

February 1, 2022

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, February 1, 2022, beginning at 6:07 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, Michelle L. Deavor, Patrick A. Dixon, Jennifer Lake, Barbara D. Reeves, Jamie L. Sanders, Scott R. Williams.

**ABSENT:** Cody L. Derr, Adam C. Welteroth.

**OPENING EXERCISES** were provided by Mrs. Barbara D. Reeves

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting – January 18, 2022

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

- B. Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, seconded by Mrs. Lake, to set February 17, 2022, for a public hearing at Stevens Primary School to consider the potential closing of Stevens Primary. At this meeting the Facilities Study and a preliminary overview of student, staff and financial impact will be reviewed. Public input will be received at this time. The district will also establish an email account and a comment box for individuals who do not wish to speak at the meeting. A building tour will be held at 5:00 p.m. for anyone who is interested. The hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Stevens Auditorium, 1150 Louisa Street. President Baer asked the solicitor if the Board can designate a separate public comment on the board agenda. Mr. Holland said yes and that it might be appropriate to add this at the beginning of the agenda before the regular business.

Voice vote all were in favor. The motion carried.

- D. Motion was made by Mrs. Lake, seconded by Mrs. Deavor, to approve the Revised Health & Safety Plan. Dr. Poole discussed the plan changes regarding a close contact to a positive case. Students and staff identified as being close contacts who are not experiencing symptoms will be able to remain in school but will be required to mask for 10 days. The district will still be contact tracing but will be taking a symptomatic approach to mitigation by just requiring masking for 10 days. Should parents refuse to have their child mask, the student will be required to quarantine.

Voice vote, all affirmative. The motion carried.

President Baer noted that the Board held an executive session prior to the meeting for the quasi-judicial hearing and attorney advisement.

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT CONT’D:– Ms. Lori A. Baer**

A motion was made by Mrs. Reeves, seconded by Mrs. Lake for an omnibus to include the remaining items on the agenda, the addendum and the January 18 minutes.

- A. Approve the adjudication of student 21/22-05 resulting from a quasi- judicial hearing held earlier this evening.
- C. Approve the appointment of Scott Williams to Williamsport Area School District Gifted Advisory Council committee for 2022.

**FINANCE REPORT**

5.1 Approve the following financial reports:

A. Payroll Report for the month of January 2022:

General Fund – Unrestricted	\$2,875,447.22
General Fund – Restricted	202,319.79
Food Service Fund	61,379.54
Earned Income Tax	46,781.95
Student Activities	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,185,928.50</b>

5.2 Authorize payment of invoices and services rendered by the list submitted from January 19, 2022 to February 1, 2022 and direct the officers of the Board of School Directors to execute the same:

General Fund	\$654,535.59
Athletic Fund	3,520.00
EIT Operating Fund	20,529.99
Food Service Fund	1,081.51
Payroll Fund	549,953.60
PLGIT Capital Projects Fund	5,033.63
Student Activities Fund	378.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,235,032.32</b>

**BOARD POLICY – None**

**CURRICULUM REPORT**

7.1 Approve a Letter of Agreement with the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 to provide an \$8,000 grant to Lycoming Valley Intermediate School to assist with the development and implementation of their School Wide Positive Behavior program (SWPB). The grant will be used to cover professional development costs, and to purchase items to help support the SWPB program at the school.

## **CURRICULUM REPORT**

- 7.2 Approve Megan Hunter and Heather Way, district Coordinators of Trauma and Mental Health to participate in Neurosequential Network's Train-the-Trainer program. This training will prepare them to lead district-wide professional development in the core concepts of trauma and brain development. The program is designed to help educators better understand the effects of trauma on students by offering practical strategies and classroom practices. Funding: The \$7,000 cost for the Train-the-Trainer program will be paid through IDEA Special Education budget (2021-22).
- 7.3 Approve the 2022-23 Williamsport Area High School Course Catalog.
- 7.4 Approve the purchase of 351 TI84 Plus Graphing Calculators and 150 TI30xiis Scientific Calculators from Sargent Welch, Rochester, NY from the BuyBoard Contract at a cost of \$42,483.95, to be funded by ESSER grants.

## **PERSONNEL REPORT**

### **8.1 RESIGNATIONS**

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

- A. Sherri K. Buckwalter, full-time 4<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Sherri K. Buckwalter from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 32½ years of dedicated service to our school system as a teacher. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- B. Julie A. Campbell, full-time 4<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher at Curtin Intermediate School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Julie A. Campbell from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 32 years of dedicated service to our school system as a teacher. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

8.1 RESIGNATIONS CONT'D:

- C. Carol S. Fischer, full-time Kindergarten teacher at Stevens Primary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Carol S. Fischer from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 19 years of dedicated service to our school system as a teacher. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- D. David E. Gephart, full-time CTE Welding teacher at the high school, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of David E. Gephart from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for his 22 years of dedicated service to our school system as a teacher. It further expresses the hope that his years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- E. Edward E. Jonasen, full-time Art teacher at Stevens Primary School and Curtin Intermediate School, for the purpose of retirement, effective August 7, 2022.

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Edward E. Jonasen from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for his 22 years of dedicated service to our school system as a teacher. It further expresses the hope that his years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- F. Dana M. Null, full-time Title I Reading Specialist at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Dana M. Null 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 teacher. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

8.1 RESIGNATIONS CONT'D:

- G. Carol W. Porter, full-time Special Education teacher at the high school, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Carol W. Porter from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 33 years of dedicated service to our school system as a teacher. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- H. Carey A. Taddeo, full-time 5th Grade teacher at Curtin Intermediate School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Carey A. Taddeo from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 17 years of dedicated service to our school system as a teacher. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- I. Dennis E. Waddell, full-time CTE Business Education teacher at the high school, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Dennis E. Waddell from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for his 25 years of dedicated service to our school system as a teacher. It further expresses the hope that his years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- J. Cindy A. Colvin, full-time Health Room Technician at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective March 1, 2022.

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Cindy A. Colvin from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her over 26½ years of dedicated service to our school system as a health room technician. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

8.1 RESIGNATIONS CONT'D:

- K. Carol L. Gamble, part-time Food Service Worker at Curtin Intermediate School, for the purpose of retirement, effective January 24, 2022.

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Carol L. Gamble from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 13½ years of dedicated service to our school system as a food service worker. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- L. Jody A. Butters, part-time Food Service Worker at Stevens School, for personal reasons, effective January 27, 2022.

- M. Alicia C. Coates, part-time Food Service Worker at Curtin Intermediate School, for personal reasons, effective January 20, 2022.

- N. Patrick J. Ross, Director of Educational Data Analysis for the District, for personal reasons, effective July 29, 2022.

- O. Catiese S. Williams, full-time Administrative Support I (245 days) in the Business Office, for personal reasons, effective February 18, 2022.

- P. Susan S. Sheffer, part-time CTE Aide (Special Education) at the high school, for the purpose of retirement, effective January 31, 2022.

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Susan S. Sheffer from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her over 8½ years of dedicated service to our school system as an aide. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- Q. Danielle E. Johnson, full-time Instrumental Music (Strings) at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School, for personal reasons, effective at the completion of the 2021-2022 school year (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022).

8.2\* LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Approve the following leave(s) of absence:

- A. Cindy L. Colvin\*, full-time Health Room Technician at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, for an unpaid leave on an intermittent basis (as needed) effective January 28, 2022, through February 11, 2022.

8.2\* LEAVE OF ABSENCE CONT'D:

- B. Bonnie M. Maddox\*, full-time Administrative Support in the Tax Office, for an unpaid leave on an intermittent basis (as needed) effective January 10, 2022, through June 30, 2022.
- C. Joan A. Shaw\*, full-time Title I Reading Specialist at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, for an unpaid leave, effective January 14, 2022, through February 2, 2022, and for an unpaid leave on an intermittent basis (as needed) effective February 3, 2022, through June 9, 2022.
- D. Margaret A. Kiessling, part-time Food Service Worker at the high school, for an unpaid leave effective January 6, 2022, through February 18, 2022.

8.3\* ELECTION OF STAFF

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

- A. Laurel A. Denham as a long-term substitute teacher effective January 24, 2022, through the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year only (tentative ending date of June 9, 2022), unless terminated sooner, to be currently assigned to teach Art at Curtin Intermediate School, at a salary rate of Step 1, bachelor's, \$52,582, prorated (replacing Jillette Smith, resigned).
- B. Claudine Griffin to be currently assigned to full-time Aide (Special Education; 185 days, 7 hours per day) at the middle school, with a base wage rate of \$22,909, prorated (\$17.69 per hour), effective January 24, 2022 (replacing Ilene Butler, retired; position briefly filled by Ashley Hickok).
- C. Brittney A. Johns to be currently assigned to a part-time Aide (Special Education; up to 185 days per year; up to 5 hours per day) at Curtin Intermediate School, with a base wage rate of \$13.87 per hour (without degree rate), effective February 2, 2022 (replacing Avion DeWitt, resigned).
- D. The following persons as INDEPTH Trainers/Facilitators at the high school for the 2021-2022 school year, effective February 2, 2022. Individuals in this position will be required to complete a full training program to become INDEPTH trainers. Training program will occur outside of the regular workday. Responsibilities will also include the facilitation of classes for students (who qualify for the INDEPTH program) after school at the high school. There will be a \$1,000 stipend for up to four (4) positions (Grant funded; positions to be determined annually):

Jeremy S. Steppe  
Christie M. Peck  
Denise M. Clark

8.3\* ELECTION OF STAFF

- E. The following persons for work on the high school musical production of *Into the Woods* to be held on March 18 & 19, 2022, at the rates in accordance with the Agreement by and between the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District and the Williamsport Education Association:

Samuel A. Robinson (5)	\$3,200
Megan E. Louder (0)	\$2,560

- F. The following substitute teacher(s), subject to assignment by the Superintendent of Schools, at the salary and/or daily rates as established by Board policy (\$120 per day for first 45 days; \$130 per day for days beyond the 45<sup>th</sup> day; up to a maximum of 180 days/year) and only for the actual number of hours assigned and worked:

Melanie N. Huggins (effective 02/03/22)

- G. The following substitute food service worker(s), at the salary rate of \$12.00 per hour, for the actual number of hours worked, effective date as indicated:

Chelsea R. Rogers (effective date to be determined)

- H. The following substitute administrative support/aide(s), subject to assignment by the Superintendent of Schools, at the hourly rates established by Board policy (\$12.00 per hour; up to a maximum of 180 days per year) and only for the actual number of hours assigned and worked:

Susan S. Sheffer (effective 02/02/22)

- I. The following fall coaches at the high school for the 2022-2023 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\*). The stipends listed will be paid at the allotted time and schedule as all other athletic stipends for the applicable sports season:

Michael P. Pearson (5)\*, as the Williamsport Area High School Head Football Coach for the 2022-2023 school year at a stipend rate of \$8,000 (2022-2023 Fall Sports Season).

Beckham B. Sibiski (0) as the Williamsport Area High School Varsity Girls Soccer Coach for the 2022-2023 school year at a stipend rate of \$4,480 (2022-2023 Fall Sports Season).



8.4\* POSITION CHANGES - Approve the following position change(s):

- A. Melanie L. Rockey from a full-time Administrative Support I in the Tax Office to be currently assigned to full-time Computer Technician Tier 1 (245 days, 7½ hours per day) at the Technology Department/IMC Warehouse Complex, with a base wage rate of \$43,677, prorated (\$23.77 per hour), effective date to be determined (new position).
- B. Angela L. Confer from a part-time Food Service Worker (4 hours per day) at the middle school to be currently assigned to part-time Food Service Worker (up to 180 days; up to 5 hours per day) at the middle school, with a base wage rate of \$13.57 per hour, effective February 2, 2022 (revised position replacing Bella Ginter and Angela Harman, both resigned).

8.5 OTHER

- A. Approve three new Special Education Teacher positions (WEA) to be posted and filled for the start of the 2022-2023 school year, using the criteria and required certifications highlighted in the applicable job description.
- B. Approve an Instructional Technology Specialist position (WEA) to be posted and filled for the start of the 2022-2023 school year using the criteria and qualifications highlighted in the applicable job description. This position will be supervised by the Supervisor of Instructional Technology and will be funded via Title IV.

**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**

10.1 Approve the following student trips:

Field trips are being presented for provisional approval in accordance with the District's Health and Safety Plan and may need to change or be canceled. All students must be in compliance with the school's field trip disciplinary requirements in order to participate.

- A. Seven (7) Williamsport Area High School orchestra students, accompanied by their teacher, to travel to the Dallastown Intermediate School (York) for three days during February 2022 to participate in the PMEA Regional Orchestra Festival. The students will be transported in a district van. One substitute will be required for two days.

## **BIDS/CONTRACTS**

- 11.1 Accept a proposal from Crabtree, Rohrbaugh, & Associates to provide services for schematic design, bidding process, and construction administration to replace windows at Cochran Primary, Jackson Primary, Curtin Intermediate, and the WAHS, as well as addressing water infiltration issues at Cochran, at a cost of \$196,500 exclusive of reimbursable expenses. Due to specific bidding requirements associated with professional services, these fees will be funded through the 2019 bond proceeds and not the ESSER II grant.

## **TAX ITEMS – None**

## **TRANSPORTATION**

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

Mattique Thornton-Steele      Van Driver / Aide

Voice vote. Motion approved.

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

Dr. Bowers informed the Board and those present that the Curtin office staff has moved to their new office with the vestibule area. We are still waiting for some of the new doors but we have been able to make adjustments to keep the project moving forward.

Scott Cousin, Crabtree Rohrbaugh, presented information regarding a potential renovation and addition at the Lycoming Valley Intermediate School. Mr. Cousin presented to the Finance and Facility Committee the prior evening and the committee asked that he share the presentation with the entire board. Via a Zoom presentation, Mr. Cousin provided a high-level overview of the potential project and a potential schedule based on the proposed use of ESSER III funds and the associated September 2024 deadline to expend these funds. The recommendation is to have an item on the next agenda to consider an agreement with Crabtree Rohrbaugh & Associates to begin the design phase of the project.

Jamie Doyle from PFM Financial Group will present at the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. She will discuss a possible opportunity to refund the 2017 Bonds and review potential borrowing opportunities.

We will schedule a future Board meeting at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School with a tour of the building.

## **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

None

February 1, 2022

## **ITEMS FROM PUBLIC**

Tom Adams district resident, addressed the Board. Mr. Adams expressed his appreciation for the work and dedication of the Board and his hopes that we can continue to keep lines of communication open. He also spoke about curriculum and the importance of the community knowing what is taught in our schools, as well as items related to the COVID pandemic.

Robin Liebersohn district resident, addressed the Board regarding Star Poole and Scott Williams. She also expressed concerns regarding the lack of opportunity for public comment prior to Board action. President Baer addressed the public comment concern explaining the process to get on the agenda and noting the Board policy that provides more details.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Mrs. Reeves. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

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Wanda M. Erb, Board Secretary