

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the LGI Room on Tuesday, February 21, 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 – member of the press, Eric Helberg, Solicitor and members of the community

Miller made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the minutes from January 17, 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 – Tom Williams, Tamaqua Borough; Paul Benulis, Kettle Road; Bob Caputo, Tamaqua Borough, Greg Tirpak, Tuscarora, Jessica Tirpak, Tuscarora

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

A nineteen minute 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 Schellhammer to approve the following for the 2022-2023 school year: First Reading of Policies #011 and #202; Act 80 Day; 2023 Raider Band Christmas Party; Out of State Ski Trip; Coaches; Volunteer Coaches; Resignation; Substitute Custodian; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation. Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to forgo the reading of the following policies. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother, and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

First reading of the following policies:

Policy #011 – Principles for Governance and Leadership

Policy #202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students

Authorize March 6, 2023 as an Act 80 Day

“Raider” Band Christmas Party, December 16, 2023 at Capriotti’s McAdoo, PA

Out of State Trip, Ski Club to Smugglers Notch, Vermont, March 17, 2023 returning March 19, 2023

Kevin Smith, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as an Assistant Volleyball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Mykalan Mendoza, Port Carbon, PA 17965, as a Volunteer Volleyball Coach

Andy Smarr, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as the 1st Assistant Track and Field Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Devin Murphy, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Track and Field Coach

Resignation of Jillian Barron, Head Varsity Softball Coach, effective immediately

Tyrone Zancofsky, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Head Varsity Softball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Courtney Hoffman, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as an Assistant Softball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Jim Gormley, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as JV Softball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Stacei Faust, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Softball Coach

Kyle Faust, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Softball Coach

Lynn Deiter, New Philadelphia, PA 17959, as a Volunteer Softball Coach

Anthony Witczak, 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 recommendation of the Education Committee.

Dillman made a motion seconded by Jones to approve the following for the 2022-2023 school year; Guest Teachers; Resignation; Maternity Leave; Liaison Teacher; Full-Time Custodian; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Luke Rissinger, Pottsville, PA 17901, Guest Teacher

Lisa Dehaven, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Guest Teacher

Resignation of Alyssa Wagner, High School College and Career Counselor, last day to be determined

Jessica Schaefer, Maternity Leave, beginning on or about March 17, 2023 and returning May 25, 2023

Ratify Alexa Hauer, Tamaqua Elementary, Grades 3-5 Liaison Teacher

Julianna Meckes, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Full-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$12.00 per hour

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

Finance Committee - Schoener presented the following items as recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle 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 #828 and #830; Delinquent Tax List; Capitalization Threshold Increase; Purchase of Android Touchscreens and Stands; Purchase of Indoor Cameras; Purchase of Fiber and Installation; RHA Health Services Agreement; Professional School Photography Contract; Sale of 938 Solar Renewable Energy Credits; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

- Schuylkill Township 2021 – Per Capita
- 2021, 2022 - Assessed Occupation
- West Penn 2021, 2022 - Assessed Occupation

Payment of Bills

First reading of the following policies:

- Policy #828 – Fraud
- Policy #830 – Breach of Computerized Personal Information

Delinquent Tax List

- Approve increasing our capitalization threshold from \$1,000 to \$5,000 effective 7/1/2022
- Purchase of ten Android Touchscreens and Stands from Dauphin Datacom, a co-star vendor at cost of \$30,873.00
- Purchase of ten Indoor Verkada Cameras with a 5-year warranty from Dauphin Datacom, a co-star vendor at a cost of \$16,978.00
- Purchase of Fiber and Installation from CORL Communications Inc. for the Morgan Library/Student Center Upgrades at a cost of \$14,516.51(Lowest of three quotes)
- Approve a letter of linkage/referral agreement with RHA Health Services located in Minersville, PA for the 2022-2023 school year
- Three-year agreement with Professional School Photography of Tuscarora, PA, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year
- Authorize the sale of 938 Solar Renewable Energy Credits which are expiring in May 2023

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

Communications – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller 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 – VGSI meeting to be held on 3/15/23 at 6:00 PM in the Middle School Café.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Bartasavage to adjourn the meeting. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother, and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary