

Wellsboro Area School District
Board of Education
WORK SESSION MINUTES
March 2, 2021

Called to Order by President Susan Judlin at 6:30 PM in the Auditorium, Administration Office, 227 Nichols Street, Wellsboro, PA, via Zoom Meeting.

Roll Call of Members: Mrs. Tracy Doughtie, Mr. Chris Gastrock, Mr. John Hoover, Mrs. Susan Judlin, Mr. Lee Stocks, and Mrs. Linda West were present at rollcall. Mr. Matt Feil joined the meeting at 6:50 PM and Mr. David Messineo joined the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Present were the following: Dr. Brenda Freeman, Superintendent; Mrs. Laura Perry, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Administrators: Mr. Steven Adams, Mr. Robert Kreger, Mr. Ben Miller, Mr. Jeremy Byrd, Mr. Todd Outman, Mr. Daren Bryant, Mr. Bryan Murphy, and Mr. Tim Hanner.

Mrs. Judlin announced that the Directors will be holding an Executive Session following the work session for legal purposes.

Bureau of Career & Technical Education Approved Program – Evaluation Correction Plan – Mr. Jeremy Byrd

Mr. Byrd addressed the Directors regarding the Approved Program Evaluation Correction Plan and Status Update as it related to the Bureau of Career and Technical Education program at the High School. The Corrective Action Plan was reviewed and requires submission within 30 days of receipt. The discussion included the recommendation for an Occupational Advisory Committee for each program and the need to address the physical needs of the green house that would expand the existing footprint as it has reached the end of its useful life. Mr. Byrd's update included the sharing of reinstating a nursing program as the medical community is number one employer within Tioga County. Questions posted by the Directors included the concern of our CTE programs expanding beyond capacity and if there could be a CTE program for early childhood education. Dr. Freeman stated that expansion is something to consider in the district's long-term planning, it is not an immediate need. Both Dr. Freeman and Mr. Byrd confirmed that there are early childhood education programs available. Motion for

Business Manager Update – Mrs. Laura Perry

Mrs. Perry reviewed an agreement with Safe School (Vector Solutions) for the administration and tracking of mandatory staff trainings. She mentioned that while the district receives a base package of training materials free of charge through Utica National Insurance, there remains a cluster of programs/trainings geared specifically towards special education topics. The annual subscription would cost \$ 3,000 and would meet the reporting records of the district. This item will appear on the March agenda for formal board consideration.

The district received confirmation from Riddell that many the district's existing football helmets would no longer be able to be certified for use after the 2020/21 school year due to their age. The administration has received a quote from Riddell for the purchase of 23 helmets, with 2 free helmets totaling \$ 8,794.95. The administration's recommendation is to purchase the helmets in the current fiscal year with a budget transfer from unused travel expense for fall sports instead of needing to add this expenditure as a line item into the 2021/22 budget development. The directors agreed with the recommendation.

The administration has received a request for the sale of miscellaneous music items from Don Gill Elementary School. A listing has been provided to the directors and these are all items that are no longer in use within the music curriculum. The directors will consider sale of the items at next week's board meeting.

Technology Leases: Copiers and Servers – Mr. Bryan Murphy

Mr. Murphy was able to provide updated quotes to the Directors as it related to a Copier Lease Renewal through Topp Business Solutions for Konica Minolta equipment. The annual cost for a 5-year lease agreement totals \$ 29,483.70. In comparison to the existing copier lease, the district is posed to recognize \$ 68,195 in savings under the new agreement.

Regarding the updated Server Lease quote, Mr. Murphy stated the new lease agreement would be for a 48-month term in the amount of \$ 104,929.90 and that the district will own the equipment at the conclusion of the lease agreement. The Directors agreed to add both of these items onto the March agenda for consideration.

Director of Buildings and Grounds – Playgrounds at Charlotte Lappla and Don Gill – Mr. Bryant

Mr. Bryant initiated a discussion with the Directors as to the intentions of either including Poured-In-Place base (rubberized) or the use of mulch as the new playground foundation. Mr. Bryant has been asked to gather additional information such as warranty, patching, and pricing. The administration will add this item onto the March board meeting agenda for board consideration to initiate the playground purchase and to be included on the Summer, 2021, installation schedule.

Superintendent Update – Dr. Brenda Freeman

The district has been working with Tioga County Emergency Management on a county-wide initiative to install GPS systems on buses. The associated cost will be approximately \$ 15,000 per school. This system will allow all the transportation vehicles to be located when operational. This will be an inclusion within one of the district's safety grants.

Regarding PSSA testing, there will be no USDE waivers issued due to COVID-19 as there was during the 2019/20 school year. The PA Department of Education is extending the testing window through September 2021. Dr. Freeman's recommendation is to continue with the typical schedule of PSSA testing this Spring. She reiterated that the test results will not be available until late Fall, 2021, and will be used as an assessment of the learning gaps at the state level.

The work session adjourned at 7:45 PM into an Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Perry, Secretary to the Board

Board Secretary

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