

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the Auditorium of the Tamaqua Middle School on October 19, 2021 with Larry Wittig presiding. President Wittig led with the “Pledge of Allegiance”; a moment of silent meditation followed.

PRESENT

Larry Wittig, President
Nicholas Boyle, Vice President
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer
Thomas Bartasavage
Melanie Dillman
Bryan Miller

ABSENT

Mark Rother
Thomas Rottet
Trina Schellhammer

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

Others in Attendance – Attorney Jeff Bowe, Solicitor and several members of the community

Boyle made a motion seconded by Bartasavage to approve the minutes from September 21, 2021. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, and Miller 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 Bartasavage to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, and Miller all voted “FOR.”

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to approve the treasurer’s report. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, and Miller 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.

An eight-minute meeting was held.

President Wittig called for the recommendations of the committees.

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

Miller made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2021-2022 school year: Policies #246, #805, #305.2, and #903; Coaches; at stipends to be determined, contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Second reading of the following policies:

Policy #246 – School Wellness

Policy #805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response

Policy #805.2 – School Security Personnel

Policy #903 – Public Participation in Board Meetings

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

Approval of policies in letter A

Joe Marcin, Lehighton, PA, 18235, Freshman Boys Basketball Coach

Joe Tamagini, Tamaqua, PA, 18252, 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Nate MacDonald, New Ringgold, PA, 17960, 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Brandon Eberts, Andreas, PA, 18211, Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach

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

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

Dillman made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2021-2022 school year; Policies #247 and #249; Title IIA; Early Dismissal; FMLA; Resignation; Full-Time Paraprofessionals; Professional Substitute Guest Teachers; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

The Second reading of the following policies:

Policy #247 – Hazing

Policy #249 – Bullying /Cyberbullying

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

Approval of policies in letter A

2021-2022 Title IIA Non-Public Programs and Services Letter of Agreement

Early Dismissal, November 10th through November 12th. Tamaqua and West Penn Elementary Schools

Lauren Barr, maternity leave, utilizing unused sick days and transitioning into Family Medical Leave Act, beginning on or about February 18, 2022, and returning to work on or about May 27, 2022

Katelyn Collevchio, maternity leave, utilizing unused sick days and transitioning into Family Medical Leave Act, beginning on or about April 22, 2021, and returning to work on or about April 21, 2022

Resignation, Vincent Schultz, High School Mathematics Teacher, effective the end of the day October 8, 2021.

Stephanie Krause, Andreas, PA 18211, Full-Time Paraprofessional, at a rate of \$10.92 per hour

Michael Ouly, Center Valley, PA 18034, Professional Substitute Guest Teacher

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, and Miller all voted "FOR."

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2021-2022 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemption; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; 2022-2023 Pennsylvania Education Joint Purchasing Council bid participation; 2022-2023 E-Rate Program; Purchases; 2021-2022 Administrative and Confidential salary schedule; Memorandum of Understanding; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager
Tax Refunds:

Tamaqua Borough	2019, 2020, 2021 – Assessed Occupation 2019, 2020 – Per Capita
West Penn Twp.	2021 – Real Estate

Payment of bills

Authorize business manager to participate in the Pennsylvania Education Joint Purchasing Council’s bid process for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Authorize the business manager to participate in the E-Rate program for the 2022-2023 funding year, and to execute agreements as necessary for the timeline compliance subject to future ratification by the Board of Education

Purchase of copiers for the Tamaqua and West Penn Elementary Schools, at a price not to exceed \$47,933 utilizing ESSERII funds

Purchase of a boiler for the Tamaqua Area District Office, at a price of \$52,000.

Authorize the revised 2021-2022 administrative and confidential salary schedule as presented

Authorize the attached Memorandum of Understanding to the current personnel contract as presented

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, and Miller all voted "FOR."

Communications - None

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

Hearings – A member of the community spoke.

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by miller to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, and Miller all voted “FOR.”

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary