

Board of School Directors

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

For the month of November, 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 receive training on the platforms and tools that will be used for virtual instruction during professional development days scheduled into the school calendar. Teachers and students seem to be adapting well to virtual instruction. Plans for reopening are available on the District website as follows:

- The District's Return to School Plan, available <u>here</u>
- The Athletics Return to Play Plan, available here

The District continues to monitor COVID conditions and data to determine when students might return to school in-person, but has announced that there will not be any expanded return imminently, with the next announcement set for mid-November. When it its appropriate for students to return, he 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 survey of families to assess comfort levels with an in-person return. Results of the family survey were presented at the Board's Agenda setting meeting on November 11, and can be found <u>here</u>.

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. Classroom renovations are ongoing on a phased schedule, and the auditorium is undergoing a full renovation for the first time. Renovations to the soccer field are complete with the logo having been installed during the first week of November.

The District is not allowing most outside uses of facilities at this time, though drive-thru events in District parking lots have been held for certain events.

The Boar will hold Committee Meetings for December on November 23 and 24, because of the Thanksgiving holiday and the early date of the December Board meeting, which is set by School Code. All legislative meetings are being held via Zoom. If you or your residents wish to participate, sign-in and call-in information will be available on the 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 and do not have formal comment periods as a result, though the public is invited and welcome to participate.

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

- Consideration of an RFP for salvage or disposal of the telescope in the High School observatory. Though that instrument is no longer feasible for use in the curriculum, we recognize its value and history and welcome ideas for potential reuse;
- Installation of new safety gates at the Turtle Creek STEAM Academy and at the former Intermediate School;
- Approval of a resolution to allow the District to apply for funds through the Community Development Block Grant Program for renovations to the Swissvale Library;
- A contract with Maher Duessel for a review of financial reporting and improved financial reports.

The Agendas and Minutes for the Boards meetings can be found <u>here</u>.

Committee Meetings will be held on November 23 & 24, with Curriculum, Special Education & Pupil Personnel, Policy, Community Relations on Monday and Finance, Athletics, Safety, Technology, Transportation & Food Service, Facilities on Tuesday. Meetings begin at 5pm. There will be a session to discuss the District's draft Mission, Vision, and Beliefs beginning at approximately 6:30pm on Monday, November 23, as a part of the Policy Committee meeting. Please watch the website for the latest information about accessing the meetings.