

Watersmeet Township School District

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

April 15, 2024

4:00pm

Vice-President L. McGeshick called the meeting to order at 4:00pm and began with the pledge.

Present: T. Pallin, T. Williams, J. Fiorucci, P. Smith, L. McGeshick,
A. Schrader

Absent: M. Hazen

Motion by J. Fiorucci, second by P. Smith to approve the agenda with the following additions: under Correspondence a. Building and Grounds Update by Doug Williams, under New Business e. Letter of Agreement between WTSD and WEA regarding State School Aid Act Section 27k, f. Kindergarten 1-on-1 Paraprofessional Aide, g. Resignation Letter from 2nd Grade teacher, and h. Nimrod Open donations. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye.
All Ayes-Motion carried.

Visitors: None

LVD Representation: None

Student Council Representation: None

Union Representation: None

Mr. Peterson went over the Building and Grounds Update and commended Mr. Williams on a good job of staying on top of all projects.

Motion by J. Fiorucci, second by T. Williams to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2024 regular meeting. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye.
All Ayes-Motion carried.

Patty Ollila was in attendance to present the Accounts Payables and the Financial Report and answer questions.

The school also received a donation from the GOISD for helping pay for our First Nations Consultant, Ricky White. The GOISD also is paying for our finance system

conversion, which is happening soon. The GOISD and other districts went in together to get a better quote for this system and the GOISD is paying for set up for all districts participating. A big Thank You to Mr. Alan Tulppo and the Gogebic Ontonagon Intermediate School District.

Motion by T. Williams, second by J. Fiorucci to accept the Athletic Committees Updates/Recommendations as presented. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.

Motion by P. Smith, second by T. Pallin to approve the GOISD 24-25 General Education Budget. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.

Motion by T. Williams, second by P. Smith to hire the candidate for the Boys Basketball coach pending a background check. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Nay, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Nay, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Nay. Motion died.

Motion by T. Williams, second by J. Fiorucci to table the letter of interest for the Boys Varsity Basketball Coaching position. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.

Motion by T. Pallin, second by T. Williams to approve the 24-25 school calendar. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.

Motion by A. Schrader, second by P. Smith to approve the Breakfast Duty/Extra compensation for the 24-25 school year. This will allow the school doors to open at 7:45am. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.

Motion by J. Fiorucci, second by T. Williams to approve the Letter of Agreement between the WTSD and the WEA regarding State School Aid Section 27k. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.

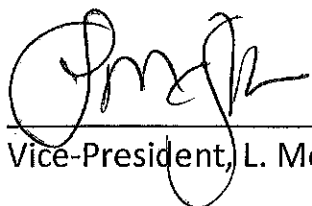
Mrs. Williams will be posting a job opening for a Special Needs/Medical Need Paraprofessional.

Motion by J. Fiorucci, second by P. Smith to accept the letter of resignation from the current 2nd Grade teacher with an end date of June 30, 2024. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.

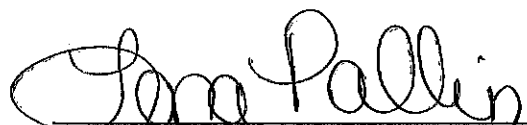
Motion by T. Pallin, second by A. Schrader to approve the donation of up to 30 items for the Nimrod Golf Open. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.

Mr. Peterson presented the Principal's Report.

Motion by T. Williams, second by T. Pallin to adjourn at 5:15pm. Roll call vote: A. Schrader-Aye, T. Pallin-Aye, T. Williams-Aye, J. Fiorucci-Aye, P. Smith-Aye, L. McGeshick-Aye. All Ayes-Motion carried.



Vice-President, L. McGeshick



Secretary, T. Pallin

Watersmeet School

Head Coaches/Assistant Coaches/Volunteer Coaches/Athletic Director

Keys/Open Gym/Sports Deck Policy:

1. **NO** keys to the school will be giving out unless you are an employee of the Watersmeet Township School District, or assistant/volunteer coach whom is selected by the head coach of that sport only. Must pass the required fingerprint/background checks brought to the Watersmeet Township School Board before approval, and before any contact with the athletes along with access of keys to the building. (Fingerprinting/background fee **will not** be reimbursed by the district)

2. Only the athletic director/head coaches (all sports)/assistant/volunteer coaches will have keys to open gym/sports deck, and supervise activities during their discretion of days/times.
 - A. When an in-season athlete from a specific sport is using the gym/sports deck, the coach of that sport must supervise.
 - B. If that coach cannot be there, he/she must make arrangements with another authorized coach, or assistant/volunteer coach to supervise the athletes.
 - C. A coach may supervise athletes in more than his/her sport.
 - D. All precautions should be made to avoid interrupting another coach's practice.
 - E. In-season sports have time preference priority over out-of-season sports for the in-school open gym/sports deck.
 - F. Coaches must make arrangements with one another.
 - G. All head coaches must turn into the athletic director set times/days that they will be utilizing open gyms/sports deck on the Friday prior. No coach will be allowed without approval from the athletic director to go in unannounced on days not on their schedule. Coaches must invite all of their players for an open gym. Must have a sign in sheet for any open gyms/sports deck. Sign in sheets must be turned into the athletic director weekly.
 - H. Coaches can and will be held responsible for bringing others into our district for scrimmages during their practice times only.
 - I. Practice on "snow days" or Inclement Weather
 1. If School is called off during the school day; all activities scheduled are cancelled for all. No staff or coach is allowed to use the gym/sports deck.

Our School District Offers:

- **Volleyball:** Varsity
- **Basketball:** Boys and Girls Varsity, Junior High Boys and Girls, and Elementary Boys and Girls
- **Cross Country:** Varsity
- **Track:** Boys and Girls Varsity and Junior High
- **Golf**

Jim Gordon Installein

Date: 4/15/24

**LETTER OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
AND
THE WATERSMEET EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

Grants Under State School Aid Act Section 27k

In consideration of the mutual covenants below, this Letter of Agreement (LOA) is by and between the Watersmeet Education Association/ Education Support Professionals (Association) and the Watersmeet Township School District (District) Board of Education (Board) and concerns State funding available under State School Aid Act Section 27k, MCL 388.1627k (Section 27k).

Background:

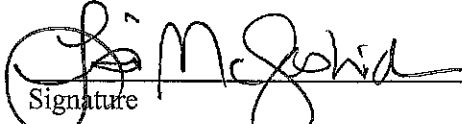
1. Section 27k allows the District to apply for funding to assist Association bargaining unit members who are eligible participants with student loan repayments.
2. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is expected to begin accepting Section 27k applications for 2023-24 funding on February 29, 2024.
3. For any unexpended 2023-24 Section 27k funds, MDE is expected to open a 2024-25 application cycle.
4. Schools are required to use Section 27k funds to implement a student loan repayment program in accordance with MDE guidelines.
5. Pursuant to such a program, the District must verify certain employee information and must obtain certain employee certifications.
6. The parties desire to establish a Section 27k program to obtain Section 27k funding for eligible participants while minimizing the District's potential legal liability in implementing the program (Program), and the provisions below reflect that Program.

The Parties Agree:

1. The District will apply for Section 27k funding during the 2023-24 application cycle and, if applicable, during the 2024-25 application cycle.
2. A bargaining unit member (Member) will only be included in a District Section 27k funding application if (A) the District determines that the Member is an eligible participant as defined in MCL 388.1627k(8)(b) (Eligible Participant), (B) the Member provides the District Superintendent or designee with any information and documents requested by the District that are necessary and relevant to fully complete the application process and to comply with MDE guidelines, as determined by the District, and (C) the Member signs and dates and provides the District Superintendent or designee the Employee Certification Form in Attachment A before the start of the applicable application cycle.
3. The District will distribute Section 27k funding received from MDE to each applicable Member in equal monthly payments until Section 27k funding received by the District is exhausted or until the Member's federal student loan is paid off, whichever occurs first – up to \$200 per month.

4. The District shall have the right to discontinue Section 27k funding to a Member if it determines that the Member (A) is not an Eligible Participant, (B) fails to timely provide any information and documents requested by the District that are necessary and relevant to confirm Eligible Participant status, as determined by the District, or (C) fails to timely complete required certifications in the Employee Certification Form.
5. The parties approve the Internal Revenue Code Section 127 plan in Attachment B to avoid taxability of Section 27k funding.
6. The Association shall not file any claim (including any grievance, unfair labor practice, or court complaint) against the District for implementing the Program as per the MDE guidelines for Section 27k funds. Provided the District has engaged in due diligence and properly completes its own statutory obligations under Section 27K and the Program, then the Association shall not advance any grievance to arbitration, nor file any other legal proceeding (i.e. court complaint, unfair labor practice, wage and hours complaint).
7. The Program and this LOA shall expire on July 1, 2025 or when the District distributes all Section 27k funds received by the District for the 2023-24 application cycle, whichever is later. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, if there is a Section 27k 2024-25 application cycle, then this LOA shall expire on July 1, 2026 or when the District distributes all Section 27k funds received by the District for the 2024-25 application cycle, whichever is later.
8. This LOA is not intended to set a precedent and shall not be used as any evidence of a policy or practice.
9. This LOA is an amendment to the CBA. If at any time MDE determines and notifies the District that a Member was not eligible to receive Section 27k funding, the District may recoup an amount equal to such funding from the Member's paychecks to the extent permitted by law.
10. Once signed by each party, this LOA will be effective immediately.
11. This LOA may only be amended in writing by an authorized representative of each party.

For the Board



 Signature

Lisa McElshick

 Printed Name

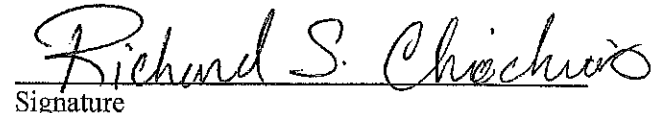
V.P.

 Position

4/15/24

 Date

For the Association



 Signature

Richard S. Chiochios

 Printed Name

President WEA

 Position

4/10/24

 Date