

April 12, 2021

A worksession meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, April 12, 2021 in the high school media center and via Zoom video conference.

The meeting was called to order by President Sparks-Gatling at 6:31 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance and the district's mission and audio/video recording statements.

**Roll Call:**

Members Present:	Mrs. Rhonda Barnes	Ms. Karen Ruby
	Mr. John Campbell, Sr	Dr. Dana Shiller
	Mrs. Patricia Cherry	Mrs. Tara Sparks-Gatling
	Mrs. Marsha Pleta	Ms. Jenna Ward
	Mrs. Amy Roberts	

Non-Voting Member Present: Dr. James R. Konrad, Superintendent

Present: Mrs. Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary  
Mr. Richard Mancini, Director of District Operations  
Ms. Amanda Jewell, Solicitor

Administrators: Mr. Chet Henderson, Mr. Lou Magnotta, Mr. Robert Mihelcic,  
Mr. Darren Vaccaro and Mrs. Kelley Zebrasky

**Executive Sessions:** Mrs. Sparks-Gatling announced that executive sessions were held on Monday, March 29, 2021 and April 12, 2021 for privilege and personnel issues. No action was taken at either session.

**President Welcomes Visitors:** Mrs. Sparks-Gatling extended a welcome to the public and stated the following, "In accordance with Washington School District Policy No. 005 entitled "Public Participation at Meetings", this public participation session shall not exceed 20 minutes. Any individual resident may make comments not to exceed three minutes. Any resident who wishes to address the Board should have submitted to the President of the Board or to the Board's Secretary a written statement including their name and address, the name of the group the speaker is representing, if any, and the general nature of the topic and comments to be made. Any resident who has not submitted a written request shall have the right to speak, time permitting by raising his or her hand so that they may be recognized. No one having any desire to speak, the meeting continued.

**Recognitions**

**Congratulations Mr. Magnotta and the Junior High School**

AdoptAClassroom.org will be facilitating a \$10,000 donation from a local retail partner. This donation will be used to purchase classroom resources for students. Junior high school teachers will receive the donation in August 2021.

**Salvation Army's Farmers to Families Food Box Distribution**

Mrs. Cherry thanked the principals, Jackie DeCosta, Mike Bosnic, Coach Ron Moore, the custodial staff, teachers and students for all of their help collecting and distributing food boxes to families in the district.

Students of the Month

Grade 2 – Isabella Boardley

Grade 6 – Luchiano Fields

Grade 8 – Ally Slack

Grade 12 – Kyla Woods

Grade 12 – Julian Marth

**Questions on the Agenda:** The Board reviewed the agenda.

**Agenda:** Mrs. Roberts moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Personnel:** Mrs. Barnes moved and Mrs. Pleta seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Retirement of **J. Mike Campsey**, truancy prevention specialist, after 19 years of service in the district, effective June 5, 2021.

-Resignation of **Serhiy Vdovichenko**, Systems Administrator/Web Designer, after 6½ years of service in the district, effective at the end of the workday on April 19, 2021.

-Contract with **Serhiy Vdovichenko** to maintain the District's website, up to 5 hours per week, at Mr. Vdovichenko's current hourly rate, effective April 20, 2021.

-Addition of **Danielle Mullins** to the list of substitute foodservice workers, retroactive to March 16, 2021.

-Appointment of **S. Jill Carlisle** as a part-time paraprofessional, 186 days a year, 5 hours a day, contractual rate, retroactive to April 6, 2021.

-Addition to the list of substitute teachers, effective May 3, 2021:

**Samantha Lambeth** – PreK-4 Early Childhood and Special Education PreK-8

Motion carried unanimously.

**Board Policy:** Ms. Ward moved and Dr. Shiller seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Second reading and adoption, pursuant to Washington School District Policy No. 001, of the following policies:

Staff

Policy No. 408 – Discrimination – Title IX Sexual Harassment – Staff

Students

Policy No. 550 – Discrimination – Title IX Sexual Harassment – Students

Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee of the Whole Discussion:** The Board discussed the following item that will be voted on at the April 19, 2021 Regular Voting meeting:

Athletics

## 1. Appointment of 2021-2022 Winter Head Coaches:

-Approval of **Ron Faust** as the Winter 2021-2022 Basketball Head Coach (Step 13+, \$9,627). The head coach for boys basketball may appoint 1 paid varsity assistant coach, 1 paid junior high head coach, 1 paid junior high assistant coach and unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers. *(Record for 2020-2021) – (11-1, 12-5) – Participants-19*

-Approval of **Ron Moore**, with an improvement plan in which he has already agreed upon, as the Winter 2021-2022 Girls Basketball Head Coach (step 4-6, \$7,348). The head coach for girls basketball may appoint 1 paid varsity assistant coach and unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers. *(Record for 2020-2021) – (5-6, 8-10) – Participants-8*

-Approval of **Joyce Eisiminger** as the Winter 2021-2022 Rifle Head Coach (Step 13+, \$4,624). The head coach for rifle may appoint 1 paid varsity assistant coach with the payment formula of a maximum stipend of \$2,750 and unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers. *(Record for 2020-2021) – (0-10) – Participants-14*

-Approval of **Adrian Turner** as the Winter 2021-2022 Wrestling Head Coach (Step 7-9, \$7,981). The head coach for wrestling may appoint 1 paid varsity assistant coach, 1 junior high head coach with payment formula of a maximum stipend of \$2,750 and unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers. *(Record for 2020-2021) – (1-4, 1-8) – Participants-8*

Contracts, Agreements and Grants

1. Renewal of The Nutrition Group Agreement for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. “Arts Are Education” Resolution for their 2021-2022 educational programs.

Business and Finance

1. Bids for Fall sports
2. Stadium Light Pole Inspection and Painting
3. Stadium Light Replacement Project
4. Preliminary 2021-22 Budget Information

Appointment of School Physician and School Dentist

1. Appointment of Dr. Anna-Binney McCague as School Physician for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. Appointment of Dr. Elizabeth Wakim as School Dentist for the 2021-2022 school year.

Course Curriculum Changes for the 2021-2022 School Year

1. High school curriculum changes *(Uploaded on OneDrive)*

Unfinished Business

-Driver’s Ed Update – Dr. Konrad informed the Board that the Driver’s Ed course will begin as early as the week of April 26<sup>th</sup>. The district plans on running two or three sessions. Each session will be a three week course; 2½ hours a day for 4 days a week.

-Happy Work Update – Dr. Konrad stated that only 40 teachers in the district signed up to participate in the Happy Work program. Due to the low participation rate, the program will not be renewed.

- County Assessment Appeal on Crossroad Building – Mr. Mancini stated that the County and City solicitors are trying to appeal the tax assessment on the Crossroad building. If they are successful in getting the tax assessment lowered, it will mean less tax money for the district.
- Prom – Dr. Konrad thanked Mr. Henderson, Mrs. Calder and Mrs. Ott for all of their hard work planning this year’s Prom, which will be held on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the George Washington Hotel.

### **New Business**

- FID (Flexible Instruction Days) – Dr. Konrad informed the Board that the district will be submitting an application to PDE requesting five (5) flexible instruction days for the next three school years.
- Substantial Rate of Transmission for Second Week/New Attestation Form – Dr. Konrad and Board members discussed keeping schools open, returning to the hybrid schedule or closing schools. Everyone was in favor of keeping the schools open and submitting a new Attestation form to PDE.
- Staffing – Dr. Konrad and Mr. Mihelcic will be meeting with WEA representatives on Friday to discuss open positions; then, next week they will go through the voluntary transfer list to fill positions, and then post for any remaining open positions. Administrators have worked together to make sure they all have adequate staffing positions for next school year.
- Stimulus Money - What can these funds be used towards? – Mr. Mancini uploaded all of the ESSR funds the district has received and how the funds will be used over the next several years.
- Fourth Quarter Grading – Dr. Konrad stated that students cannot get lower than 40% for their fourth quarter grade.
- Summer School – If students have been struggling with their grades, the principals have been in contact with them throughout the school year. Any student failing their current grade level will have to attend summer school if they want to move onto the next grade level.
- Change May 10<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Due to budget approval guidelines, the May 10<sup>th</sup> Board meeting will need to be moved to May 3 to allow the allotted number of days between the approval of the preliminary budget and the final budget. After a short discussion, the following action was taken:

**Change Date of May Worksession Board Meeting:** Mrs. Pleta moved and Mrs. Cherry seconded that the Board approve the following:

- Change the May Worksession Board Meeting from Monday, May 10, 2021 to Monday, May 3, 2021. The meeting will be held at 6:30 pm in the high school media center and via Zoom video conference.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Superintendent’s Weekly Update**

- Dr. Konrad emailed his weekly update to Board members last Friday.

### **Solicitor’s Report**

- Attorney Jewell had no report.

**Information**

**A. Regular Voting Meeting** – Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the high school media center and via Zoom Video Conferencing

**B. PSSA and Keystone Exam Dates** – Letters were mailed home to parents

-PSSA (Grades 3-6) – May 3-13, 2021

-PSSA (Grades 7-8) – May 3-20, 2021

-Keystone Exams (High School) – May 17-28, 2021

**Adjournment:** Moved by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mrs. Roberts that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously. 8:33 pm.

/s/Lisa Coffield  
Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary