

**WELLSBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
TIOGA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE WELLSBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT OF TIOGA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, DIRECTING AND AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, WELFARE, AND SAFETY OF ITS STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES; TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH DIRECTIVES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES; TO CALL EMERGENCY MEETINGS AS NECESSARY; TO SCHEDULE SPECIAL MEETINGS AS NEEDED; TO ALLOW FOR THE ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS BY ELECTRONIC DEVICES; TO PREPARE WORK SCHEDULES AND PLANS FOR ALL EMPLOYEES; TO PREPARE A TRANSITION FOR EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS TO WORK FROM HOME; TO ACQUIRE ALL SERVICES NECESSARY TO PREPARE ALL DISTRICT BUILDINGS TO REOPEN; AND TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO OPERATE THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has designated a pandemic situation with respect to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, by Proclamation of Disaster Emergency of March 6, 2020, Governor Wolfe determined, among other things, that the “threat of imminent disaster and emergency has already caused schools to close, and will likely prompt additional local measures, including affected

county and municipal governments to declare a local disaster emergency because of COVID-19;’
and

WHEREAS, the Proclamation of Disaster Emergency states: “I hereby urge the governing bodies and executive officers of all political subdivisions affected by this emergency to act as necessary to meet the current exigencies as legally authorized under this Proclamation, namely by the employment of temporary workers, by the rental of equipment, and by entering into such contracts and agreements as may be required to meet the emergency, all without regard to those time consuming procedures and formalities normally prescribed by law, mandatory constitutional requirements excepted;” and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law at 65 Pa.C.S. §703 defines “emergency meeting” as “a meeting called for the purpose of dealing with a real or potential emergency involving a clear and present danger to life or property” and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent is the Chief Administrator of the School District and will have to make quick and decisive decisions pertaining to the declaration of emergency that has been issued by the government; and

WHEREAS, due to the unprecedented nature of the pandemic that has been declared, the Board of School Directors directs and authorizes the Superintendent to take all steps necessary to follow all federal and state mandates, to assure the health, welfare and safety of all students and employees, to take all steps necessary to see to it that the School District continues to function during this unprecedented time, and to take all steps necessary to reopen all District buildings when authorized to do so by state and federal authorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein by reference.

2. The Superintendent is directed and authorized to schedule special and emergency meetings as provided pursuant to Pennsylvania law.

3. The Superintendent and Business Manager are authorized and directed to pay all regularly occurring bills as they come due to make sure that the School District is not in arrears on any account, and does not default on any payment obligations. These items will be included on the Agenda for the next official meeting for ratification or retroactive approval.

4. The Board hereby suspends provisions of any Board policies that would prohibit Executive Sessions or other matters that do not require public access by remote communication. The Board also suspends any policy or provision that prohibits Board Members from participating in emergency, special, or regular meetings by remote access as provided by the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law.

5. The Superintendent is authorized and directed to enter into contracts or agreements that will allow the District to maintain continuous operations, including but not limited to temporary Memoranda of Understanding with representative associations involved with Collective Bargaining Agreements. These items will be included on the Agenda for the next official meeting for ratification or retroactive approval.

6. The Superintendent is authorized and directed to prepare the School District for the return of students and employees when authorized by federal and state directives.

7. The Superintendent is directed and authorized to call emergency meetings pursuant to the Sunshine Law if it is for the purpose of dealing with a real or potential emergency involving a clear and present danger to life and property as provided by law.

8. The Superintendent is directed and authorized to designate employment days as provided by the School Code, applicable Collective Bargaining Agreements, applicable Act 93 Agreements, and as directed and authorized by state or federal officials.

9. The School Board, to the maximum amount permitted by law, is authorized to conduct meetings electronically as provided by the Sunshine Law.

ENACTED AND RESOLVED as a Resolution of Wellsboro Area School District, Tioga County, Pennsylvania at a duly assembled public meeting this _____ day of March, 2020.

WELLSBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT,
Tioga County, Pennsylvania

ATTEST:

By: _____
(Vice) President of the Board of School Directors

(Assistant) Secretary of the Board
of School Directors

(SEAL)