

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

PRESENT

Larry Wittig, President
Nicholas Boyle, Vice President
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer
Melanie Dillman

Bryan Miller
Mark Rother
Trina Schellhammer

ABSENT

Tom Bartasavage
Nancy Jones

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 February 18, 2025. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, 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. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted “FOR.”

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the treasurer’s report. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, 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.

There was no session held.

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; Act 80 Day; Volunteer Coach; Coaches; Rescind Motion; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

March 28, 2025, as an Act 80 day

Amanda Hascin, Tamaqua PA, 18252, as a Volunteer Track and Field Coach

Kiersten Rivera, New Ringgold, PA 17960, as Head Cheerleading Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Michael Bonner, Lehighton, PA 18235 as 1st Assistant Varsity Football Coach, at a stipend to be determined

James Barron, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Head Boys Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be Determined

Erika Davis, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Head Girls Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Jim McCabe, Brockton, PA 17925, as Head Wrestling Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Jennifer Paisley, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Head Swimming and Diving Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Rescind the motion of December 18, 2024, approving Joshua Holmberg, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Volunteer Football Coach, and removal from the adult game worker list

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, 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 Boyle to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year; New Science Class Proposal to the curriculum, Survey of Earth and Space, Introduction to Microbiology, Introduction to Botany, Introduction to Genetics, Introduction to Astronomy; Out of State Trip; INDEPTH Program Agreement; Affiliation Agreement; Resignation; Rescind Motion; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Approve Course #372, Survey of Earth and Space to the curriculum

Approve Course #373, Introduction to Microbiology to the curriculum

Approve Course #374, Introduction to Botany to the curriculum

Approve Course #375, Introduction to Genetics to the curriculum

Approve Course #376, Introduction to Astronomy to the curriculum

Out of State Trip, physics students, Six Flags Great Adventure, New Jersey, April 25, 2025

Approve the INDEPTH Program Agreement

Affiliation Agreement with Eastern School of Nursing, for clinical and practicum experience

Resignation of Carmen McGlothlin, Part-Time Paraprofessional, effective immediately

Rescind the motion of February 18, 2025, approving Katie Rude, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Part-Time Paraprofessional

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, 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 Schellhammer to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemptions; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; Delinquent Tax List; Local Tax Collector Audits-2023; E-rate PEPPM MiniBid; E-rate Contract; High School Student Center Upgrades; District Wide Door Upgrades; 2025-2026 Schuylkill Technology Center Secondary Budget; 2025-2026 Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 General Operating Budget; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

Rush Township	2023	- Assessed Occupation
	2024	- Per Capita
Tamaqua Borough	2023	- Assessed Occupation
West Penn Township	2022, 2023, 2024	- Per Capita & Assessed Occupation

Payment of Bills

2024 Delinquent Per Capita and Assessed Occupation Tax List

Local Tax Collector Audits- 2023

Authorize accepting the E-rate PEPPM bid at a cost not to exceed \$300,000; the purchase will be ratified at a later date. The erate discount is approximately 90%.

Authorize execution of a contract for internet, WAN and related services/equipment pending future ratification. The erate discount is approximately 90%.

Approve the HVAC upgrades with permanent wall construction, at a cost of \$99,987.00, McClure Company, a Costar approved vendor, funding from the Morgan Foundation Grant

Approve the district wide door upgrades at a cost not to exceed \$75,000.00, Victor E.

Muncy, a Costar approved vendor

2025-2026 Schuylkill Technology Center Secondary Budget

2025-2026 Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 General Operating Budget

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Schellhammer to rebid the pole building and stand. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

Communications – None

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

Old Business – NoneNew Business – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Schoener to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 PM. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Miller, Rother and Schellhammer all voted "FOR."

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary