base wage rate of \$23,621, prorated (\$18.24 per hour), effective September 27, 2021 (new position).
- C. Ciara M. Smith to be currently assigned to a part-time Aide (Special Education; 185 days per year; 5 hours per day) at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School, with a base wage rate of \$13.87 per hour (without degree rate), effective September 22, 2021 (new position).
- D. Jody A. Butters to be currently assigned to part-time Food Service Worker (up to 180 days; 5 hours per day) at Stevens Primary School, with a base wage rate of \$12.96 per hour, effective September 22, 2021 (revised position replacing Christine Welliver and Heather Cherry, both resigned).
- E. Alicia C. Coates to be currently assigned to part-time Food Service Worker (up to 180 days; 5 hours per day) at Curtin Intermediate School, with a base wage rate of \$12.96 per hour, effective September 22, 2021 (replacing Deborah Godfrey, resigned).
- F. Allison J. Reeder to be currently assigned to part-time Food Service Worker (up to 180 days; 5 hours per day) at Jackson Primary School, with a base wage rate of \$12.96 per hour, effective September 22, 2021 (replacing Michelle Dutton, transferred).

8.3* ELECTION OF STAFF CONT'D:

- G. The following employees for extra work at their current rate as Event Student Intervention Staff at the high school as needed for the 2021-2022 school year:

Michelle M. Derrick
Nyric L. Gosley

Gerri L. Braggs
Rodney Nathaniel Jackson

- H. The following teachers as After School Tutors—Regular Education and Special Education for High School Students, effective September 22, 2021, through May 27, 2022, as needed. Program instructors will staff the program for up to three days per week (2:50 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.) at the end of the WAHS teacher day at the rate of \$31.20 per hour plus appropriate benefits, for the actual number of hours worked:

Alayne M. Smith

Cara S. Zortman

- I. The following teachers as After School Tutors—Regular Education and Special Education for Middle School Students, effective September 22, 2021, through May 27, 2022, as needed. Program instructors will staff the program for up to two days per week (2:50 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.) at the end of the WAMS teacher day at the rate of \$31.20 per hour plus appropriate benefits, for the actual number of hours worked:

Michael B. Lundy, Jr.
Brittany T. Naculich

Jacob T. Anderson

- J. Joan A. Shaw, Title I Reading Specialist at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, to serve as the Title I Building and Parent Engagement Coordinator at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School for the 2021-2022 school term, at a total annual stipend of up to \$2,000, funded through Title I (availability of position and funds to reviewed annually).

- K. Elissa K. Koontz, Title I Reading Specialist at Curtin Intermediate School, to serve as the Title I Building and Parent Engagement Coordinator at Curtin Intermediate School for the 2021-2022 school term, at a total annual stipend of up to \$2,000, funded through Title I (availability of position and funds to reviewed annually).

- L. Lindsay M. Hart, 5th Grade teacher at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School, to serve as the Title I Building and Parent Engagement Coordinator at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School for the 2021-2022 school term, at a total annual stipend of up to \$2,000, funded through Title I (availability of position and funds to reviewed annually).

8.3* ELECTION OF STAFF CONT'D:

- M. The following fall sports coaches at the respective schools for the 2021-2022 school year at the salary rate in accordance with the agreement by and between the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District and the Williamsport Education Association (pending completion of all appropriate paperwork*).

Williamsport Area Middle School

Football

MS Assistant – Cherry:	Dalton M. Kriner (0) *	\$2,240
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- N. The entire District teaching staff, substitute teachers, and BLaST teachers assigned to our building as homebound instructors for the 2021-2022 school year, subject to assignment by the Superintendent of Schools, as the needs of the service require, at the rate of \$31.92 per hour for the actual number of hours worked.

- O. The following substitute food service worker(s), at the salary rate of \$9.00 per hour, for the actual number of hours worked, effective date as indicated:

Deborah A. Godfrey (effective 09/13/21)

- P. The following person(s) as non-certified substitute teacher(s) with receipt of an emergency permit, subject to assignment by the Superintendent of Schools, at the salary and/or rates as established by Board policy (\$90 per day for first 45 days; \$110 per day for days beyond the 45th day; up to a maximum of 180 days/year) and only for the actual number of hours assigned and worked during the 2021-2022 school year:

Thomas R. Crouse (effective 09/22/21)

- Q. Approve creating an ACT 93 position titled full-time Supervisor of Instructional Technology (245 day position) as per job description A-1010. Salary range will be \$80,413 (low); \$100,516 (mid); \$120,619 (high).

- R. Makenzie L. Grenoble to be currently assigned as full-time Tax Examiner (245 days, 7½ hours per day) in the Tax Office at the District Service Center, with a base wage rate of \$42,097, prorated, (\$22.91 per hour), effective September 22, 2021 (replacing David Gingery, retired).

- S. Gretchen A. Zeigler to be currently assigned to a part-time Aide (Special Education; 185 days per year; 5 hours per day) at Stevens Primary School, with a base wage rate of \$13.87 per hour (without degree rate), effective September 22, 2021 (replacing Karen Clark, resigned).

8.4* POSITION CHANGES

Approve the following position change(s):

- A. Susan A. DiMassimo administratively transferred from a part-time Aide (Special Education) at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School to a part-time Aide (Special Education; up to 185 days per year; up to 5 hours per day) at the middle school, with a base wage rate of \$13.87 per hour (without degree rate), effective date to be determined (replacing Adrien Crossley, resigned).
- B. Dustin B. Brouse from a full-time Instructional Technology Specialist for the District to be currently assigned to the Supervisor of Instructional Technology (245-day) position at the salary of \$80,413, prorated, for the 2021-2022 school year, effective September 22, 2021 (new position).

8.5 CONTRACTED SERVICES

- A. Approve a contract with Conrad Siegel Actuaries to complete, file and mail required 2021 IRS employee and employer tax forms to comply with mandated Affordable Care Act regulations. The proposal also includes assistance in the review of tracking employee data, benefit eligibility and employee premium cost sharing, as well as filing corrections. The cost for this service is \$7,900.
- B. Approve Sarah Mitchell, qualified interpreter of American Sign Language (ASL) and Pidgin Sign English (PSE) to provide day-to-day substitute interpreter services (as needed) to eligible students at the rate of \$40.00 per hour (\$10.00 for each quarter hour) for hours worked and travel time (not to exceed two hours each day), effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.
- C. Approve Heidi E. Roupp, qualified interpreter of American Sign Language (ASL) and Pidgin Sign English (PSE) to provide day-to-day substitute interpreter services (as needed) to eligible students at the rate of \$40.00 per hour (\$10.00 for each quarter hour) for hours worked and travel time (not to exceed two hours each day), effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

8.6 OTHER

- A. Approve a new full-time Aide position (WAESP) to be posted and filled immediately, utilizing the criteria and qualifications highlighted in the existing Aide job description. This position will be to support the South Williamsport CTE students participating in our district CTE programs at the high school. Full compensation for this position will be reimbursed by South Williamsport School District.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

9.1 RELEASED TIME/TRAINING PROGRAMS

Approve released time for staff members to participate in professional development activities in accordance with the Professional Development Plan of the Williamsport Area School District and consider approving training programs. All expenditures proposed are within local, state and federal budget categories approved as noted.

STUDENT/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – None

BIDS/CONTRACTS

11.1 Retroactive approval for Change Order PCO-01 from Hepco Construction Inc. to strip topsoil and lay 6 inches of type 2A stone over geotextile fabric for a temporary parking lot for the Curtin Vestibule Project. It is the intent for the stone parking lot to remain after completion of the project at an increase in cost of \$8,820.00.

TAX ITEMS – None

TRANSPORTATION

13.1 Approve the following drivers/monitors/mechanics for STA, Inc. for the 2021-22 school year:

Stephanie L. Messner CDL Driver (retroactive to 9/14/21)

The motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Timothy S. Bowers, Ed.D.

Dr. Bowers reported that the Curtin project is going well and on schedule.

Dr. Bowers stated that the goals that were presented to the board at the Board Retreat will be published on the district website.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS –None

ITEMS FROM PUBLIC

President Baer reminded the audience of our 20-minute time for public comment.

Jonathan Scholnick, from the Let’s End COVID group spoke about the number of new cases of COVID that Lycoming County and the nation are experiencing and the breakdown of how many cases are among the vaccine eligible age groups, as well as the need for vaccines, masking, social distancing, testing, and ventilation. They are proposing a campaign to educate students and families on the virus and the vaccine, to provide pop-up clinics, and for the schools to consider opting into the state’s free testing opportunity.

ITEMS FROM PUBLIC CONT'D:

Dr. Jim Redka, a member of the Let's End COVID group, and a family doctor with 42 years experience, shared his experience with vaccines, noting that they do not always prevent but they are still a necessary way of helping people have less effects. He noted that he knows that masking has become a huge controversy but doctors have worn masks for years and years and children can get along with this.

Jackie Oleva, a member of the Let's End COVID group and River Valley Health and Dental noted that they are open to partner with the district for vaccine clinics or partnering for testing.

Jennifer Streets, resident with child in the district, inquired about when questions asked in the public comment section would be addressed. She expressed concerns about the operations and decision making of the board and indicated that there are 5 seats on the board open this November and there will be turnover on the board. She also stated that people do not want to receive the COVID calls each day and wants them to be stopped.

Michele Hazel, district resident, spoke about not wanting pop-up clinics placed in the school and asked questions regarding why schools are being closed for 14 students. She also expressed concerns regarding the curriculum being taught in our schools and the low scores, stating that our district should be on the top of everything.

Ashley Keller, resident with a child at Jackson, expressed concerns regarding an incident that occurred with her 5-year-old child at Jackson. She stated that she has spoken with the principal but wanted the district to consider fencing around the park and additional security. She was asked to contact Dr. Bigger to further discuss the situation.

Sarah Reed, a resident with children in the district, discussed the vaccine stating that it has not been approved and that most vaccines are tested over 10 years before being released, noting that doctors are not even certain what the side effects might be. She does not feel that vaccines should be given in schools. She also noted that COVID calls are not necessary, if people want to know they can go to the district's dashboard. Her children are wearing masks but may be considering cyber school instead of wearing masks. Ms. Reed also noted that there are local options for schools to purchase items, such as the automotive tool that was recently approved for purchase.

President Baer noted that an Executive Session for personnel would follow the meeting.

Upon motion made by Mrs. Reeves, seconded by Dr. Penman and carried the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Wanda M. Erb, Board Secretary