

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the LGI Room on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:30 PM with Larry Wittig presiding. President Wittig led with the “Pledge of Allegiance.” A moment of meditation followed.

PRESENT

Larry Wittig, President
Nicholas Boyle, Vice President
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer
Tom Bartasavage
Melanie Dillman

Nancy Jones
Bryan Miller
Mark Rother
Trina Schellhammer

ABSENT

None

Administrative Staff in Attendance – Raymond Kinder, Superintendent; Stephen Toth, Assistant Superintendent; Connie Ligenza, Business Administrator and Kenny Dunkelberger, Chief Operating Officer

Others in Attendance – members of the press, Eric Helberg, Solicitor and members of the community

Miller made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the minutes from April 18, 2023. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Ligenza indicated that all correspondences and appropriate reports relating to the agenda were available to the members of the board.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the treasurer’s report. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Superintendent Report – Kinder indicated that the report in its entirety was attached to the agenda.

Hearings – None

President Wittig called for an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

No executive session was held.

President Wittig called for the recommendations of the committees.

Auxiliary Committee – Rother presented the following items as recommendations of the Auxiliary Committee.

Rother made a motion seconded by Bartasavage to approve the following for the 2022-2023 school year: First Reading of Policies #137.1 and #137.2; Small Games of Chance License; Flu Clinics; Volunteer Coaches; Substitute Teacher Coordinator; Access Billing Coordinator; Band Director; Advisors; Elementary Assistant Gaming Coach; Volunteer Band Assistants; Substitute Custodians; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Schellhammer to forgo the reading of the policies listed. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

First reading of the following policies:

Policy #137.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students

Policy #137.2 – Participation in Co-Curricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students

Authorize the Tamaqua Area Booster Board to apply for a Small Games of Chance License

Approve the Student Flu Clinic, to be held November 8, 2023

Approve the Rite Aid Pharmacy Flu Vaccine Clinic, date to be scheduled

Carly Sassaman, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Girls Soccer Coach

Rebekah Hromyak, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach

Emma Kuczynski, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach

2023-2024

Terri Livingston, Substitute Teacher Coordinator

Heather Metric, Access Billing Coordinator

Mark Beltz, High School Band Director

Randa Ray, Freshman Class Advisor

Randa Ray, World Language Club Advisor

Dana Ayers, Yearbook Advisor

Lawrence Capozzelli, Physics and Engineering Club Advisor

Taylor Prehotsky, Elementary Assistant Gaming Coach

Lori Hudak, Brockton, PA 17925, as a Volunteer Band Assistant

Amy Gardiner, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Band Assistant

Erika Campomizzi, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$11.04 per Hour

Shaina Ristila, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$11.04 per hour

Spencer Dennis, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$11.04 per hour

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Education Committee – Dillman presented the following items as recommendations of the Education Committee.

Dillman made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the following for the 2022-2023 school year; 2023 Graduation List; Early Graduation Student; 2023-2024 Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Plan; Agreements with Child and Family Services Inc.; Affiliation Agreement; Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 2022-2023 Revised Title 1 Non-Public Letter of Agreement Resignation;

Retirement; Department Chairpersons; Extended School Year Teachers; Extended School Year Paraprofessionals; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Approve the 2023 Graduation List
Approve early graduation for one tenth grade student
2023-2024 Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Plan
Agreement with Child and Family Services Inc., Reading, PA 19601, for the provision of the student Assistance Program
Agreement with Child and Family Services Inc., Reading, PA 19601, for the provision of the Elementary Student Assistance Program
Affiliation Agreement between Albright College and the Tamaqua Area School District for student teachers, practicum or student teaching experience
2022-2023 Revised Title 1 Non-Public Letter of Agreement between the Tamaqua Area School District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Title I Math and Reading Program, Non- Public Programs and Services, dated August 22, 2022 and terminate on June 2, 2023, at the revised cost of \$11,027.93, per-pupil, plus an 11% administration fee, at any or all of the following Non-Public Schools:

Assumption BVM School, Pottsville
Saint Jerome Regional School, Tamaqua
Saint Nicholas School, Minersville

Resignation of Michael Grabowski, High School Mathematics Teacher, separation date to be determined
Retirement of Marjorie McCormick, Middle School Language Teacher, with a separation date of September 15, 2023

2023-2024

Robin Fink, High School Mathematics Department Chairperson
James McCabe, High School Health and Physical Education Department Chairperson
Connie Segedy, High School Social Studies Department Chairperson
Sherri Gerber, High School Special Education Department Chairperson
Sherri Gerber, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Aaron Gill, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Amanda Woodring, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Stacy Setlock, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Emile Baker, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Abigail Graver, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Vanessa Gimbor, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Krystal Fitzgerald, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Katelyn Midas, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
McKenzie Habel, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Bailey Rottet, 2023 Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00
Susan Zehner, 2023 Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate
Maddie McGlinchey, 2023 Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate
Hedy Cohen, 2023 Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate
Julianna Meckes, 2023 Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate

Dara Schaeffer, 2023 Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Finance Committee – Schoener presented the following items as recommendations of the Finance Committee.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Bartasavage to approve the following for the 2022-2023 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemptions; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; First Reading of Policies #830 and #830.1; Schuylkill IU #29 Lease Agreement; Grant Acknowledgement Agreements and Resolutions; 2023-2024 Preliminary Budget; SHINE Summer Program; Purchase of Coffee Bar Equipment for the Senior High School; Resignation; Clerical Substitute; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation. Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to forgo the readings of the listed policies. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

West Penn 2020, 2021, 2022 - Assessed Occupation

Rush Township 2021, 2022 - Assessed Occupation

Payment of Bills

First reading of the following policies:

Policy #830 – Security of Computerized Personal Information/Breach Notification

Policy #830.1 – Data Governance – Storage/Security

Approve renewing the lease agreement between the District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29 for a one-year term, beginning July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 for classroom space, which will be used to conduct a pre-school program. The consideration for the agreement is \$10,200 per year.

Grant acknowledge agreements and resolutions between the district and the John E.

Morgan Foundation for the following: 22-23 Scholarships: \$30,000.00

Approve the following 2023-2024 Preliminary Budget

Beginning Fund Balance 7/1/23: \$2,797,184.00

Revenue: \$36,578,648.00

Expenses: \$37,342,378.00

Ending Fund Balance 6/30/24: \$2,033,454.00

Unassigned:

Real Estate Tax Rate 41.77 mills

Per Capita, Section 679 \$5.00

Per Capita, Act 511 \$5.00

Earned Income Tax 1% (shared with municipalities)

Real Estate Transfer Tax 1% (shared with municipalities)

EMS Tax \$5.00 (shared with municipalities)

Assessed Occupation \$225.00

SHINE Summer Program, sponsor to sponsor agreement, prices as follows:

\$2.25 Breakfast

\$4.00 Lunch

Purchase of coffee bar equipment for the Senior High School at a cost of \$9,060.00 from Advanced Brewing Machines, Pittsburgh, PA, funds are coming from food service excess cash
Resignation of Kate Zukovich, Confidential Administrative Assistant, effective May 18, 2023
Kate Zukovich, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Clerical Substitute at a rate of \$10.02 per hour
Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Hearing Committee – Boyle presented the following item as recommendations of the Hearing Committee.

Boyle made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the expulsion of a middle school student for one calendar school year for a violation of the discipline code under the identified criteria. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Communications - None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to pay the monthly board invoices as presented. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary