

**Tri-Township Consolidated School Corporation**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**10/21/21 6:00pm Wanatah School**

**1. Open Meeting followed by The Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Minutes from September Board Meetings:**

**Chad Howell made a motion to approve the minutes. Melanie Mills seconded the motion. ALL AYES!**

**3. Personnel Items:**

- Aaron McMeans- 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade boys basketball coach  
Daron Bruder made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!**
- Karen Bruder- Substitute teacher  
Chad Howell made a motion to approve. Melanie Mills seconded the motion. (Daron Bruder abstained) ALL AYES!**
- Jimmy Collins- Special Education bus aide  
Chad Howell made a motion to approve. Daron Bruder seconded the motion. ALL AYES!**
- Claire Garwood- Volunteer girls basketball coach  
Daron Bruder made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!**
- Penny Brown- Volunteer cheerleading coach  
Melanie Mills made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!**
- Ryan Pahl- Volunteer boys basketball coach  
Melanie Mills made a motion to approve. Daron Bruder seconded the motion. (Tim Guse abstained) ALL AYES!**

**4. Claim Docket**

**After board review Chad Howell made a motion to approve the claim docket. Daron Bruder seconded the motion. ALL AYES!**

**5. Balance Sheet**  
**For information**

**6. Public Comments on Agenda Items**

A concerned citizen asked if volunteers are required to do a background check. Superintendent Shepherd let them know that yes that is a requirement. They also asked if an explanation was made to volunteers regarding the status of employment being considered “volunteer” and not an employee. Superintendent Shepherd explained that we in fact have a form that volunteers are required to read and sign indicating their status and explaining they are not considered an employee of the corporation.

A concerned citizen inquired if the meeting dates are still being changed. Superintendent Shepherd replied that item is on the agenda and will be discussed tonight. The same community member inquired about the new teacher contract and asked for a summary. Superintendent Shepherd explained that he would be covering this in item 7.

**7. Teacher Contract Tentative Agreement Public Hearing**

Chad Howell made a motion to open the hearing. Melanie Mills seconded the motion. ALL AYES!

Superintendent Shepherd explained to the board that a tentative agreement was given to the board in their packets for review. The main highlights of this two year contract are that our teachers will average about an 11.5% pay increase for certified staff. There are three different categories that were based on the staff member’s years of experience. Negotiations were very amicable and Superintendent Shepherd was very pleased with how both sides handled the process. It is the second consecutive largest raise given to Tri-Township teachers which Superintendent Shepherd is pleased with. At this time Superintendent Shepherd opened the floor for public comments.

A concerned citizen asked as insurance costs increase who absorbs the cost for these increases? Superintendent Shepherd explained that both parties are affected by the increases.

The same concerned citizen asked Superintendent Shepherd to verify that the minimum increase over the term of the contract is \$4,500 and what that increase is based on. Superintendent Shepherd verified the

number and explained that the increases are based on years of experience.

The same citizen asked if there were any changes to fringe benefits. Superintendent Shepherd explained that there were changes to the extra-curricular schedule which occurred on a case by case basis.

The same citizen explained he understands this is for the certified staff only but is wondering if increases will be being discussed for the non-certified staff. Superintendent Shepherd explained that is not being discussed at this time. Most positions in the non-certified category are based on years of experience.

Daron Bruder made a motion to close the hearing. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!

8. Board Meeting Calendar 2022 Second Reading Information

9. LC New Sign & Old Sign Information

Superintendent Shepherd would like the board to consider what we should do with the old sign that is in place at the Tiger Den as we near closer to receiving our new sign.

10. Principal Report

Principal McMahan advised that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls from Wanatah got to visit the AK Smith facility. They were very excited that they also got to stop for slushy's after the program. He is going to try to schedule a date for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys to visit the facility as well. The K-2 students visited the pumpkin patch. Last week the LaCrosse Lions Club asked if any of our Leo members would be willing to help with a landscaping project. 8 of our Leo club members gave up their fall break to help with the work! We had two girls cross country runners qualify for regionals: Miranda Wozniak and Sydney Hudson. Congratulations to both runners!

11. Superintendent Report

Mr. Shepherd wanted to piggy back on Mr. McMahan's information about the VerMar park work. He was very proud of the boys who worked at the park. They were great kids who loved hearing the history from Craig Aigner about the park.

12. **Adjournment**

**Chad Howell made a motion to adjourn. Daron Bruder seconded the motion. ALL AYES!**

**NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE AT LACROSSE SCHOOL ON  
NOVEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 AT 6PM.**

\*Public comments or questions will be noted by the School Board and Superintendent, but we will not conduct dialogue during the meeting. Follow up discussion through phone call, email, or scheduled meeting can be arranged through the Superintendent's office. This will allow us to focus on school business on behalf of students and staff, as well as provide better information to our public after time to research. Thank you for your understanding.