

DUNMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2021**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Dunmore Board of School Directors was held Thursday, **January 21, 2021, at 6:00pm** in the High School Cafeteria.
Mr. Hallinan presided.

I. ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

MR. BUTLER	PRESENT
MR. COLEMAN	PRESENT
MR. HALLINAN	PRESENT
MR. HOLTHAM	NOT PRESENT
MR. KRANICK	PRESENT
MS. LIBASSI	PRESENT
MR. MCHALE	PRESENT
MR. SUMMA	PRESENT
MR. MURACCO	PRESENT

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Marichak, Mrs. Lopatka, Atty. Matthew Dempsey

***** PUBLIC DISCUSSION –**

John Gatto – speaking on behalf of the teachers, pushing to delay School until all Teachers are vaccinated.

II. APPROVED MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Summa seconded by Mr. Kranick to approve the **MINUTES** of the Regular Meeting of November 18, 2020, Reorganization Meeting 12/1/20, Regular Meeting 12/1/20 and Special Meeting 12/7/20.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

III. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Motion by Mr. Coleman seconded by Mr. Muracco that permission be granted to the Following for the use of District facilities/equipment:

The use of District facilities is subject to the conditions established by the Dunmore School District and may not conflict with any regularly scheduled activity.

1. Use of DHS Softball field 6/17 through 6/20/21 for Lackawanna

County Visitors Bureau Slow Pitch Softball Tournament.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

B. Motion by Mr. McHale seconded by Mr. Butler to approve changes to the District's Health and Safety Plan.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Dunmore School District reviewed and approved the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan on January 21, 2021.

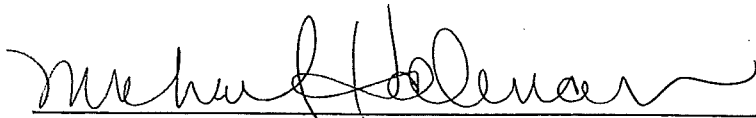
The plan was approved by a vote of:

☒ Yes

☐ No

Affirmed on: January 21, 2021.

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Michael Hollinan

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.

V. EDUCATION

Motion by Ms. Libassi seconded by Mr. Summa to approve Expulsion of Student ID# 6822657568.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- B.** Motion by Mr. Kranick seconded by Mr. Coleman to approve Expulsion of Student ID# 5245957434.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- C.** Motion by Mr. Coleman seconded by Mr. Kranick to approve Expulsion of Student ID#8530354044.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

IV. PERSONNEL

- A.** Motion by Mr. McHale seconded by Mr. Butler to accept the Personnel Reports.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- B.** Motion by Ms. Libassi seconded by Mr. Summa to accept letter of retirement from Mary Hurst, effective June 9, 2021, under the MOU dated November 18, 2020.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- C.** Motion by Mr. Muracco seconded by Mr. McHale to appoint Michael Ehnott 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach for one (1) year. Terms are defined in the Agreement with the Dunmore Federation of Teachers.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- D.** Motion by Mr. Butler seconded by Ms. Libassi to appoint Joshua D'Annunzio Assistant Weight Lifting Coach. Terms are defined in the agreement with the Dunmore Federation of Teachers.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- E.** Motion by Mr. Summa seconded by Mr. Kranick to accept the resignation of William Hartshorn Volunteer Football Coach effective immediately.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

VI. FINANCE

- A.** Motion by Mr. Coleman seconded by Mr. Muracco to approve the following payrolls: 11/27/20, 12/11/20, 12/24/20 & 1/8/21:

11/27/20	\$397,629.83
12/11/20	\$383,861.98
12/24/20	\$378,547.59
01/08/21	<u>\$371,310.16</u>
	\$1,531,349.56

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- B.** Motion by Mr. McHale seconded by Mr. Butler to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month(s) of NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- C.** Motion by Ms. Libassi seconded by Mr. Summa to accept Real Estate Tax Collector's Report for month(s) of NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- D.** Motion by Mr. Kranick seconded by Mr. Coleman to approve Payment for LIST OF BILLS: \$829,523.81.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

- E.** Motion by Mr. Muraco seconded by Mr. McHale to accept Activities Reports for month(s) OF NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

RESOLUTION

CONCERNING INTERMEDIATE UNIT BUDGET

Section 914-A (6) (i) Act 102 of 1970, requires that the intermediate unit budget shall be approved by "at least a majority of the school districts comprising the intermediate unit."

At a meeting on Jan 21ST 2021, by a vote of

8 to 0 with 0 abstaining and 1 absent, as

recorded in the minutes, the members of the Board of Directors of

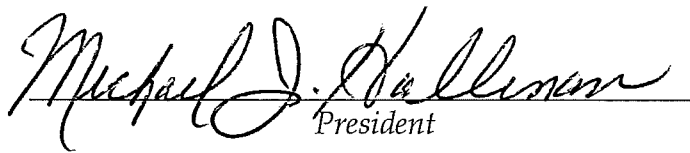
Dunmore,

a member of


Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit 19,

approved ✓ or disapproved _____ the budget of the Intermediate
(c h e c k o n e)

Unit for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.


President

Attest:


Secretary

SEAL

Instructions: Each school district will file one copy of this form with the intermediate unit office and it shall be made part of the intermediate unit budget file to confirm compliance with Section 914-A (6) (i) Act 102 of 1970

Dunmore School District
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2006, the Pennsylvania legislature passed Act 1 of Special Session 2006, entitled the "Taxpayer Relief Act" (hereinafter "Act 1");

WHEREAS, Act 1 requires school districts to limit tax increases to the level set by an inflation index unless the tax increase is approved by voters in a referendum or the school district obtains from the Department of Education or a court of common pleas certain referendum exceptions;

WHEREAS, Act 1 does, however, allow a board of school directors to elect to adopt a resolution indicating that it will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of the public schools for the following fiscal year by more than its index, provided this resolution must be adopted no later than 110 days prior to the date of the election immediately preceding the upcoming fiscal year;

WHEREAS, the adjusted index for the **2021-2022** fiscal year for Dunmore School District is **3.8%**;

WHEREAS, the Dunmore School District Board of Directors has made the decision that it shall not raise the rate of any tax for the support of its public schools for the **2021-2022** fiscal year by more than its index.

AND NOW, on this **21st day of January 2021**, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Dunmore School District (hereinafter "District") Board of Directors (hereinafter "Board") the following:

1. The Board certifies that it will not increase any school district tax for the **2021-2022** school year at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
2. The Board certifies that it will comply with the procedures set forth in Section 687, of the Pennsylvania Public School Code (hereinafter "School Code"), 24 P.S. §6-687, for the adoption of its proposed and final budget.
3. The Board certifies that increasing any tax at a rate less than or equal to the index will be sufficient to balance its final budget of the **2021-2022** fiscal year.
4. The Administration of the District will submit the District's information on a proposed increase in the rate of a tax levied for the support of the District to the Pennsylvania Department of Education on the uniform form prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of Education no later than five days after the Board's adoption of this Resolution.
5. The Administration of the District will send a copy of this Resolution to the Pennsylvania Department of Education no later than five days after the Board's adoption of this Resolution.

6. The Board understands and agrees that by passing this Resolution it is not eligible to seek referendum exceptions under Section 333(f) of Act 1 and is not eligible to request approval from the voters through a referendum to increase a tax rate by more than the index as established for the **2021-2022** fiscal year.

7. Once this Resolution is passed, the Administration of the District is not required to comply with the preliminary budget requirements set forth in paragraphs (a) and (c) of Section 311 of Act 1. Provided, however:

(a) The Board understands and agrees that, upon receipt of the information submitted by the District as set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, the Pennsylvania Department of Education shall compare the District's proposed percentage increase in the rate of the tax with the index.

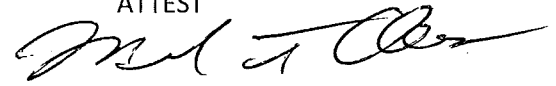
(b) Within ten days of the receipt of this information, the Pennsylvania Department of Education shall inform the District whether its proposed tax rate increase is less than or equal to the index.

(c) If the Pennsylvania Department of Education determines that the District's proposed increase in the rate of the District's tax exceeds the index, the District is subject to the preliminary budget requirements as set forth in paragraph (a) and (c) of Section 311 of Act 1.

**Dunmore School District
Dunmore, Pennsylvania**


President

ATTEST


Secretary

(SEAL)

AUN	School District	County	2020-21	2021-22
			MV/PI Aid Ratio	Adjusted Index
119350303	Abington Heights SD	Lackawanna	0.4037	3.5%
119351303	Carbondale Area SD	Lackawanna	0.7818	4.6%
119352203	Dunmore SD	Lackawanna	0.5246	3.8%
119354603	Lakeland SD	Lackawanna	0.5661	3.9%
119355503	Mid Valley SD	Lackawanna	0.5400	3.9%
119356503	North Pocono SD	Lackawanna	0.5213	3.8%
119356603	Old Forge SD	Lackawanna	0.5808	4.0%
119357003	Riverside SD	Lackawanna	0.5553	3.9%
119357402	Scranton SD	Lackawanna	0.7687	4.6%
119358403	Valley View SD	Lackawanna	0.5848	4.0%

January 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Marichak, Mr. Hallinan, Mr. Butler, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Kranick, Mr. Muracco, Ms. Libassi, Mr. McHale, and Mr. Holtham,

The Federation would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Education and the administration for all they have done to facilitate a successful virtual education program in the Dunmore School District. We would be remiss if we did not thank the parents and caregivers of our students for their tireless efforts to help provide the best education for their children. The Federation recognizes that this has not been an easy task for those at home, and we have been absolutely impressed by the participation rates and quality of work that our students are producing. None of this would be possible without the help of our great community.

We are almost at the finish line, and we are all thrilled that we can see an end to this journey on the horizon. The Federation humbly requests for the board to wait for a return to in person instruction of any kind until the faculty and staff who choose to be, can be vaccinated. We have come so far, and are so proud of everyone's efforts. We would hate to throw it all away because of a premature decision. We realize in times like these that emotions can run high, but the fact of the matter is that local cases are higher than any other point in this process. There is a mutation that has made this awful disease even more contagious. Experts are still unclear of the long term effects of a person contracting Covid-19. Some of these effects can include heart disease, loss of memory, and brain damage. These risks far outweigh the rewards especially this close to vaccination. There are still problems staffing substitutes. Furthermore, we are also seeing the problems that other districts are having who have come back too early. Many of those districts are in and out of school on the whim of the virus, creating the lack of continuity and an unstable learning environment for the children. Currently, we are able to provide five days of quality virtual education to every student in the district.

We have all had the same goal from the beginning: to safely educate the students of the Dunmore School District, to the best of our abilities. The Federation appreciates the Board's attention to this matter, and we realize the difficulty in the choices that you have to make as the education, health, and well-being of so many is a great responsibility.

John Gatto, Dunmore Federation of Teachers President

Ryan Ferguson, Dunmore Federation of Teachers Vice President

- F. Motion by Mr. Butler seconded by Ms. Libassi to accept Wage Tax-Collector's Reports For month(s) of NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020.
ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR
- G. Motion by Mr. Kranick seconded by Mr. Coleman to approve the BUCS Basic Program for Unemployment Compensation for 2021. This is a self-insured program with an annual Administrative rate of \$2.92 per employee. (No increase from prior year)
ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR
- H. Motion by Mr. Muracco seconded by Mr. McHale to adopt the attached resolution Stipulating that there will be no increase in the rate of any tax for the support of its Public Schools for 2021-2022 fiscal year by more than the index established by the Pa. Dept. of Education for the Dunmore School District (Act 1) (See attached)
ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR
- I. Motion by Mr. Butler seconded by Ms. Libassi to approve Special Education settlement Agreement for Student ID#5753179894.
ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR
- J. Motion by Mr. Summa seconded by Mr. Coleman to approve resolution for NEIU #19 2021-2022 operating budget. In the amount of \$20,038.71. Decrease of \$473.73 over Prior year. (See attached)
ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. McHale seconded by Mr. Muracco appoint Dr. William Dempsey, Dr. of Record for the Dunmore School District.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

Jessica Libassi response to Union Letter, would like Union Letter part of the public meeting notes. Issues brought to us as a Board should be handled by building Administration and directed to them.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - None

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - None

*** ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

Motion by Mr. McHale seconded by Mr. Butler to accept the Superintendent's Report and make it part of the MINUTES.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Libassi seconded by Mr. Summa to adjourn to meet in Regular Session or at the call of the CHAIR.

ALL PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Coleman

Board Secretary

