

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 4, 2020, beginning at 6:01 PM in the Board Room of the District Service Center, 2780 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, Jane L. Penman,
Star Poole, Barbara D. Reeves, Marc D. Schefsky, Nancy Somers,
Adam C. Welteroth

ABSENT: None

OPENING EXERCISES were provided by Mr. Patrick A. Dixon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting – January 21, 2020

Student Representatives – Samiyah Little and Mason Nevill provided the Board with an update on what is happening:

- Millionaire Girls Swim Team won the PA Heartland League with an 11-1 record.
- All district orchestra concert was held last evening.
- The powder puff team will perform at the cheer competition on March 1st.
- The wrestling team won Districts.
- The girls and boys soccer season ended with an awards banquet.

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

- A. School Board Recognition Month – In recognition of Board appreciation students presented books to the Board members. The books will be dedicated to the board and placed in the school libraries.

Cochran Primary School

Amaury Kidd presented "What Can a Citizen Do?" to Jennifer Lake.
Keaton Mohler presented "She Persisted Around the World" to Star Poole.

Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School

Peyton Pennycoff presented "Brave" to Lori Baer.
Tate Hill presented "Austin Plays Fair" to Dr. Jane Penman.

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

A. School Board Recognition Month cont'd:

Jackson Primary School

Adilynn Clark presented "Sometimes You Fly" to Pat Dixon.
Lincoln Paulhamus presented "All Are Welcome" to Adam Welteroth.

Stevens Primary School

Aidan Weaver presented "If You Give a Mouse an iPhone" to Marc Schefsky.
Avant Martin presented "Dreamers" to Barbara Reeves.

Curtin Intermediate School

Karlee McNaughton presented "No Fixed Address" to Marc Schefsky.
Kye Diakite presented "Genesis Begins Again" to Jennifer Lake.

Lycoming Valley Intermediate School

Tabitha Aderhold presented "Rocket to the Moon" to Pat Dixon.
Steven Bott presented "The Season of Styx Malone" to Dr. Nancy Story Somers.

Williamsport Area Middle School

Hannah Hale presented "Her Own Two Feet" to Dr. Jane Penman.
Jack Heller presented "Strange Birds: A Field Guide to Ruffling Feathers" to Barbara Reeves.
Sam Radulski presented "The Echo Park Castaways" to Adam Welteroth.

Williamsport Area High School

Samiyah Little and Mason Nevill presented "Zenobia July" to Lori Baer, "Michigan vs. the Boys" to Star Poole and "The Nickel Boys" to Dr. Nancy Story Somers.

President Baer thanked the students, parents and principals for everything they do to support education in our district.

A motion was made by Dr. Penman, seconded by Dr. Story to approve an omnibus to include the agenda, reports and the addendum and the minutes from the January 21st meeting.

President Baer abstained from Item 8.3 D. girls assistant track coach.

Mrs. Erb gave an over view of the Governor’s budget noting that this year’s proposed budget reflects only about 50% of what was proposed in new funds in prior year for basic education and special education formulas.

Mr. Welteroth noted how important it is for us to communicate with legislators and encouraged Board members to participate in PSBA’s Advocacy Day on March 23, 2020.

Dr. Bigger drew attention to the 2020-21 Course Catalog, recognized, and thanked everyone who worked on this.

FINANCE REPORT

5.1 Approve the following financial reports:

A. Payroll Report for the month of January 2020:

General Fund – Unrestricted	\$4,235,704.01
General Fund – Restricted	282,398.08
Food Service Fund	106,031.41
Earned Income Tax	67,884.34
Student Activities	<u>.00</u>
TOTAL	\$4,692,017.84

5.2 Authorize payment of invoices and services rendered by the list submitted and direct the officers of the Board of School Directors to execute the same:

Order Number	Amount	Order Number	Amount
02/04/20	\$217,939.35	02/04/20A	3,578.55
02/04/20B	2,500.04	02/04/20C	1,178.00
02/04/20D	1,161.95	02/04/20E	715.25
02/04/20F	31,619.91	02/04/20G	101.04
02/04/20H	59,183.90	02/04/20I	5,043.00
02/04/20J	40.24		

5.3 Approve the FY2020-2021 BLaST Intermediate Unit #17 General Operations Budget.

BOARD POLICY

6.1 Approve the first reading of policy 220 “Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials” of the Williamsport Area School District Board Policy.

CURRICULUM REPORT

- 7.1 Approve an agreement with Bloomsburg University to allow the placement of student teachers and field study participants in Williamsport Area School District classrooms.
- 7.2 Approve the Spring 2020 sports schedule for baseball, softball, soccer, tennis, and track and field.
- 7.3 Approve the 2020-21 Williamsport Area High School Course Catalog.
- 7.4 Approve the following courses and fee schedule for the Williamsport Area High School's 2020 summer courses:

On-Campus Courses:

Physical Education
Career Pathways/Financial Literacy
Health 01

Hybrid Online Courses: Credit Recovery & Acceleration:

Civics & Government
World History
Algebra I
Algebra II
Trigonometry
Statistics
Career Math

Hybrid Online Courses – Credit Recovery Only:

Intro to Literature/Composition I
Intro to Literature/Composition II
American Literature
English 12
Geometry
Biology I
United States History
Global Studies
Chemistry

Hybrid Online Courses – Acceleration Only:

Algebra II Honors
Geometry Honors
Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry Honors

CURRICULUM REPORT

- 7.4 Approve the following courses and fee schedule for the Williamsport Area High School's 2020 summer courses cont'd:

Summer School Fees:

Regular Tuition	\$135
Adjusted Tuition	\$100
Non-Resident On-Campus Tuition	\$180
Non-Resident Online Tuition	\$225

PERSONNEL REPORT

8.1 RESIGNATIONS

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

- A. Krista A. Fagnano, full-time Director of School Health Services for the District, for the purpose of retirement, effective August 17, 2020.

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Krista A. Fagnano from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 33½ years of dedicated service to our school system as an administrator and school nurse. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- B. Lisa M. Nible, full-time School Psychologist for the District, for the purpose of retirement, effective July 31, 2020.

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

- C. Kimberly A. Cassidy, full-time 1st Grade teacher at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2019-2020 school year (tentative ending date of June 4, 2020).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Kimberly A. Cassidy from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 30 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:

- D. Alice W. Good, full-time Special Education teacher at Curtin Intermediate School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2019-2020 school year (tentative ending date of June 4, 2020).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Alice W. Good from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 29 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.

- E. Kay E. Knarr-Fisher, full-time Classroom/Choral Music teacher at Jackson Primary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2019-2020 school year (tentative ending date of June 4, 2020).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Kay E. Knarr-Fisher from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 31 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.

- F. Joseph T. Marzzacco, full-time English teacher at the high school, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2019-2020 school year (tentative ending date of June 4, 2020).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Joseph T. Marzzacco from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for his 19 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.

- G. Pamela A. Nolan, full-time Kindergarten teacher at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2019-2020 school year (tentative ending date of June 4, 2020).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Pamela A. Nolan from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 35 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:

- H. Laura B. Schmack, full-time 1st Grade teacher at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2019-2020 school year (tentative ending date of June 4, 2020).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Laura B. Schmack 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.

- I. Phyllis J. Sieber, full-time School Counselor at the high school, for the purpose of retirement, effective August 26, 2020.

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Phyllis J. Sieber from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her over 23 years of dedicated service to our school system as a school counselor. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- J. Marjorie F. Stopper, full-time School Counselor at the middle school, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2019-2020 school year (tentative ending date of June 4, 2020).

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Marjorie F. Stopper from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 32 ½ years of dedicated service to our school system as a school counselor. It further expresses the hope that her years of retirement will be many and richly rewarding.

- K. Jessica J. Gee resigning only as an After School Tutor—Regular Education for High School Students, effective January 21, 2020. (Ms. Gee will continue as a full-time English teacher at the high school.)

- L. Cathy L. Burger, full-time 2nd Grade teacher at Hepburn-Lycoming Primary School, for the purpose of retirement, effective at the completion of the 2019-2020 school year (tentative ending date of June 4, 2020).

8.1 RESIGNATIONS CONT'D:

- L. Cathy L. Burger, full-time 2nd Grade teacher cont'd:

RESOLVED: that the Board of School Directors of the Williamsport Area School District acknowledges with profound regret the retirement of Cathy L. Burger from service in the Williamsport Area Schools and expresses its sincere appreciation for her 35 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.

8.2 LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Approve the following leave(s) of absence:

- A. Gary L. Baer, full-time Maintenance Specialist-HVAC for the District, for an extension of an unpaid leave, effective January 14, 2020, through February 11, 2020.
- B. Mary K. Dulaney, full-time Food Service Production Manager at Cochran Primary School, for an extension of an unpaid leave, effective February 3, 2020, through February 28, 2020.
- C. Angela K. Harman, part-time Food Service Worker at the middle school, for an unpaid leave, effective January 27, 2020, through March 4, 2020.
- D. Mary Jane Spangler, part-time Custodian at the high school, for an extension of an unpaid leave, effective February 3, 2020, through February 28, 2020.

8.3* ELECTION OF STAFF

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

- A. Amy R. Mahon as an After School Tutor—Regular Education for High School Students, effective September 10, 2019, through May 21, 2020, as needed. Program instructors will staff the program for up to two days per week for 1½ instructional hours per day 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.
- B. Olivia R. Pierce as a substitute After School Tutor—Regular Education for High School Students, effective September 10, 2019, through May 21, 2020, as needed. Program instructors will staff the program for up to two days per week for 1½ instructional hours per day 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.

8.3* ELECTION OF STAFF CONT'D:

- C. The following as Coordinating Teachers for the 2019-2020 school year at the rate of \$4,000 each:

Art (K-12)	Andrea M. McDonough Varner
Music (K-12)	Kent C. Weaver
Health/Physical Education (K-12)	Jeremy S. Steppe
English	Michael A. Murafka
Mathematics	Patricia A. Miller
Science	Andrew L. Paulhamus
Social Studies	Thomas W. Rinker

- D. The following spring sports coaches at the respective schools for the 2019-2020 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 High School**Baseball**

Head Coach:	Kyle S. Schneider (3)	\$5,320
Varsity Assistants:	TBA	
	TBA	
Varsity Assistant:	TBA	[++Booster Funded Position]
Volunteer:	Patrick G. Vollman	---

Softball

Head Coach:	Chase D. Smith (5)	\$5,600
Varsity Assistants:	Steve L. Reed (5)	\$2,800
	Alexis M. Bower (1)	\$2,380
Varsity Assistant:	Lexie E. Diaz (1) ++	\$2,380
	[++Booster Funded Position]	
Volunteer:	John M. Gossner	---
Volunteer:	Drew E. Dickey	---
Volunteer:	Curtis P. Fink	---

Boys Tennis

Head Coach:	John F. Dorner (5)	\$4,000
Assistant:	Karen L. Hooker (5)	\$1,600
Volunteer:	Ruth N. Taddeo-Hunter	---

Boys Track & Field

Head Coach:	Jeremy S. Steppe (5)	\$6,400
Assistants:	Devin K. Miller (1)	\$2,720
	TBA	
Volunteer:	David N. Raemore	---
Volunteer:	Samuel E. Belle	---

8.3* ELECTION OF STAFF CONT'D:

- D. The following spring sports coaches at the respective schools for the 2019-2020 cont'd:

Williamsport Area High School**Girls Track & Field**

Head Coach:	Vicki L. Eberhart (5)	\$6,400
Assistants:	Dana L. Smith (5)	\$3,200
	Marguerite W. Anderson-Royal (5)	\$3,200
Volunteer:	Jordyn L. Gehr	---

<u>B/G Track Assistant:</u>	Melanie C. Schramm (4)	\$3,040
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Williamsport Area Middle School

<u>Girls MS Soccer:</u>	Kyle J. Bidelspacher (5)	\$2,400
Volunteer:	J. Scott McNeil	---
Volunteer:	Mackenzie R. Bowman	---

<u>Boys MS Soccer:</u>	TBA	
Volunteer:	Lee W. Kaar	---

Boys Track & Field

MS Lead Assistant:	Randall G. Laird (5)	\$2,400
MS Assistant:	William L. Cuebas, Jr. (5)	\$2,000
MS Assistant:	Ronald E. Sahm (5)	\$2,000

Girls Track & Field

MS Lead Assistant:	Matthew D. Palmatier (5)	\$2,400
MS Assistant:	TBA	
MS Assistant:	Kelly M. Titus (5)	\$2,000

- E. Benjamin A. Lorson as an athletic event worker, effective February 5, 2020, to be paid at a flat rate per event (as determined by the Athletic Director) as scheduled and approved by the Athletic Department. Payment for these services will be forwarded to payroll for processing.
- 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 45th day; up to a maximum of 180 days/year) and only for the actual number of hours assigned and worked:

Kiley L. Couturiaux (effective 02/05/20)
 Sarah E. J. Rhone (effective 02/05/20)

8.3* ELECTION OF STAFF CONT'D:

- G. Dawn G. Naugle, to be currently assigned to part-time Administrative Support (205 days, 5 hours per day) at Lycoming Valley Intermediate School, with a base wage rate of \$13.48 per hour, effective February 5, 2020 (replacing Carol Shipman, resigned).

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:

All students must be in compliance with the school's field trip disciplinary requirements in order to participate.

- A. Approximately 113 kindergarten students from Cochran Primary School, accompanied by their teachers and chaperones, to travel to the Lewisburg Children's Museum during May 2020. District transportation is requested. All costs will be paid by the Cochran PTO.
- B. Eight (8) members of the Williamsport Area Middle School's Helping Hands club, accompanied by a counselor, to travel to the Central PA Food Bank during March 2020 to volunteer and attend a cooking class. Transportation will be provided in the district van.
- C. Approximately 81 first grade students from Hepburn-Lycoming Elementary School, accompanied by their teachers, to travel to T&D's Cats of the World during May 2020. District transportation is requested. All costs will be paid by the Hepburn PTO.
- D. Thirty (30) members of the Williamsport Area High School's Big Band, accompanied by their director and parents, to travel to the Genetti Hotel during February 2020 to perform at a Key Club dinner. The students will be transported by their parents.

10.1 Approve the following student trips cont'd:

- E. Approximately 134 kindergarten students from Jackson Primary School, accompanied by their teachers and aides, to travel to a local farm in Cogan Station during May 2020. District transportation is requested and will be paid by the Hepburn PTO.
- F. Four (4) members of the Williamsport Area Middle School's Builders Club, accompanied by their teacher, to travel to the Genetti Hotel during April 2020 to attend a Kiwanis Club meeting. The students will be transported in a district van.
- G. Two (2) Williamsport Area High School automotive students, accompanied by their teacher, to travel to Harrisburg during February 2020 for an automotive competition. The students will be transported in a district van. One substitute will be needed for the day.

10.2 Approve the following request from facility use:

- A. West Branch Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission to use the classrooms, library and the cafetorium at the Williamsport Area Middle School on Thursdays, beginning February 20, through April 2, 2020 from 4:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. to hold a Strengthening Families Program for district students and parents. WBDAAC is requesting relief of the occupancy fee estimated at \$2,450.00. Certificate of Insurance on file.

BIDS/CONTRACTS

- 11.1 Approve a quote from Clarkson Chemical Company, 213 Main Street, South Williamsport PA 17702, for the purchase of a Demo Configuration T-350 Tennant Floor Scrubber Machine for Lycoming Valley Intermediate School at Co-Stars pricing of \$11,839.00. Funds will come from Maintenance & Facilities budget.
- 11.2 Approve a lease agreement between the Williamsport Area School District and Old Lycoming Township to lease the township premises known at 2029 Green Avenue for the purposes of junior varsity baseball.
- 11.3 Approve the quote from Tanner Furniture, 7813 Derry Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111 for the purchase of 67 cafeteria tables for Cochran, and Stevens Primary Schools and Curtin Intermediate School at a COSTARS pricing of \$81,429.18. Funds will come from the Food Service Fund. [Note: Three quotes were received.]

TAX ITEMS

- 12.1 Approve the following tax summaries:

TRANSPORTATION – None

The motion carried.

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

- Dr. Bowers thanked the Board for their time, energy and expertise. We truly appreciate all each member does to support the education of our students.
- Building tours for budget purposes were completed this past week. Building principals were thanked for the tours and their input.
- Dr. Bowers attended the PASA meeting. He serves on the PASA Board. Dr. Bowers noted that we are disappointed with the amount of new funds proposed by the Governor. Dr. Bowers noted that this will make the budget very difficult.
- District orchestra concert was last evening.
- The Core Team and Steering Committee met last evening. Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Associates is about 90% completed with the study. We know that we will not have enough monies to fund everything on the report.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Welteroth thanked everyone for the Board appreciation night and wanted to note that we also need to recognize and appreciate the families of the Board members.

Mr. Welteroth read a prepared statement regarding the Myrtle Beach incident and made a motion. His statement and motion are as follows:

My fellow board members, I like to take a moment to express my concerns with the incident that occurred in Myrtle Beach in the spring of 2018. We as a board were advised of this incident on June 5, 2018. We were given a narrative of what occur and what actions the district did in response to this incident. We the board were advised that the district's actions were within the wishes of all parties involved effectively leading us to believe this matter was handle and done with.

On August 21, 2018, the board was advised that a reporter, Todd Bartley, was going to be running a story on the Myrtle Beach incident. As we all know, Todd Bartley did report his story and his account of the incident did not mirror what the board had been previously told by the administration. Todd Bartley also began the narrative which has continued to this day as the District has employed measure to cover up this incident.

On August 26, 2018, I expressed my concerns in light of new allegations and details reported by Todd Bartley and from Facebook posts by other members of the public in an email to administration. In this email I called for the district to reinvestigate old and new allegations objectively and to present the results and the interviews to the board in a timeline format. To this day, the district has yet to honor my request; though the district has answered some of my questions and concerns.

For almost two years, the district has remain silent on this matter while being subjected to RTK request, expanded accusations of wrong done, and a multi part news series on the accounts and

handling of the Myrtle Beach incident. The narrative of this incident has had many twists and turns of accounts and accusations of cover ups by the district. The Williamsport Area School District, its students, and employees have for all intents and purposes received a black eye in the handling of this incident. This bothers me.

It is time, we as a board take steps to put this matter to rest. We cannot let students and employees of the district to be smeared in public if they have done nothing wrong. On the same hand, we cannot let this incident go if any of these allegations and accusations are true. Either way, we must seek an independent investigation and review of this incident by the district to put this matter to rest. I have called for it in the past and the public has called for it as well.

I make a motion to commission a third party investigation and review of this incident. It should be contracted to a law firm who does not have a vested interest with the district professionally and/or privately. The scope of this investigation shall attempt to answer:

- What happened in Myrtle Beach?
- A timeline detailing what the district did in response to the incident.
- A review of the districts investigation.
- Review of possible conflict of interest with those involved in the investigation to included members of outside agencies and representation of the parties involved.
- Was this matter handle properly by the district and in the future providing a suggested protocol for investigating such matters?

The results of this investigation shall be released to the public as a show of good faith that the district will be transparent in this matter within the amount allowable by law as to not violate any party's rights to confidentiality.

With this motion, I would invite a second by my fellow board members to allow discussion as to why we should not commission a third party investigation and review at this time.

The motion died for lack of a second.

President Baer noted that the ballot for the BLaST Board is on the yellow papers at our seats. Please sign and return to Mrs. Erb.

ITEMS FROM PUBLIC – None

President Baer announced that an executive session will follow the meeting for attorney advisement, real estate and personnel.

Upon motion made by Dr. Penman, seconded by Mr. Schefsky and carried the meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Wanda M. Erb, Board Secretary