

November 8, 2021

A worksession meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, November 8, 2021 in the high school cafeteria and via Zoom video conference.

The meeting was called to order by President Sparks-Gatling at 6:39 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: Mr. Richard Mancini, Director of District Operations
Mrs. Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary
Mrs. Rebecca Heaton-Hall, Solicitor

Administrators: Mr. Chet Henderson, Mrs. Courtney LeViere, Mr. Lou Magnotta, Mr. Robert Mihelcic, Mrs. Stephenie Russell, Ms. Jocelyn Sabruno and Mr. Darren Vaccaro

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 to Ram Karamcheti and Wash High Cross Country! Members of our cross country team participated in the WPIAL Cross Country Championships on October 28th at California University. Ram qualified for the PIAA State Meet on November 5th in Hershey.

A special thank you to teacher Katy Hofrichter for hosting the Youth Move PA: Suicide Prevention Training for Students. We would also like to thank the following students and Ms. Devon Strimel for participating in the training that was held on November 2 after school:

Logan Carlisle	Kelly Pawuk
Sophie Marshall	Angie Batson
Cassidy Jackson	Conner Roberts

Congratulations to Mr. Magnotta and the Junior High School!

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Positive Behavior Support (PAPBS) Network, we are pleased to acknowledge that Washington Junior High School met criteria for actively maintaining participation in School-Wide (SW PBIS) or Program-Wide (PW PBIS) Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports during the 2020-21 school year.

Washington Junior High School will be acknowledged at the 2021 Virtual Equity is MTSS, PAPBS Implementers' Forum to be held on November 10, 2021, in the following ways:

[Annual PaPBS Network Booklet](#)

A booklet listing all programs and schools being acknowledged for participation will be made available in electronic format. We will release this booklet on 11/10/2021 during the Virtual Forum Luncheon.

[Participation Celebration Luncheon via Zoom November 10, 2021](#)

During the lunchtime break from 12:40 to 1:30, a rolling list of all the schools and programs being acknowledged will be shown via zoom. No registration is required for this session.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/99193085759?pwd=Uk0wVjNpT3p5bUxpc1IvMnU4VUVEUT09>

Passcode: 762972 Or One tap mobile: US: +13126266799, 99193085759# or +19292056099, 99193085759#

Students of the Month

Grade 2 – Catalaya Whitlock

Grade 6 – Presley Olson

Grade 8 – Ada Ralston

Grade 12 – Diana Jandres

Grade 12 – Kelly Pawuk

Questions on the Agenda: The Board reviewed the agenda.

Agenda: Ms. Ward moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Accept the resignation of **Dr. James Konrad**, Superintendent of Schools, after 4½ years of service in the district, effective January 9, 2022, or on a mutually agreed upon earlier date.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Roberts moved and Mrs. Cherry seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appointment of **Morgan Fahey** as part-time paraprofessional at the elementary school, 186 days a year, 5 hours a day, contractual rate, retroactive to November 1, 2021.

-Addition of **Megan Phillips** and **Michaela Scott** to the list of substitute foodservice workers.

-Family Medical Leave for **Employee #1789** effective November 1, 2021 through December 23, 2021. *(Per the Family and Medical Leave Act and District Policy No. 410, eligible employees are entitled to take up to 60 unpaid days during a 12-month period for the specific type of FMLA leave requested by this employee.)*

-Addition to the list of certified substitute teachers:

Frank Zebrasky – Special Education PK-12 and Mid-Level Math 6-9

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletics: Mrs. Cherry moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appointment of the 2021-2022 Winter assistant coaches, as attached. *Exhibit A*

Motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy: Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

-First reading, pursuant to Washington School District Policy No. 001, of the following policy:
Policy #001 - Adoption of Policy

Motion carried unanimously.

Business and Finance: Mrs. Pleta moved and Mrs. Cherry seconded that the following item be removed from the table:

-Residential LERTA Applications submitted by:

Thelma Turner
63 Sumner Avenue
Washington, PA 15301
Tax Parcel ID #760-018-00-02-0013-00
(Construction of a new 1,200 square foot ranch single family home)

Bianca Walden
65 Sumner Avenue
Washington, PA 15301
Tax Parcel ID #760-018-00-02-0012-00
(Construction of a new 1,200 square foot ranch single family home)

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Roberts moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the Board approve the following:

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Motion carried, members voting as follows:

Mrs. Barnes	-yes	Mrs. Pleta	-yes	Dr. Shiller	-yes
Mr. Campbell	-yes	Mrs. Roberts	-yes	Mrs. Sparks-Gatling	- yes
Mrs. Cherry	-yes	Ms. Ruby	-yes	Ms. Ward	-no

Memorandum of Understanding: Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the Board approve the following:

-The Memorandum of Understanding between Washington School District and the Washington Education Support Professionals for the contracted employment of two COVID-19 secretaries for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Committee of the Whole Discussion: Board members and administrators discussed the following items that will be voted on at the November 15, 2021 meeting:

Contracts, Agreements and Grants

1. Intermediate Unit 1 Agreements to provide Title I services to students of Washington School District who are attending non-public schools during the 2021-2022 school year. Also, Title II and Title IV services for John F. Kennedy Elementary School.
2. Extend the contracted services of Sandy Sabot for assistance with public/media relation duties at a rate of \$35 per hour, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

Unfinished Business

- Capital Projects – Mr. Mancini discussed the possibility of doing a Reserve Study, which is a 30-year projected road map for capital projects.
- Update on Window Project – Mr. Mancini stated that the windows have all been installed and workers are completing finishing work. The goal is have the classrooms opened when students return from Thanksgiving break.
- Update on Alternative Educational Delivery for Students – Mr. Sparks-Gatling asked if the district is still considering educating students who are quarantined at home. Dr. Konrad stated that WEA has drafted an MOU which would allowed quarantined students to participate through remote instruction. The Association has to vote on the MOU. If they pass the MOU, it will come before the Board for approval.
- Prexie Center – Mrs. Sparks-Gatling asked if the volunteers working in the Prexie Center have submitted all of their required paperwork. Mrs. Pleta stated that everyone has submitted their forms.
- Restrooms at the Jr/Sr High School – Mrs. Sparks-Gatling inquired as to whether some of the restrooms were closed during the day. Mr. Henderson stated that some of the restrooms on the first and second floors were closed due to soap being removed from the dispensers and thrown in the garbage. Also, there were some other incidents occurring in the restrooms. They plan reopening the restrooms and monitoring them more frequently.
- Update on the Comprehensive Plan – Mrs. Sparks-Gatling asked Dr. Konrad how far along he was on the Comprehensive Plan, and if he thought he could have it completed before he left the district. Dr. Konrad stated that Plan has three sections. Section one is completed. Section two is 50% completed and Section three is 40% completed. The Plan doesn't have to be submitted to the State until August 2022.

-Lemoyne and Clark School properties – Mr. Mancini informed the Board that the closing on the Lemoyne property is scheduled for Friday at noon. City council voted against the Clark School building being sold as a residential treatment facility.

New Business

-Administrator Updates – Mr. Henderson, Mr. Magnotta, Mr. Vaccaro and Mrs. LeViere gave their updates earlier in the evening. Mrs. Russell, Ms. Sabruno and Mr. Mihelcic gave their updates to the Board.

-Joyce Ellis Plaque – Mr. Campbell asked if one of the district maintenance workers could go to the Lemoyne Center to hang a plaque for Ms. Ellis.

Superintendent's Weekly Update

-Dr. Konrad emailed his weekly update to Board members last Friday. He also shared his updates with all staff members and post the update on the school website.

Solicitor's Report

-Attorney Heaton-Hall had no report.

Information

- A. **November Voting Meeting** – Monday, November 15th at 6:30 in the high school cafeteria
- B. **Thanksgiving Break** – Wednesday, November 24th through Monday, November 29th
- C. Withdraw of a former employee's worker's compensation claim

Adjournment: Moved by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Ms. Ward that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. 8:30 pm.

/s/Lisa Coffield
Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary