

February 14, 2022

A worksession meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, February 14, 2022 in the high school cafeteria and via Zoom video conference.

The meeting was called to order by President Sparks-Gatling at 6:33 pm, followed by the pledge of allegiance and the district's mission and audio/video recording statements.

**Roll Call:**

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

Absent: Ms. Karen Ruby

Non-Voting Member Present: Mr. George Lammay, Interim Superintendent

Present: Mr. Richard Mancini, Director of District Operations  
Mrs. Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary  
Mrs. Rebecca Heaton-Hall, Solicitor

Administrators: Mr. John Digon, Mr. Chet Henderson, Mr. Robert Mihelcic, Mrs. Stephenie Russell, Ms. Jocelyn Sabruno and Mr. Darren Vaccaro

**Executive Session:** An executive session was held prior to the start of the Board meeting to discuss a legal issue relating to a health and safety issue. No action was taken

**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.

-Kelly Wright, parent, 75 West Hallam Avenue, stated that she would like the mask mandate to stay in place until the end of the school year.

-Jason Green, parent, 245 Duncan Avenue, stated that he wants the mask mandate to end. All of the other local school districts have ended their mask mandates.

**Recognitions**

**Students of the Month**

Grade 2 – Nikolas Gatts

Grade 6 – Jacob Sandy

Grade 8 – Kara Anderson

Grade 12 – Jacquelyn Thomas

Grade 12 – Autumn Herbstsomer

Special Presentation

-Mr. Dan Kendra, Engineer, gave a report on the TRANE ventilation study at the jr/sr high school.

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

**Agenda:** Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Kelley seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

- Resignation of **Alexandra Cottom** as the Cheerleading Sponsor, effective at the end of the 2021-2022 winter sports season.
- Resignation of **Katherine Hofrichter** as assistant director for the Prexie Performers, retroactive to October 1, 2021.
- Resignation of **David Visser**, full-time maintenance worker, after 4 years of service in the district, Mr. Visser's last day of work was February 11, 2022.
- Resignation of **Savannah Ammons**, 12-month secretary, after 3 years of service in the district, Ms. Ammon's last day of work will be February 21, 2022.
- Resignation of **Jennifer Jennings**, part-time paraprofessional, after 2 months of service in the district. Mrs. Jennings last day of work was February 7, 2022.
- Appointment of **Stacy Waters** as a part-time paraprofessional at the elementary school, 186 days a year, 5 hours a day, contractual rate, effective February 14, 2022.
- Appoint **Timothy Grebeck** as the replacement assistant director for the Prexie Performers, stipend of \$849, retroactive to October 1, 2021. (*Replacement for Katherine Hofrichter.*)
- Appointment of **Mary Transue** as a Temporary Assignment Substitute Teacher (an assignment for 46-89 days), with consecutive 1-45 days required in the same assignment, Step 1 of the salary scale to start on the 46<sup>th</sup> day, attendance at Act 80 and/or District Inservice days, effective February 14, 2022. (*This vacancy is due to the maternity leave of Kelsey Young.*)
- Addition of **Mary Gordon** and **Joshua Wise** to the list of Washington School District Emergency Substitute Teachers.
- Addition of **Matthew Boice** (Certified - Music PK-12) to the list of substitute teachers.
- Intermittent Family Medical Leave for **Employee #1316**, retroactive to February 10, 2022. (*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.*)

Motion carried unanimously.

**Students:** Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the Board approve the following:

-**Exclusive Field Trip** for the Wash High Band to Disney World, Orlando, Florida on April 14-19, 2022.

-Authorize a student settlement agreement and release, number 2022-001, under terms and conditions recommended by the Solicitor, and to authorize the execution of related terms of agreement.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Athletics:** Mrs. Roberts moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the Board table the following action item:

-Appointment of **Hudson Shoup** as the Fall 2022-2023 Soccer Head Coach, Step 1, \$5,206. The head coach for soccer 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.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Ward moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appointment of **Jessica Branagan** and **Sydney Bury** as middle school volleyball coaches. Ms. Branagan and Ms. Bury have agreed to split half of the coaching duties and half of the coaching stipend for the 2021-2022 middle school volleyball season. (*Stipend formula is a maximum of \$2,750.*)

-Appointment of **George Walz** as a volunteer baseball coach for the 2021-2022 season.

-Appointment of assistant and volunteer coaches for Spring sports, as attached. Exhibit A

Motion carried, members present voting as follows:

Mrs. Barnes	-abstain	Mrs. Roberts	-yes
Mr. Campbell	-yes	Dr. Shiller	-yes
Mrs. Kelley	-yes	Mrs. Sparks-Gatling	-yes
Mrs. Pleta	-yes	Ms. Ward	-yes

**Board Policy:** Mrs. Barnes moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

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

- Policy #014 – Volunteers
- Policy #422 – Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures
- Policy #813 – School Bus Drivers
- Policy #814 – School Vehicle Drivers
- Policy #815 – Contracted Services Personnel

Motion carried unanimously.

**Business and Finance:** Mrs. Pleta moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Award the following E-Rate contracts for the 2022-2023 school year:

- a. Award the contract for upgrading the fiber connection between the high school and elementary school buildings to DQE Communications, at a cost of \$675 per month.
- b. Award the contract for 1 Gbps internet service to DQE Communications, at a cost of \$850 per month.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution Authorizing Mr. Lammay's Signature for the Department of Education:** Mrs. Roberts moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Resolution authorizing Mr. George Lammay, Interim Superintendent, to sign any and all contracts, agreements, grants and /or licenses with the Department of Education. The use of electronic signatures by the above named individual and that no handwritten signature from the above named individual shall be required in order for any contract with the Department to be legally enforceable and that by affixing his/her electronic signature to an electronic file of the contract via the Department's e-grants system, the above designated authorized individual shall have effectively executed and delivered the contract, binding the Washington School District to comply with the terms of said contract. Exhibit B

Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee of the Whole Discussion:** Board members and administrators discussed the following items that will be voted on at the February 21, 2022 meeting:

Business and Finance

1. The 2022-2023 Intermediate Unit 1 Budget, as presented.

High School Course Curriculum Changes

1. The high school course curriculum changes for the 2022-2023 school year.

**Unfinished Business**

-Update on window project at the elementary school – Mr. Mancini discussed the timeline and preliminary cost for the project. He is hoping to get bids and award the contract in time for construction to begin in June.

**New Business**

-Awards Day (Grades 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) – The Board agreed to sponsor a \$25 award for each of the four grade levels. Each Board member will contribute \$11 for the awards.

**Superintendent's Report**

-Mr. Lammay stated that work on the Comprehensive Plan did begin in the Fall of last year. Mr. Mihelic, himself and the two elementary principals are working on a new Reading Program. All of the administrators have been diligently working on preparing for next school year.

**Solicitor's Report**

-Attorney Heaton-Hall stated that they are focusing on updating the district's policies and giving day-to-day guidance on legal issues.

**Information**

**A. Regular Voting Meeting** – Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm in the high school cafeteria and via Zoom Video Conferencing

**B. Ethics "Statement of Financial Interests" Forms** – Please complete your forms and return them to Mr. Mancini by the end of February. The forms were mailed to your home address.

**Adjournment:** Moved by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Mrs. Kelley that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously. 7:58 pm.

/s/Lisa Coffield  
Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary