

September 13, 2021

A worksession meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, September 13, 2021 in the high school cafeteria and via Zoom video conference.

The meeting was called to order by President Sparks-Gatling at 6:32 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance and the district's mission and audio/video recording statements.

Roll Call:

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

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

Present: Mrs. Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary
Mr. Richard Mancini, Director of District Operations
Mrs. Rebecca Heaton-Hall, Solicitor

Administrators: Mr. John Digon, Mr. Chet Henderson, Mr. Lou Magnotta,
Mr. Robert Mihelcic, Mrs. Stephenie Russell, Ms. Jocelyn Sabruno and Mr. Darren Vaccaro

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.

Recognitions

-A special "Thank You" to the administrators, teachers and staff at the elementary school for a successful Open House on September 9th.

-Congratulations to Mrs. Pleta and Reverend Cherry on the start of their Prexie Center at the Junior/Senior High School on September 9th. The Center provides after-school offerings for our secondary students.

-Dr. Konrad presented recognition plaques to Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation and Budd Baer in appreciation for their many contributions and loyalty to Washington School District.

Questions on the Agenda: The Board reviewed the agenda.

Agenda: Mr. Campbell moved and Ms. Ward seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

- Resignation of **John Riley** as a part-time custodian at the elementary school, after 2 years of service in the district, retroactive to September 7, 2021.
- Appointment of **Andrew McCloskey** as a secondary social studies teacher, Master's degree, Step 3, \$44,860, retroactive to September 9, 2021.
- Appointment of **Robin Meller** as a part-time paraprofessional at the elementary school, 186 days a year, 5 hours a day, contractual rate, effective September 13, 2021. (*Pending receipt of required employment documents.*)
- Appointment of **Kaitlyn Loar** as a part-time paraprofessional at the elementary school, 186 days a year, 5 hours a day, contractual rate, effective September 13, 2021. (*Pending receipt of required employment documents.*)
- Appointment of **Patricia Derrow** as a part-time foodservice worker at the elementary school, 177 to 181 student days, 5 hours a day, contractual rate, retroactive to August 30, 2021. (*Pending receipt of required employment documents.*)
- Contract with **Oper King** as a part-time mental health consultant at the junior/senior high school, \$30.00 per hour, up to 20 hours a week, retroactive to August 30, 2021. (*This contracted position will be paid with ESSR grant money.*)
- Supplemental employment of **Ali Cottom** as the teacher for the Junior/Senior High School Saturday Detention Program, on Saturdays, when needed, from 9am to 12pm, contractual rate, effective September 2021 through May 2022. **Shawn Hughes-Ankrom** and **Timothy Grebeck** are approved substitutes for this program when Ms. Cottom cannot attend.
- Supplemental employment of **Jessica Gardner** as the teacher for the Junior/Senior High School After-School Detention Program, Mondays-Thursdays, 3:05 pm to 4:05 pm, contractual rate, effective September 2021 through May 2022. **Ali Cottom** and **Shawn Hughes-Ankrom** are approved substitutes for this program when Ms. Gardner cannot attend.
- Supplemental employment of **Josh Barrette** as a Career Pathways Advisor, contractual rate, retroactive to August 30, 2021.
- Supplemental employment of the following teachers as "Cyber Teachers" for the 2021-2022 school year, at the stipend of \$25 per hour, not to exceed three (3) hours per week, unless approved by the Cyber Administrator, retroactive to August 25, 2021:

Devon Strimel	Julia Calder	Andrew Spargur
Breanna Baker	Megan Roach	Jamie Frazier
Chaleece Trapuzzano		
- Supplemental employment of the following teachers for the elementary school's After-School Learning Academy: **Toni Stewart, Joe Herda, Tiffani Titler, Erin Nikolopoulos, Kelli Anderson, Maria Hovanic, Carley Hoover** and **Emily Moyers**

- Supplemental employment of the following teachers for the jr/sr high school's President's Prep after-school program: **Ali Cottom** and **Breanna Baker**
- Supplemental employment of the following teachers for the high school's Virtual Credit Recovery after-school program: **Jessica Gardner, Sarah Sproul** and **Ali Cottom**
- Increase the pay rate for all support staff substitutes to \$14.00 per hour, retroactive to August 30, 2021. *(Current rate of \$10.00 per hour went into effect on September 17, 2012.)*
- Increase the pay rate for services of independent constables to \$20.00 per hour, retroactive to August 30, 2021. *(Current rate of \$17.00 per hour went into effect on August 31, 2016.)*
- Additions to the list of substitute teachers:
 - Susan Margoni – PA Certified – Elementary K-6
 - Jessica West – PA Certified - PreK-4
 - Morgan Pattison – WSD Emergency
 - Jennifer Cottrill – WSD Emergency
 - Katherine Kennel – WSD Emergency

Motion carried unanimously.

Students: Mr. Campbell moved and Ms. Ward seconded that the Board approve the following:

- The applications of Abigail Campbell, Timothy Hodges and Nathaniel Thomas, Washington School District students, to attend Trinity Area School District to participate in their Sports Medicine and Horticulture Programs of Study for the 2021-2022 school year, pursuant to 24 P.S. 18-1809. Washington School District will not provide transportation.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

- Appointment of **Ben Price** as a Volunteer Soccer Coach, effective September 13, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

Contracts, Agreements and Grants: Mrs. Pleta moved and Dr. Shiller seconded that the Board approve the following:

- The Amare Medical Staffing Service Agreement for registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and personal care assistants to service students with particular needs for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Ratify the Agreement entered into with Qualite Sports Lighting, LLC, through the Pennsylvania Co-Stars Program, contract 14-216, for the installation of replacement lighting at the stadium.
- Letter of Agreement with UPMC for their school-based COVID-19 Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccination program. *(Parents must give consent for their child(ren) to receive the vaccination. Vaccinations will be available for any students between the ages of 12 to 18. Staff, parents and community members will also be eligible to receive vaccinations.)*

- Partner with the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile to provide health related services to our students and community, free of charge to anyone 18 years old and younger.
- Letter of Agreement with UPMC for their School-Health Initiative for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years.
- The 2021-2022 Title 1 Schoolwide Plan for Washington Park Elementary School for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Motion carried unanimously.

Committee of the Whole Discussion: Board members and administrators discussed the following items that will be voted on at the September 20, 2021 meeting:

Personnel

1. Appointment of 2021-2022 extra-curricular club sponsors/advisors

Business and Finance

1. Purchase athletic supplies for the 2021-2022 Winter sports season.
2. Extension of natural gas consortium through AIU (*Uploaded on OneDrive*)
3. Extension of electric consortium through IU1 (*Uploaded on OneDrive*)
4. Proposal to perform architectural services (*Uploaded on OneDrive*)

Unfinished Business

- Department of Health's Face Covering Mandate for schools – Dr. Konrad and Mrs. Heaton-Hall reviewed the mandate for players and spectators at indoor and outdoor sporting events.
- Process for Reviewing and Approving updated PSBA policies – Mrs. Heaton-Hall informed Board members that PSBA has finished several sections of draft policies. She asked the Board how they wanted to proceed with reviewing and approving the policies. After discussion, the Board decided to schedule a workshop to review the policies. Mrs. Heaton-Hall will work on getting the information together and scheduling the workshop.
- Exit Interviews Policy, Survey and Committee – The Board discussed the exit interview survey and made some recommended changes. This survey will be sent to employees who recently resigned. Employees will also have the option to participate in an exit interview. Both administrators and Board members will sit on the exit interview committee.
- Status of stadium lights, track and high school window project – Mr. Mancini stated that the stadium lighting is almost completed, the track will be completed in October or will have to be rescheduled for next Spring and the window project will be completed late November or early December.

New Business

- Administrator Updates – Mr. Vaccaro, Mr. Magnotta, Mr. Henderson, Mrs. Russell, Mr. Mihelcic, Ms. Sabruno and Mr. Digon gave the Board updates on attendance, events, curriculum and technology.

