

WESTERN AREA CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER
 JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE
 February 28, 2024

Following an Executive Session held prior to the meeting for discussion of personnel matters, the meeting was called to order by JOC Vice President Tara Sparks-Gatling in the Multipurpose Room at 6:30 PM with the following in attendance:

	Board Delegate		Alternate		Also In Attendance
X	Missy Dryer		Tia Shore	X	Cyril Walther, Superintendent
	Melissa P. Secco		Amy Lemmon	X	Michael Milanovich
	Ann Marie Miller		Bernard Price	X	James Purtell
X	Robert J. Mele		Richard Hall		Kimberly A. Siegman
X	Paul Bianchini		Julie Sepesy	X	Steffie Smith
X	Monique Frye		Aaron Vanatta	X	Matthew M. Hoffman, Esq.
X	Rebecca A. Bowman, Esq.		Kathleen Chaudhari		
X	Gregory Z. Rudman		J. R. Slagle		
X	Tara Sparks-Gatling		Amy Roberts		

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

James Lueck - Student of the Month – Welding Program - Fort Cherry SD

A three-year member of the WACTC National Technical Honor Society and SkillsUSA, James is an active participant in Fort Cherry extracurricular activities which include basketball, cross country, Student in Action (community service club), Fort Friends (working with Life Skills students throughout the school year), trap team, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. James enjoys hunting and fishing and earned his Eagle Scout honor last April. James is employed at Jim Shoup Equipment & Services thru our Co-Op program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Dryer, second by Mr. Mele, to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024 meeting. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer's Report I Ratification and Payment of Bills

Motion by Mrs. Bowman, second by Mrs. Frye, to accept the Treasurer's Report with ratification and payment of bills as presented. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

PERSONNEL

EMT Public Safety Instructor

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mrs. Frye, to employ Cheryl K. Rogowski as a full-time EMT Public Safety instructor at Step 9, Class 1, retroactive to February 20, 2024, at a prorated salary of \$50,899, with benefits, contingent upon fulfillment of employment requirements. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

EMT Public Safety Administrative Director

Motion by Mr. Rudman, second by Mr. Mele, to contract the services of Ron Baselj as EMT Public Safety program Administrative Director retroactive to January 25, 2024, to be paid a one-time stipend of \$1,500. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

CDL Third Party Examiner

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mr. Rudman, to contract the services of Donald Snedeker as a CDL Third Party Examiner at the rate of \$22 per hour. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

Salary Adjustment

Motion by Mrs. Dryer, second by Mrs. Frye, to increase the salary of secretary Melissa Bell-Hill to \$36,000 retroactive to January 2, 2024. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

POLICY UPDATES

Policies 610 and 611

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mrs. Frye, to approve policy 610 (Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation) and policy 611 (Purchases Budgeted) as presented. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

Policy 903

Policy 903 (Public Comment in Joint Operating Committee Meetings) is attached for first reading. JOC action is not required.

FIELD TRIP REQUEST

Motion by Mr. Mele, second by Mrs. Frye, to approve the Cosmetology program field trip request for 44 students and 3 staff personnel to attend the International Beauty Show in New York City on March 4-5, 2024, with all expenses being paid from Student Activity funds. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

REPORTS

- Matthew Hoffman, Esq., Solicitor, discussed a case of an employee of a staffing agency who was placed at a school district and whether he was considered a school district “employee” for purposes of a Title VI discrimination claim. (Larkin v. Upper Darby School District, 2024 WL 377812 [E.D. Pa. January 31, 2024]).
- Mr. Purtell briefly discussed school initiatives:
 - Junior Achievement meeting with our students to assist in preparation of resumes for upcoming career/job fair
 - Upcoming Washington Financial incentive/presentation to our students
 - Community support of the culinary Lenten fish fry
 - Preparation for upcoming NOCTI testing
 - Culinary and Cosmetology programs to participate in upcoming Burgettstown in-service program

BOARD COMMENTS

There was a brief discussion concerning Policy 903 (Public Comment in Joint Operating Committee Meetings) to alleviate any JOC concerns of First Amendment violations.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Rudman, second Mr. Mele, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. On a voice vote, the motion was unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Steffie Smith, Board Secretary