

**BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES  
October 10, 2023**

**Call to Order**

The Burrell School District Board of Directors Board Meeting was held in the High School Board Room and was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Pam Key.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mrs. Key asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Mr. Timothy J. Vinkovich, Ms. Tricia Shank, Mrs. Nikki Watson, Mrs. LeeAnn S. Guido, Mr. Rick Kaczor, Mr. Tom Deiseroth and Mrs. Pam Key

Board Members Absent: Mrs. Gretchen V. Beveridge and Mrs. Jean Schager

Quorum present

Others Present: Dr. Shannon L. Wagner, Superintendent, Mrs. Jennifer S. Callahan, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Dr. Autumn Turk, Director of Curriculum and Development

Student Representatives Present: Jason Wagner and Maliq Buchak

**Executive Sessions**

October 10, 2023 – 6:45 PM and Immediately following meeting - Personnel Agenda  
October 17, 2023 - 7:00 PM - Personnel Agenda

**Approval of Minutes**

Agenda Meeting – September 12, 2023; Regular Meeting – September 19, 2023

**Approval of Monthly Financial Reports**

- a. Treasurer's Report
- b. General Fund Report
- c. Capital Reports
- d. Food Service Reports
- e. Student Activity Reports

**Comments from Public - Agenda Items Only**

None

## **Reports of Administration and Standing Committees**

### **SUPERINTENDENT - DR. WAGNER**

#### **Student/Staff Recognition and Reports**

Dr. Wagner stated that student representatives will have an Agenda item for representatives to report if there is anything. They can also participate in discussion with Board members as we go through meetings.

#### **Enrollment Report Information**

Dr. Wagner reported that District enrollment is 1,723. We also have 10 students in placements that we report. We have lost  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the student population over the last 20 years which matches demographic of Pennsylvania overall, but need to be reflective about this as costs go up and enrollment goes down.

Mr. Kaczor asked for enrollment in some sort of cyber school.

Dr. Wagner reported cyber charter school enrollment is currently at 29 students and this does not include eAcademy and AKAE students. AKAE has 4 students enrolled. She stated she will get eAcademy enrollment number to provide to members.

Dr. Wagner explained that there are school entities that we have students placed in that do not report to the state so we must account for these students in reports. Other students are placed in facilities that report to the state such as Clairview. These account for an additional 16 students.

Dr. Wagner stated eAcademy students are included in our school totals.

Mrs. Guido asked about the cyber school enrollment over the years.

Mrs. Callahan responded that cyber school enrollment since 2007-2008 has typically been in the 30's so it has been pretty consistent.

Mrs. Guido commented that she believes the District needs to do some more verification of all of the students in cyber school to make sure they are still residents of the District. She stated she has done some research and found that we are permitted to take some action on the verification of both cyber students and in school students to make sure students actually live in the District. She stated that she believes it has not been done to the extent allowed.

#### **Approval of District Comprehensive Plan 2023–2026**

Dr. Wagner explained that she will ask the Board to approve the District Comprehensive Plan next week and that Dr. Turk provided a summary last month. The plan has been posted on the District website for public review.

Mrs. Watson asked why the language about cultural relevant information is still in there while a lawsuit is pending. She questioned page 17 and what items it includes.

Dr. Turk responded the plan currently includes information from Susan Tarasevich's proposal and what she would work on for Professional Development during the 3 years. However, Dr. Turk explained that it was trimmed down to just one year.

Mrs. Watson asked if she included the Chapter 49 requirements.

Dr. Turk responded that it permits us to pick and choose what items would be offered with our professional development.



Mrs. Watson asked if Dr. Tarasevich has addressed these items yet and if it is complete.

Dr. Turk responded that she still has make-up sessions and will be with the leadership team monthly for implementation of strategies learned. The plan is based on the 3-year recommendation.

Mrs. Watson asked if we are just being compliant by having it in the plan but we may not get to it. However, she believes if it is in there, it could be done so she would want to do a presentation to the Board of all the things she has researched on it. She stated she does not think the Board is aware of what the competencies are. She believes they are concerning and she added that there is currently an active lawsuit about it.

Dr. Wagner explained that we have to check off things to submit the Comprehensive Plan and she is hopeful that by year 3 the legal matters would be ironed out. There is also a counter suit about the CRSE.

Mrs. Watson believes we are including too much in the Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Key asked if Mrs. Watson can share the information by email so they can read it.

Mrs. Watson responded yes. She stated she also believes language matters and that #4 is a controversial description.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner requested that she read # 4 since the student representatives don't have the document in front of them.

Mrs. Watson responded that it is part of the program put forth by the state.

Ms. Shank stated that the CRSE item does make educators nervous as well and that we are not quite sure what to expect because it is murky.

Dr. Wagner stated that she thinks teachers just really want to know what to do and its not about changing people's thinking or beliefs. It is about educating the teacher on how to work through all of those layers of their own bias or thoughts or misunderstandings, awareness of a child and why they might be doing something in order to effectively teach all students.

Dr. Wagner stated she does not believe it is the District taking a stand. As a teacher it is not my job to make a decision on a child but need to be able to still teach.

Mrs. Watson stated on principal you can't force people to believe. The wording in the competencies state "believe" so it was done wrong. The so-called experts copied and pasted from the new America critical race theory and called it culturally relevant in sustaining education.

Mrs. Guido disagreed and stated that the competencies do not have the language that Mrs. Watson is referencing. She stated that it talks about reflecting.

Mrs. Watson stated her document is from April 2023.

Dr. Turk added that the state is in process of revising it.

Mr. Kaczor stated that what he sees, he has no issue at all.

Dr. Turk stated that original competencies came out when Chapter 49 came out. They said we have 3 years to do the professional development for it. She explained that in the spring of last year, the Pennsylvania Department of Education stated they are going to be changing the title and language. The information in the plan was based on the initial review.

Mrs. Watson suggested that maybe we have to change the language in the Comprehensive Plan to match.

General discussion ensued about researching the data on the Pennsylvania Department of Education and if it has been approved or not.

Mrs. Watson stated she will share some information with the Board.

Dr. Turk stated the Comprehensive Plan reflects current language since that is what is passed. She explained that the Pennsylvania Department of Education requires training on certain things for teachers over the 3 years and there is a lot of language of culturally relevant that can make different groups of people feel uncomfortable so it is important to talk through providing professional development that is unbiased and not politically driven.

Dr. Turk stated page 20 is what we are required to agree to and have proof. For example, if we said we are not going to do culturally relevant framework through Susan Tarasevich training, we would have to use another option. There are only a few other options and they are all online and there is no flexibility. By sandwiching with Trauma Informed, we can strategize for approaching kids the best way we can. It has to be in there somewhere. Dr. Turk suggested that if board members find a different professional development resource that is unbiased, let her know because it is very limited.

Mrs. Watson stated we can worry about it at that point. But she also questions Dr. Tarasevich being the facilitator. She wants to provide information to Board members and why it is such a big deal and where it came from. She stated it is sad that it gets to this point and people have no idea and the state tries to slide it in. She believes mandating every teacher to have this type of training is not right. Pennsylvania Department of Education is backtracking because they got pushback and now there is a lawsuit because it is unconstitutional. She stated you cannot tell an educator "believe" something if they don't.

Dr. Turk discussed the state approved model which aligns pretty much with national model.

Mrs. Watson asked if the intention was to do train the trainer model so that it would not be Susan Tarasevich always coming in. She said she thought that since her contract was 1 year we would not be locked into another year with her.

Dr. Turk discussed some options that we will continue to look at going forward. She explained we are not locked into the following years with Dr. Tarasevich, but we have to do the professional development.

Mrs. Watson thought that since Susan Tarasevich was working with the student services team, she envisioned the people in our District that are getting trained could facilitate the required training hours in the following years.

Dr. Turk explained the contract with Dr. Tarasevich is for her to coach.

Mr. Kaczor did not expect this to be one and done.

Mrs. Watson thought this was an opportunity for people who work for the District to provide the professional development for a few hours. She thinks they should be equipped to provide this material in a 2 hour session to teachers.

General discussion ensued about what the expectation was when they approved the contract with Susan Tarasevich.

Dr. Wagner explained Marissa is a Behavior Specialist. Her job is to work with kids and do PBIS programs for students. She can do some educational things but this is bigger than that. We would need someone providing professional development in train the trainer model.

Mrs. Guido stated in reality, it is not a 2 hour training and done.



Dr. Wagner agreed that one and done does not get imbedding of the plans in their practice. She provided examples and stated that if there is not a constant check in and practices are not imbedded in the work that teachers are doing, it does not work.

Dr. Wagner stated the training that the Board received was an overview but the training teachers are receiving really helps them start to understand why students are behaving a certain way and then get help to manage all of these different things going on in the classroom. She stated training from Susan Tarasevich is really good and what we saw at Bon Air last year this was helpful. She explained this is so that teachers can have learning be the priority.

Dr. Wagner added that we have great people who could do these kinds of trainings, but they can't do this and do their current jobs, but in time it is a possibility.

General discussion ensued about various trainings and who provides them as well as the intentional support for teachers we have provided over the last few years as well as the background and experience that Susan Tarasevich has and the fact that everyone has personal views.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner asked if it is the goal to make the most conducive environment for students. He stated regardless what one personally believes, it would be better if teachers can provide more of a personalized learning. He stated he noticed teachers being able to see and recognize if he is having a bad day and speak to him about that. If the goal is for teachers to be able to understand students better, then he sees nothing wrong with it regardless of what one may believe.

Student Representative, Maliq Buchak stated he agrees with Jason. He added that last year, a friend was having a tough day and Mr. Facemyre talked with the friend for 20 minutes about it. It was good to see the personal connection.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner stated there are teachers here who will have conversations with them as people vs. students. Assuming that possibly with some of the training received, it allows students to learn better and facilitates a more open environment.

Student Representative, Maliq Buchak stated it gives a deeper connection and makes students respect the teacher more.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner stated that Mr. Rossi is a fantastic teacher because he allows students to be open. He is honest and he allows students to speak openly and honestly even though they may have different personal views.

Mrs. Watson suggested that the professional development and tools should be provided so that everyone can be afforded that. She likes to be mindful about it since the state is putting more and more on teachers. She appreciates that the District can separate what is required. She stated she is critical of the state by questioning things and going deeper with the content and the short and long term affects. She suggested the District needs to be cautious because it is changing people's behaviors and processes.

President Key declared time to move on from this subject.

### **Athletic Information**

Dr. Wagner asked Mr. D'Angelo to talk about a few things he is working through.

Mr. D'Angelo applauded Maliq and Jason who are both student athletes for representing students on the Board.

Mr. D'Angelo stated he is concerned with the Athletic Trainer issue. He explained that we started with an agreement with Nova Care and now they are unable to provide a trainer. We have been able to cover most

events using contractor Somer Solominsky and Go4 but on Fridays we are starting to have issues and not able to find coverage for events.

Mr. D'Angelo stated he looked at another option with another company, Premier Sports Medicine. They are out of Georgia but the Maryland Regional Manager stated they could possibly provide a trainer through this service. Mr. D'Angelo expressed his concern that we would be in the same position if we go down that road.

Mr. D'Angelo stated another option would be to advertise and hire our own employee but he would be concerned with who is out there. He suggested we would need to likely advertise nationally with NATA. There could be people who have stipulations in current contracts that could maybe not apply.

Ms. Shank asked if the school doctor is present at all athletic events.

Mr. D'Angelo responded he is not, but that he did cover a football game when we had no trainer.

Mr. Kaczor asked what is the point of the school doctor.

Dr. Wagner responded some of the duties include handling physicals and issues like lice and bed bugs.

Mr. D'Angelo stated he had to use an EMT for athletes on occasion, but they can't tape or release the athlete to return to play. An athletic trainer would have that license. The school nurse does not even have that ability. The school doctor would be able to release the students but he does not have the experience with taping, etc.

Dr. Wagner stated that if we have our own athletic trainer on staff we would need to be able to supervise appropriately. She would want to make sure we secure a school doctor with a sports background.

Mr. Kaczor stated athletic trainers are not paid enough and if we are going to hire, then we have to pay more than what is paid in the area. We would need to pay more to get and keep the trainer.

Dr. Wagner explained the current estimate of the number of trainers is about 1 for every 10 schools.

Mr. Kaczor thinks there are athletic trainers who become physical therapists because of the pay. He stated that the salary probably needs to be \$60,000.

Mrs. Callahan stated that equates to about \$92,000 with benefits and PSERS for a full time district employee.

Mr. Kaczor stated it is important and asked the students to comment.

Student Representative, Maliq Buchak commented that it is difficult as an athlete meeting a new trainer each game.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner stated that having someone more than once allows them to get to know the students which is beneficial for all of the athletes.

Dr. Wagner explained that Mr. D'Angelo would supervisor the person as an employee but that we would need some kind of consultation/recommendation for professional development and supervision assistance from someone in that field.

Mr. D'Angelo stated the person would have to have Master's Degree based on a recent change to the certification.

General discussion ensued about the requirements and workforce and options.



Mr. D'Angelo added that Varsity football games must have emergency service present as per state requirement.

General discussion ensued about injuries and EMT and Trainers, etc.

### **ESPORTS**

Mr. D'Angelo stated he is still researching Esports program information.

### **UNIFIED BOCCE**

Mr. D'Angelo stated we may need to get another MOA to make sure we can have the Bocce program again this year since Special Olympics agreement provided payment for the sponsors for last year. That cost plus transportation to away contest are the related costs of the team at this time.

### **GIRLS WRESTLING**

Mr. D'Angelo stated he has had several students approach him about offering a girls wrestling program. He would like to have a "try it" night for K-12 to see how much interest there is besides the few high schools students he spoke with. He explained if we officially started a team there are various options.

Mr. D'Angelo stated girls wrestling would be the same season as boys and that it could possibly be the same coaches like track/cross country but would likely have more participation if separated them.

Mr. D'Angelo stated there would be a cost for singlets for girls.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner stated that there was a girl on the football team and asked is that similar.

Mr. D'Angelo explained if we do not offer a sport for a different gender then the other gender can go out for the team but there are specific rules.

Mr. D'Angelo stated yes, a girl could wrestle on the team right now.

Mr. D'Angelo stated that there are female grappling athletes who have been offered coaching positions at Kiski. He explained at the youth level, girls can wrestle boys, but there are now a lot of divisions for girls only. He added that his daughter was state champ last year.

Mr. D'Angelo stated he is planning a try it night for October 23, 2023.

Mrs. Key stated it is a wonderful idea.

Dr. Wagner suggested the try-it night to see what the interest is and then have further discussion.

### **OTHER ADMINISTRATION - DR. TURK / DR. EGNOR**

#### **Public Review of the K-8 ELA Resource Options Information**

Dr. Turk shared information about the public review of the K-8 ELA resources. She stated the old resources, Journeys, are from 2014 so its older than typical. She stated the resources are not really supporting growth or aligned with LETRS Training as shown and using policy resource as required for evaluation but it is dated. She explained they are using another evaluation tool that is more relevant as well. The Resource Review Committee was open to all teachers K-8.

Dr. Turk reviewed the list of programs that were reviewed this far and summarized the thoughts on some that have been ruled out. The two that have been selected to look at further are: Amplify and Wonders

Mr. Kaczor asked if they are more popular because they are cheaper.

Dr. Turk stated Wonders is more traditional and is story based by week. It is similar to Journeys but is a huge increase in rigor. We would need to use ECRI as overlay with it. She stated Amplify is newer in the market and is more unit based on topics and has an ECRI overlay as well. Dr. Turk explained ECRI is researched based and is meant as an intensification. She believes that for the foreseeable future, we need the ECRI overlay. Dr. Turk stated every series on the market is going to have controversial topics in it. But both options allow the District to be able to hide things and not offer certain things, etc. She stated she is still waiting on cost estimates and it will be a 5-year cost.

Mr. Kaczor asked Dr. Turk to state which one she would pick at this point.

Dr. Turk stated she has concerns with Wonders being overwhelming and would currently pick Amplify.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner asked about ECRI.

Dr. Turk explained it is K-12 Enhanced Core Reading Instruction. It provides routines on what to teach and how to teach it.

Dr. Turk stated teachers seem to be split right now between the options.

General discussion ensued about how students learn.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner suggested that he didn't see the point of reading a story when he could have delved into a topic. He also asked what the District would look to "ban" from the reading series.

Dr. Turk stated she doesn't have an answer for that but provided some examples of items available. There is a process in Board policy for challenging instructional materials.

General discussion ensued about why districts would block something and/or remove certain things.

Dr. Turk stated the K-8 ELA Resource Options Information will be on public review. She explained the Committee will evaluate and review to hopefully have a recommendation for the Board in January prior to budget preparation. She stated that Wonders is about \$200,000.

Mrs. Callahan stated that for these kinds of purchases we typically use Fund Balance money since it is a large amount and not a recurring operational cost.

### **Approval of Agreement with Wesley Family Services for partial hospital program for 2023-2024 school year**

Dr. Turk explained this agreement is a continuation for this school year. She added that Dr. Egnor is talking with them about the next school year at no cost to District.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner asked what is SPHS.

Dr. Turk responded it stands for Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services, Inc.

Dr. Wagner stated she will get clarification on the agreement for next week.



## **Approval of Athletic Trips and Field Trips 2023-2024**

### **PERSONNEL: Approval of Personnel Log – dated October 10, 2023**

MOTION: Mrs. Guido Seconded by: Mr. Kaczor  
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor except Mrs. Key abstained from Classified Appointment #1  
Motion Carried

### **Northern Westmoreland Career & Technology Center Report - Mr. Kaczor/Mr. Vinkovich**

### **Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Report - Mrs. Watson**

### **PSBA Liaison Report - Mr. Deiseroth**

### **BUSINESS - MRS. CALLAHAN**

#### **Approval of budgetary transfers**

Mrs. Callahan stated the Board is permitted to move funds between account codes after October 1<sup>st</sup> each year through budgetary transfers. Our budget gets prepared and approved well before the school year starts so needs can change and/or costs of things or quantities needed can change so this allows for best use of funds. The amounts budgeted for new teachers and an unexpected resignation after the budget was passed resulted in some costs that will be less than budgeted so you can see we are moving some funds around using these pay/benefit accounts. The Board will likely be presented with recommended budgetary transfers each month.

#### **Permission to participate in Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Consortium bids for Paper and Diesel Fuel/Gasoline for 2024-2025 school year, authorization for Consortium to act as District's agent during bid process, and authorization for Jennifer S. Callahan, District's representative to Consortium, to act on behalf of District**

Mrs. Callahan stated she requests approval each year to participate in the WIU JP Consortium bids for paper and diesel fuel/gasoline. She explained we are required to bid items when purchasing large quantities over a threshold, so paper is one of these items. She added although we have been reducing the quantity the last few years, it is still a large purchase item. The total cost to our District is typically about \$20,000 per year.

Mrs. Callahan stated the gas for transportation is ultimately paid by the contractor because they deduct the cost from our bills, so we take their lead on where the best pricing can be obtained. This approval allows us to participate in bid to get best pricing.

#### **Permission to advertise jointly as a member of the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Board for the purchase of the following supplies for 2024-2025 school year: Multi-Purpose Paper and Unleaded Gasoline/Diesel Fuel**

Mrs. Callahan stated this is the approval of advertising for the items explained.

#### **Permission to advertise for bids for Janitorial and Athletic Supplies for 2024-2025 school year**

Mrs. Callahan stated we bid for janitorial items and athletic supplies to meet legal requirement for large quantities of like items. We are asking for approval to proceed with this for next year. The Athletic Director and Facilities Director will start to work on the item list and needs late in November.

**Approval of requests to close the following student activity accounts:  
Chess Club; French Club; Literary Society; Relay for Life; Rugby; Spanish Club**

Mrs. Callahan stated these are clubs that have not been active so the principal is requesting closing the accounts. There are guidelines that allow for remaining funds to be transferred to other student activity groups, the total is approximately \$475.

Mr. Kaczor asked if the Board can decide where the funds will be directed. He stated he is not in favor of funds going to the LIGHT club.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner stated he was one of the founding members of the LIGHT club. He questioned why it matters what student activity the funds go to and asked about the concerns with LIGHT club.

Mr. Kaczor responded it is because of how the LIGHT club was portrayed when started versus how it is being used. He suggested that he may not have supported approval for the club.

Mrs. Guido stated that the Board does not have the authority to determine the clubs.

Mrs. Callahan clarified that the Board only approves if a club has funding through the student activity account which is part of District finances and must follow certain guidelines and procedures. Clubs can exist without District funds and those are not brought to the Board for approval.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner stated it was pitched as educating students on people of importance from various backgrounds such as indigenous history, Canada, black history, etc. He added that April is Genocide Awareness Month and that is where the organization first came from to portray the history of the Holocaust. He believes reallocating funds away from the club does not make sense.

Mr. Kaczor agreed that is how it was portrayed but expressed concerns with a display that was done.

Student Representative, Jason Wagner stated the display exists for the group to educate the student body about people and what they have done. That is the connection.

General discussion ensued regarding student clubs and funding.

Mrs. Callahan reminded the Board that the general guidelines for student activity funds closing accounts indicate that the group, by meeting and vote can determine what other student activity account any remaining funds can be distributed to. Looking at the requests, you will see that it doesn't appear that process was followed since there are no student members, etc. If the Board approves the request to close the student activity funds, they are approving the distribution as requested by the sponsors. However, there are two requests asking for funds go toward District general funds. Mrs. Callahan explained that is not permissible under student activity account rules. The funds were raised by students so they must remain within student control which is the student activity accounts, so she will be making that adjustment. She added that if any Board member wishes to recommend a different allocation, they should do so by making a different motion.

**Communications**

None

**Requests for Use of Buildings**

**Payment of Bills**



### **Additions to Agenda (Agenda Meeting only)**

None

### **Comments from Public**

Mrs. Key thanked the District from the Farmer's Market. Using Bon Air has made a huge difference and allowed the market to grow. There were so many people there and she is hopeful to be there again next year. She stated it brought the community together.

Mrs. Watson agreed that the Farmer's Market was wonderful.

Mrs. Watson stated that about a month ago there was something in the news stating school districts do not have to follow the Pennsylvania Department of Education guidelines.

Dr. Turk suggested that it would be important to get clarification.

### **Adjournment at 9:25 PM**

<u>MOTION:</u>	Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich	Seconded by: Mr. Deiseroth
<u>VOTE:</u>	Roll Call: All in Favor	Motion Carried



Jennifer S. Callahan  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

JSC/mls

**BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 17, 2023**

**Call to Order**

The Burrell School District Board of Directors Board Meeting was held in the High School Board Room and was called to order at 7:32 PM by President Pam Key.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mrs. Key asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Mrs. Gretchen V. Beveridge, Mr. Timothy J. Vinkovich, Ms. Tricia Shank, Mrs. Nikki Watson, Mrs. LeeAnn S. Guido, Mr. Rick Kaczor, Mr. Tom Deiseroth, Mrs. Jean Schager and Mrs. Pam Key

Board Members Absent: None

Quorum present

Others Present: Dr. Shannon L. Wagner, Superintendent, Mrs. Jennifer S. Callahan, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, Dr. Gregory Egnor, Director of Student Services, Dr. Autumn Turk, Director of Curriculum and Development and Solicitor Lee Price

Student Representatives Present: None

**Announce Executive Sessions**

October 10, 2023 – 6:45 PM and Immediately following meeting - Personnel Agenda  
October 17, 2023 – 7:00 PM - Personnel Agenda

**Approval of Minutes**

Agenda Meeting – September 12, 2023; Regular Meeting – September 19, 2023

<u>MOTION:</u>	Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich	Seconded by: Mr. Kaczor
<u>VOTE:</u>	Roll Call: All in Favor	Motion Carried

**Approval of Monthly Financial Reports**

- a. Treasurer's Report (Attachment 10-1)
- b. General Fund Report (Attachment 10-2)
- c. Capital Reports (Attachment 10-3)
- d. Food Service Reports (Attachment 10-4)
- e. Student Activity Reports (Attachment 10-5)

<u>MOTION:</u>	Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich	Seconded by: Mr. Kaczor
<u>VOTE:</u>	Roll Call: All in Favor	Motion Carried



## **Comments from Public - Agenda Items Only**

None

## **Reports of Administration and Standing Committees**

### **SUPERINTENDENT - DR. WAGNER**

#### **Student/Staff Recognition and Reports**

Dr. Wagner reported the following:

- PA Art Association recognized Burrell School District's commitment to visual arts education; nominated and selected as outstanding visual arts community based on 2022-2023 school year; Thanked Denise Wagner, Art Department chair
- Courtney Barbiaux, Middle School Personalized Learning Coach
  - Nominated as 2025 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year

a) Student Representatives Report

None

#### **Enrollment Report Information**

Dr. Wagner provided October 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment numbers with a total of 1,723 students and reported that we continue to lose numbers. She will provide eAcademy numbers to Board.

#### **Approval of District Comprehensive Plan 2023–2026**

Dr. Turk provided an overview of the District Comprehensive Plan at the Agenda meeting. She provided information to the Board on Friday regarding CRSE competencies. She stated she revised the Comprehensive Plan with CRSE and “unchecked” the box based on the Board discussion last week. She hopes that the Board will approve the remainder of the plan.

Dr. Wagner explained that she looked into this further and found that some districts are checking the box and some are not. Dr. Wagner believes it is because this is a controversial topic and because there is pending litigation surrounding this subject. She added that the Board is the local control and they have the authority to make the decision.

Mr. Kaczor asked if we are making a motion, must the motion state approve it with revision or without.

Dr. Turk explained the 3 language changes made in the plan: literacy training and strategies; trauma informed professional development language simplified; and removed all CRSE language that was within the Professional Development Plan.

Dr. Wagner stated that each year professional staff completes a needs assessment to determine what is needed for the following year to develop the professional development. She stated Administration prefers Susan Tarasevich and that Board members are invited to participate and she will send information of dates.

Dr. Wagner stated the reason for modifying the Comprehensive Plan was so that we can get the training needed at this time to move forward. Eventually we will need to have further conversations and can include things in the plan at that time.

Dr. Wagner stated she is asking the Board to decide how to approve the plan.

Solicitor Lee Price stated to be clear, the motion should be made stating with CRSE or without CRSE.

**MOTION:**      **MOTION TO APPROVE DISTRICT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2023-2026 WITHOUT CRSE**  
Motion by: Mr. Kaczor      Seconded by: Ms. Shank

**DISCUSSION:**  
Mrs. Guido stated she is embarrassed to be part of a Board who does not think it is important. She thinks the District should consider it to be important because it is the right thing to do not because the state says we should do it.

Ms. Shank stated a lot of the plan has elements and it can always be added.

Mrs. Guido stated she thinks taking it out makes a bold statement.

**VOTE:**      Roll Call: All in Favor except Mrs. Guido voted NO      Motion Carried

### **Athletic Information**

Dr. Wagner stated Mr. D'Angelo provided some information last week to consider at a later date.

### **OTHER ADMINISTRATION - DR. TURK / DR. EGNOR**

#### **Public Review of the K-8 ELA Resource Options Information**

Dr. Turk provided an update on K-8 ELA Resource review and that the October packet information has updates. She indicated that the cost of Amplify is now included. The cost does not include professional development. She stated that with Amplify, if we need to remove certain books from student access, they provided the directions on how to hide certain books/titles. Dr. Turk reminded the Board that we have a Board process for challenging a book.

Dr. Turk stated she discussed with the representative potential concerns with if it contained critical race theory and/or divisive types of political things. She stated we cannot hide a CKLA because it is directly related to what they are reading in their program and we can only hide in 6-8.

Dr. Turk stated the group will continue to review the resources and visit other schools. The resources will be available on the District website for a month.

#### **Approval of Agreement with Wesley Family Services for partial hospital program for 2023-2024 school year (Attachment 10-6)**

Dr. Egnor explained we have two agreements, one for school based and one for partial hospital. School based is for the remainder of this year and they are going to change their model next year to have a dedicated counselor. He stated that he has been talking with SPHS regarding providing school based and we will have 2 providers for a few months at the end of the year and then there will be no disruption for next year. They will have the ability to bill insurance.

**MOTION:**      Motion by: Mrs. Guido      Seconded by: Mrs. Schager  
**VOTE:**      Roll Call: All in Favor      Motion Carried



## **Approval of Agreement with Wesley Family Services for school based outpatient services for 2023-2024 school year (Attachment 10-7)**

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Kaczor Seconded by: Mrs. Schager

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Guido asked about two services overlapping and insurance billing.

Dr. Egnor provided an explanation.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor Motion Carried

## **Approval of Athletic Trips and Field Trips 2023-2024**

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich Seconded by: Mr. Deiseroth

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor Motion Carried

## **PERSONNEL: Approval of Personnel Log – dated October 17, 2023 (Attached)**

MOTION: Motion by: Mrs. Guido Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor Motion Carried

## **Northern Westmoreland Career & Technology Center Report - Mr. Kaczor/Mr. Vinkovich**

Mr. Kaczor reported:

- Approved supplemental contracts for extracurricular activities; hourly rate increases; substitute rate
- Advisory dinner will be held on Thursday; JOC members are invited and all other Board members are invited as well
- The new Director started October 15

Dr. Wagner explained that the Occupational Committees are represented at this meeting each year.

Mrs. Beveridge asked the status of any renovation discussions for the CTC.

Mr. Kaczor stated it needs to be discussed because the school needs a lot of work and it will be a big cost. He stated there are funds used for maintenance each year because it is needed. He stated they will continue to push for CTC to keep capital funds from districts rather than return so that they have funds for the future.

## **Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Report - Mrs. Watson**

Mrs. Watson asked Mr. Rice to report.

Mr. Rice reported:

- New Marketing Communication Specialist, Mary Dreliszak has started to work with WIU and districts
- Job fair on Monday to prepare for big career fair with all districts

## **PSBA Liaison Report - Mr. Deiseroth**

Mr. Deiseroth reported:

- Senator Pittman and PA State Representative Abby Major Co-Host Senior Expo at VFW on October 27 from 9 AM-12:00 PM
- Election day November 7

## **BUSINESS - MRS. CALLAHAN**

### **Approval of budgetary transfers (Attachment 10-8)**

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Kaczor                      Seconded by: Ms. Shank  
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor                      Motion Carried

**Permission to participate in Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Consortium bids for Paper and Diesel Fuel/Gasoline for 2024-2025 school year, authorization for Consortium to act as District's agent during bid process, and authorization for Jennifer S. Callahan, District's representative to Consortium, to act on behalf of District**

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth                      Seconded by: Mr. Kaczor  
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor                      Motion Carried

**Permission to advertise jointly as a member of the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Board for the purchase of the following supplies for 2024-2025 school year: Multi-Purpose Paper and Unleaded Gasoline/Diesel Fuel**

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth                      Seconded by: Mr. Kaczor  
DISCUSSION:

Mr. Kaczor asked who is the contact for bidding information and where they are advertised.

Mrs. Callahan stated it is advertised in the Tribune-Review and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. She stated that Tammy Good at WIU is the contact.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor                      Motion Carried

**Permission to advertise for bids for Janitorial and Athletic Supplies for 2024-2025 school year**

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich                      Seconded by: Mrs. Guido  
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor                      Motion Carried

**Approval of requests to close the following student activity accounts:  
Chess Club; French Club; Literary Society; Relay for Life; Rugby; Spanish Club**

Mrs. Callahan stated as a follow-up on the discussion last week she noted on the two requests, Relay for Life and Rugby, to correctly reflect the transfer of remaining funds within student activity accounts per the guidelines. She stated as a reminder, some of the clubs have listed specific student activities the sponsor would like any remaining funds to be transferred into; so, by approving this item you will be approving this transfer as well.

MOTION: Motion by: Ms. Shank                      Seconded by: Mrs. Schager  
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor                      Motion Carried

### **Communications**

None



### **Requests for Use of Buildings (Attachment 10-9)**

Mrs. Callahan presented the building use requests as prepared and recommended by Mr. Drake D'Angelo, Athletic Director who oversees building use per Board policy.

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth      Seconded by: Mr. Kaczor  
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor      Motion Carried

### **Payment of Bills (Attachment 10-10)**

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich      Seconded by: Mrs. Schager  
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor except Mrs. Guido abstained from check 60647 and 88888115  
Motion Carried

### **Additions to Agenda (Agenda Meeting only)**

#### **Comments from Public**

None

### **Adjournment at 8:07 PM**

MOTION: Motion by: Ms. Shank      Seconded by: Mrs. Schager  
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor      Motion Carried



Jennifer S. Callahan  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

JSC/mls