

December 4, 2023

A worksession meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, December 4, 2023 in the park school auditorium.

The meeting was called to order by President Sparks-Gatling at 6:47 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance and the district's mission and audio/video recording statements.

Roll Call:

Members Present:	Mrs. Rhonda Barnes	Mrs. Kimberly Kelley
	Mr. Eric Bird	Mrs. Pamela Kilgore
	Mr. John Campbell, Sr.	Mrs. Amy Roberts
	Mrs. Jennifer Ewing	Mrs. Tara Sparks-Gatling
	Mr. Rodney Jones	

Non-Voting Member Present: Mr. George Lammay, Superintendent

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

Administrators: Mrs. Camilla Justice, Mrs. Courtney LeViere, Mr. Lou Magnotta,
Mr. Robert Mihelcic, Mr. Matthew Mols, 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.

Kelly Jones, 75 West Hallam Avenue, commented on teachers not being online during Flex Days. They are only posting assignments for students to complete. Where are the teachers? Are they getting paid to be online to teach? They need to be held accountable for teaching on Flex Days.

Recognitions

Retirement Recognitions

Richard Burgdolt	29½ Years of Service	(1994 to 2023)
Michael Semple	19½ Years of Service	(2004 to 2024)

Questions on the Agenda: The Board reviewed the agenda.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Extend the Director of District Operations' contract, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, under the terms and conditions of the existing contract.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Reclassification of **Amanda Durila** from a part-time custodian to a full-time custodian, effective December 18, 2023. (*Replacing a retiring full-time employee.*)

-Addition of **Marie Mazza-Higgins** and **Kimberly Battistoni** to the list of substitute cafeteria workers.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Recommendation of **Kenneth Sickles** as a secondary health & physical education teacher, Master's degree, Step 1, \$47,160, effective upon release from previous employer.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Recommend **Tim Witenske** for Girls Basketball Varsity Assistant Coach, at a stipend of \$5,004.

Motion carried unanimously.

Act 1 Resolution: Mrs. Barnes moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Adopt the Act 1 Resolution indicating that Washington School District will not raise its tax rate for the 2024-2025 school year be more than the allowable index.

Motion carried unanimously.

Committee of the Whole Discussion: There is no Regular Voting meeting scheduled for December.

Ratification and Payment of Bills: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Ratification and payment of bills in the amount of \$323,013.50.

Motion carried unanimously

Superintendent's Report

-Mr. Lammay gave the Board a report detailing the reading program at the elementary school, booster club meeting, the Jackson Foundation, the November Student of the Month Breakfast, last week's "Minute to Win It" event and the Comprehensive Plan.

Solicitor's Report

-Attorney Heaton-Hall stated that she continues to work with the policy committee on updating policies.

Information

A. **Winter Break** – Monday, December 25th through Tuesday, January 2nd

B. **Elementary Literacy Information Night** – Wednesday, December 6th at the elementary school, start time is 6:00 pm.

