



Board of School Directors

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
531 Jones Avenue, North Braddock, PA 15104 · 412.731.1300 · 412.273.3601

For the months of November & December, 2020, the Woodland Hills School Board has the following updates:

The 2020-2021 School year continues with virtual instruction for most students. Teachers and staff continue to make use of platforms and tools that have been implemented for virtual instruction. Teachers and students seem to be adapting well to virtual instruction, and the District will administer the NWEA MAP test to measure student growth. Updates on the latest guidance and instruction models are available on the District website.

The District continues to monitor COVID conditions and data to determine when students might return to school in-person. No such return is anticipated in the immediate future. The District's return to school plan spells out the intention to bring students back on a hybrid schedule, with each student attending in-person on an alternating schedule 2 days per week, and continuing virtual instruction 3 days per week. The timeline remains undefined, but preparations for an in-person return are underway, including a survey of building conditions to ensure proper ventilation, and a poll of families to determine which, if any, will opt to continue virtual instruction rather than return in person.

As a result of the Governor's order last week, athletic and extracurricular activities that had been meeting in-person are suspended until at least January 4.

Construction continues at the High School, with significant work at the main entrance to the building, including the expansion of the administrative suite and the installation of a secure vestibule. Steps are being taken to ensure that the work is as on-schedule as possible, even with COVID-related delays.

The District is experiencing significant technology issues that have not impacted virtual instruction, but have made business operations challenging. Our technology staff is working to restore access to the system for tax collectors as soon as possible.

Public meetings, including the Board's committee, agenda and legislative meetings are being held via Zoom. We expect that to be the case for the foreseeable future. If you or your residents wish to participate, sign-in and call-in information will be available on the District website. Public comment on Agenda items is welcome by registration for the beginning and on any issue of concern at the end of the Agenda and Legislative meetings. Committee meetings are informal and conversational.

At the November Agenda and Legislative meetings, the Board considered and adopted the following:

- An agreement with Maher Duessel to review District financial reporting and suggest improved structure for communication of financial information
- Approval to seek funding through the CBDG program to support improvements to the Swissvale Library

At the annual Reorganization meeting and the December Legislative meetings, the Board considered and adopted the following:

- Re-election of Board Leadership, which is unchanged from last year, adoption of the Board's meeting dates, and re-appointment of the District's solicitor. The meeting dates will continue on the same pattern as in 2020.
- Revisions to a number of policies to align with new Title IX regulations
- Acceptance of donated school supplies from students in the Penn Trafford School District.

The Agendas and Minutes for the Boards meetings can be found [here](#).

Committee Meetings will be held on January 5 & 6, with Curriculum, Special Education & Pupil Personnel, Policy, Community Relations on Tuesday and Finance, Athletics, Safety, Technology, Transportation & Food Service, Facilities on Wednesday. Meetings begin at 5pm. Please watch the website for the latest information about accessing the meetings.

Thank you for your service to your community in 2020. We recognize the particular challenges that this year has brought, and appreciate your dedication. Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a very Happy New Year!