WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

July 22, 2026

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, in the District Office Board Room located at Wilson Elementary School. The President, Mr. Robert Ostrander, presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Directors

Present -	Robert Ostrander – President	Tammy Adams McBain
	George Bartha	Dr. Mildred Johnson
	Steven Pons	Steve Psomas
	Seth Tomei	
Absent -	Vicki Hatton Bozic	
	Tracy Pustover – Vice President	

Also Present -
Mr. William Andrews, Solicitor
Dr. Jerri Lynn Lippert, Superintendent
Dr. Christopher Shattuck, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Shana Nelson, Assistant to the Superintendent
Dr. Lynn Utchell, Assistant to the Superintendent
Dr. Katharine Roche, Director of Special Projects
Mr. George Safin, Director of Finance
Mrs. Chelsie D'Amico, Director of Human Resources/Board Secretary

Mr. Ostrander announced that the Board met in executive session on July 15, 2026, and prior to tonight's meeting on July 22, 2026, regarding legal and personnel matters.

3. Public Comment

No comment.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 The board secretary previously distributed a copy of the minutes from the June 17, 2026 meeting to the Board. On a motion by Mr. Psomas, seconded by Mr. Pons, 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, Director of Finance, and accepted by the board indicating a balance on June 30, 2026, of $43,681,447.58.

6. Communications

Nothing to report.

7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award

No awards.

8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators

Dr. Lippert shared information on the following upcoming events:
• 8/10 – Student schedules are released for the 2026-2027 School Year
• 8/17 – First day of In-Service for Staff
• 8/22 – Annual Day of Caring
• 8/25 – First day of School for students

9. President's Report

Mr. Ostrander recognized and thanked the staff working throughout the summer months. The hard work and dedication are noticed and appreciated.

10. Unfinished Business

No comments.

11. Solicitor's Report

No report.

12. Personnel

On a motion by Mr. Tomei, seconded by Mrs. Adams McBain, 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 the following WAVA staff for the 2026-27 school year. Salary per collective bargaining agreement.

Secondary ELA – Lauren Corrado
Secondary Social Studies – Josh Bears
Secondary Mathematics/Technology Education – Bob Coulter
Secondary Mathematics/Physics – Matt McBurney
Secondary Biology – Suzanne Lambert
Secondary Chemistry – Jim Hamilton
Secondary BCIT – Carrie Morgan
Art K-12 – Sharon Harn
Physical Education K-12 – Mindi McFate
Elementary Grades 3-5 – Tiffany Mangan
Elementary Grades K-2 – Bob Meehan

12.3 Approving hiring Catherine Monteverde as a long-term substitute elementary teacher for the first semester of the 2026-27 school year. Salary, Step 1 Bachelor's $59,900, prorated.

12.4 Approving a full school term educational sabbatical for Erin Rakoci, Health and Physical Education teacher at the middle school, for the 2026-27 school year.

12.5 Accepting the resignation of Francesca Deiuliis, elementary teacher, effective June 23, 2026.

12.6 Approving the retirement resignation of Mary Jo Kisow, middle school lunch aide, effective July 1, 2026.

12.7 Approving a salary adjustment for Carolyn Stout, Wilson kindergarten teacher, from Bachelor's Step 6 ($63,425) to Master's Step 6 ($65,425) effective May 9, 2026.

12.8 Approving a salary adjustment for Curt Russell, middle school health and physical education teacher, from Master's Equivalency +15 ($116,875) to Master's Equivalency +30 ($117,875), effective June 16, 2026.

12.9 Approving a salary adjustment for Kylie Martin, Wilson kindergarten teacher, from Bachelor's ($60,425) to Master's ($62,425), effective May 12, 2026.

12.10 Approving hiring Patrick Boylan as a Class I-C at floating custodian, effective August 10, 2026. Salary, $28.16/hour.

12.11 Approving hiring Lauren Giles as a Class IV-A cook at the high school, effective the start of the 2026-27 school year. Salary, $23.34/hour.

12.12 Approving hiring Chloe Edson as a Class III paraprofessional at the middle school, effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year. Salary, $23.61/hour.

12.13 Approving hiring Gina Zacios as a Class V bus aide effective date with the start of the 2026-27 school year. Salary, $21.69/hour.

12.14 Accepting the resignation of Aikanysh Eshnazarova, McKee lunch aide, effective July 22, 2026.

12.15 Approving hiring Farren Mazary as a Class IV-B lunch aide at McKee Elementary, effective the start of 2026-27 school year. Salary, $21.69/hour.

12.16 Approving hiring Shane Kennedy as a Class IV-B lunch aide at the middle school, effective the start of 2026-27 school year. Salary, $21.69/hour.

12.17 Approving hiring Alexandra Gizoni as a Class IV-B lunch aide at Wilson Elementary, effective the start of 2026-27 school year. Salary, $21.69/hour.

12.18 Accepting the resignation of Michael Kercher, high school 2nd shift custodian, effective July 31, 2026.

12.19 Approving a restoration of health sabbatical leave of absence for Deborah Stockhausen, McKee Elementary grade 2 teacher, for the 2026-27 school year.

12.20 Approving hiring Kylie Ross as a long-term substitute elementary teacher for the 2026-27 school year. Salary, Step 1 Bachelor's $59,900..

13. Property & Supply

On a motion by Mr. Pons, seconded by Mr. Tomei, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve item 13.1 through 13.5 on the Property & Supply agenda.

13.1 Approving the 2026-27 Bus Schedules as presented.

13.2 Approving the list of bus drivers for the district for the 2026-27 school year. All necessary requirements have been met.

13.3 Approving Change Order GC-077 to the Hudson Group for removal and replacement of flooring in Hall HB-106 as agreed upon by all parties following an on-site review of the floor conditions. The work will be completed per Butler Flooring proposal dated June 11, 2026 in the amount of $21,770.00. This change order reflects the WASD and Enders Plumbing agreed upon share of the corridor flooring replacement costs; the remaining cost of $8,163.75 will be paid by the Hudson Group. The total amount of Change Order GC-077 is $13,606.25.

13.4 Approving Change Order PC-006 to Enders Plumbing for a credit to the Contract resulting from the agreed-upon share of costs associated with the corridor flooring replacement in Hall HB-106 to be performed by the Hudson Group. This change order reflects the Enders Plumbing portion of the cost allocation. The total credit amount of Change Order PC-006 is ($8,163.75).

13.5 Approving a two-year annual maintenance agreement with Vance's Landscaping for the Donaldson baseball field, high school softball field and middle/high school combo field effective August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2028.

14. Finance

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mr. Psomas, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 14.1 through 14.8 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 Approving the Cafeteria Report as presented to the Board Members.

14.4 Accepting Activity Reports as presented to the Board Members.

14.5 Authorizing the District to utilize the following purchasing consortia for the 2026-27 fiscal year:

PEPPM Technology Purchasing Program
PA COSTARS Statewide Cooperative Purchasing Program
Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN)
AIU Electricity and Natural Gas Consortium
AIU Purchasing Consortium
US Communities Cooperative Purchasing Program
OMNIA Purchasing Cooperative Program/Amazon.com (formerly a part of US Communities Cooperative)
South Hills Area Council of Governments Purchasing Consortium
Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing

14.6 Approving the Voluntary Student Accident Insurance Policy through the District's agent, Goodwin and Gruber, at a cost of $70 per student for school time coverage and $150 per student for 24-hour coverage (no increase over 2025-26). Costs are paid by the parents.

14.7 Approving Resolution 2026-6, amending the terms of Parking Tax Resolution 88-4 (as previously amended by Resolution 2011-1), as reviewed and recommended by the solicitor.

14.8 Approving the revised parking tax collection agreement with the Allegheny County Airport Authority, as reviewed and recommended by the solicitor.

15. Policy & Programs

On a motion by Mr. Tomei, seconded by Mrs. Adams McBain, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 15.1 through 15.3 on the Policy & Programs agenda.

15.1 Approving a 36-month term subscription with Navigate 360 for Behavioral Threat and Suicide Case Management services to begin on August 1, 2026 at an annual cost not to exceed $8,227.00.

15.2 Approving the adoption of the MagicSchool AI platform for the 2026-27 school year at a cost not to exceed $23,000.

15.3 Approving Kim Buser as a mathematics consultant for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

16. Athletics & Activities

On a motion by Mr. Psomas, seconded by Dr. Johnson, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve item 16.1 through 16.9 on the Athletics & Activities agenda.

16.1 Approving the marching band and arts supplemental positions for the 2026-27 school year as presented.

16.2 Approving Tom Snyder as assistant producer of the fall and spring musicals as presented.

16.3 Approving the Esports coach for the 2026-27 school year at a salary commensurate with the professional hourly rate. High School/Middle School - Carrie Morgan

16.4 Approving the employment agreement with Jamie Schumacher to serve as a football coaching consultant at no cost to the district, as presented.

16.5 Approving hiring of fall 2026 coaches and volunteers as presented pending all clearance requirements have been met.

16.6 Approving hiring of winter 2026 - 2027 coaches and volunteers as presented pending all clearance requirements have been met.

16.7 Approving hiring of spring 2027 coaches and volunteers as presented pending all clearance requirements have been met.

16.8 Approving Brandon Rossi as the Athletic Media Specialist to perform media, graphics, and athletics website management at a cost not to exceed $10,000.

16.9 Approving two RMU Sports Management students to work with our athletic department for the full academic year at a cost not to exceed $5000 ($2500 per student).

Owen Kemp
Second Intern TBA

17. Federal Programs & Legislation

Dr. Utchell shared that the Extended School Year program ends on Wednesday, July 29, 2026.

The Middle School/High School ESY Students will be partnering with Dream Caffeine at Wilson Elementary School on July 23, 2026, at 9:30 AM.

18. Student Representatives

Mr. Ostrander shared there is no report because it is in between school years and new student representatives will be selected when school resumes.

19. Library

No report.

20. Parkway West CTC

No report.

21. SHASDA

No report.

22. West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame

Mr. Psomas announced the Class of 2026 Hall of Fame recipients:

Bob Palko
Ashley Niznik
Jen Rodgers
2011 Girls Swim Team
Dr. Huey
1994 Baseball Team

The recipients will be recognized at the football game on October 4, 2026, and more information will be included in the Allegheny West Magazine.

23. West Allegheny Foundation

No report.

24. Wellness and Safe Schools Committee

No report.

25. New Business

No new business.

26. Open Forum

Jena Turner, Findlay Township, Wilson PTA Representative, shared an update on the anticipated renovation costs, estimated at $300,000 for the Wilson Log House and Wilson playground. Ms. Turner asked how the District plans to contribute, recognize donors, and plan for future maintenance for these projects.

Mary Ann Rodgers, Findlay Township, representing the Say Yes to Recess organization, reported on her support for additional recess time. Ms. Rodgers, also representing Wilson PTA and is a Wilson parent, voiced her concerns related to the safety, inspections, and maintenance of the playground.

Ashley Mays, Findlay Township Parks and Recreation, shared her professional expertise in playground inspections and maintenance, compliance and industry standards, and identified potential areas of concern. Ms. Mays offered to collaborate with the District to seek certified professionals and share resources to make playground improvements that would support the safety and wellbeing of the students and provide them with a safe place to play.

Elizabeth Peglow, North Fayette Township, McKee PTA Representative, shared safety concerns for the McKee Playground so they can be addressed prior to school resuming for the school year to prevent injuries.

Mr. Ostrander thanked them for their comments and questions. The District and the Board will review their concerns and provide a response to Ms. Rodgers as the designated point of contact once they have had a chance to investigate their concerns.

27. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Psomas, seconded by Mr. Pons, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

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Robert Ostrander, Board President

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Chelsie D'Amico,
Director of Human Resources/Board Secretary