

**MINUTES**  
**AGENDA/BUSINESS MEETING OF THE**  
**BALDWIN-WHITEHALL BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**  
**BALDWIN-WHITEHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Wednesday, January 12, 2022**

The Baldwin-Whitehall Board of School Directors met on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. (7:38 p.m. actual start time) at the Central Administration Office in the Boardroom for the Agenda/Business Meeting. There was an Executive Session prior to the Agenda/Business Meeting at 6:30 p.m. and immediately following the Agenda/Business Meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters.

**THE FOLLOWING BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:**

Mr. Robert Achtzehn (present at Central Administration)  
Ms. Karen L. Brown (present at Central Administration)  
Dr. Anthony J. DiCesaro (present at Central Administration)  
Mr. Peter D. Giglione (present at Central Administration)  
Mr. Daniel Knezevich (present at Central Administration)  
Mrs. Amanda L. Priano (present at Central Administration)  
Ms. Janice Tarson (present at Central Administration)  
Ms. Melissa Wood (present at Central Administration)  
Mr. Greg A. Zeman (present at Central Administration)

**Administrators in Attendance:**

Superintendent Dr. Randal Lutz (present at Central Administration) and Director of Finance and Operations Mark Cherpak (present at Central Administration),

**Student Board Representatives Present:**

Michael Pantelis, Sergej Stojanovic, Taslima Chapagai, and Oluwatomisin (Tumi) Ojo (via Electronic Means)

**Solicitor in Attendance:**

Annemarie K. Harr (present at Central Administration)

**1.0 Call to Order**

Mr. Peter Giglione, Board President

**2.0 Pledge of Allegiance**

**3.0 Roll Call**

Theanita Hampsay, Board Secretary, called the roll. (present at Central Administration)

#### **4.0 Mission Statement of School District**

Ms. Tarson read the Mission Statement.

The Baldwin-Whitehall School District is committed to the promotion of excellence through a system of traditional values, a quality educational program, and a world of opportunities.

#### **5.0 Commendations and Recognitions**

##### **5.1 School Director Recognition Month - January 2022**

#### **6.0 Student Board Representative Comments**

##### **6.1 Michael Pantelis, Sergej Stojanovic, Taslima Chapagai, Ramon Rivera, Dylan Lubarski, and Oluwatomisin (Tumi) Ojo**

Michael Pantelis spoke about the recent CYO Basketball charity event that helped raise money and gifts for the Baldwin-Whitehall School District's Angel Tree program.

Sergej Stojanovic thanked the Board Members in honor of School Director Recognition Month. He also spoke about the recent death of a Baldwin High School student, Joseph Kniola, and a successful fundraiser that was done in his name.

Taslina Chapagai spoke about the Baldwin Middle School students and how they have been working with the program Zelle for career planning and common sense media, which helps to teach the students how to navigate the online world. She also spoke about the recent Junior Class Winterfest and how the Junior Class Officers are working with Mr. Tomaszewski on a way to honor their classmate Joseph Kniola.

Oluwatomisin (Tumi) Ojo spoke about the District's elementary schools and how they have been struggling with teacher and student absences due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She said that the Whitehall Elementary School is planning to participate in the Nationwide Science Fair Competition on February 3, 2022 and that the elementary schools are planning for Valentine's Day parties on February 14, 2022.

#### **7.0 Superintendent Report**

##### **7.1 Dr. Randal A. Lutz**

##### **7.2 Update - R. A. Lutz Elementary School (W. R. Paynter Elementary School) Project**

Dr. Lutz updated the Board on the R. A. Lutz Elementary School Project.

### **7.3 Elementary Playground Update - (WES/MES)**

Dr. Lutz updated the Board on the Whitehall Elementary School and the McAnnulty Elementary School playground projects. He wanted to make sure the Board is comfortable moving forward with some soft costs (surveys etc.) related to this project.

No further discussion.

## **8.0 Education and Instruction**

### **8.1 Revised - Health and Safety Plan**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the revised Health and Safety Plan as discussed and attached.

Dr. Lutz spoke about the recent surveys that Administration put out to the District related to the Health and Safety Plan.

Mr. Giglione spoke about the District's plan for contact tracing under the revised Health and Safety Plan.

Mr. Achtzehn spoke about the timing of the Graduated Masking Strategy under the proposed revision of the Health and Safety Plan.

Mr. Giglione spoke about the Graduated Masking Strategy under the proposed revision of the Health and Safety Plan.

Dr. Lutz said that under the proposed revision of the Health and Safety Plan, the changes can be made without formal Board approval.

Mr. Giglione spoke about the District's consideration of county rates versus local rates.

Ms. Brown spoke about the implementation of the Graduated Health and Safety Plan.

Dr. Lutz said that the effective date will be at the beginning of the second semester.

### **8.2 Agreement - Wesley Family Services (Wesley High School)**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Director of Student Services Marissa Gallagher recommend that the Board approve the agreement between the Baldwin-Whitehall School District and Wesley Family Services for a student to be enrolled in the Wesley High School for the academic year 2021-2022 (a 45-day placement) with an enrollment date of December 6, 2021 in the amount of \$8,500.00 according to the Individual Student Enrollment Agreement as attached.

No discussion.

### **8.3 Student Participation - Baldwin High School - Varsity Wrestling**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Secondary Education Jill Fleming-Salopek, and Principal Shaun Tomaszewski recommend that the Board approve the following Student Participation:

BHS Varsity Wrestling: Bo Wood Wrestling Tournament  
Indiana, PA

January 7-8, 2022

Sponsors: Michael Bilbie, Jerry Klodowski

Students: 9th Grade - Ramil Islamov; 10th Grade - Manip Biswa, Blake Davis, Mario Del Rosario, Riley Kavalo, Owen Klodowski, Keith Mincin, Jacob Pyle; 11th Grade - Dillon Di Giannurio, Victor Jaquinta, Shrijan Kamar, John Starusko; 12th Grade - Cody Randal

Cost: Student-funded

No discussion.

## **9.0 Business and Finance**

### **9.1 2022-2023 Budget - Opt Out Resolution**

**Recommendation:** RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors approve the attached Accelerated Budget Opt Out Resolution Certifying Tax Rate Within Inflation Index (and No Need to Comply with Act 1 Accelerated Budget Procedures) for the 2022-2023 School Year.

Mr. Cherpak said that next year's Act 1 index is 4.7%, which equates to a millage number of 1.06 mills.

No discussion.

### **9.2 Authorization to Accept Proposal - Copier Services**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Finance and Operations Mark Cherpak, and Director of Communication, Innovation, and Advancement Dr. Janeen Peretin recommend that the Board authorize the Director of Finance and Operations to accept the proposal from The Wilson Group, 147 Delta Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 for copier services as submitted and authorize the Director of Finance and Operations to negotiate the terms of the agreement.

No discussion.

**9.3 Approval - Change Order (Add \$28,350.00) - W. R. Paynter Elementary School (R. A. Lutz Elementary School) Project 4148 - Asbestos Abatement Project**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Director of Finance and Operations Manager Mark Cherpak recommend that the Board approve the construction change order (Add \$28,350.00) for the Asbestos Abatement Project for the W. R. Paynter Elementary School (R. A. Lutz Elementary School) Project (4148) as attached.

No discussion.

**9.4 Tuition Credit Reimbursement - Act 93 (Rachel Sprouse)**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the following Tuition Credit Reimbursement:

Rachel Sprouse  
Capstone I  
California University of Pennsylvania  
3 cr. @ \$568.00 per credit

Rachel Sprouse  
District Leadership for Finances  
California University of Pennsylvania  
3 cr. @ \$568.00 per credit

No discussion.

**9.5 Donation - Donors Choose (Adrienne Vallus - WES) - Classroom Materials**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept a donation of the following classroom supplies valued at \$115.61 from Donors Choose for use at the Whitehall Elementary School:

-(50 Pcs) Fidget Poppers Popit Toy Pack Push Pop Bubble Popping Set It Mini Poppet Fidget Package Fidgetget Spinners, Infinity Rubiks Cube Stress Relief Balls w Sensory Toys for Autistic ADHD Kids Girls  
-61 Pcs Sensory Fidget Toys Pack, Stress & Anxiety Relief Tools Bundle Fidgetget Toys Set for Kids Adults, Autistic ADHD Toys, Stress Balls Fidget Spinner Marble Mesh Puzzle Ball Pop Tube Fidget Box Favourde 22 Pack 0.5mm 6-in-1 Multicolor Ballpoint Pen, 6-Color Retractable Ballpoint Pens for Office School Supplies Students Children Gift x 2  
-28 Pack Sensory Toys Set, Relieves Stress and Anxiety Fidget Toy for Children Adults, Special Toys Assortment for Birthday Party Favors, Classroom Rewards Prizes, Carnival, Piñata Goodie Bag Fillers

No discussion.

**9.6 Donation - Donors Choose (Andrew Kavinsky - WES) - Classroom Materials**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept a donation of the following classroom supplies valued at \$108.18 from Donors Choose for use at the Whitehall Elementary School:

- Tops Penpal Rubber Pen/Pencil Holder, 5/8 x 2 5/8 x 5/8 Inches, Assorted Colors, 8 Packs [Includes 8 Holders Only - Picture Show Assortment Of Colors] x 5
- (50 Pcs) Fidget Poppers Popit Toy Pack Push Pop Bubble Popping Set It Mini Poppet Fidget Package Fidget Spinners, Infinity Rubiks Cube Stress Relief Balls w Sensory Toys for Autistic ADHD Kids Girls
- Dry Erase Erasers, 40 Pack Magnetic Whiteboard Dry Erasers Chalkboard Cleaner Wiper for Classroom Home Office, 4 Assorted Colors(Blue, Red, Green, Yellow) by EAONE

No discussion.

**9.7 Donation - Judy Aiello (Binders - HEC)**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accepts a donation of binders from Judy Aiello valued at \$200.00 for use at the Harrison Education Center.

No discussion.

**10.0 Policies**

**10.1 006 Meetings - 2nd Reading**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors approves the revision of Policy 006 Meetings as attached.

No discussion.

**11.0 Unfinished Business**

**11.1 Unfinished Business - Board**

No discussion.

**12.0 New Business**

**12.1 PSBA Principles for Governance and Leadership**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors approve the Principles for Governance and Leadership as attached.

It was the Board's desire to move forward to approve this item this evening.

### **12.2 Resignation - Student Board Representative - Ramon Rivera**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Student Board Representative Ramon Rivera effective January 12, 2022.

Dr. Lutz said this is due to other commitments.

No further discussion.

### **12.3 2022 Board Goals**

Ms. Brown and Mrs. Priano said they will take the lead on this item.

### **12.4 2022 Board Meet and Greet**

Dr. Lutz recommended scheduling the Board Meet and Greet for late winter or early spring 2022.

### **12.5 New Business - Board**

No discussion.

## **13.0 Report of Special Representatives**

### **13.1 Report of Special Representatives**

**SHASDA Representative - Ms. Karen Brown**  
**Alternate Representative - Mr. Robert Achtzehn**

Dr. Lutz spoke about the recent meeting on December 16, 2022 that was held at Upper St. Clair High School. He said the topic was legal issues related to school districts.

**Southeastern Area Special School and Steel Center for Career & Technical Education**  
**Representative - Mr. Peter Giglione**  
**Alternate - Ms. Melissa Wood**

Mr. Giglione said that the Mr. Kevin Rice will attend the Baldwin-Whitehall School District Board Meeting on February 2, 2022 to discuss proposed renovations at Steel Center prior to the District's budget discussion.

**PSBA Representative - Mr. Zeman**

Mr. Zeman spoke about the State's budget season, recent laws passed related to expanding the use of substitute teachers, and a new federal waiver related to bus drivers.

Mr. Achtzehn spoke about the new federal waiver for bus drivers as related to CDL licenses.

Dr. Lutz said that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has now passed the waiver on to the State.

Mr. Cherpak said that the State is expected to pass something similar to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

**14.0 Correspondence****14.1 Revenues and Expenses**

No discussion.

**14.2 Student Activity Funds**

No discussion.

**14.3 Bank Reconciliations**

No discussion.

*Mr. Giglione called for a recess at 8:34 p.m. at the conclusion of the Agenda portion of the meeting.*

*The Board meeting reconvened at 8:49 p.m. and continued with the Business portion of the meeting.*

*The agenda was updated based on Board discussion this evening.*

**1.0 Resident Comments on Action Items Only****1.1 Name and address should be clearly stated.**

Alyssa Cipriani, 1216 Camarta Drive, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.



Brad Cipriani, 1216 Camarta Drive, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan, COVID-19 case counts, and is in favor of optional masking

Derek Scheller, 4840 Flamingo Drive, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan, the recent District-wide masking survey, and is in favor of optional masking.

Jacob Barker, 1130 Marlane Drive, spoke about the recent District-wide masking survey and is in favor of optional masking.

Vicky Michelangelo, 529 Calvert Avenue, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Eric Leghart, 3102 Provost Road, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Jeff Foote, 5404 Lantern Hill Ext., spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Casey Foote, 5404 Lantern Hill Ext., spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Caila Vargas, 5028 Grove Road, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Wendy Brown, 959 Streets Run Road, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Erik Spratt, 308 Larch Lane, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Angie Scanlon, 1001 Edgewood Avenue, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Sean Karcher, 753 Highview Road, spoke about the Opt Out Resolution and is in favor of optional masking.

***The following resident comments were submitted prior to the meeting for inclusion in the official Board Minutes of the January 12, 2022, Board Meeting:***

Jessica Carlson, 5082 Raintree Drive. as attached.

Jen Zalar, 1 Panama Lodge Drive. as attached.

Melissa Bigley, 434 Judith Drive, as attached.

Nina Deibler, 1195 Camarta Drive, as attached.

Jodie Engott, 1180 Camarta Drive, as attached.

Amy & Devon Smeal, 1213 Camarta Drive, as attached.

Cari Winkler, 3305 Churchview Avenue, as attached.

Allegra & Lenny Kersting, 4664 Cook Avenue, as attached.

Addie Evans, 3340 Vernon Avenue, as attached.

Amber Dingus, 28 Mary Ann Drive, as attached.

Sara Fauls, 1136 Camarta Drive, as attached.

Lena Mihoerck, 825 Agnew Road, as attached.

Liz Spano, 5142 McRoberts Road, as attached.

## **2.0 Consent Action Items - Business**

### **2.1 Consent Action Items - Business**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Consent Action Items - Business as follows:

- 2.2 Approval of Minutes - December 8, 2021
- 2.3 General Fund Receipts - November 2021
- 2.4 Payroll - November 2021
- 2.5 General Fund Account - December 2021
- 2.6 Cafeteria Fund - December 2021
- 2.7 Construction Fund Account - As of December 31, 2021

No discussion.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Janice Tarson**) Moved, Member (**Karen Brown**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Consent Action Items - Business as follows: 2.2 Approval of Minutes - December 8, 2021 2.3 General Fund Receipts - November 2021 2.4 Payroll - November 2021 2.5 General Fund Account - December 2021 2.6 Cafeteria Fund - December 2021 2.7 Construction Fund Account - As of December 31, 2021'. Upon a roll call vote being taken the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 9 - 0**

Dan Knezevich	Yes
Dr. Anthony DiCesaro	Yes
Janice Tarson	Yes
Karen Brown	Yes
Robert Achtzehn	Yes
Peter Giglione	Yes
Amanda Priano	Yes
Melissa Wood	Yes
Greg Zeman	Yes

### **2.2 Approval of Minutes - December 8, 2021**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Minutes of the Reorganization Meeting and the Agenda/Business Meeting on December 8, 2021 be approved as listed and certified.

### **2.3 General Fund Receipts - November 2021**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the November 2021 General Fund Receipts in the total amount of \$1,113,171.35 be approved as listed and certified.

### **2.4 Payroll - November 2021**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Payroll for November 2021 in the total amount of \$2,579,510.04 be approved as listed and certified.

### **2.5 General Fund Account - December 2021**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the General Fund Account in the total amount of \$2,444,000.71 for the month of December 2021 be approved as listed and certified.

### **2.6 Cafeteria Fund - December 2021**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Cafeteria Fund Account in the total amount of \$114,867.14 for the month of December 2021 be approved as listed and certified.

### **2.7 Construction Fund Account - As of December 31, 2021**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Construction Fund Account in the total amount of \$24,910,442.69 fiscal year-to-date as of December 31, 2021 be approved as listed and certified.

### **3.0 Individual Action Items - Business**

No items.

**4.0 Consent Action Items - Superintendent's Report on Personnel****4.1 Consent Action Items - Superintendent's Report on Personnel**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Consent Agenda - Superintendent's Report on Personnel as follows:

- 4.2 Resignations
- 4.3 Leaves
- 4.4 Transportation Manager
- 4.5 Transportation Manager (Edward Dini)
- 4.6 Organizational Chart
- 4.7 Level I Computer Technician (Jeffrey Joyce) - Probationary
- 4.8 5.5-Hour General Food Services Worker (Michele Gildea) - Probationary - Whitehall Elementary School
- 4.9 5.5-Hour General Food Services Worker (Samantha Huber) - Probationary - Harrison Education Center
- 4.10 4-Hour General Food Services Worker (Tika Rai) - Probationary - McAnnulty Elementary School
- 4.11 New Teacher Salary Movement
- 4.12 Service Employee Movement
- 4.13 Mentor Teachers
- 4.14 Open Position
- 4.15 Extracurricular Activity Assignments List (Deletions)
- 4.16 Extracurricular Activity Assignments List (Additions)

No discussion.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Janice Tarson**) Moved, Member (**Karen Brown**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Consent Agenda - Superintendent's Report on Personnel as follows: 4.2 Resignations 4.3 Leaves 4.4 Transportation Manager 4.5 Transportation Manager (Edward Dini) 4.6 Organizational Chart 4.7 Level I Computer Technician (Jeffrey Joyce) - Probationary 4.8 5.5-Hour General Food Services Worker (Michele Gildea) - Probationary - Whitehall Elementary School 4.9 5.5-Hour General Food Services Worker (Samantha Huber) - Probationary - Harrison Education Center 4.10 4-Hour General Food Services Worker (Tika Rai) - Probationary - McAnnulty Elementary School 4.11 New Teacher Salary Movement 4.12 Service Employee Movement 4.13 Mentor Teachers 4.14 Open Position 4.15 Extracurricular Activity Assignments List (Deletions) 4.16 Extracurricular Activity Assignments List (Additions)'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 9 - 0**

Dan Knezevich Yes

Dr. Anthony DiCesaro Yes

Janice Tarson	Yes
Karen Brown	Yes
Robert Achtzehn	Yes
Peter Giglione	Yes
Amanda Priano	Yes
Melissa Wood	Yes
Greg Zeman	Yes

**4.2 Resignations**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Administrators recommend that the Board accept the following resignations:

Kelly Farabaugh  
 Position: Substitute Food Services Worker  
 Reason: Other Employment  
 Effective: December 31, 2021

Robin Smith  
 Position: Extra Bus Attendant  
 Reason: Other Employment  
 Effective: December 18, 2021

**4.3 Leaves**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Administrators recommend that the Board approve the following:

Unpaid Leave of Absence for Sarah Bowman, English Teacher at Baldwin Middle School, effective February 7, 2022 through June 9, 2022 (End of School Year) with the intention to return to work for the 2022-2023 School Year.

Unpaid Leave of Absence for Anna Nee, Support Services Teacher at Harrison Education Center, effective February 15, 2022 (PM) through March 29, 2022 with the intention to return to work on March 30, 2022 (4th Nine Weeks) during the 2021-2022 School Year.

**4.4 Transportation Manager**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and the Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse recommend that the Board authorize the creation of the position of Transportation Manager.

**4.5 Transportation Manager (Edward Dini)**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse, and Director of Finance and Operations Mark Cherpak recommend that the Board transfer Edward Dini as a Transportation Co-Manager to a Transportation Manager, Act 93, 12-Month, employee effective January 21, 2022 with no change in salary.

**4.6 Organizational Chart**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the attached Organizational Chart.

**4.7 Level I Computer Technician (Jeffrey Joyce) - Probationary**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse, and Director of Communication, Innovation, and Advancement Dr. Janeen Peretin recommend that the Board approve Jeffrey Joyce as a 230 Day, Category III, Level I Computer Technician (Probationary) effective January 13, 2022 pending all required paperwork.

Rate: \$16.08 (7 hours per day)  
 Annual Salary: \$25,888.80  
 Payroll Taxes: \$2,239.38  
 PSERS: \$8,934.22  
 Benefits: None  
 Annual Total  
 Cost: \$37,062.40

**4.8 5.5-Hour General Food Services Worker (Michele Gildea) - Probationary - Whitehall Elementary School**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse, and Food Services Director Joyce Weber recommend that the Board approve the transfer of Michele Gildea to a 5.5-Hour General Food Services Worker (#20-04) - (Probationary) at the Whitehall Elementary School Cafeteria from a Substitute Food Services Worker effective December 8, 2021.

Rate: \$13.09/hour  
 Salary: \$13,031.10  
 Payroll Taxes: \$1,127.19  
 PSERS: \$4,497.03  
 Benefits: None  
 Total: \$18,655.32

**4.9 5.5-Hour General Food Services Worker (Samantha Huber) - Probationary - Harrison Education Center**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse, and Food Services Director Joyce Weber recommend that the Board approve Samantha Huber as a 5.5-Hour General Food Services Worker (#60-06) - (Probationary) at the Harrison Education Center Cafeteria effective January 13, 2022, pending all required paperwork.

Rate: \$13.09/hour

Salary: \$13,031.10

Payroll Taxes: \$1,127.19

PSERS: \$4,497.03

Benefits: None

Total: \$18,655.32

#### **4.10 4-Hour General Food Services Worker (Tika Rai) - Probationary - McAnnulty Elementary School**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse, and Food Services Director Joyce Weber recommend that the Board approve the transfer of Tika Rai to a 4-Hour General Food Services Worker (#02-03) - (Probationary) at the McAnnulty Elementary School Cafeteria from a Substitute Food Services Worker effective December 8, 2021.

Rate: \$13.09/hour

Salary: \$9,477.16

Payroll Taxes: \$819.77

PSERS: \$3,270.57

Benefits: None

Total: \$13,567.50

#### **4.11 New Teacher Salary Movement**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse recommend that the Board of School Directors approve the attached salary placement for the teachers newly hired in 2021-2022, in accordance with Article X, Section C, Part 2 of the BWEA Collective Bargaining Agreement effective on the dates listed.

#### **4.12 Service Employee Movement**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse recommend that the Board approve the attached Service Staff Employee Movement.

#### **4.13 Mentor Teachers**

**Recommendation:** The Administration recommends that the Board approve the Mentor Teachers for the 2021-2022 School Year at \$487.00 (per semester rate) prorated and one correction.

**4.14 Open Position**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors declare the Event/Ticket Co-Manager position open effective November 13, 2021.

Event/Ticket Co-Manager - Steven Sinning

**4.15 Extracurricular Activity Assignments List (Deletions)**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Administrators recommend that the Board accept the following deletions from the Extracurricular Activity Assignments list:

Harrold Bittner

Position: Girls' Lacrosse Assistant Head Coach (BHS)

Reason: Other Employment

Effective: December 28, 2021

Veronica Briones

Position: Musical Assistant Technical Director #2 (BHS)

Reason: Personal

Effective: January 7, 2022

Clarence Hawk

Position: Musical Technical Director - Carpentry (BHS)

Reason: Personal

Effective: January 7, 2022

Spencer Lynn

Positions: Ninth Grade Football Head Coach (BHS) and Ninth Grade Assistant #4 (2 of 2) (BHS)

Reason: Other Employment

Effective: January 6, 2022

Rebecca Mackin

Position: Diversity Club Sponsor (BHS)

Reason: Personal - Leave of Absence

Effective: December 10, 2021

Alivia Owen

Position: Musical Technical Director (BHS)

Reason: Personal

Effective: January 7, 2022

**4.16 Extracurricular Activity Assignments List (Additions)**



**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Employee Services Rachel Sprouse, and Baldwin High School Principal Shaun Tomaszewski recommend that the Board approve the following additions to the Extracurricular Activity Assignment List:

Harry DePetro

Position: Musical Technical Director - Carpentry (BHS)

Effective: January 13, 2022

Salary: \$1,500.00

Payroll Taxes: \$129.75

PSERS: \$517.65

Benefits: None

Total Cost: \$2,147.40

Donna McCord

Position: Boys' Tennis Varsity/Junior Varsity Head Coach (BHS)

Effective: January 13, 2022

Salary: \$4,000

Payroll Taxes: \$346.00

PSERS: \$1,371.60

Benefits: None

Total Cost: \$5,717.60

\*Yoko Nagao

Position: Girls' Volleyball Varsity/Junior Varsity Head Coach (BHS)

Effective: January 13, 2022

Salary: \$6,500.00

Payroll Taxes: \$562.25

PSERS: \$2,243.15

Benefits: None

Total Cost: \$9,305.40

Amy Nolan

Position: Musical Asst. Technical Director 2 (BHS)

Effective: January 13, 2022

Salary: \$1,450.00

Payroll Taxes: \$125.43

PSERS: \$500.40

Benefits: None

Total Cost: \$2,075.83

Christopher Tator

Position: Video Production Sponsor (BHS)

Effective: January 13, 2022

Salary: \$1,459.00

Payroll Taxes: \$126.20

PSERS: \$503.50

Benefits: None  
Total Cost: \$2,088.70

\*Pending all required paperwork

### **5.0 Individual Action Items - Superintendent's Report on Personnel**

No items.

### **6.0 Consent Agenda Action Items - Non-Personnel**

#### **6.1 Consent Agenda Action Items - Non-Personnel**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Consent Action Items - Non-Personnel as follows:

- 6.2 Revised - Health and Safety Plan
- 6.3 Agreement - Wesley Family Services (Wesley High School)
- 6.4 Student Participation - Baldwin High School - Varsity Wrestling
- 6.5 2022-2023 Budget - Opt Out Resolution
- 6.6 Authorization to Accept Proposal - Copier Services
- 6.7 Approval - Change Order (Add \$28,350.00) - W. R. Paynter Elementary School (R. A. Lutz Elementary School) Project 4148 - Asbestos Abatement Project
- 6.8 Tuition Credit Reimbursement - Act 93 (Rachel Sprouse)
- 6.9 Donation - Donors Choose (Adrienne Vallus - WES) - Classroom Materials
- 6.10 Donation - Donors Choose (Andrew Kavinsky - WES) - Classroom Materials
- 6.11 Donation - Judy Aiello (Binders - HEC)
- 6.12 006 Meetings - 2nd Reading
- 6.13 PSBA Principles for Governance and Leadership
- 6.14 Resignation - Student Board Representative - Ramon Rivera

No discussion.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Janice Tarson)** Moved, Member **(Karen Brown)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Consent Action Items - Non-Personnel as follows: 6.2 Revised - Health and Safety Plan 6.3 Agreement - Wesley Family Services (Wesley High School) 6.4 Student Participation - Baldwin High School - Varsity Wrestling 6.5 2022-2023 Budget - Opt Out Resolution 6.6 Authorization to Accept Proposal - Copier Services 6.7 Approval - Change Order (Add \$28,350.00) - W. R. Paynter Elementary School (R. A. Lutz Elementary School) Project 4148 - Asbestos Abatement Project 6.8 Tuition Credit Reimbursement - Act 93 (Rachel Sprouse) 6.9 Donation - Donors Choose (Adrienne Vallus - WES) - Classroom Materials 6.10 Donation - Donors Choose (Andrew Kavinsky - WES) - Classroom Materials 6.11 Donation - Judy Aiello (Binders - HEC) 6.12 006 Meetings - 2nd Reading 6.13 PSBA

Principles for Governance and Leadership 6.14 Resignation - Student Board Representative - Ramon Rivera'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **9** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 9 - 0**

- Dan Knezevich Yes
- Dr. Anthony DiCesaro Yes
- Janice Tarson Yes
- Karen Brown Yes
- Robert Achtzehn Yes
- Peter Giglione Yes
- Amanda Priano Yes
- Melissa Wood Yes
- Greg Zeman Yes

**6.2 Revised - Health and Safety Plan**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the revised Health and Safety Plan as discussed and attached.

**6.3 Agreement - Wesley Family Services (Wesley High School)**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Director of Student Services Marissa Gallagher recommend that the Board approve the agreement between the Baldwin-Whitehall School District and Wesley Family Services for a student to be enrolled in the Wesley High School for the academic year 2021-2022 (a 45-day placement) with an enrollment date of December 6, 2021 in the amount of \$8,500.00 according to the Individual Student Enrollment Agreement as attached.

**6.4 Student Participation - Baldwin High School - Varsity Wrestling**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Secondary Education Jill Fleming-Salopek, and Principal Shaun Tomaszewski recommend that the Board approve the following Student Participation:

BHS Varsity Wrestling: Bo Wood Wrestling Tournament  
 Indiana, PA  
 January 7-8, 2022  
 Sponsors: Michael Bilbie, Jerry Klodowski  
 Students: 9th Grade - Ramil Islamov; 10th Grade - Manip Biswa, Blake Davis, Mario Del Rosario, Riley Kavalo, Owen Klodowski, Keith Mincin, Jacob Pyle; 11th Grade - Dillon Di Giannurio, Victor Jaquinta, Shrijan Kamar, John Starusko; 12th Grade - Cody Randal  
 Cost: Student-funded

**6.5 2022-2023 Budget - Opt Out Resolution**

**Recommendation:** RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors approve the attached Accelerated Budget Opt Out Resolution Certifying Tax Rate Within Inflation Index (and No Need to Comply with Act 1 Accelerated Budget Procedures) for the 2022-2023 School Year.

#### **6.6 Authorization to Accept Proposal - Copier Services**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent, Director of Finance and Operations Mark Cherpak, and Director of Communication, Innovation, and Advancement Dr. Janeen Peretin recommend that the Board authorize the Director of Finance and Operations to accept the proposal from The Wilson Group, 147 Delta Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 for copier services as submitted and authorize the Director of Finance and Operations to negotiate the terms of the agreement.

#### **6.7 Approval - Change Order (Add \$28,350.00) - W. R. Paynter Elementary School (R. A. Lutz Elementary School) Project 4148 - Asbestos Abatement Project**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent and Director of Finance and Operations Manager Mark Cherpak recommend that the Board approve the construction change order (Add \$28,350.00) for the Asbestos Abatement Project for the W. R. Paynter Elementary School (R. A. Lutz Elementary School) Project (4148) as attached.

#### **6.8 Tuition Credit Reimbursement - Act 93 (Rachel Sprouse)**

**Recommendation:** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the following Tuition Credit Reimbursement:

Rachel Sprouse  
Capstone 1 California  
University of Pennsylvania  
3 cr. @ \$568.00 per credit

Rachel Sprouse  
District Leadership for Finances  
California University of Pennsylvania  
3 cr. @ \$568.00 per credit

#### **6.9 Donation - Donors Choose (Adrienne Vallus - WES) - Classroom Materials**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept a donation of the following classroom supplies valued at \$115.61 from Donors Choose for use at the Whitehall Elementary School:

-(50 Pcs) Fidget Poppers Popit Toy Pack Push Pop Bubble Popping Set It Mini Poppet Figit Package Figitget Spinners, Infinity Rubiks Cube Stress Relief Balls w Sensory Toys for Autistic ADHD Kids Girls

-61 Pcs Sensory Fidget Toys Pack, Stress & Anxiety Relief Tools Bundle Fidget Toys Set for Kids Adults, Autistic ADHD Toys, Stress Balls Fidget Spinner Marble Mesh Puzzle Ball Pop Tube Fidget Box Favourite 22 Pack 0.5mm 6-in-1 Multicolor Ballpoint Pen, 6-Color Retractable Ballpoint Pens for Office School Supplies Students Children Gift x 2  
-28 Pack Sensory Toys Set, Relieves Stress and Anxiety Fidget Toy for Children Adults, Special Toys Assortment for Birthday Party Favors, Classroom Rewards Prizes, Carnival, Piñata Goodie Bag Fillers

#### **6.10 Donation - Donors Choose (Andrew Kayinsky - WES) - Classroom Materials**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept a donation of the following classroom supplies valued at \$108.18 from Donors Choose for use at the Whitehall Elementary School:

-Tops Penpal Rubber Pen/Pencil Holder, 5/8 x 2 5/8 x 5/8 Inches, Assorted Colors, 8 Packs [Includes 8 Holders Only - Picture Show Assortment Of Colors] x 5  
-(50 Pcs) Fidget Poppers Popit Toy Pack Push Pop Bubble Popping Set It Mini Poppet Fidget Package Fidget Spinners, Infinity Rubiks Cube Stress Relief Balls w Sensory Toys for Autistic ADHD Kids Girls  
-Dry Erase Erasers, 40 Pack Magnetic Whiteboard Dry Erasers Chalkboard Cleaner Wiper for Classroom Home Office, 4 Assorted Colors (Blue, Red, Green, Yellow) by EAONE

#### **6.11 Donation - Judy Aiello (Binders - HEC)**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept a donation of binders from Judy Aiello valued at \$200.00 for use at the Harrison Education Center.

#### **6.12 006 Meetings - 2nd Reading**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors approve the revision of Policy 006 Meetings as attached.

#### **6.13 PSBA Principles for Governance and Leadership**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors approve the Principles for Governance and Leadership as attached.

#### **6.14 Resignation - Student Board Representative - Ramon Rivera**

**Recommendation:** Resolved, that the Board of School Directors accept the resignation of Student Board Representative Ramon Rivera effective January 12, 2022.

#### **7.0 Individual Action Items - Non-Personnel**

No items.

**8.0 Solicitor Report**

**8.1 Solicitor Report**

No report.

**9.0 Resident Comments**

**9.1 Name and address should be clearly stated.**

Wendy Brown, 959 Streets Run Road, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is in favor of optional masking.

Eric Leghart, 3102 Provost Road, spoke about the Health and Safety Plan and is not in favor of universal masking.

**10.1 Dr. Randal A. Lutz**

No additional comments.

**10.2 Items for Board Information**

**11.0 Board President Remarks**

**11.1 Mr. Peter D. Giglione, Board President**

No additional comments.

**12.0 Adjournment**

**12.1 On motion by**

**On a motion by Mr. Knezevich, which was seconded by Ms. Brown, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.**

Recognized Visitors

See "Visitors List" attached to record set of minutes.

  
Theanita Hampsay  
Board Secretary





Thea Hampsay &lt;thampsay@bwschools.net&gt;

## Letter to the school board

1 message

Carlson, Jessica <carlsonjl@upmc.edu>  
To: Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

Fri, Jan 7, 2022 at 2:46 PM

Hello Mrs. Hampsay,

Would you please pass the following letter along to members of the school board, and also include it in the next meeting's minutes? My address is at the end!

Thank you very much!

Jessica Carlson

---

Dr. Lutz and Members of the BWSD School Board,

This letter is to ask you to **please continue the universal masking policy** that has been in effect since last school year. Masking, along with the distancing that can be achieved in school, has been a key factor in reducing COVID transmission and keeping our kids *in the classroom*. I urge you to keep this policy as it is one that affects the health and safety of our entire community.

And I want to thank you all for your service to our district during what is, undoubtedly, one of its most difficult times. I'm sorry that you've endured verbal abuse, hate speech, and threats. Please know that there is an entire community of parents and children who are appreciative of your time and knowledge and who still believe that Baldwin Whitehall School District is one of the greatest places to live!

Thank you for your time,

Jessica Carlson, MSN, RN

1082 Raintree Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Jessica Carlson, MSN, RN

Sr. Improvement Specialist, UPMC Innovation Center

412 Living Place, Suite 200

Pittsburgh, PA 15206

P 412-478-2264

carlsonjl@upmc.edu

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Carlson', with a stylized flourish at the end.





Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

## Mask Mandate

1 message

Jen Zalar <jenzalar@hotmail.com>

Tue, Jan 11, 2022 at 2:21 PM

To: Superintendent's Office <thampsay@bwschools.net>, Baldwin Whitehall School District <rutz@bwschools.net>

Dear Ms. Hampsay,

Could you please forward to the Board for tomorrow's meeting?

Thanks!

Good afternoon,

I'm writing in advance of the school board meeting regarding the review of the Health and Safety Plan. I am requesting that the mask mandate remain in effect. With cases surging, this is not the time to make masks optional. Removing the mask mandate should be tied to scientific data on the number of cases and the level of transmission showing it is safe to do so rather than arbitrarily removing this requirement. Mask wearing has proven effective in reducing the transmission of the virus and the fact that our schools have mostly remained open supports it. The CDC, the PA Department of Education, the American Association of Pediatrics and virtually all credible medical experts are recommending universal masking in schools. This advice should not be ignored.

If universal masking is not required, parents who allow their children to remove masks will be also be choosing to put others at risk. Since the removal of masks changes the requirements for close contacts, we will have many more students and teachers exposed. The goal has always been to keep schools open for in person learning, and having more people sick or in quarantine would not support that goal. Allowing mask choice would essentially mean that one student's choice could expose others to illness as well as prevent other students and teachers from being able to attend school in person. Allowing a student to make a choice which could prevent another student from attending school in person would be an egregious act. The impact on students' education from this pandemic has been high enough. We should mitigate it in every way possible.

I appreciate all you have done so far to keep the BW students and staff as safe as possible during this difficult time. Please follow the advice of the medical experts and don't make a change to this policy until the science supports doing so.

Thank you,

Jen Zalar

1 Panama Lodge Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15227



From: MELISSA BIGLEY <melissabigley@comcast.net>

Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 6:45 PM

To: jordanm@bwschools.net; jhanson@bwschools.net; kbrown@bwschools.net; rachelzenni@bwschools.net; adreesaro@bwschools.net; dkrazevich@bwschools.net; aprano@bwschools.net

Subject: Masking in the Baldwin Whitehall School District

Dear School Board Members and Dr. Randal Lutz,

Hello, my name is Melissa Bigley and I reside at 434 Judith Drive. I have two students at Baldwin High School. I am writing to you today in regards to the mandatory masking policy that you have in place in our school district. I am asking you to vote for "Optional Masking" at the next school board meeting.

I'm not going recite the MANY statistics and research articles that say that masks don't work. That's not my job. Actually it's YOUR job to prove to ME that they DO work. You haven't done that and I'm quite sure your won't be able to. The only explanation you can come up with is that you are following the CDC guidelines. Well, within the past week the CDC has admitted that cloth masks don't work, the Covid deaths are inflated, ie. people that died WITH Covid as opposed to those that died BECAUSE of Covid. Also, we are seeing that the vaccines are failing. I'm sure you know of many triple vaccinated people that have come down with Covid. (I know I know many.)

That being said, it's time to stop this nonsense! All you keep saying is that all of this is for the "health and safety of our students." NEVER have we the parents asked you to look out for the health of our children. That is our responsibility as parents. All that we ask is for you to keep our children safe while they are in your schools, and maybe keep the classrooms and bathrooms clean. Since when are we so afraid of kids getting sick? We all know that Covid barely effects children. What we should be concerned with is our children's MENTAL health. If you think for one second that masks, quarantines, closed schools, social distancing, etc hasn't hurt our children's mental health, well you are sadly mistaken. The tragedy that occurred this past week is an awful reminder. The CDC reported this past summer that there was a 51% increase in suicide attempts among teenage girls during this pandemic.

As far as your staff being protected, by all means they can continue to wear their masks, plus I'm sure they are all triple vaccinated. In the history of mankind, NEVER have we asked kids to protect adults. I know that when my children were born, I swore that I would protect them forever. This is my way of keeping my word. I am trying to protect them from this nonsense you are inflicting upon them by restricting their breathing, denying them a meaningful education, denying them their extra curricular activities, keeping them distanced from their friends, etc.

I know when all of this is said and done, I, like many other parents, will be able to say that we were on the right side of history. If you continue masking our children, you will not be able to say the same.

Sincerely,

Melissa Bigley



Thea Hampsay &lt;thampsay@bwschools.net&gt;

**FW: Keeping Masks in BWSD**

1 message

**Pete Giglione** <Pgiglione@massalawgroup.com>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 10:02 AM

To: Thea Hampsay &lt;thampsay@bwschools.net&gt;

Please add to the minutes – thanks!

**From:** Nina Pasini Deibler <npdeibler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 10:00 AM  
**To:** Pete Giglione <Pgiglione@massalawgroup.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Keeping Masks in BWSD

Hey Pete,

Thank you! I thought of adding that, and then wasn't sure. I'm 1195 Camarta.

NINA

On Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 9:59 AM Pete Giglione <Pgiglione@massalawgroup.com> wrote:

Thanks Nina! Can you remind me of your house number so that I can have your email added to the meeting minutes (if you'd like)?

**From:** Nina Pasini Deibler <npdeibler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 9:55 AM  
**To:** rlutz@bwschools.net; jtaron@bwschools.net; pgiglione@bwschools.net; kbrown@bwschools.net; rachtzenn@bwschools.net; adicesaro@bwschools.net; dknezevich@bwschools.net; apriano@bwschools.net; mwwood@bwschools.net; gzeman@bwschools.net  
**Subject:** Keeping Masks in BWSD

BWSD Board and Dr. Lutz,

We recently completed a masking survey in the District, but those results have not been released yet. In light of the Upper St. Clair School Board's recent decision to make masks optional, I am reiterating my position in the survey to keep masks in our schools before tonight's board meeting. We have numerous vulnerable youth in our District. In addition, we have healthy children (like my daughter) who have high-risk siblings (like my son) at home. Both of my children are fully vaccinated, but we know vaccination is not enough with Omicron. We also know vaccination rates among children, especially younger children, are abysmally low nationwide. I expect our District mirrors those trends. We need to protect our kids, our teachers, and our families.

Last night I received a call that my niece and nephew had tested positive for COVID following the return home of my brother from a military deployment where his crew tested positive and did not notify him. My niece and nephew attend school in another Allegheny County district where masks are optional. They were both in school UNMASKED the last two days with headaches and congestion which they assumed was a common cold. They will be notifying their district today, however, between the two of them, there are hundreds of kids - most unmasked - that they had close contact with over the last two days. Imagine the letters being sent home to those families. Masks would have resulted in dramatically less exposure to others in their school. My guess is their district will see a huge surge soon. BWSD cannot afford to face something similar.

Daily, my daughter tells me how many kids in BHS aren't wearing their required masks correctly. Making masks optional means most will choose not to wear them. Education aside, we need to keep the school open for the children who have no food at home, for the ones for whom school is a "safe space". I urge you to remain united in maintaining the current District health and safety plan that requires masks in our schools. I trust you all to do the right thing.

Thank you for your efforts thus far to keep school open and safe for BW kids. I know it has been frustrating, exhausting, and stressful, but I see you, and I appreciate you.

Sincerely,

Nina Deibler

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Nina P. Deibler  
mobile: +1.412.996.1201  
email: [npdeibler@gmail.com](mailto:npdeibler@gmail.com)

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Nina P. Deibler  
mobile: +1.412.996.1201  
email: [npdeibler@gmail.com](mailto:npdeibler@gmail.com)



Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

## Board meeting

1 message

**MATTHEW ENGOTT** <mjengott@verizon.net>  
To: Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 10:28 AM

Hello Thea,  
Could you please add this to the meeting minutes tonight? Thanks!

Just wanted to quickly express my thoughts in addition to my survey response. I think it would be prudent to continue with the masking policy until covid cases go down. With the relaxed quarantine protocols, this is the simplest way to ensure that more kids can remain in school. If other districts decide to go mask optional now we can see where that goes and if they are successful follow suit, but I don't think we need to be the trailblazers! With that said, I am confident that the administration and board will ultimately make the decision that is in the best interests of the students!

Thank you for your service!

Sincerely,  
Jodie Engott  
1180 Camarta Drive

Sent from my iPhone



Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

## Board Meeting Note

1 message

**DEVON SMEAL** <dsmeal@verizon.net>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 10:44 AM

To: thampsay@bwschools.net

I am writing to first say THANK YOU to the board for doing all that you do for our school district, students and community. Our family is so very grateful for all the hours, effort and energy you pour into your (volunteer) jobs! THANK YOU!

I also want to express our family support of the safety/masking policy of universal masking within the school. At a time when covid is more prevalent than ever within our daily lives, we truly believe that universal masking is the only option to keeping our students safe, our of quarantine and IN SCHOOL!

Thank you again for all that you do. You have our continued support.

Amy & Devon Smeal  
1213 Camarta Drive



Thea Hampsay &lt;thampsay@bwschools.net&gt;

**Tonite's board meeting: masking**

1 message

dawie.w@hotmail.com &lt;dawie.w@hotmail.com&gt;

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 10:47 AM

Reply-To: dawie.w@hotmail.com

To: thampsay &lt;thampsay@bwschools.net&gt;

Hello! Thank you all for continuing to keep our children IN school as SAFELY as possible! I am writing this email in regards to masking in school ahead of tonite's meeting. With the Omicron variant spreading like wildfire, it seems at this point to be common sense to KEEP MASKING until the spread slows way down and Covid numbers decrease drastically. Please keep doing what we're doing! I have a 5th grader at HEC who has all of the fun 5th grade events/rites of passage coming up soon... If the schools all have to shut down or start cancelling everything AGAIN it would be so incredibly disappointing. These kids have missed out on SO much already. To unmask at this point would be disastrous. Also, from what I have seen and heard from the kids, they really don't mind the masks as long as they get to be in school.

Thank you,  
Cari Winkler  
3305 Churchview Ave.

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Sent from Outlook Email App for Android





Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

## School board meeting 1/12/22—4664 cook ave

1 message

**Allegra Wooding** <agwooding@gmail.com>  
To: Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 10:51 AM

Dear Ms. Hampsay,

Could you please share this with the school board for their upcoming meeting regarding masks. Thank you!

Dear Baldwin/Whitehall School Board,

I'd like to start by thanking you for your hard work over the last several months. You've made the decision to protect our kids and that decision should be respected and not met with threats. Please know that although we may not be as loud, you have many parents standing behind you.

I know that the topic of masks is going to be brought up at your next meeting and I wanted let you know that we fully support the mask mandate staying in place. Now is not the time to remove masks when we have the highest positivity rate that we have had this entire pandemic. The new variants are more dangerous to young children and are very contagious. Removing the masks would only lead to more staffing shortages, children getting sick, and ultimately schools closing. I think we all can agree that the kids need to be in school and wearing masks is the only way that is possible. In my daughters class there have been several children who ended up testing positive for COVID and it did not spread throughout the whole class, which just goes to show that masks do work.

The school board has a responsibility to the kids in school, their parents, and the entire BW community. That is something that I believe all of you have remembered and respected so far. I ask you to please ignore those that are loud because we support your current decision and ask you to please uphold it.

Thank you,  
Allegra and Lenny Kersting  
4664 cook ave



Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

## Comment for Board meeting

1 message

Addierdunn <addierdunn@gmail.com>  
To: Thampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 11:06 AM

I was hoping to submit a comment for the meeting tonight since I cannot make it in person.

I am both a parent in the community and a nurse. I sincerely ask that we continue masking in schools. The best place for our kids is in the physical classroom, but to maintain that we need to keep them safe and healthy. Because of all of the politics and rhetoric surrounding COVID, we can not guarantee the safety of our kids without universal masking. Masks do work, but everyone has to wear one to make them effective. They work in two ways, one by catching the droplets of the person who is wearing them and two adding a layer of protection from outside sources. If someone without a mask has Covid then the droplets are spreading. I just wish more people cared about each other instead of themselves, then we would not have this fight. I applaud you the board for doing the right thing to keep our community safe and not bending to political pressure and personal threats.

Addie Evans  
3340 Vernon Ave  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15227

Parent of a 4th grader at HEC



Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

## Mask opinion for school board

1 message

**Matt and Amber Dingus** <mattamber73@hotmail.com>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 11:11 AM

To: Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

Hello,

I am writing to express my opinion that masks should continue to be mandatory until the county covid rate decreases. I feel that the spread is worse right now than previously. Kids and staff are being told that they can return in 5 days now rather than 10 days which in my opinion could be sending infected people back into the school before they are no longer positive.

Amber Dingus

28 Mary Ann drive

Pgh pa 15227



Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

## Masking

1 message

**Sara Fauls** <sara.fauls@gmail.com>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 11:29 AM

To: Thampsay@bwschools.net

My name is Sara Fauls and I reside at 1136 Camarta Drive.

I am writing to voice my opinion on the Great Mask Debate. I am in favor of continuing to mask our children and our faculty.

We are obviously experiencing a huge surge in Covid cases currently. I agree that many are experiencing nothing more so than bad cold symptoms, and I am truly not afraid of the virus itself, but rather the issues that will come into play with quarantine procedures if universal masking is not maintained.

I have 3 children- 4, 7, and 12 years old. Not one of them complains about current masking protocol. It is never mentioned, never complained about, never an issue. What WOULD be an issue would be remote schooling due to the small amount of community members who feel that masking is violating our liberties.

My main goal, apart from keeping my children safe and healthy- which I believe can be achieved with or without mask- is to keep my children in school.

Thanks for taking the time to read to opinion!

Sara Fauls



Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

## For meeting today

1 message

**Lena Mihoerck** <lenammihoerck@gmail.com>  
To: Thea Hampsay <thampsay@bwschools.net>

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 11:43 AM

Lena Mihoerck  
825 Agnew Road  
Pittsburgh pa 15227

Please submit my letter to the meeting today.

Dear Board members,

Please consider on keeping the mask mandate to continue.  
We are in high transmission right now. If we want to keep the students in person school, that'd be the wise move to do. The cases are increasing rapidly and too many cases and close contacts at school since we got back from winter break. It's worse than last year. Requiring to quarantine due to close contact should continue too. Too many students and staff are in quarantine right now and it will continue to get worse. Maybe should shift the in-person to online for a few weeks to reduce the cases. Please think about this.

Thank you,  
Lena Mihoerck

Sent from my iPhone



Thea Hampsay &lt;thampsay@bwschools.net&gt;

## Masking in Schools Jan 12 meeting

1 message

Liz Spano &lt;lspano13@gmail.com&gt;

To: thampsay@bwschools.net

Wed, Jan 12, 2022 at 11:46 AM

Dear Baldwin-Whitehall School Board Members,

My name is Liz Spano and I live at 5142 McRoberts Rd. I would like to voice my support for required masking within our schools for all so that we can protect our community from illness and that the schools remain open.

It has been disheartening over the past several months hearing threats being made and implying that the superintendent and board members are somehow being "in the pocket" of some deep state conspiracy. Everyone has opinions on what to do in situations and that is why data and facts are looked at and experts provide guidance.

We send our children to school to get an education. To help inspire them to do and be their best. If we teach our children that you do not need experts because "Google" says so, then are we really helping our kids?

At this time I hope the board follows the data and the experts in infectious diseases rather than those who think they have done their own research so that we can keep our kids in school as much as possible.

Thank you