

March 8, 2021

A worksession meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, March 8, 2021 in the high school media center and via Zoom video conference.

The meeting was called to order by President Sparks-Gatling at 6:08 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance and the district's mission and audio/video recording statements.

Roll Call:

Members Present:	Mr. John Campbell, Sr.	Ms. Karen Ruby
	Mrs. Patricia Cherry	Dr. Dana Shiller
	Mrs. Marsha Pleta	Mrs. Tara Sparks-Gatling
	Mrs. Amy Roberts	Ms. Jenna Ward

Absent: Mrs. Rhonda Barnes

Non-Voting Member Present: Dr. James R. Konrad, Superintendent

Present: Mrs. Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary
Mr. Richard Mancini, Director of District Operations
Ms. Amanda Jewell, Solicitor

Administrators: Mr. Chet Henderson, Mrs. Carla Herrnberger, Mr. Lou Magnotta,
Mr. Robert Mihelcic, Mr. Darren Vaccaro and Mrs. Kelley Zebrasky

President Welcomes Visitors: Mrs. Sparks-Gatling extended a welcome to the public and stated the following, "In accordance with Washington School District Policy No. 005 entitled "Public Participation at Meetings", this public participation session shall not exceed 20 minutes. Any individual resident may make comments not to exceed three minutes. Any resident who wishes to address the Board should have submitted to the President of the Board or to the Board's Secretary a written statement including their name and address, the name of the group the speaker is representing, if any, and the general nature of the topic and comments to be made. Any resident who has not submitted a written request shall have the right to speak, time permitting by raising his or her hand so that they may be recognized. No one having any desire to speak, the meeting continued.

Presentation

-Audit Report – Mr. Charles Rupert, Cypher & Cypher Certified Public Accountant, presented information on the statement of revenues, expenditures and fund balances for the year ended June 30, 2020.

Recognitions

Staff Recognitions

Administration recognized George Kostelnik, supervisor of the custodial and maintenance staff, for his outstanding work ethic, always helping when emergencies arise in the district, and keeping our buildings clean, safe and secure.

Administration recognized Chet Henderson, Timothy Joyce and Tyler Phillips for their outstanding contribution to support and educate our students and highlight the outstanding contributions of African Americans to our community, region, and world.

Students of the Month

Grade 2 – Aliyah Harewicz

Grade 6 – Tyler Bainer

Grade 8 – Geoffrey Brown

Grade 12 – Tahmarion Gray

Grade 12 – Ronald Brown

Questions on the Agenda: The Board reviewed the agenda.

Agenda: Mrs. Roberts moved and Ms. Ward seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel: Dr. Shiller moved and Mrs. Cherry seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Retirement of **Kathy Sickles**, kindergarten teacher, after 32 years of service in the district, effective June 5, 2021.

-Retirement of **Esther Cardillo**, guidance counselor, after 19 years of service in the district, effective June 5, 2021.

-Resignation of **Holly Garove**, part-time paraprofessional, after 2½ years of service in the district, retroactive to March 6, 2021.

-Appointment of **Julia Calder** to fill in as the high school's Student Council/Homecoming Advisor for the Spring of 2021, at a stipend of \$696. (*Mrs. Calder is filling this vacancy for an employee who is on Sabbatical leave.*)

-Unpaid leave for **Tina Nixon**, foodservice worker, retroactive to March 1, 2021 through March 15, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletics: Mrs. Pleta moved and Ms. Ward seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Adjust the stipend for **Marc Spina** as the 2020-2021 Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach, Step 11, previously approved at a stipend of \$8,590 to the corrected stipend of \$5,760.

Motion carried unanimously.

Business and Finance: Mrs. Cherry moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Budget transfers to close out the 2019-2020 school year. Exhibit A

Motion carried unanimously.

Settlement Agreement: Ms. Ward moved and Dr. Shiller seconded that the Board approve the following:

-The settlement of special education matter #2021-001.

Motion carried unanimously.

Committee of the Whole Discussion: The Board discussed the following item that will be voted on at the March 15, 2021 Regular Voting meeting:

Board Policy

1. First reading of policies for Title IX Discrimination and Sexual Harassment

New Business

- Graduation – Dr. Konrad informed Board members that graduation will be held on the evening of Friday, June 4th at Wash High Stadium. In the event of bad weather, the ceremony will be moved to the afternoon of Saturday, June 5th.
- Potential Capital Improvement Projects – Mr. Mancini reviewed potential projects which included: adding security cameras at the administration office building and elementary school, resurfacing the track at the stadium, replacing the lighting at the stadium, and updating HVAC units in the school buildings. Board members also requested the possibility of updating the public address system at the stadium. Mr. Mancini stated that he is also getting quotes on updating the electronic message board in front of the high school.
- Spring PSSA and Keystone Testing – Mr. Mihelcic stated that PSSA and Keystone testing will take place in May 2021. The results of the testing will not be reported until sometime in July. He is also working on updating some reading and math curriculum for next school year.
- Awards Day – Board members wish to sponsor two (2), fifty dollar (\$50) awards for this year's Awards Day ceremonies at the elementary and junior high school. One award will go to a student in 4th, 5th, or 6th grade and one award will go to a 7th or 8th grade student. Both awards will be given for essays written on "What Prexie Pride Means to Me". Each Board member will contribute \$11.00 towards the awards and money will be due by the end of March.
- Special Education – Mrs. Herrnberger gave an update on the projected number of students enrolled in special education classes for the 2021-2022 school year.

Superintendent's Weekly Update

- Dr. Konrad emailed his weekly update to Board members last Friday. He informed the Board that 81 staff members have registered to receive the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine that will be given March 13th through March 18th. He also commended Mr. Mancini on the awesome audit report and keeping the district fiscally responsible.

Solicitor's Report

- Attorney Jewell reported on the closings for the Retos and Clark properties and the Title XI training she gave last Friday.

Information

- Regular Voting Meeting** – Monday, March 15th at 6:30 pm in the high school media center and via Zoom Video Conferencing
- Petitions to Run for School Director** – Your petitions must be returned to the Elections Office tomorrow.

Adjournment: Moved by Mrs. Pleta and seconded by Ms. Ward that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion carried unanimously. 7:58 pm.

/s/Lisa Coffield
Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary