

November 15, 2021

A voting meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, November 15, 2021 in the high school cafeteria and via Zoom video conferencing.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by President Sparks-Gatling, followed by the pledge of allegiance, mission statement and audio/vision statement.

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

Executive Session: Mrs. Sparks-Gatling announced that an executive session was held prior to the start of the meeting to discuss the superintendent's contract. As a result of discussion in executive session, the following item was added to the agenda under Contracts, Agreements and Grants:

-Dr. James Konrad's last day of employment as Superintendent of the Washington School District will be Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the above motion be placed on the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

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.

Recognition

Outgoing Board Member

Administration recognized Mrs. Patricia Cherry for her years of service to Washington School District. Mrs. Cherry served as a School Director from December 2017 to December 2021.

Questions on the Agenda: The Board reviewed the agenda.

Agenda: Mrs. Cherry moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: Mr. Campbell moved and Ms. Ward seconded that the minutes of the October 18, 2021 voting meeting and the November 8, 2021 worksession meeting be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Cherry moved and Mrs. Pleta seconded that the October 31, 2021 Treasurer's Report be accepted as information, said report showing the following book balances:

	<u>October 31, 2021</u>
General Fund	\$ 166,931.33
Payroll Account	\$ 33,136.16
Cafeteria Account	\$ 190,673.35
WHS Athletic Account	\$ 22,268.31
WHS Activities Account	\$ 77,512.39
WPS Activities Account	\$ 21,527.76
WSD Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 917,710.44
Expendable Benefit Trust	\$ 584,229.70

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Unpaid medical leave for **Employee #1802**, effective December 8, 2021 through December 23, 2021.

-Conference request, in accordance with the policy of the District, as follows:

- a. Mindy Stewart -PDE Data Summit
March 20-23, 2022– Hershey, PA
Estimated cost – \$1,100

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Appointment of **Michael Digon** as the Baseball Assistant Coach, Step 1-3, 2 years of experience, Stipend \$4,259.

-Appointment of **Ron Todd** as a Baseball Volunteer Coach.

Motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy: Mrs. Pleta moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Second reading and adoption, pursuant to Washington School District Policy No. 001, of the following policy:

Policy #001 - Adoption of Policy

Motion carried unanimously.

Contracts, Agreements and Grants:

Mrs. Sparks-Gatling recommended that Item 2, the extended contracted services of Sandy Sabot for assistance with public/media relation duties at a rate of \$35 per hour, effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024, be tabled. She stated that with the district going through a transition of leadership, the new superintendent should be able to review Mrs. Sabot's contract and make the decision on whether to extend the contract or not.

Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that Item 2 be tabled.

Motion was denied, members voting as follows:

Mrs. Barnes -no Ms. Ruby -no

Mr. Campbell	-yes	Dr. Shiller	-no
Mrs. Cherry	-no	Mrs. Sparks-Gatling	-yes
Mrs. Pleta	-no	Ms. Ward	-no
Mrs. Roberts	-no		

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

-Intermediate Unit 1 Agreements to provide Title I services to students of Washington School District who are attending non-public schools during the 2021-2022 school year. Also, Title II and Title IV services for John F. Kennedy Elementary School.

-Extend the contracted services of Sandy Sabot for assistance with public/media relation duties at a rate of \$35 per hour, effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.

-Agreement with The Stepping Stones Group to provide contracted nurses for special needs students, retroactive to November 8, 2021 through June, 3, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Dr. James Konrad's last day of employment as Superintendent of the Washington School District will be Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ratification and Payment of Bills: Mrs. Cherry moved and Mrs. Pleta seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Ratification and payment of bills in the amount of \$735,430.19.

After a lengthy discussion regarding the \$900 payment to Pittsburgh Education Consulting, which included a contracted employee, the Board took the following action:

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

-Amend the ratification and payment of bills to remove the \$900 payment to Pittsburgh Education Consulting from the bill list.

Motion carried, members voting as follows:

Mrs. Barnes	-yes	Ms. Ruby	-no
Mr. Campbell	-yes	Dr. Shiller	-yes
Mrs. Cherry	-no	Mrs. Sparks-Gatling	-yes
Mrs. Pleta	-no	Ms. Ward	-yes
Mrs. Roberts	-yes		

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

-Ratification and payment of bills in the amount of \$734,530.19, which represents the removal of the \$900 payment to Pittsburgh Education Consulting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- Capital Projects – Mr. Mancini is getting two additional proposals for a Reserve Study.
- Cafeteria Operations – Mr. Mancini reviewed the foodservice costs for the past several years. The cafeteria operated at a loss last school year, due to COVID-19 protocols.
- Class Coverage and Substitute Costs – Mr. Mancini reviewed class coverage and substitute costs for the past several years. This year has been extremely costly for class coverages.
- Review of Health & Safety Plan – Mask Mandate – Dr. Konrad
During a Special Board Meeting on August 23, 2021, a motion was made by the Board to require face masks on district property in indoor settings. The motion was passed on a 7-2 roll call vote. All students and staff have been required to wear masks indoors. On August 31, 2021, the Pennsylvania Secretary of Health issued an indoor face mask mandate. On November 10, 2021, Pennsylvania court threw out the face mask mandate, stating that the acting health secretary lacked authority to issue the mandate. Governor Wolf filed an immediate appeal to the State court, which means that the mandate must stay in place until the court rules on his appeal. Concern is what will the quarantine guidelines be without face mask coverings?

Solicitor's Report: Attorney Heaton-Hall had no report.

Special Representative Reports

- Western Area Career & Technology Center – Ms. Ruby stated that they are continuing to wear face masks in class, parents have the opportunity to call in once a week with questions or concerns, they hired a new automotive instructor and they are still working on starting a sports medicine program.
- PSBA – Mrs. Pleta stated that they are having an executive meeting in December, Ryan Dellinger has been an excellent executive director, and cyber costs are going up across the entire state.
- Parking Authority – Mr. Mancini stated that they did not have a meeting in November.
- Citywide Development Corporation (CDC) – Mr. Mancini stated that they did not have a meeting in November.

Information**A. December Board Meetings**

Reorganization Meeting – Monday, December 6th at 6:30 pm

Worksession Meeting – Immediately Following Reorganization Meeting
NO VOTING MEETING IN DECEMBER.

B. Thanksgiving Break – Wednesday, November 24th through Monday, November 29th

Adjournment: Moved by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mrs. Cherry that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously. 7:26 pm.

/s/ Lisa Coffield
Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary