Minutes May 24, 2021

The regular meeting with committee reports of the Board of School Directors convened in the JSHS Library at 6:05 p.m. with Mrs. Maria Ziolkowski, Board President, presiding.

CALL TO ORDER /
PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

Following the pledge of allegiance, Mrs. Ziolkowski asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. Mr. Arnst indicated he would be recording the meeting.

Board Members Present

Mrs. Harenza, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Pottieger, (joined Zoom at 7:04pm), Mr. Redner, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Waxler, and Mrs. Ziolkowski.

Board Members Absent:

Administrative Staff Present:

Mr. Scoboria, Dr. Woodard, Mr. Boyer, Mr. Arnst, Mrs. Lengle.

Attendees:

Sally McNichol, JSHS SAP Coordinator
Wendi Line and Amy Mitchell, SAP Specialists – CARON

WASD Retirees and guests

Alex Gabryluk, Technology Support

An audience sign-in sheet is included as part of these official minutes.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Facilities Committee Meeting Workshop May 28, 2021 3:30 p.m. Community Board Room
- School Board Business Meeting June 7, 2021 6:00 p.m. JSHS Library
- Committee of the Whole Meeting / School Board Business Meeting June 14, 2021 4:45 p.m. JSHS Library

RECOGNITION

Retirees Recognition: 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 – Mr. Scoboria

Mr. Scoboria welcomed the WASD retirees and guests who were in attendance and explained, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the District was unable to recognize the 2019-2020 retiring staff members in person, therefore they had been invited to join this year's WASD retirees at tonight's meeting so the District would have the opportunity to honor them in-person. Mr. Scoboria recognized the following retirees: 2019/2020 Retirees - Chrisanne Bansner, Shirley Gashi, Kim Lally, Kelly McClennan, Amy Miller-Cush, Joseph Ayala, Shelley Filer, Ernest Harders, Suzanne Herbst, Glenda Jarrett, Christine Ross, and Dave Steinmetz.

2020/2021 Retirees – Susan Larkin, Joseph Kollar, Michael Miller, Donna Bottiglieri, Amy Cruley, Barbara DeMoss, Robin Harders, William Lerch, Jane Lim, Joseph Palubinsky, and Kimberly Tetley.

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Each retiree received a token gift of appreciation for their service and a resolution acknowledging their retirement. A copy of the resolution has been included with Board minutes.

Student Assistance Program Update Jessica Lengle, Director of Pupil Services, Sally McNichol, JSHS SAP Coordinator, Wendi Line and Amy Mitchell, SAP Specialists – CARON

Mr. Scoboria introduced the SAP Team members. Mrs. Line said tonight they will provide an overview of the Student Assistance Program and what they have been able to accomplish this year. She thanked the Board for advocating for the mental health services that the students are being provided by Wyomissing Area.

Mrs. McNichol explained SAP is a mandated K-12 program that exists in each building. Each building has a team of dedicated well trained staff. They look at ways to break down barriers that prevent students from succeeding in areas such as mental health, social emotional needs, substance abuse, family concerns, attendance, etc. She explained how the program works and shared an infographic containing informational data related to the program. Amy Mitchell said her role on the SAP team is to perform assessments, meet with the student and then the parents to share recommendations. She reviewed the types of support groups that are offered as well as other services provided by CARON. Mrs. Line shared information about how the ESAP program works at Wyomissing Area.

Mr. Scoboria thanked the SAP Team and also recognized Mrs. McNichol and Mrs. Lengle for their tireless efforts this school year working with students, parents and community through COVID.

LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Berks County Intermediate Unit Board Report Mrs. Taylor reported they met on May 20th and said there is a program available through Comcast for families that qualify for free/reduced lunch to apply to receive \$50/month discount on internet service as well as \$100 to use towards the purchase of laptops/iPad's. They can apply to Comcast or contact the BCIU for more information. She said BCIU programming will continue to be virtual or hybrid through the end of summer, returning to in person model as of August 18th. The next meeting will be on June 17.
- B. Berks Career & Technology Report No report.
- C. Berks EIT Report Mr. Boyer reported the next meeting will be June 24th.

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- D. Wyomissing Area Education Foundation Mr. McCaffrey said they last met on April 19th, and reported May was a busy month. He said they had the online auction which ran May 3rd -8th and many participants made it a great success. They honored the distinguished alumni earlier tonight and the WAEF scholarships were also announced. He said the *Do It Local* meal popup was a success. The Blue/White party was May 8th and the Fire and Ice party was on May 22nd. Next meeting is June 14th.
- E. Legislative Report Mrs. Harenza reported Governor Wolf held a press conference introducing his bill for Charter School reform. Public schools would pay 395 million dollars under his bill which is focused on increasing quality control and rising costs for charter schools. PSBA simultaneously released their charter school task force report including recommendations.
- F. PTA Mrs. Phillips reported this is the busiest month for PTA for the school year. May is appreciation month and they hosted breakfast and lunch for all three schools; breakfast from Star Bucks and Panera Bread and lunch from Russo's. They gave staff members WASD themed cookies from a local bakery as well as personalized gifts. A Mister Softee ice cream truck will be coming this Wednesday. They decorated all three schools with appreciation signs and chalked messages, and supplied end of year gifts of chalk to WHEC students and 2021 masks to seniors.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maria Loun – 442 Chestnut Street

Ms. Loun said the requirement to wear masks in PA is ending on May 31st. Please consider sending a questionnaire to parents regarding masks optional for the next school year. Let the parents make the choice for their children, and make masks optional. She referenced her petition on change.org.

ROUTINE APPROVALS

MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. McCaffrey second by Mrs. Waxler the Board approved the following minutes:

April 26, 2021 School Board Business Meeting Minutes

Yeas: Mrs. Harenza, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Redner, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Waxler, and Mrs. Ziolkowski.

Absent: Mr. Pottieger, absent at time of vote.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon a motion by Mrs. Taylor, and second by Mr. McCaffrey, the Treasurer's Report for April, 2021 was accepted as presented.

Yeas: Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Redner, Mrs.

Taylor, Mrs. Waxler, Mrs. Ziolkowski, and Mrs. Harenza.

Absent: Mr. Pottieger, absent at time of vote.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Upon a motion by Mr. McCaffrey, and second by Mr. Redner payment of bills for the month of April, 2021 were accepted as presented.

Yeas: Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Redner, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs.

Waxler, Mrs. Ziolkowski, Mrs. Harenza, and Mrs. McAvoy.

Absent: Mr. Pottieger, absent at time of vote.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Scoboria shared that Dr. Liskey and Nate Miller's JSHS student team were recognized at the Governors STEM competition. Mr. Scoboria hopes to invite them to a future Board Meeting to hear about their award-winning project. Mr. Scoboria highlighted the local athletic accomplishments and promoted the Pre-K kindergarten program and kindergarten registration, encouraging those who have children of kindergarten age to register.

Mr. Scoboria shared a brief update on COVID -19. He highlighted the Moderate rating for Berks County for the last two weeks, which ends the Governor's Attestation Order, and said we will continue to follow the PDE/DOH recommendations. He said the positive cases and quarantine numbers have significantly decreased. He reviewed the updated guidelines from Governor Wolf's Order with regard to face coverings, attestations and indoor/outdoor requirements. He reported updates from PDE and DOH including social distance recommendations for 6ft. and 3ft., and that quarantine, contact tracing and reporting of positive cases continues with DOH. The CDC released interim public health recommendations which resulted in some confusion and an update was received to clarify, which recommended that schools continue to use current COVID-19 prevention strategies until the end of the school year. Mr. Scoboria said most recently, the PDE/BCIU is requiring districts to submit a health and safety plan for 2021-22.

Mr. Scoboria gave an update on the vaccine offerings WASD has provided in partnership with Esterbrook Pharmacy, Reading Pediatrics and the BCIU. Mr. Scoboria thanked all who volunteered and helped with these events and shared information on future vaccine clinic possibilities. Mr. Scoboria summarized the recommendations from

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CDC, DOH and PDE and explained that WASD will continue to follow the District Health and Safety Plan through June 7, 2021 and administration will present interim District guidelines for summer 2021 at an upcoming Board meeting. Administration will monitor guideline updates over the summer and will use those guidelines to plan for 5 day in-person model for 2021-22 school year.

A. CURRICULUM/ TECHNOLOGY

Upon a motion by Mrs. Waxler, and second by Mr. McCaffrey the following Curriculum and Technology Items were approved:

- 1. Approve the Class of 2021 Graduates pending compliance with all requirements.
- 2. Approve new book titles for English curriculum book list
 - a. The Martian, Andy Weir Classroom Edition
 - b. The Girl Who Smiled Beads, Clemantine Wamariya
 - c. All the Light We Cannot See, Anthony Doer
 - d. The Nickel Boys, Colson Whitehead
 - e. Anya's Ghost, Vera Brosgol
 - f. The Marrow Thieves, Cherie Dimaline
 - g. Home is Not a Country, Safie Elhillo
 - h. This is My America, Kim Johnson

Yeas: Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Pottieger, Mr. Redner, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Waxler, Mrs. Ziolkowski, Mrs. Harenza, Mrs. McAvoy, and

Mr. McCaffrey.

Absent: None.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

B. FINANCE/ FACILITIES

Upon a motion by Mrs. McAvoy and second by Mrs. Waxler, the following Finance and Facilities Items were approved:

- 1. Appoint Mark Boyer as management representative to the Berks County School District Health Trust for a two-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023.
- 2. Approve Myers and Bell as broker of record for property, liability, E&O umbrella and data breach insurance for 2021-22 and award contracts in the amount of \$94,373.

 Background Information: The increase over 2020-21 is \$2,865.
- 3. Approve Engle-Hambright & Davies, Inc. (EHD) as broker of record for workmen's compensation for 2021-22 and award contract in the amount of \$102,273.

 Background Information: EHD is the broker for the

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Pennsylvania Insurance Consortium (PIC) program. The PICs program uses StarNet Insurance Company. The increase over 2020-21 is \$3,640.

- 4. Approve Budget Transfers in the amount of \$4,785.
- 5. Approve lease agreement with the Scottish Rite Cathedral Association of Reading for the use of their auditorium for commencement on June 4, 2021 for a fee of \$2,050 plus charges for security personnel.

 Rackground information: There is no increase in fee charged

Background information: There is no increase in fee charged from the 2018-2019 school year.

Yeas: Mr. Redner, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Waxler, Mrs. Ziolkowski, Mrs. Harenza, Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips, and Mr. Pottieger.

Absent: None.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

C. PERSONNEL/ POLICY

Upon a motion by Mr. McCaffrey, and second by Mrs. Taylor, the following Personnel and Policy items were approved and ratified:

1. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

- a. Professional Staff
 - 1) Colleen Reinecker, Special Education Teacher, JSHS, resignation effective last day worked June 10, 2021.
- b. Hourly Support Staff
 - 1) **Robin Harders**, Food Service Worker, JSHS, retirement effective last day worked June 4, 2021.
- c. Salaried Support Staff
- 2. APPROVED THE LEAVES OF ABSENCE PER ATTACHED.

3. APPOINTMENTS

- a. Supplemental Staff
 - 1) **Aaron Gabryluk**, IT Intern, District-wide, at a wage rate of \$10.50/hour, ratification effective May 24, 2021 to August 31, 2021, not to exceed a total of 500 hours.

4. SUMMER PROGRAMS

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- a. Professional Staff
 - Request approval for the following teachers to work in the Extended School Year (ESY) Program effective June 28, 2021 through July 30, 2021, at the WAEA work outside contract hourly rate plus program stipend if qualified, not to exceed a maximum of 72 hours/program:
 - a) Amanda Budwash
 - b) Shauna Easteadt
 - c) Danielle Faust
 - d) Donna Fischer
 - e) Sally McAvoy
 - f) Ryan Weidner

Background Information: This position is being filled due to a retirement.

- 2) Request approval for the following nurse to work in the summer programs effective June 28, 2021 through July 30, 2021, at the WAEA work outside contract hourly rate plus program stipend if qualified, not to exceed a maximum of 16 ½ hours/week:
 - a) Sally McNichol
- 3) Request approval for the following teachers to work Teachers in the Park Program (TIPS), effective June 22, 2021 to July 29, 2021 at a rate of \$32/hour plus program stipend if qualified, not to exceed a maximum of 36 hours/program:
 - a) Tiffany Bixler
 - b) **Melissa Brand**, pending successful completion of employment requirements.
 - c) **Lisa Carson**, pending successful completion of employment requirements.
 - d) **Reba Towles**, pending successful completion of employment requirements.
 - e) Morgan Will, pending successful completion of employment requirements
- 4) Request approval for the following teachers to work the WREC Summer Math and Reading Program, effective June 21, 2021 to July 9, 2021 at a rate of \$32/hour plus program stipend if qualified, not to exceed maximum per below:
 - a) Kelly Ferrandino, 72 hours/program
 - b) **Daniel Smith,** 36 hours/program
- 5) Request approval for the following teachers to work the JSHS Summer Program, effective June

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15, 2021 to July 15, 2021 at a rate of \$32/hour plus program stipend if qualified, not to exceed a maximum of 60 hours/program:

- a) G. Peter Beck
- b) Devon Benensky
- c) Rebecca Gafencu, 36 hours/program, pending successful completion of employment requirements.
- d) Michele Hatt-Ciemiewicz
- e) Ayse Tascan, pending successful completion of employment requirements.
- 6) Request approval for all currently employed professional staff to substitute in the 2021 summer programs and receive compensation at the WAEA work outside contract hourly rate.
- b. Support Staff
 - 1) Request approval for the following paraprofessionals to work in the Extended School Year (ESY) Program effective June 28, 2021 through July 30, 2021, and receive compensation at their regular hourly rate of pay plus program stipend if qualified, not to exceed a maximum of 72 hours/program:
 - a) Lynnette Alessandroni
 - b) Pamela Anzulewicz
 - c) Billie Jo Calnan
 - d) April D'Angelo
 - e) Maia D'Angelo, pending successful completion of employment requirements.
 - f) Kaitlin Erb
 - g) Amanda Mohn-Wolfe
 - h) Lori Scargle
 - i) Amy Schaeffer
 - j) Reina Soto
 - k) Caitlin Westerfer
 - 2) Request approval for all currently employed support staff to substitute in the 2021 summer programs and receive compensation at their regular hourly rate of pay.

5. WAGE INCREASES

a. Professional Staff

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Request approval for the following teacher(s) to receive course credit salary advancement (column movement) in accordance with the terms of the MOU between WAEA and the District, per the effective dates noted below:

- 1) **Nathan Patton**, JSHS, from B/Step 3 to B+15/Step 3 (\$53,186) effective the beginning of the 2021-22 school year.
- 2. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF WAGE CHANGES PER THE ATTACHED
- 3. VOLUNTEERS

Yeas: Mrs. Tayler, Mrs. Waxler, Mrs. Ziolkowski, Mrs. Harenza,

Mrs. McAvoy, Mr. McCaffrey, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Pottieger,

and Mr. Redner.

Absent: None.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Waxler asked for an update on the summer staff hiring. Dr. Woodard said they have been able to completely fill some programs and others are on their way to becoming full. She feels positive they will be able to fill all positions.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

None.

RIGHT TO KNOW None.

UPDATES FROM ORGANIZATIONS

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Waxler second by Mrs. Taylor, to adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

Board Secretary