

Board Work Session Minutes

December 2, 2020

WESTERN WAYNE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
1970C Easton Turnpike
LAKE ARIEL, PA 18436

The work session of the Western Wayne Board of Education was held on December 2, 2020 at 6:00 PM via Zoom meeting and in the LGI of the High School due to the COVID-19 pandemic and was live broadcast over YouTube in preparation for the December 2, 2020 Board Meeting and Reorganization schedule to follow the work session.

The meeting was advertised in the legal section of the November 19, 2020 edition of the Tri-County Independent.

Board Members present are as follows:

Board President – Bernice Fiorella	Board Member – William Gershey
Board Vice President – Rick Hoch	Board Member - Joseph Gombita
Board Treasurer – Jeffrey Gogolski	Board Member – Michael Ochlan
Board Member – Dana DeSiato	Board Member – Ethan Wood
Board Member – Gary Enslin	

Solicitor Matthew Meagher was present.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Dr. Matthew Barrett, Assistant to Superintendent Cynthia LaRosa, and Business Manager/Board Secretary Rose Emmett.

Dr. Barrett presented a draft of the upcoming items for December 2, 2020 Board Meeting.

After review of the agenda, Dr. Barrett discussed the possibility that Western Wayne School District may need to switch to virtual learning for all students because of the substantial level of community transmission in Wayne County. It is the recommendation of PA Department of Education and the PA Department of Health. This would occur on December 14, 2020 and continue through December 23, 2020 at which time we will be closing down for our holiday break. Many of the Board Members disagreed with this recommendation, but after a lengthy conversation, agreed to abide by Dr. Barrett's final determination.

Dr. Barrett also relayed information from the Lackawanna League regarding winter sports. Competition will be delayed until after the holiday break, but conditioning and practices can start this week for the time we are in school. If we were to go virtual, all extra-curricular activities would need to stop.

Dr. Barrett informed the Board of Education that he is in discussion with the Western Wayne Education Association for procedures that will be followed if we use Flexible Instructions Days.

Dr. Barrett and Miss Emmett also discussed what is happening at the State level in regards to transportation payments to Contractors when we go virtual. This issue is addressed in Act 136 of 2020 but we are still waiting on final language

in regards to variable costs. Variable costs would need to be deducted from Contractor pay for the time they are not driving our students.

The meeting concluded at approximately 7:07 PM.

The Board of Education went into an Executive session immediately after the work session for personnel.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rose E. Emmett
Board Secretary

ATTEST: _____

APPROVED: _____