

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the LGI Room on March 17, 2026 at 7:00 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

Curt Hartung
Nancy Jones
Bryan Miller

ABSENT

Tom Bartsavage
Trina Schellhammer

Administrative Staff in Attendance – Raymond Kinder, Superintendent; Stephen Toth, Assistant Superintendent; Kenny Dunkelberger, Chief Operating Officer; Thomas McCabe, Tamaqua Area High School Principal; Connie Ligenza, Business Manager

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to approve the minutes from February 17, 2026. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Hartung, Jones, and Miller 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, Hartung, Jones, and Miller all voted “FOR.”

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

Superintendent Report – Kinder indicated that the report in its entirety was attached to the agenda. Acknowledgement of TAMS Art Club participation in the PA250 Liberty Bell Celebration.

Hearings – None

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

A 24 minute meeting was held.

President Wittig called for the recommendation of the committees.

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

Hartung made a motion seconded by Jones to approve the following for the 2025-2026 school year; Coaches; Volunteer Coaches; Resignation; Substitute Custodians; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Frank Wenzel, New Ringgold, PA 17960, as 2nd Assistant Track and Field Coach, at a stipend of \$2,700
Marissa Nesgoda, Barnesville, PA 18214, as 3rd Assistant Track and Field Coach, at a stipend of \$2,700
Rich Stianche, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as 4th Assistant Track and Field Coach, at a stipend of \$2,700
Stephen Ulicny, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Assistant Junior High Track and Field Coach, at a stipend of \$1,900
Amanda Hascin, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Track and Field Coach
Joe Holland, Albrightsville, PA 18210, as a Volunteer Track and Field Coach
Sam Plasha, Andreas, PA 18211, as a Volunteer Track and Field Coach
Dylan Rynkiewicz, Barnesville, PA 18214, as a Volunteer Track and Field Coach
Allen Graver, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Baseball Coach
Alfred Marchetti, Brockton, PA 17925, as a Volunteer Golf Coach
Tyler Skripko, Brockton, PA 17925, as 2nd Assistant Junior Varsity Football Coach, at a stipend of \$3,473.68
Resignation of Sonya Epler, Full-Time Custodian, effective immediately
Katie Miller, New Ringgold, PA 17960, Substitute Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$12.78
Rafael Miranda III, Cressona, PA 17929, Substitute Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$12.78

Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Hartung, and Jones all voted “FOR.” Miller voted to abstain.

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

Dillman made a motion seconded by Jones to approve the following for the 2025-2026 school year; Carbon Lehigh IU #21 Student Driver Education Program Agreement; Affiliation Agreement; Out of State Trip; Middle School Principal; Tamaqua Elementary School Principal; West Penn Elementary School Principal; Assistant Athletic Director; Professional Employee Contract; Retirements; Special Education Teacher; Mentor; FMLA; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

One-year agreement with Carbon Lehigh IU #21 for the Student Driver Education Program, effective July 1, 2026

Affiliation Agreement with Chamberlain University for clinical and practicum experience

Out of State Trip, Physics Students, Six Flags Great Adventure, New Jersey, May 1, 2026

Lisa Shirvinski, Middle School Principal, at a salary of \$106,285.56

Frank D'Agostino, Tamaqua Elementary School Principal, at a salary of \$102,369

Tara Orefice, West Penn Elementary School Principal

Assistant Athletic Director, James McCabe, at a stipend of \$13,000

McKenzie Habel, to be given professional status, as of March 17, 2026

Retirement of Marsha Rodgers, Instrumental Music Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of John Matulevich, Business Education Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of John Buglio, Music Teacher/Choral Director, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Michael Hromyak, Athletic Director, with a separation date of July 13, 2026

Retirement of Marla Parker, ESL Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Carla Keller, Language Arts Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Susan Brickler, Guidance Counselor, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Alicia Murphy, Special Education, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Megan Frantz, Mathematics Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Debra Sweeney, Mathematics Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Millini Skuba, Language Arts Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Jennifer Kinder, Special Education, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Retirement of Kelly Reaman, Elementary Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Sara Kulp, New Ringgold, PA 17960, Special Education Teacher, Bachelor's Step 1, at a salary of \$50,221

Brionna Spotts, certified teacher, mentor to Abby Shoffstall, certified teacher for the 2026-2027 school year

Denise Drum, continuation of intermittent FMLA, beginning on or about April 1, 2026

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

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to approve the following for the 2025-2026 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemptions; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; 2026-2027 Schuylkill Technology Center Secondary Budget; 2026-2027 Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 General Operating Budget; Energy Performance Contracting Services; Capital Reserve Fund; Purchase of Scoreboards; Purchase of Security and Surveillance Equipment; Purchase of Point of Sale System; Public School Facility Improvement Grant; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

West Penn Twp.	2024, 2025 - Assessed Occupation
	2024, 2025 - Per Capita

Payment of Bills

2026-2027 Schuylkill Technology Center Secondary Budget

2026-2027 Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 General Operating Budget

Approve McClure Company to complete an Investment Grade Audit (IGA) based on their RFQ response, dated February 20, 2026

Approve reclassifying the Capital Reserve Fund type to a Capital Projects Fund

Purchase of new scoreboards and graphic design curriculum for the athletic center at a cost of \$78,520, utilizing the CoStars pricing. Funding will be from the Class of 2026 Shepp funds and from the district's agreement with St. Luke's will be used for the athletic purchases

Purchase of Security and Surveillance equipment, CoStars approved vendor at a not to exceed price of \$120,000.00

Purchase of Point of Sale Systems for all Cafeteria locations and laptops for each building, CoStars approved vendor at a not to exceed price of \$55,000

Authorize the matching grant request for a Public School Facility Improvement Grant. TASD is requesting, \$103,251.50 for boiler, \$192,799.50 for a chiller located at the Middle School, 25% of the total cost

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

Communications – None

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to pay the monthly board invoices as presented.

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

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Regular School Board Meeting

March 17, 2026

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM.

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

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary