

February 12, 2024

A worksession meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, February 12, 2024 in the high school cafeteria.

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	Mrs. Kimberly Kelley
	Mr. John Campbell, Sr.	Mrs. Pamela Kilgore
	Mrs. Jennifer Ewing	Mrs. Amy Roberts
	Mr. Rodney Jones	Mrs. Tara Sparks-Gatling

Absent: Mr. Eric Bird

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

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

Administrators: Mrs. Camilla Justice, Mrs. Courtney LeViere, Mr. Lou Magnotta,
Mr. Robert Mihelcic, Mr. Matthew Mols, 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 desire to speak, the meeting continued.

Questions on the Agenda: The Board reviewed the agenda.

Recognitions

-Congratulations to Mr. Ron Faust for being inducted in the WPIAL Hall of Fame Class of 2024.

Mr. Faust finished his 36-year career with a record of 653-241, spending two different stints at his alma mater Washington as the boys' basketball head coach (1981-2010, 2014-2022) ... Guided Washington to 22 section championships, four WPIAL titles (1984, 1985, 1986, 1990), and two PIAA Class 2A championships (1984, 1986) ... Posted a perfect 6-0 record in WPIAL and PIAA Championship Games ... Led the Little Prexies to 52 consecutive wins from 1984 to 1985 ... Named Dapper Dan Basketball Coach of the Year twice and the Pennsylvania Class 2A Coach of the Year in 1984 ... Graduated from the California University of Pennsylvania in 1973 and was a four-year letter winner in baseball ... Inducted into the Washington-Greene County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame in 2002.

-The High School Rifle Team would like to thank the Safari Club International, 3-State Chapter for their support. The Safari Club donated three new coats to the Rifle Team. Their support is greatly appreciated.

-On Wednesday, February 7, Mrs. Brown and Mr. Campbell accompanied 21 Advanced English 12 and AP English Language pupils to Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum Trust to be present for the 6th Annual High School Student Black History Month Summit. Stop the

Violence! Pittsburgh, founded by Mr. William Marshall presented a program that shined a spotlight on the Fly Boys: the Tuskegee Airmen of Western Pennsylvania, the Freedom House Ambulance Service, and the National Negro Opera Company. Washington School District was the sole participating school from Washington County to enter the Essay Contest. Six of our students were recognized for their writing(s) with Visa Pre-Paid Gift Cards:

Grade 11:

Isabella Gillott

Gloria Rush

Mackenzie Patterson

Grade 12:

Amara Garrett

Mareesa Garrett

Shawn Thomas

Isabella Gillott received further recognition securing a second-place win (\$100) at the Southwestern Pennsylvania level of winners.

Agenda: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Kelley seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Resolution for the nomination of **Tara Sparks-Gatling** for election to the Intermediate Unit 1 Board of Directors.

Motion carried, Mrs. Sparks-Gatling abstained from the vote, all other members present voted “yes”.

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

-Resignation of **Dana VanTine**, special education teacher, after 4 years of service in the district, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

-Resignation of **Wendy Harris**, full-time paraprofessional, after 3 months of service in the district. Mrs. Harris last day of work was February 9, 2024.

-Recommend **Gregory Avery** as a full-time custodian, 260 days a year, 8 hours a day, contractual rate, effective February 13, 2024.

-Recommend **Derek Behrens** as a full-time custodian, 260 days a year, 8 hours a day, contractual rate, effective February 13, 2024.

-Sabbatical leave for professional development for **Sarah Sproul**, elementary school teacher, for the 2024-2025 school year.

-Intermittent Family Medical Leave for **Employee #1204**, retroactive to January 31, 2024. (*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.*)

-Intermittent Family Medical Leave for **Employee #1316**, retroactive to January 13, 2024. (*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.*)

-Extend the Temporary Long-Term Assignment of **Mercedes Conner** as a secondary math teacher, Master's Degree, Step 1, \$47,160 pro-rated, retroactive to January 24, 2024 through the end of the school year. Ms. Conner started in this long-term position back on August 24, 2023. (*This vacancy is due to the resignation of Kelsey Echard.*)

Motion carried on all above items. Mrs. Kelley abstained from voting on the recommendation for Derek Behrens.

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

-Motion to approve student settlement 01-2023-2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

-Wash High Cheer Booster Organization bylaws.

Motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Kelley seconded that the Board approve the following:

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

Policy #408 – Discrimination – Title IX Sexual Harassment, along with attachments

Policy #550 – Discrimination – Title IX Sexual Harassment, along with attachments

Policy #707 – Purchases Subject to Bid

Motion carried unanimously.

Contracts, Agreements and Grants: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Contracted employment of Leigh Dennick to provide special education consulting services to the district, \$65 per hour, effective February 12, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

-Continue contracting with Weiss, Burkardt, Kramer, LLC to provide legal services.

Motion carried unanimously.

Committee of the Whole Discussion: Board members and administrators discussed the following items that will be voted on at the February 20, 2024 meeting:

Athletics

1. Recommendations for Spring assistant and volunteer coaches

Board Policy

1. Second reading and adoption of the policies that were approved at tonight's meeting.

Business and Finance

The 2024-2025 Intermediate Unit 1 Budget as presented.

New Business

-Board members will sponsor \$25 awards again this year for students in 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades.

Superintendent's Report

-Mr. Lammay reported on his IU1, WACTC and SLT monthly meetings, his interview with Gary Stout regarding school funding that ran in the Observer-Reporter on February 11th, his interview with PSBA regarding challenges schools face for video, the Comprehensive Plan, teacher negotiations, cyber charter funding and staffing.

Solicitor's Report

-Attorney Heaton-Hall had no report.

Information**A. February Regular Voting Board Meeting**

Regular Voting Meeting – **Tuesday**, February 20, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the high school cafeteria

B. Presidents' Day – Monday, February 19th – NO SCHOOL**C. Jr. High School's Semi Formal – Friday, February 16th from 6:30 to 9:30 pm in the cafeteria****D. Intermediate Unit 1's Convention and Student Showcase at the Hilton Garden Inn**

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Student Showcase will begin at 1:00 pm

In-Person Voting will take place from 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm

Dinner will be at 6:30 pm

RSVP to Lisa by the end of February if you plan on attending.

E. Ethics "Statement of Financial Interests" Forms – Please complete your forms and return them to Mr. Mancini. The forms were mailed to your home address.

Board Member Comment: No comments.

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

Motion carried unanimously. 6:46 pm.

Executive Session: An executive session was held after the meeting to discuss a "Privilege" issue. No action was taken.

/s/Lisa Coffield
Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary