

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the LGI Room on August 19, 2025 at 7:45 pm with Larry Wittig presiding. President Wittig led with the "Pledge of Allegiance." A moment of silence meditation followed.

PRESENT

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

Bryan Miller
Mark Rother

ABSENT

Tom Bartsavage
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 –2 members of the press, and 1 member of the public, and Erik Helbing, Solicitor

Miller made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the minutes from July 15, 2025. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, 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 Boyle to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Miller, and Rother all voted "FOR."

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to approve the treasurer's report. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, 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.

President Wittig called for the recommendation of the committees.

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 2025-2026 school year: Rescind Motions; Coach; Volunteer Coaches; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Rescind the motion of May 13, 2025, approving Justin Lewis as an Assistant Boys Soccer Coach

Rescind the motion of December 17, 2024, approving James Gormley as a Volunteer Boys Soccer Coach

Justin Lewis, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Volunteer Boys Soccer Coach

James Gormley, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as an Assistant Boys Soccer Coach, at a stipend to be determined.

Craig Valentine, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Volunteer Baseball Coach

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, 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 Rother to approve the following for the 2025-2026 school year; Second Reading of Policies #815.2 and #215; Early Graduation; Rescind Motions; Elementary Teachers; Mentors; Resignations; Part-Time Paraprofessional; Reclassification; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Second reading of the following policy:

Policy #815.2 – Artificial Intelligence

Policy #215 – Promotion and Retention

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to forgo the reading of the listed policies. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Miller, and Rother all voted "FOR."

Adopt Policy #815.2 – Artificial Intelligence & Policy #215 – Promotion and Retention

Approve early graduation for one tenth grade student

Rescind the motion of May 13, 2025 of Rebekah Fehnel as an Elementary Teacher

Rescind the motion of June 17, 2025, approving Antonia Cirstea as a Special Education Teacher
Melissa Luckenbach, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972, Teacher, Master's Step 4, at a salary of \$58,836.

Alexandra Costa, Orwigsburg, PA 17961, Teacher, Bachelor's Step 2, at a salary of \$48,530

Lauren Shimer, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Teacher, Master's +30 Step 22, at a salary of \$80,417

Lauren Cimino, New Ringold, PA 17960, Teacher, Bachelor's Step 1, at a salary of \$48,030

Brianna Vleck, New Ringold, PA 17960, Teacher, Bachelor's Step 1, at a salary of \$48,030

Nicole Evans, certified teacher, mentor to Makayla Harvey, certified teacher

Nicole Evans, certified teacher, mentor to Emily Barrett, certified teacher

Resignation of Jillian Harding, High School, Certified School Nurse, with a separation date to be agreed upon with the Superintendent

Resignation of Cristy Clemson, Tamaqua Elementary 5th Grade Teacher, with a separation date to be agreed upon with the Superintendent
Resignation of Sabrina Moyer, Full-Time Paraprofessional, effective immediately
Colleen Wilkinson, McAdoo, PA 18237, Part-Time Paraprofessional at a rate of \$13.50 per hour
Reclassification of Cierra McKee, from Part-Time Paraprofessional to Full-Time Paraprofessional

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, 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 2025-2026 school year as Presented. Tax Report and Tax Exemptions; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; Stadium Drainage Repairs; One-Year Agreement with Sovereign Commercial Services; 2025-2026 Bus Runs; 2025-2026 Bus Driver List; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

Schuylkill Township

2024 – Assessed Occupation

2024 – Per Capita

Tamaqua Borough

2022, 2023, 2024 – Assessed Occupation

2022, 2023, 2024 - Per Capita

West Penn

2022, 2023, 2024 – Assessed Occupation

2022, 2023, 2024 - Per Capita

Payment of Bills

Approve Bane Excavation, LLC to perform emergency repair(s) of our drainage field on the South West corner of the High School Stadium

Approve a 1-year agreement with Sovereign Commercial Services for cleaning services, effective September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026 for a monthly cost of \$5,546.66 plus 3%

2025-2026 Bus Runs

2025-2026 Bus Driver List

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

Communications – None

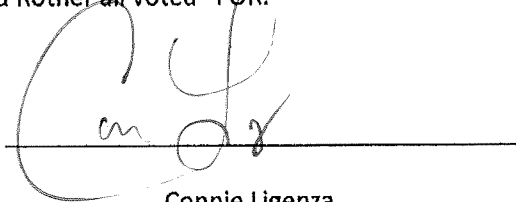
Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to pay the monthly board invoices as presented. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Miller, and Rother all voted "FOR."

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Rother to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Miller, and Rother all voted "FOR."

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Ligenza', is written over a solid horizontal line.

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary