WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SESSION

NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Members Present: Bob Seprish, Christina Brown Chad Diviney, Tom Veres, Don Yontosh, Larry Allen, Jim Emigh, Paul Carr

Members Absent: Melvin Smeal

Other: David Consiglio, Solicitor

Media Present: Tyler Kolesar, The Progress News

Administration Present: Michelle Dutrow, Erick Johnston, Allison Koleno, David Williamson, Mark Mitchell, JR Holenchik,

Others Present: Holly Petriskey

**OPENING EXERCISES**

President Chad Diviney called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. All present were asked to Stand and

pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the meeting minutes from

October 26, 2020. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Allison Koleno, Elementary Principal:

* Compliance Monitoring
* Remote Conference Night a success

Mark Mitchell, Middle School Principal:

* Remote Conference Night a success
* IXL

Joseph Holenchik, High School Principal:

* Remote Conference Night a success
* Remote Instruction Update

Erick Johnston, Business Manager:

* Stadium Project (Spending Update)
* Audit Progress

David Williamson, Athletic Director:

* Attendance Comparison

Tiffany English, Food Service Director:

* District Lunch Counts
* Thanksgiving Dinner

CIU:

* Mr. Carr shared that the CIU is pursuing a line of credit dealing with various projects. He further updated the board about transportation matters

CCCTC:

* Presentation from Trane regarding HVAC, the JOC has opted to have other presentations scheduled

PSBA:

* Mr. Diviney provided an overview of House Bills currently being reviewed by the legislature that directly impact school districts

**PERSONNEL**

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| B. Leathers Retirement  PSERS Special Sick Leave  MS Yearbook Advisor  Paula McGonigal MS Yearbook Advisor | Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the approve the retirement of Betty Leathers, High School Instructional Paraprofessional, effective March 1, 2021. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.  Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following employee who completed a DoH COVID–19 quarantine and qualifies for PSERS Special Sick Leave: Lynne Rockey (24-day quarantine; No Instruction from Home). Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-1-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Seprish – yes; Mr. Carr – no; Mr. Allen – yes; Mr. Veres – yes; Mr. Emigh – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes. 7 – yes; 1 – no.  Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the MOA between the West Branch Area School District and West Branch Area Education Association for the creation of the Middle School Yearbook Advisor Position. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-2-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Seprish – yes; Mr. Carr – no; Mr. Allen – yes; Mr. Veres – no; Mr. Emigh – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes. 6 – yes; 2 – no.  Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Paula McGonigal as Middle School Yearbook Advisor, at the contracted rate, effective immediately. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-2-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Seprish – yes; Mr. Carr – no; Mr. Allen – yes; Mr. Veres – no; Mr. Smeal – yes; Mr. Emigh – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes. 6 – yes; 2 – no. |

**TRANSPORTATION & ATHLETICS**

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| D. Catanzaro Jr. High Head BB Coach  C. Kerfoot Asst. BB Coach  G. Yingling Jr. High Wrestling Coach  J. McDowell Jr. High Cheerleading Coach  Winter Volunteers | Mr. Robert Seprish, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Dave Catanzaro as the Head Jr. High Basketball Coach. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion, and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.  Mr. Yontosh asked if any other candidates applied for the position. Mrs. Dutrow and Mr. Williamson indicated there were no other candidates.  Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Collin Kerfoot as the Assistant Jr. High Basketball Coach. Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.  Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve George Yingling as Head Jr. High Wrestling Coach. Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.  Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Julie McDowell as Jr. High Cheerleading Coach. Mr. Robert Seprish seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.  Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following volunteers for the Winter Athletic Season:   1. Wrestling – JR Holenchik 2. Boys Basketball – Jane Catanzaro, Kody Trude, Terry Trude, Larry Cowder   Mr. Paul Carr seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0. |

**FINANCE & PURCHASE**

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| Disburse-ments  Treasurers Report  Activity Acct.  Payment of Bills | Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following motion:  Disbursements from October / November 2020:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | $61,018.99 | Cafeteria Account | checks 4478 through 4485 | | $16,791.28 | Maintenance Account | check 0014 | | $874,838.81 | General Account | checks 5452 through 54590  excluding checks 54472, 54509, 54529, 54542 | | $952,649.09 | **GRAND TOTAL** |  |   Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.  Mrs. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following motion:  Disbursements from October / November 2020:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | $5,910.30 | General Account | checks 54472, 54509, 54529, 54542 | | $5,910.30 | **GRAND TOTAL** |  |   Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 7-0-1. Mr. Carr abstained from voting due to vendor being a sibling.  Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Treasurers Report for October 2020. Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.  Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Activity Account for October 2020. Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.  Mr. Paul Carr, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the payment of bills through the end of December 2020. Mr. Don Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0. |

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Veres indicated that he had received a telephone call about the media being on the press box roof in the rain during the West Branch vs Curwensville football game. He asked why they weren’t allowed in the press box. Mrs. Dutrow and Mr. Williamson explained that the media was informed ahead of the game that they would be on the roof for the following reasons; 1) the press box will only allow for so many individuals inside while complying with COVID-19 social distancing requirements, and 2) the camera used for live streaming is highly sensitive and would pick up the media commentary that would then conflict with the game announcer.

Mr. Veres asked why the roof on the field house had not been replaced to date. Mrs. Dutrow indicated that when the board decided to not accept the bid from the lone contractor, it was too late to go out for another bid and complete the work prior to winter. Mr. Diviney reminded Mr. Veres that this matter was previously discussed in executive session as a litigation item.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

West Branch Education Association and West Branch Educational Support Association sent thank you notes to the Board of Education for approving the PSERS Special Sick Leave at the meeting held in October.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting 7:53 p.m. Mr. Larry Allen seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Respectively Submitted,

Kasi Martin

Secretary to the Board of Education