

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the LGI room on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 7:30 PM 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
Nancy Jones
Bryan Miller
Trina Schellhammer

ABSENT

Daniel Schoener, Treasurer
Tom Bartasavage
Melanie Dillman
Mark Rother

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

Others in Attendance - one member of the press, Erik Helbing, Solicitor

Miller made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the minutes from August 20, 2024. Wittig, Boyle, Jones, Miller 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.

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

Boyle made a motion seconded by Miller to approve the treasurer’s report. Wittig, Boyle, Jones, Miller 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 sessions to discuss legal and personnel matters.

No meeting was held.

President Wittig called for the recommendations of the committees.

Auxiliary Committee - Schellhammer presented the following items as recommendations for the Auxiliary Committee.

Schellhammer made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year; First Reading of Policies #317.1, #336, #339, #807, #824; Volunteer Coach; Advisors; Adult Game Worker; Reclassification; Full-Time Custodian; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Boyle made a motion seconded by Miller to forgo the readings of the listed policies. Wittig, Boyle, Jones, Miller and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

First reading of the following policies:

Policy #317.1 - Educator Misconduct

Policy #336 - Personal Necessity Leave

Policy #339 - Uncompensated Leave

Policy #807 - Opening Exercises/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays

Policy #824 - Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries

Gabe Erbe, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Wrestling Coach

Nichole Beltz, High School World Language Club Advisor

Adjustment Amanda Woodring, from Step Up Advisor to Step Up Co-Advisor

Ashley Swiezak, Step Up Co-Advisor

Blake Tharp, New Ringgold, PA 17960, as an Adult Game Worker

Reclassification of Donovan Moeller, from Substitute Custodian to Full-Time Custodian

Caryn Matz, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Full-Time Custodian at a rate of \$11.00 per hour

Wittig, Boyle, Jones, Miller and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

Education Committee - Miller presented the following items as recommendations for the Education Committee.

Miller made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year; First Reading of Policies #218, #234, #247, #249, #252; Homebound Instruction; Substitute Guest Teachers; Mentor; Family Medical Leave; Part-Time Paraprofessionals; Full-Time Paraprofessional; Resignation; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation. Boyle made a motion seconded by Schellhammer

to forgo the reading of the listed policies. Wittig, Boyle, Jones, Miller and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

First reading of the following policies:

- Policy #218 - Student Discipline
- Policy #234 - Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students
- Policy #247 - Hazing
- Policy #249 - Bullying/Cyberbullying
- Policy #252 - Dating Violence

Homebound Instruction for one High School Student

Pamela Miller, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972, Substitute Guest Teacher

Pamela Androshick, St. Clair, PA 17970, Substitute Guest Teacher

Jessica Faust, Minersville, PA 17954, Substitute Guest Teacher

Carmen Perez, Mahanoy City, PA 17948, Substitute Guest Teacher

Dawn Walsh, certified teacher, mentor to Jordan Abdo

Dana Ayers, adjustment of FMLA to Intermittent FMLA, beginning on or about August 26, 2024 with a tentative return to work date of November 15, 2024

Ciara McKee, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Part-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$12.00 per hour

Sarah Hartranft, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Part-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$12.00 per hour

Erica Benningfield, New Ringgold, PA 17960, Part-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$12.00 per hour

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

Ashly McArdle, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Part-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$12.00 per hour

Resignation of Leah Gehringer, Certified School Nurse, separation date of November 8, 2024

Wittig, Boyle, Jones, Miller and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Finance Committee - Boyle presented the following items as recommendations of the Finance Committee.

Boyle made a motion seconded by Miller to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemptions; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; Replacement and Repair of Railing on Stadium Hill; Resignation; Co-Curricular and Athletic Salaries for the 24-25 Fiscal Year; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

Tamaqua Borough	2021, 2022, 2023	- Assessed Occupation
	2021, 2022, 2023	- Per Capita
Schuylkill Township	2023	- Assessed Occupation

	2024	- Real Estate
West Penn Township	2021, 2022, 2023	- Assessed Occupation
	2021, 2022, 2023	- Per Capita

Payment of Bills

Replacement and repair of damaged railing on “Stadium Hill” (South Lehigh Street). Cost not to exceed \$22,800.00. Rob Terleski Fabrication. Work to be completed spring 2025

Resignation of Stephanie Bednarz, Part-Time Health Room Assistant, separation date of September 6, 2024

Approve the Co-Curricular and Athletic Salaries for the 24-25 fiscal year

Wittig, Boyle, Jones, Miller and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Communications - None

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

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Miller made a motion seconded by Schellhammer to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 PM. Wittig, Boyle, Jones, Miller and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary