

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the LGI Room on Tuesday May 13, 2025 at 7:30 PM with Larry Wittig presiding. President Wittig led with the “Pledge of Allegiance.” A moment of silent meditation followed.

PRESENT

Larry Wittig, President  
Nicholas Boyle, Vice President  
Daniel Schoener, Treasurer  
Melanie Dillman

Nancy Jones  
Bryan Miller  
Mark Rother

ABSENT

Tom Bartasavage  
Trina Schellhammer

Administrative Staff in Attendance – Raymond Kinder, Superintendent; Stephen Toth, Assistant Superintendent; Connie Ligenza, Business Manager; Kenny Dunkelberger, Chief Operating Officer

Others in Attendance – member of the press, and Erik Helbing, Solicitor

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the minutes from April 15, 2025. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted “FOR.”

Ligenza indicated that all correspondences and appropriate reports relating to the agenda were available to the members of the board.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted “FOR.”

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the treasurer’s report. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted “FOR.”

Superintendent Report – Kinder indicated that the report in its entirety was attached to the agenda.

Hearings – None

President Wittig called for an executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

No meeting held.

Auxiliary Committee – Rother presented the following items as recommendations for the Auxiliary Committee.

Rother made a motion seconded by Miller to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year: First Reading of Policy #123; Coaches; Volunteer Coaches; Substitute Custodians; Band Assistant;

Volunteer Band Assistant; Advisors; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

First reading of the following policy:

Policy #123 – Interscholastic Athletics

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to forgo the reading of the listed policy. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted “FOR.”

Policy #123 – Interscholastic Athletics

Boyle, Dillman, Wittig all voted “NO.” Jones, Miller, Rother, and Schoener all voted “FOR.”

Morgan Boyle, Brockton, PA 18252, as an Assistant Junior High Track and Field Coach at a stipend to be determined

Tyler Skripko, Brockton, PA 17925, as 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Junior Varsity Football coach, at a stipend to be determined

Francis Hill, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Junior High Assistant Football coach, at a stipend to be determined

Carson Barron, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Football Coach

Darvin Faust, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Football Coach

Michael Coleman, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Football Coach

Justin Lewis, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as an Assistant Boys Soccer Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Dylan Rynkiewicz, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as an Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Cole Eberts, Andreas, PA 18211, as an Assistant Junior High Wrestling Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Troy Hartman, Andreas, PA 18211, as a Volunteer Wrestling Coach

Alexis Jones, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Wrestling Coach

Casey Wagner, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as an Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Gina Morgan, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Cristie Ansbach, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Tyler Skripko, Brockton, PA 17925, as an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Duane Barron, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach

Serena Jones, New Ringgold, PA 17960, as a Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach

Sarah Hope, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Girls Basketball Coach

Michael Ouly, Orwigsburg, PA 17961, as an Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Allen Graver, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Molly Evans, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$12.41 per hour

Elaina Coleman, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$12.41 per hour

Luke Frohneiser, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$12.41 per hour

Autumn Farber, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$12.41 per hour

Austin Schaefer, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian at a rate of \$12.41 per hour

2025-2026 School Year

Benjamin Turrano, Band Assistant

Jamie Mateyak, Volunteer Band Assistant

Brittany Hill, Middle School 6th Sense Co-Advisor

Brittany Hill, Middle School ACE Co-Advisor

Taylor Stair, Middle School 8th Grade Class Co-Advisor

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted "FOR."

Education Committee – Dillman presented the following items as recommendations for the Education Committee.

Dillman made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year; 2025 Graduation List; Affiliation Agreement; Resignations; Elementary Teacher; Substitute Guest Teacher; Salary Adjustment; Full-Time Paraprofessional; Rescind Motion; Summer School Teachers; Extended School Year Teachers; Extended School Year Paraprofessionals; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Approve the 2025 Graduation List

Affiliation Agreement with Commonwealth University of PA, for student teachers, practicum or student teaching experience

Resignation of Alycia Gerber, West Penn Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher, effective end of the 2024-2025 school year

Resignation of Kristine Schellhammer, Middle School Title 1 Reading Teacher, effective end of the 2024-2025 school year

Rebekah Fehnel, Lehigh, PA 18235, Elementary Teacher, Bachelor's Step 1, at a salary of \$48,030

Robert M. Van Norman, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Guest Teacher

Salary Adjustment for William Neal, certified Teacher to a Masters +15, Step 12, beginning the 2022-2023 school year

Rachel Maly, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Full-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$12.00 per hour

Rescind the motion of April 15, 2025, approving Kristine Schellhammer as Middle School Language Arts Department Chairperson

2024-2025 Summer School Staff

Amanda Woodring, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Aaron Gill, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Millini Skuba, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Sherri Gerber, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Connie Segedy, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Lynn Deiter, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Maria Campomizzi, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Jen Curcio, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Gina Morgan, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Kelly Reaman, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

MaryAnn Herring, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Cristy Clemson, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Alisa Kemmerer, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Autumn Pedron, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

2024-2025 Extended School Year Staff

Elizabeth Hannon, Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 Amanda Woodring, Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 Stacy Setlock, Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 Jordan Abdo, Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 JoAnn Dombrosky, Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 Sherri Gerber, Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 McKenzie Habel, Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 Katelyn Midas, Extended School Year Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 Yaris Velasco, Extended School Year Nurse, at a stipend of \$2,500.00  
 Kim Modesto, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Christina Modesto, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Julianna Meckes, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Hedy Cohen, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Lilliana Birkmier, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Amy Walburn, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Hannah Murphy, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Zachary Dannenfelser, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Corrine Miller, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Susan Zehner, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Madeline Wittig, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Madison McGlinchey, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate  
 Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted “FOR.”

Finance Committee – Schoener presented the following items as recommendations for the Finance Committee.

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the following for the 2024-2025 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemptions; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Lease Agreement; Grant Acknowledge Agreement with the John E. Morgan Foundation; 2025-2026 Proposed Preliminary Budget; Behavioral Health Associations Agreement; FSMC Contract Renewal; Capital Reserve Transfer; Budget Transfers; Purchase of a Kubota UTV; Purchase of Kifco Water Wheels; Purchase of One Screen Touch Boards; Rebuilding of Tennis Court; Refinishing of the Gymnasiums and Auditorium Flooring; Repairs and Painting of the Stadium Bleachers; Replacement of the High School Garage Doors; Replacement of Teacher Chromebooks; Replacement of Office Staff Computers; Replacement of the Middle School Entryway Flooring; Retirement; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

Rush Township	2023 - Assessed Occupation
	2023 – Per Capita
West Penn Township	2024 - Assessed Occupation

Payment of Bills

Approve renewing the lease agreement between the District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 for a one-year term, beginning July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 for classroom space, which will be used to conduct a pre-school program. The consideration for the agreement is \$10,200 per year.

Grant acknowledge agreements and resolutions between the district and the John E. Morgan

Foundation for the following: 24-25 Scholarships: \$30,000.00  
Approve the following 2025-2026 Proposed Preliminary Budget  
Beginning Fund Balance 7/1/25: \$3,837,722  
Revenue: \$41,755,213  
Expenses: \$42,578,441  
Ending Fund Balance 6/30/26: \$3,014,494

Unassigned:

Real Estate Tax Rate 44.93 mills  
Per Capita, Section 679 \$5.00  
Per Capita, Act 511 \$5.00  
Earned Income Tax 1% (shared with municipalities)  
Real Estate Transfer Tax 1% (shared with municipalities)  
EMS Tax \$5.00 (shared with municipalities)  
Assessed Occupation \$225.00

Agreement with Behavioral Health Associations effective, July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 h. FSMC  
Contract renewal, effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Capital Reserve Transfer, \$1,069,000 from the general fund to the capital reserve fund, this satisfies an inter-fund payable established in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 for unused debt service

Approve the Budget Transfers

Purchase of a Kubota UTV, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$70,000.00

Purchase of Kifco Water Wheels or equivalent, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.00

Purchase of One Screen Touch Boards, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$70,000.00

Approve the rebuilding of the Tennis Court without drainage, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$250,000.00

Approve the refinishing of the Gymnasiums and Auditorium Flooring, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$60,000.00

Approve the repairs and painting of the stadium bleachers, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$60,000.00

Approve the replacement of the High School garage doors, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00

Approve the replacement of Teacher Chromebooks, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$50,000.00

Approve the replacement of Office Staff Computers, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$40,000.00

Approve the replacement of the Middle School entryway flooring, CoStar approved or an equivalent vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$100,000.00

Retirement of Paula Schoener, West Penn Elementary Administrative Assistant, with a separation date of August 1, 2025

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted "FOR."

Communications – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to pay the monthly board invoices as presented. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted “FOR.”

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Jones, Miller and Rother all voted “FOR.”

Attest:

---

Connie Ligenza  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary