

**WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**August 17, 2022**

**1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, in the District Office Board Room located at Wilson Elementary School. The President, Mr. Robert Ostrander, presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call of Directors**

Present -	Robert Ostrander – President	
	George Bartha	Joel Colinear
	Kevin Hancock	Todd Kosenina
	Tracy Kosis	Mark Rosen

Present via phone - Tracy Pustover  
Debbie Mirich

Also Present - Mr. William Andrews, Solicitor  
Dr. Jerri Lynn Lippert, Superintendent  
Dr. Chris Shattuck, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Shana Nelson, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Mrs. Tammy Adams, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Mr. George Safin, Business Manager  
Mrs. Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary

**3. Public Comment**

Jaime Sanabria asked the Board to approve Item 15.2, the E-Sports program.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

- 4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the July 20, 2022, meeting to the Board. On a motion by Mrs. Kosis, seconded by Mr. Bartha, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve the minutes as distributed.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report from last month was read by Mr. George Safin, Business Manager, and accepted by the board indicating a balance on July 31, 2022 of \$30,858,223.76.

**6. Communications**

No communications this month.

**7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award**

No awards this month.

**8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators**

Dr. Lippert discussed the following activities:

- Beginning of school
- Orientations
- Teachers returning
- Day of Caring

**9. President's Report**

Mr. Ostrander thanked the entire team.

**10. Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business this month.

**11. Solicitor's Report**

Mr. Andrews reminded Mr. Ostrander to announce the executive sessions. Mr. Ostrander announced that the Board met in executive session last week and prior to tonight's meeting in regards to personnel, legal and student matters.

**12. Personnel**

Mrs. Kosis presented the Personnel portion of the Committee report:

On a motion by Mrs. Kosis, seconded by Mr. Rosen, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.20 on the Personnel agenda.

- 12.1 Approving the list of professional and support substitutes as presented.
- 12.2 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Kristin Kobert, grade 3 teacher at Wilson Elementary, effective the beginning of the 2022-23 school year not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.3 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Rachel Ermine, chemistry teacher at the high school, effective the beginning of the 2022-23 school year not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.4 Approving an unpaid parental leave of absence for Rebecca Barney, grade 1 teacher at Wilson Elementary, effective the beginning of the 2022-23 school year through January 11, 2023.
- 12.5 Approving the resignation of Brooke Wilson, long-term substitute grade 4 teacher at Donaldson Elementary, effective August 9, 2022.

- 12.6 Approving Rachel Hazuda as a long-term substitute special education teacher at Donaldson Elementary for the first semester of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Step 1 Bachelor's, \$49,775, prorated.
- 12.7 Recognizing a final rating of "SATISFACTORY" for the individuals listed below, after completing three satisfactory years of service with the District, awarding tenure and a professional contract.  
Burke, Janet  
Orndoff, Kristen  
McBurney, Matt  
Lancaster, Christa  
Pasquino, Olivia  
Conoscuito, Erica  
Pflug, Julie
- 12.8 Approving hiring Mark Slagel as a high school mathematics teacher, effective with the start of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Step 1 Master's, \$51,775.
- 12.9 Approving the resignation of Blaise Cackovic, high school physics teacher, effective no later than October 7, 2022.
- 12.10 Approving hiring Dave Schoppe as a high school physics teacher, effective with the start of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Step 17 Bachelor's, \$105,975, prorated.
- 12.11 Approving the resignation of Chelsea Rudolph, Donaldson Elementary learning support teacher, effective August 17, 2022.
- 12.12 Approving the retirement resignation of Bernadette Goodwin, Donaldson Elementary custodian, effective September 12, 2022.
- 12.13 Approving the promotion of Jamie Holmes from Class IV-B lunch aide to Class III paraprofessional at Wilson Elementary effective with the start of the 2022-23 school year. Salary - \$20.48/hour.
- 12.14 Approving the resignation of Darla Shepard, Wilson Elementary special education teacher, effective November 1, 2022.
- 12.15 Approving hiring Major Robert Paugh as a senior JROTC instructor at the high school, effective December 1, 2022, at a salary of \$105,975 and a commitment stipend of \$10,000.
- 12.16 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Scott Smith, Facilities Supervisor, effective August 22, 2022 not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.17 Approving the resignation of Marjorie Ruffing, Class IV-B lunch aide at Wilson Elementary, effective August 17, 2022.
- 12.18 Approving the resignation of Brianna Caridi, high school English long-term substitute, effective August 17, 2022.

- 12.19 Amending item 12.7 from June 2022 transferring Kylie Martin from Donaldson first semester long-term substitute to Wilson Elementary as a kindergarten full-year long-term substitute for the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Step 1 Bachelor's, \$49,775.
- 12.20 Approving Shelley Murphy as a long-term substitute grade 2 teacher at Donaldson Elementary for Denise Stinch for the first semester of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Bachelor's step 1 \$49,775, prorated.

### **13. Property & Supply**

The Property & Supply portion of the Committee report was presented by Mr. Rosen:

On a motion by Mr. Rosen, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 13.1 through 13.3 on the Property & Supply agenda.

- 13.1 Approving the list of bus drivers for the district for the 2022-23 school year. All necessary requirements have been met.
- 13.2 Approving Vance's Landscaping to complete the Donaldson baseball field improvements as presented.
- 13.3 Approving Vance's Landscaping to complete the high school softball field improvements as presented.

### **14. Finance**

The Finance portion of the Committee report was presented by Mr. Bartha:

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 14.1 through 14.4 on the Finance agenda.

- 14.1 Approving the payment of bills from the General Fund as per list presented to the Board Members.
- 14.2 Approving the Construction Fund and Construction Treasurer's reports as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.3 Accepting August Activity Reports as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.4 Approving the June Cafeteria Report as presented to the Board Members.

### **15. Policy & Programs**

The Policy & Programs portion of the Committee report was presented by Mr. Hancock:

On a motion by Mr. Hancock, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 15.1 and 15.2 on the Policy & Programs agenda.

- 15.1 Approving the 2022-23 Health and Safety Plan as presented.

- 15.2 Approving the purchase of E-Sports program from Mastery Coding at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.

**16. Athletics & Activities**

The Athletics & Activities portion of the Committee report was presented by Mr. Kosenina:

On a motion by Mr. Kosenina, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 16.1 through 16.5 on the Athletics & Activities agenda.

- 16.1 Approving the additional 2022 fall coach volunteers as presented. All clearance requirements have been met.
- 16.2 Approving the attached supplemental positions for the 2022-23 school year as presented.
- 16.3 Recommend hiring Eva Piatrova as the assistant strength and conditioning coach at the one star, head coach level for the 2022-23 school year not to exceed the amount of \$24,028.76.
- 16.4 Approving an amendment to item 16.2 from July 2022 for salary adjustments for T.J. Fox, Marching Band Director, from \$10,086.13 to \$10,212.21.
- 16.5 Approving the following Speech & Debate coaches for the 2022-23 school year.

TJ Fox - Co-Head - \$6,167.38

James Hamilton - Co-Head - \$6,167.38

**17. Federal Programs & Legislation**

No report.

**18. Student Representatives**

No report for the summer. Dr. Lippert announced that Connor Frank and Alex Booth will be joining the Board next month.

**19. Library**

Mr. Ostrander reported on the following activities:

- Love your library month
- Fall For Your Library
- Book Bus update
- Fall Programs

Please visit the Library and their website for more information  
[www.westernallegHENYlibrary.org](http://www.westernallegHENYlibrary.org).

**20. Parkway West CTC**

Mr. Ostrander reported that enrollment is up. They are allowing out of jointure attendees.

**21. SHASDA**

No report.

**22. West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame**

No report.

**23. West Allegheny Foundation**

No report.

**24. Wellness and Safe Schools Committee**

No report.

**25. New Business**

No report.

**26. Open Forum**

Zac Wassel, Oakdale, asked the Board to consider waiving delinquent property tax fees.

Jaime Sanabria, Oakdale, voiced her concerns over having to log in to 6 different programs as a parent. She also asked to be able to attend meetings virtually.

John Campbell, Oakdale, asked to be able to attend meetings virtually. He also asked about the Health & Safety plan for Parkway.

Robert Ostrander answered that the plan is on their website.

**27. Adjournment**

On a motion by Mr. Rosen, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

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Robert Ostrander, Board President

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Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary