

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, October 16, 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
Dr. Thomas Rottet, Vice President
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer
Nicholas Boyle
Melanie Dillman

Eileen Meiser
Bryan Miller
Wanda Zuber

ABSENT

Mark Rother

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

Others in Attendance – two members of the press, Attorney Jeff Bowe, Solicitor and members of the Community

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to approve the minutes from September 18, 2018. Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller 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 Rottet to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bill. Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller and Zuber all voted “FOR.”

Schoener made a motion seconded by Zuber to approve the treasurer’s report. Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller 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.

A twenty-minute executive session was held.

President Wittig called for the recommendation of the committees.

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

Rottet made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2018-2019 school year: Agreement; Discussion; Game Workers; Security; Volunteers; Custodians; Family and Medical Leave; Resignation; at stipends to be determined, contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Agreement with Bayada Home Health Care, Inc., for in school nursing services

Compensation for School Resource Professionals at a stipend of \$ 2,000 per school year and additional district sponsored life insurance up to \$250,000

Elaine Jones, Adult Game Worker

Joe Berezwick, Tamaqua, Security Personnel

Trevor Skripko, Tamaqua, Security Personnel

Tyler Skripko, Tamaqua, Security Personnel

Zowie Schickram, Tamaqua, Volunteer Cheerleading Coach

Tim Ziegler, Tamaqua, Volunteer Cheerleading Coach

Drama Club Volunteers, as presented

Kylie Huegel, Tamaqua, full-time custodian, effective October 1, 2018

Patricia Turton, custodian, Family and Medical Leave to begin September 21, 2018

April Rose Schoener, Tamaqua, substitute custodian

Rebecca Kaufman, resign as a full-time custodian, effective October 5, 2018

Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller 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 Miller to approve the following for the 2018-2019 school year: Policies; Parent Conferences; Agreements; Out of State Trip; Retirement; Teacher; Family and Medical Leave; Substitute Professional Guest Teacher; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation, stipends to be established.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rottet to forgo the first reading of the following policies:

First Reading of the following policies:

Policy #102 Academic Standards

Policy #106 Guide for Planned Instruction

Policy #120 Dual Enrollment in Postsecondary Courses

Policy #126 Class Size

Policy #127 Assessment of Educational Program

Policy #130 Homework

Policy #137 Home Education Program

Policy #137.1 Extracurricular Participation By Home Education Students

Policy #140 Charter Schools

Policy #140.1 Extracurricular Participation By Charter/Cyber Charter Schools

Elementary early dismissal November 7, 8 and 9, 2018, for parent conferences

Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Title 1 Agreement and Title IIA agreement

Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Special Education Services Agreement

Child and Family Support Services, Inc., Pottsville, PA, 17901, individual elementary student assistant assessments agreement

Student Assistance Program Service agreement

AP Biology class to attend the Sam Rhine Genetics Conference, Ridgewood, New Jersey, October 18, 2018

Marietta F. Kotch, high school teacher, retirement, effective end of the 90th day of school

Kelly White, Andreas, PA, 18211, high school teacher, Bachelors, Step 11, \$52,534

Nichole Beltz, high school teacher, intermittent Family and Medical Leave to begin September 21, 2018

Lennae Thompson, elementary teacher, begin a Family and Medical Leave on or about January 25, 2019, initially using unused sick days, transitioning into a Family and Medical Leave, to return on or about March 25, 2019

Spencer Bennett, Tamaqua, Substitute Professional Guest Teacher

Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller 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; Bid Participation; E-rate Program; Delinquent Tax Collector; Purchase; Lease; Salaries; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Refunds:

Schuylkill Township 2016, 2017 Assessed Occupation, Real Estate

Rush Township 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 Assessed Occupation, Per Capita

West Penn Township 2015, 2016, 2017 Assessed Occupation

Participate in the Pennsylvania Education Joint Purchasing Council's bid process for the 2019-2020 fiscal year

Participation in the E-rate program for the 2019-2020 funding year to execute agreements as necessary for timeline compliance subject to future ratification by the Board of Education

Appoint Portnoff Law Associates as our delinquent real estate tax collector for unpaid taxes from the 2018 collection cycle

Purchase a cube van from STAR GMC via the Costars Purchasing Program, located in Easton, PA. Cost is \$36,342.23 and paid with excess cash from the food service fund

Lease agreement with Reading Anthracite for use of 10.5 acres of surface area on parcel 32-03-0001.00 located in Walker Township. The lease is effective on December 1, 2018 for one year, renewable thereafter for the cost of \$1 per year

Extra-curricular and Athletic Salaries as presented

Rottet, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller and Zuber all voted "FOR." Wittig "ABSTAINED."

Communications - None

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

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 10:00 PM. Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Boyle, Dillman, Meiser, Miller and Zuber all voted "FOR."

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary
