

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session at the Tamaqua Area Middle School on Tuesday, February 18, 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
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer
Thomas Bartasavage
Nicholas Boyle

Melanie Dillman
Bryan Miller
Mark Rother
Trina Schellhammer

ABSENT

None

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

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

Rottet made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the minutes from January 21, 2020. Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

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 Rother to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.” Wittig “ABSTAINED”.

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.”

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

Hearings – None

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

An eight-minute session was held.

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 Rother to approve the following for the 2019-2020 school year: Out-of-State Trip; Coaches; Substitute Custodian

Out-of-state West Penn Elementary 5th grade trip to Baltimore, MD on May 22, 2020

James Fisher, Tamaqua, Head Soccer Coach for the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend of \$2,000.00

Samuel W. Schaefer, Tamaqua, Assistant Track and Field Coach #4 for the 2019-2020 school year at a stipend of \$1,575.00

Maria Campomizzi, Tamaqua, Jr. High Assistant Track and Field Coach for the 2019-2020 school year at a stipend of \$1,000.00

Ryan King, Tremont, PA, 17981, Volunteer Baseball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year

Ryan Frederickson, Tamaqua, Volunteer Baseball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year

Sam Bonner, Jim Thorpe, PA, 18229, Head Football Coach for the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend to be determined

Michael Bonner, Lehigh, PA 18235, Varsity Assistant Football Coach #1 for the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend to be determined

Clarence Opolsky IV, Tamaqua, Varsity Assistant Football Coach #2 for the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend to be determined

Abigail Graver, Tamaqua, JV Softball Head Coach for the 2019-2020 school year at a stipend of \$2,093.05

Ethan Thomas Amershek, New Ringgold, PA, 17960, Substitute Custodian List for the 2019-2020 school year

Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

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

Dillman made a motion seconded by Rottet to approve the following: Act 80 Day, K+ Parent Meeting; Schuylkill IU#29 Board Member; STC Board Member; Homebound Instruction; Teacher; Professional Substitute Guest Teacher; Resignation; Salary Adjustment; FMLAs

Approve Act 80 Day on March 4, 2020

Approve a K+ Parent Meeting on February 24, 2020, with no school that day for Kindergarten students

Appoint Trina Schellhammer, as the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Board Member from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023

Appoint Trina Schellhammer, as the Schuylkill Technology Center Board member from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023

Approve Homebound Instruction for one high school student

Approve Ashley N. Eades, Minersville, PA 17954, Special Education Teacher, Bachelors', Step 4, \$44,856, start date to be determined
Approve Cassandra Haag, Ashland, PA 17921, Professional Substitute Guest Teacher for the 2019-2020 school year
Accept resignation of Karoline Anthony, Palmerton, PA 18071, on a date to be agreed upon
Approve adjusted step for Noelle Stidham for the 2018-19, and 2019-20 school years
Approve Family Medical Leave for Shane McCabe, Catawissa, PA, 17820, starting on or about March 1, 2020 and ending on or about May 18, 2020
Approve maternity leave for Christa Evanko, Coaldale, PA, 18218, beginning on or about May 6, 2020, through June 1, 2020, or the last scheduled in-service day of the 2019-20 school year, utilizing unused sick and personal days, then transitioning to FMLA
Approve intermittent family medical leave for Nichole Beltz, Tamaqua, starting on February 11, 2020 and ending on or about March 16, 2020
Tavia Cardell, New Ringgold, PA 19060, Special Education Teacher, Master's, Step 9.5, \$56,612.50, on a date to be determined

Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the following for the 2019-2020 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemption; Tax Refund; Payment of Bills; 2020-2021 STC Secondary Budget; All Weather Track Resurfacing; Retirement;

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

West Penn 2018 Assessed Occupation

Tamaqua Borough 2017 Assessed Occupation

Payment of bills

Approve 2020-2021 Schuylkill Technology Center secondary budget

Authorize the business manager to enter into a contract with American Athletic, a Costar vendor, in the amount of \$216,447 for the purpose of re-surfacing the track

Accept retirement of Mary H. Machay, middle school administrative assistant, effect the end of the day September 10, 2020

Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

Hearing Committee – Boyle presented that following item as recommendation of the Hearing Committee.

Boyle made a motion seconded by Schellhammer to approve the following for the 2019-2020 school year; Student Reassignments

Reassignment of two high school students for violations of the TASD
discipline code

Wittig, Rottet, Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all
voted "FOR."

Communications - None

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

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Hearings - None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rottet to adjourn the meeting at 8:28. Wittig, Rottet,
Schoener, Bartasavage, Boyle, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary