

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the cafeteria of the Tamaqua Area Middle School on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 7:30 PM with President Larry Wittig presiding. President Wittig led with the “Pledge of Allegiance”; a moment of silent meditation followed.

PRESENT

Larry Wittig, President
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer
Nicholas Boyle
Melanie Dillman

Eileen Meiser
Bryan Miller
Mark Rother
Wanda Zuber

ABSENT

Thomas Rottet, Vice President

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

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the minutes from November 18, 2018 and December 4, 2018. Wittig, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller, Rother, and Zuber 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 Boyle to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller, Rother, and Zuber all voted “FOR.” Wittig “Abstained”

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

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

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

No session was held.

President Wittig called for the recommendation of the committees.

Auxiliary Committee – Miller presented the following items as a recommendation of the Auxiliary Committee.

Miller made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the following for the 2018-2019 school year: Raider Step Up; Out of State Trip; Custodian Retirement; Coach; Student Game Workers; at stipends to be determined, contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Establish Raiders Step Up as a club offered to students for the 2018-2019 school year. The first year of establishment is on a volunteer basis. Stipend to be established for the 2019-2020 school year

Ski Club Advisor approved to take members to Stowe, Vermont, early dismissal February 1, 2019 and return February 3, 2019

John Swartz, custodian, retirement end of day February 4, 2019.

Lisa Trubilla, Coaldale, PA, 18218, Assistant Swimming and Diving Coach - \$1,000

Emma Coccio, Tamaqua, Student Game Worker – established stipend, \$30 per event

Alana Troxell, Tamaqua, Student Game Worker – established stipend, \$30 per event

Wittig, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller, Rother, and Zuber all voted “FOR.”

Education Committee – Meiser presented the following items as a recommendation of the Education Committee.

Meiser made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2018-2019 school year: Act 80 Day; Letter of Agreements; Professional Employee; Professional Guest Teacher; Teacher Resignations; Child Rearing Leave Extension; Special Education Teacher; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation, stipends to be established.

January 21, 2019 – Act 80 Day

Agreement with Pressley Ridge to coordinate services for children and their families

Agreement with ReDCo Group, Pottsville, PA, 17901, from December 2018 to December 2019 for Behavioral Health Services

Gregory A. Haney, professional employee status as of December 19, 2018

Megan Omahaboy, St. Clair, PA, 17970, Professional Substitute Guest Teacher

Trisha Maksimik, resign as a middle school teacher, effective end of day December 21, 2018

Suzanne Lynn, resign as a middle school teacher, effective end of day December 21, 2018

Erika Davis, extend Child Rearing Leave to February 27, 2019

Kimberly Firkal, Tamaqua, Masters, Step 15, \$62,040, Special Education teacher

Wittig, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller, Rother, and Zuber all voted “FOR.”

Finance Committee – Schoener presented the following items as a recommendation of the Finance Committee.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Zuber to approve the following for the 2018-2019 school year as presented; Tax Report; Tax Refunds; 2019 Exemption Form; 2018-2019 Tuition Rates; Act 1 Index; Agreement; Tax Collectors Audit; High School Roof; Full-time Administrative Assistant; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Refunds:

Rush Township 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 Assessed Occupation
2019 Exemption form
2018-2019 Tuition Rates

Elementary: \$ 8,671

Secondary: \$10,192

K-half day: \$ 4,335

Not accepting the limit established by Act 1 regarding the 2019-2020 budget of 3.2%.

Agreement with Quandel Enterprises C/O Performance Construction Services, Inc. for the Tamaqua Elementary Paving project, not to exceed \$150,000

Tax Collector’s Audit report ending December 31, 2017

Tremco, Inc. for the High School Roof at a cost not to exceed \$569,100

Amy Quick, Tamaqua, full-time, Administrative Assistant for Student Services - \$28,500

Wittig, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller, Rother, and Zuber all voted “FOR.”

Communications - None

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

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Hearings – Multiple members of the community spoke.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 PM. Wittig, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller, Rother, and Zuber all voted “FOR.”

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary