

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the LGI Room on Tuesday February 18, 2025 at 7:30 PM with Nicholas Boyle presiding. Vice President Boyle led with the “Pledge of Allegiance.” A moment of silent meditation followed.

Present

Nicholas Boyle, Vice President
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer
Melanie Dillman
Nancy Jones

Bryan Miller
Mark Rother
Trina Schellhammer

Absent

Larry Wittig
Tom Bartasavage

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

Others in Attendance – member of the press, Erik Helbing, Solicitor

Schoener made a motion seconded by Schellhammer to approve the minutes from January 21, 2025. Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer 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 Miller to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

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

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

Hearings – None

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

A 15 minute executive session was held.

Vice President Boyle called for the recommendations of the committees.

Auxiliary Committee – Rother presented the following items as recommendations for the Auxiliary Committee.

Rother made a motion seconded by Schellhammer to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year; Class of 2025 Prom; Coach; Full-Time Custodian; Substitute Custodian; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Class of 2025 Prom, May 3, 2025 at Lakeside Ballroom, Barnesville, PA 18214
Edward Titus, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as 2nd Assistant Varsity Football Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Christian Gardiner, Summit Hill, PA 18250, Full-Time Custodian, at a rate of \$11.00 per hour

Lucas Borchick, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian, at a rate of \$12.41 per hour

Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

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

Dillman made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year; Affiliation Agreement; Flexible Instruction Days; Substitute Guest Teacher; Substitute Teachers; Part-Time Paraprofessionals; FMLA; Rescind Motion; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Affiliation Agreement with Kutztown University, for a Dual Enrollment Program
Approve Administration to apply for up to 5 Flexible Instruction Days (FID) for the 2025-2026 school year

Pamela Miller, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972, Substitute Guest Teacher

Dave Schmaldienst, Cressona, PA 17929, Substitute Teacher

Shyann Weighknecht, New Ringgold, PA 17960, Substitute Teacher

Katie Rude, New Ringgold, PA 17960, Part-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$12.00 per hour

Megan Yurich, Summit Hill, PA 18250, Part-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$12.00 per hour

Megan Wentz, for FMLA, beginning on or about March 14, 2025, with a tentative return to work date of May 29, 2025, barring any medical complications

Susan Zehner, for FMLA, beginning on or about February 28, 2025, with a tentative four-six week return, barring any medical complications

Rescind the motion of January 21, 2025, approving Amanda Swartz, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Part-Time Paraprofessional

Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemptions; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; Second Reading of Policies #610 and #611; Delinquent Real Estate Tax List; Purchase of Scoreboards; High School Roof Project; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Schellhammer made a motion seconded by Miller to forgo the readings of the above mentioned policies. Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

Rush Township 2021, 2023 - Assessed Occupation

2021, 2023, 2024 – Per Capita

Walker Township 2024 - Per Capita & Assessed Occupation

West Penn Township 2023 - Per Capita & Assessed Occupation

Payment of Bills

Second reading of the following policies:

Policy #610 – Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation

Policy #611 – Purchases Budgeted

Delinquent Real Estate Tax List

Purchase of new scoreboards for the baseball, softball, soccer and football facilities at a cost of \$159,000 utilizing costars pricing. Designated funds for athletic projects from the district agreement with St. Luke’s will be used for the purchase

High School Roof Project, base proposal with Weatherproofing Technologies Inc./Tremco at a cost of \$1,332,462.20

High School Roof Project, alternate proposal with Weatherproofing Technologies Inc./Tremco at a cost of \$122,497.66

Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Negotiating Committee – Schoener presented the following item as recommendation for the Negotiation Committee.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the Compensation plan for school administrators, supervisory personnel and other non-contracted employees. Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Communications - None

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

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Jones to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM. Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary