



## **12/15/21 SPECIAL MEETING**

SPECIAL MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2021

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 6:30 PM

### *Roll Call*

**Present:** Tracy Doughtie, Albert Bieber, Chris Gastrock, Wayne Hackett, John Hoover, Maegan McConnell, Lee Stocks, Linda West

## **1. Call to Order**

### **Minutes**

The Special Meeting of the Wellsboro Area School District Board of Directors was called to order by President Gastrock at 6:30 PM in the Auditorium of the Administration Office at 227 Nichols Street, Wellsboro PA 16901.

## **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Minutes**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Gastrock.

## **3. Roll Call of Members**

The roll call demonstrated 8 members were present.

### **Minutes**

Roll call of members indicated 8 members present.

## **4. Announcement of Executive Session**

The Board of Directors held an Executive Session on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 for the purpose of legal, 5:30 PM, Old Music Room (Administration Office)

### **Minutes**

President Gastrock announced that an Executive Session had been held on Wednesday, December 15, 2021, for the purpose of legal at 5:30 PM in the Old Music Room at the Administration Office.

## **5. Reading of Notice of Special Meeting**

### **Minutes**

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, (1974, July 1, P.L. 486, No. 175, Section 1, et. Seq.) that the Board of School Directors of the Wellsboro Area School District will hold a special meeting on Wednesday,

December 15, 2021, at 6:30 PM for the purpose of approving WASD general business that may come before the Board. The Special Meeting will be held in the High School Auditorium of the Administration Office located at 227 Nichols Street, Wellsboro PA 16901.

## 6. Concerned Resident Issues

***Residents must first state clearly their full name and address. They will be allowed no more than five (5) minutes to state their concerns to the Board. Allegations regarding students or teachers are to be provided to the Administration. They are not to be discussed in public. Speakers may be held liable for untrue statements.***

### Minutes

Mr. Hoover made a statement in advance of any concerned resident issues as follows: "If we could all gather here tonight on the premise and belief that we're here to do what's best for our children and community, it will help the discussion and will help us to proceed in a productive manner."

Concerned resident issues were presented by many different facets within the district and community. Students, parents, grandparents, medical community, and school employees addressed the Directors with their viewpoints on the district's current health and safety plan and the requirement to wear masks. Viewpoints expressed included the need to continue masking within the schools due to the high transmission rate of COVID-19 within the community, the idea of a compromise of when masks must be worn within the buildings and when they could be removed, and that masking should be parental choice and not left up to the district to make the determination.

Following the public comments, President Gastrock thanked all for their comments and for informing the board of their concerns and viewpoints. He also stated that the Review and Discussion of the Health and Safety Plan on August 10, 2021, was placed on the agenda to authorize the board to have a discussion regarding the Health and Safety Plan.

The Board of Directors each had an opportunity to express their viewpoints and they varied from not recommending changes to the current Health and Safety Plan, to finding compromises for when masks could be removed during school, and others who support parental choice in masking for their children.

This section of the agenda concluded with a statement from President Gastrock that no vote will be considered this evening and the Directors charged Dr. Freeman and the administrative team to make recommendations/opportunities of unmasking throughout the school day.

## 7. Approval of Agenda

### Minutes

Mr. Hoover, second by Mr. Stocks, approved the agenda as presented.

## 8. Action Items: Administration and Organization

### A. Review and Discussion of Health and Safety Plan of August 10, 2021

## Minutes

On a motion made by Mr. Hackett, second by Mr. Bieber, the Board agreed that no vote would be considered this evening and that the current Health and Safety Plan remains in force until amended. The intentions of the Directors is to review this topic at a future meeting.

### Vote Results

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**Yea:** 8 Tracy Doughtie, Albert Bieber, Chris Gastrock, Wayne Hackett, John Hoover, Maegan McConnell, Lee Stocks, Linda West  
**Nay:** 0  
**Abstain:** 0  
**Not Cast:** 0

## 9. Concerned Resident Issues

### Minutes

None further at this time.

## 10. Adjournment

### Minutes

The meeting adjourned on a motion made by Mr. Stocks, second by Mrs. Doughtie, at 8:52 PM.



