

The Board of Education of the Tamaqua Area School District met in regular session in the LGI Room on May 12, 2026 at 7:36 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

Trina Schellhammer
Tom Bartsavage

Administrative Staff in Attendance – Raymond Kinder, Superintendent; Stephen Toth, Assistant Superintendent; Kenny Dunkelberger, Chief Operating Officer; 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 April 21, 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 Miller to ratify the transfer of funds and payment of bills. Wittig, Schoener, Dillman, Hartung, Jones, and Miller all voted “FOR.” Boyle voted to abstain.

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 and included TASD Safety Report, from Student Services Committee Meeting presented by Dr. Toth.

Hearings – None

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

No 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 Boyle to approve the following for the 2025-2026 school year; First Reading of Policies #351.1, #451.1, #551.1; County Emergency Operations Plan; Coaches; Volunteer Coaches; Full-Time Custodian; Substitute Custodians; Rescind Motion; Advisors; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

First reading of the following policies:

Policy #351.1 - Pre-Employment Drug Testing

Policy #451.1 - Pre-Employment Drug Testing

Policy #551.1 - Pre-Employment Drug Testing

Schoener made a motion seconded by Boyle to forgo the first readings of the listed policies. Wittig, Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Hartung, Jones, and Miller all voted “FOR.”

Approve the County Emergency Operations Plan

Edward Titus, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as 2nd Assistant Varsity Football Coach, at a stipend to be determined

David Leinbach, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Junior Varsity Girls Soccer Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Megan Rosahac, Jim Thorpe, PA 18229, as a Volunteer Cross Country Coach

Brandon Fogarty, New Ringgold, PA 17960, as a Volunteer Cross Country Coach

Desiree Whitehead, Andreas, PA 18211, as a Volunteer Volleyball Coach

Aaron Gill, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as Assistant Golf Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Kiersten Rivera, New Ringgold, PA 17960, as Head Cheerleading Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Brandi DeAngelo, Lansford, PA 18232, as an Assistant Cheerleading Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Jenn Balliet, Andreas, PA 18211, as a Middle School Cheerleading Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Dylan Rynkiewicz, Barnesville, PA 18214, as an Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach, at a stipend to be determined

David Holmes, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Junior High Wrestling Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Francis Hill, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Volunteer Wrestling Coach

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

Jay Daubert, Pottsville, PA 17901, as a 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Allen Graver, New Ringgold, PA 17960, as an 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Joe Tamagini, Tamaqua, PA 18252, as a Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, at a stipend to be determined

Michael Schaeffer, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Full-Time Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$12.50

Cecilia Ulicny, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$12.78

Jennifer Cerimele, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$12.78

Giada Cerimele, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Substitute Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$12.78

2026-2027 School Year

Rescind the motion of April 21, 2026, approving Brittany Hill as Middle School 6th Sense and Ace Advisor

Brittany Hill, Middle School 6th Sense Co-Advisor

Michael Murphy, Middle School 6th Sense Co-Advisor

Brittany Hill, Middle School ACE Co-Advisor

Michael Murphy, Middle School ACE Co-Advisor

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

Education Committee - Dillman presented the following items as recommendations for the Auxiliary Committee.

Dillman made a motion seconded by Jones to approve the following for the 2025-2026 school year; Vaping Prevention and Intervention Program; 2026 Graduation List; Agreements with Child and Family Support Services Inc.; Retirement; Mentor; FMLA; Elementary Teachers; English Language Arts Teachers; Music Teacher; Extended School Year Teacher; Extended School Year Paraprofessionals; Summer School Teachers; Department Chairperson; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Approve the new vaping prevention and intervention program from Playbl for Middle School and High School Levels. Licensed through the IU

Approve the 2026 Graduation List

Agreement with Child and Family Support Services Inc., Reading, PA 19601, for the provision of the Student Assistance Program

Agreement with Child and Family Support Services Inc., Reading, PA 19601, for the provision of the Elementary Student Assistance Program

Agreement with Child and Family Support Services Inc., Reading, PA 19601, for the connection of service providers when the psychiatric outpatient clinic serves children

Retirement of Edward Mariano, Science Teacher, effective end of the 2025-2026 school year

Ratify MaryAnn Herring, certified teacher, mentor to Alexandra Costa, certified teacher

Jennifer Hermany, FMLA, beginning on or about April 27, 2026

Zoe Seltzer, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Elementary Teacher, Bachelor's Step 1, at a salary of \$50,221

Gianna Granick, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Elementary Teacher, Bachelor's Step 1, at a salary of \$50,221

Rylee Wenzel, New Ringgold, PA 17960, Elementary Teacher, Bachelor's Step 1, at a salary of \$50,221

Ashley Pleban, Weatherly, PA 18255, Elementary Teacher, Bachelor's Step 1, at a salary of \$50,221

Ashley Schuler, Tamaqua, PA 18252, Elementary Teacher, at a salary to be determined

Ashley C. Brennan, Pottsville, PA 17901, Elementary Teacher, Bachelor's Step 4.5, at a salary of \$52,021

Anna Hanley, Barnesville, PA 18214, English Language Arts Teacher, Master's Step 1, at a salary of \$58,709

Jennifer Navotney, Freeland, PA 18224, English Language Arts Teacher, Master's +30 Step 4, at a salary of \$65,234

Allison Kline, Barnesville, PA 18214, Music Teacher, Master's Step 18, at a salary of \$75,465

2025-2026 Extended School Year Staff

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

Susan Zehner, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate

Lillian Birkmier, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate

Zachary Dannenfelser, Extended School Year Paraprofessional, current hourly rate

2025-2026 Summer School Staff

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

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

Jen Curcio, 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

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

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

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

Michael Ouly, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Sarah Hollenbach, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Lauren Ahner, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

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

Stewart Caladie, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

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

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

Sarah Geronimo, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Charise Fiorilla, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Sarah Jacob, Summer School Teacher, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

Nancy Phillips, Summer School Nurse, at a stipend of \$2,500.00

2026-2027 School Year

Brittany Hill, Middle School Mathematics Department Chairperson

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 recommend that the Board approve the following for the 2025-2026 school year as presented; Tax Report and Tax Exemptions; Tax Refunds; Payment of Bills; Behavioral Health Associates Agreement; Section 619 and IDEA-B Agreements; Quote-Stadium Concession Stand; Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Lease Agreement; Grant Acknowledge Agreement with the John E. Morgan Foundation; Schuylkill IU#29/STC Director Nominee; contingent upon the submission of the necessary documentation.

Tax Report and Tax Exemptions, presented by the Business Manager

Tax Refunds:

Walker Twp.	2025	- Per Capita
West Penn Twp.	2023, 2024, 2025	- Assessed Occupation

Payment of Bills

2026-2027 Agreement with Behavioral Health Associates

Approve Section 619 with the Schuylkill IU #29 for 2025-2026

Approve IDEA-B with the Schuylkill IU #29 for 2025-2026

Ratify the acceptance of the quote from BTL Carpentry and Creations at a cost of \$24,491

Approve renewing the lease agreement between the District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 for a one-year term, beginning July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 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: 25-26 Scholarships: \$45,000

Nominate Larry Wittig to the Schuylkill IU#29 and Schuylkill Technology Center Board of Directors

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

Schoener made a motion seconded by Miller to recommend that the Board approve the 2026-2027 Proposed Preliminary Budget. Copy attached.

Boyle, Schoener, Dillman, Hartung, Jones, and Miller all voted "FOR." Wittig voted "NO".

Communications – None

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

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

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Boyle made a motion seconded by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. Wittig, Schoener, Bartasavage, Dillman, Hartung, Jones, and Miller all voted "FOR."

Attest:

Connie Ligenza
Business Administrator/Board Secretary