

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the Tamaqua Area Middle School and via Zoom Webinar on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 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
Thomas Rottet, Vice President via Zoom
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer via Zoom
Thomas Bartasavage
Nicholas Boyle

Melanie Dillman via Zoom
Bryan Miller via Zoom
Mark Rother
Trina Schellhammer via Zoom

ABSENT

None

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

Others in Attendance – Attorney Jeff Bowe, Solicitor via Zoom

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

A seven-minute session was held.

Rother made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the minutes from March 17, 2020. Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR” via a “ROLL CALL VOTE”.

Ligenza indicated that all correspondences and appropriate reports relating to the agenda were made available to the members of the board.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR” via a “ROLL CALL VOTE”. Wittig “ABSTAINED” via a “ROLL CALL VOTE”.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the treasurer’s report. Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR” via a “ROLL CALL VOTE”.

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

Hearings – None

President Wittig called for the recommendation of the committees.

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

Rottet made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 20192020 and 2020-2021 school years: Pay to Participate Fee Return; Policy; Substitute Coordinator; Access Billing Coordinator; Band Directors; Band Volunteers; Choral Directors; Drama Club Assistants; Drama Club Volunteers; Advisors; Volunteer Advisor; Co-Head Gaming Coaches, at stipends to be determined; Custodian; Substitute Custodians; Volunteer Coach; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Pay to Participate Fee Return

Policy #801.5 - School Safety and Security Policy

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to forgo the reading of the above listed policy. Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR” via a “ROLL CALL VOTE”

2020-2021

Jody Bachert, Substitute Coordinator

Heather Metric, Access Billing Coordinator

Mark Beltz, Band Director

Marsha Rodgers, Assistant Band Director

Marsha Rodgers, Middle School Band Director

Marsha Rodgers, Elementary Band Director

Samantha Bubel, Band Silk Advisor

John Potlunas, Pottsville, PA 17901, Volunteer Band Assistant

Joshua Allen Bishop, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972, Volunteer Band Assistant

Allie Gerber, Tamaqua, Volunteer Band Assistant

Adam Shumgart, Brockton, PA 17935, Volunteer Band Assistant

Kaitlyn Herling, Tamaqua, Volunteer Band Assistant

Lori Whetstone Hudak, Brockton, PA 17925, Volunteer Band Assistant

Samantha Postupack, Tamaqua, Volunteer Band Assistant

John Buglio, High School Choral Director

John Buglio, Middle School Choral Director

Samantha Bubel, Elementary Choral Director

Adriane Drum, Drama Club Advisor
RuthAnn Gardiner, Summit Hill, PA 18250, Drama Club Assistant #1
Erika Cassell, Tamaqua, Drama Club Assistant #2
Deb Sweeney, Drama Club Assistant #3
Colleen Barrett, Barnesville, PA 18214, Drama Club Marketing Director
Mark E. Beltz, Auditorium Manager/Stage Manager/Audio Visual
Manager
Tammy Wapinsky, Pine Grove, PA 17963, Volunteer Drama Club
Vocal Instructor
George Hegedus, IV, New Ringgold, PA 17960 Volunteer Drama Club
Vocal Instructor
Megan Frantz, Middle School Student Council Advisor
Michael Murphy, Middle School Math Counts Advisor
Corey Smith, Middle School Lego Club Advisor
Alisa Kemmerer, Middle School Academic Club Advisor
Michael Murphy, Middle School Yearbook Advisor
Megan Frantz, Middle School National Honor Society
Megan Frantz, Middle School Eighth Grade Advisor
Karen Campomizzi, High School Freshman Class Advisor
Milini Skuba, High School Sophomore Class Advisor
Michael Sakash, High School Junior Class Advisor
Roseann Weinrich, High School Senior Class/Commencement Advisor
Stephen Ulichny, Student Government (T.A.S.G.A.) Leadership Advisor
Caitlin Miller, Step Up Advisor
Roseann Weinrich, High School Biology Club Advisor
Jacob Atherly, High School Chemistry Club Advisor
Kristen Klingaman, High School Environmental Club Advisor
Lawrence Capozzelli, High School Physics & Engineering Club Advisor
Amanda Hascin, High School World Language Advisor
Kiersten Rivera, High School National Honor Society Advisor
Roseann Weinrich, Volunteer H.S. Science National Honor Society Adv.
Zachary Blihar, Co-Head Gaming Coach
Aaron Knepp, Co-Head Gaming Coach
As of Approval Date
Taylor Benner, Tamaqua, Full-Time Custodian
Caleb Sell, Tamaqua, Substitute Custodian
Nathaniel A. Kalchick, Tamaqua, Substitute Custodian
Karen Ann Kunkel, Lansford, PA 18232, Substitute Custodian
Zachery Campomizzi, Tamaqua, Substitute Custodian
Bryn Laura Miller, Tamaqua, Substitute Custodian

Aramie Love Arroys, Minersville, PA 17954, Substitute Custodian
Meghan McArdle, Summit Hill, PA 18250, Substitute Custodian
Alexandra Frederik, Nesquehoning, PA, 18240, Substitute Custodian
Julianne Schenck, New Ringgold, PA 17960, 2020-2021 Volunteer Girls Soccer Coach

Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted "FOR" via a "ROLL CALL VOTE".

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

Dillman made a motion seconded by Schellhammer to approve the following for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years: 2020 Graduation List; High School ATSI Plan; Memorandum of Understanding; 4th Quarter Grading Procedure; Professional Employee Contract; Rescind Motion; Liaison Teachers; Department Chairpersons; Resignation; Certified School Nurse

2020 Graduation list

High School ATSI School Improvement Plan

Twelve-Month Memorandum of Understanding with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for Translation Services February 10, 2020 through February 10, 2021

4th Quarter Grading Procedure

Megan Majetsky, to be given Professional Status, as of May 20, 2020
Rescind Motion of February 18, 2020, approving maternity leave for Christa Evanko

2020-2021

Diane Michalik, Tamaqua Elementary Grades K-2 Liaison Teacher

Cindy Viel, Tamaqua Elementary Grades 3-5 Liaison Teacher

Dawn Walsh, Tamaqua Elementary Special Education Liaison Teacher

Vanessa Boyle, West Penn Elementary Grades K-2 Liaison Teacher

Nicole Evans, West Penn Elementary Grades 3-5 Liaison Teacher

Jennifer Kinder, West Penn Elementary Special Education Liaison Teacher

Kristine Schellhammer, Middle School Language Arts Department Chairperson

Megan Frantz, Middle School Mathematics Department Chairperson

Edward Mariano, Middle School Science Department Chairperson

Charlene Shannon, Middle School Social Studies Department Chairperson

Jacqueline Murphy, Middle School Special Education Liaison Teacher

Ann Lagowy, High School Business Education Department Chairperson

Cathy Miorelli, High School Extended Services Department Chairperson
Jennifer Curcio, High School Fine and Practical Arts Department
Chairperson

Jillian Tuckett, High School Language Arts Department Chairperson

Michael Grabowski, High School Mathematics Department Chairperson

Ellen Troxell, High School Health and Physical Education Department
Chairperson

Roseann Weinrich, High School Science Department Chairperson

Connie Segedy, High School Department Chairperson

Amanda Hascin, High School World Language Department Chairperson

Jody Bachert, High School Special Education Liaison Teacher

Resignation of Alison Marmas, elementary school nurse, effective August
21, 2020

Leah Ellen Gehringer, Kempton, PA, 19529, Certified School Nurse,
Bachelors, Step 1, \$42,508, starting on August, 14, 2020

Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted
“FOR” via a “ROLL CALL VOTE”.

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rottet to approve the following for the 2019-2020
school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemption; Tax Refund; Payment of Bills;
Purchases; 2020 Tax Envelopes; John E. Morgan Foundation Agreements; Food Service:
Waivers-COVID-19; Lease Agreement; CSIU Software Purchase; Transportation Contracts;
Internet Contract; Wireless Controllers; Non-Resident Parent Paid Tuition Student; 2020-2021
General Fund Budget.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

West Penn

2019 Assessed Occupation

Payment of bills

Purchase 200 Chromebooks from CDI Computer at a cost of \$42,625.00,
funded by the JE Morgan Donation (1 to 1 initiative)

Purchase 45 Hotspots and related service from “Connect Us Corp” and
Verizon at a cost of \$17,085.95

Purchase 100 computers from CDI Computers, Inc., for elementary and
middle school teacher desks at a cost of \$19,632.00

Purchase 15 Gaming Computers, Monitors, Desks, and Chairs for the high
school and middle school from Byte speed Computers, not to exceed
\$50,000, funded by the Morgan Gaming Grant Fund

Purchase envelopes and postage for the 2020 tax bill at a cost of \$11,538.45

Approve grant acknowledge agreements and resolutions between the district and the John E. Morgan Foundation for the following:

2019-20 COVID-19 Donation: \$10,000

2019-2020 Scholarships: \$30,000

2020-21 & 2021-22 Mass Customized Learning Initiative: \$178,000

Ratify the district's submission for the waiver allowing a one-year extension to our Food Service Management Contract with the Nutrition Group, Inc., effective July 1, 2020

Approve the district's submission for a one-year COVID-19 waiver from the triennial Wellness assessment

Ratify the district's submission for the COVID-19 Seamless Summer Option Waiver, effective March 23, 2020 through the last student day of the 2019-2020 school year

Approve renewing the lease agreement between the District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 for a one-year term, beginning July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 for classroom space, used to conduct a Pre-School program for the consideration of \$10,200 per year, contingent upon the return to school guidelines issued from PDE

Approve CSIU services for payroll, fund accounting and personnel at an approximate cost of \$19,410, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Approve payment, effective April 1, 2020, at a reduced rate of 12% for daily trips that follow the school calendar only if the contractor certified to the district that drivers have been paid for their base routes. For days when a contractor cannot provide payroll certification, the rate is reduced by 30%

Ratify a five-year contract for district-wide internet access and wan Services with PenTeleData, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025 at a cost of \$8,991.23 per month. After the 70% E-rate discount is applied, the net cost is \$2,697.37

Ratify the purchase of 2 wireless controllers and accessories from Dauphin DataCom at the total cost of \$19,538.18. After the 70% E-rate discount is applied the net cost is \$5,861.45, with the balance to be funded from the Morgan MCL funds

Authorize 2 non-resident parent paid tuition students to attend the Tamaqua Area School district, at a tuition rate to be determined

Approve the 2020-2021 preliminary budget as presented
Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted
“FOR” via a “ROLL CALL VOTE”. Wittig “ABSTAINED”.

Communications – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to pay the monthly board invoices as presented.
Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted
“FOR” via a “ROLL CALL VOTE”. Wittig “ABSTAINED”.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Hearings – None

Rother made a motion seconded by Rottet to adjourn the meeting at 9:44. Wittig, Rottet,
Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR” via a
“ROLL CALL VOTE”.

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary