WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

June 17, 2026

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, June 17, 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 7:06 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Directors

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

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. Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary

Mr. Ostrander announced that the Board has met in executive session on June 10, and prior to tonight's meeting regarding legal and personnel matters.

3. Public Comment

No comment.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the May 13, and May 20, 2026, meetings to the Board. On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Ms. Bozic, 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 May 31, 2026, of $46,314,281.53.

6. Communications

Nothing to report.

7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award

No awards.

8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators

No report.

9. President's Report

No report.

10. Unfinished Business

No comments.

11. Solicitor's Report

No report.

12. Personnel

On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mr. Pons, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.22 on the Personnel agenda.

12.1 Approving hiring Michael Frankowski as a high school learning support teacher effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year. Salary - 11th step of Bachelor's scale - $76,850.

12.2 Approving hiring Brittany Koman as a grade 4 teacher at McKee Elementary effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year. Salary - 1st step of Master's +30 scale - $63,900.

12.3 Approving hiring Francesca Deiuliis as an elementary teacher effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year. Salary - 1st step of Bachelor's scale - $59,900.

12.4 Approving Tiffany Hegner as a part-time long-term substitute English as a Second Language teacher at the Middle School. Salary, 1st step Bachelor's $59,900 (prorated).

12.5 Approving promoting Melissa Falick to a Class III paraprofessional at the Middle School effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year, at a salary of $23.61/hour.

12.6 Approving hiring Bobbi Peternel to the Class II-A Secretary position supporting District Office Administrators, effective August 10, 2026, at a salary of $28.37/hour.

12.7 Approving promoting Alysa McCann to a Class III paraprofessional at McKee Elementary effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year, at a salary of $23.61/hour.

12.8 Approving hiring Christine Chiodo for the Class II-B athletic clerk position effective August 4, 2026, at a salary of $25.96/hour.

12.9 Approving promoting Lori Lucas to a Class III paraprofessional at the middle school effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year, at a salary of $23.61/hour.

12.10 Approving promoting Jodie Messner to a Class III paraprofessional at Wilson Elementary effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year, at a salary of $23.61/hour.

12.11 Approving promoting Bethany Rider to a Class III paraprofessional at Wilson Elementary effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year, at a salary of $23.61/hour.

12.12 Approving Courtney Fazenbaker as a Class III elementary swim aide effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year, at a salary of $23.34/hour.

12.13 Approving the resignation of Brittney Counihan, art teacher at Wilson Elementary, effective the end of the 2025-26 school year.

12.14 Approving Lauren McKiernan as an art teacher at Wilson Elementary effective with the start of the 2026-27 school year. Salary - 2nd step of Bachelor's scale - $61,450.

12.15 Approving a full school term educational sabbatical for V. Allison McLaren, Spanish/English as a Second Language teacher at the middle school, for the 2026-27 school year.

12.16 Approving a salary adjustment for Jessica Henry from Master’s Equivalency ($115,875) to Master’s Equivalency +30 ($117,875), effective May 11, 2026.

12.17 Approving a salary adjustment for Todd Rasbach from Master’s Equivalency ($115,875) to Master’s Equivalency +30 ($117,875), effective May 31, 2026.

12.18 Approving Allegheny Medical to provide school physician services for the 2026-27 school year at a cost of $8,524.73, which is an increase of 3% over last year.

12.19 Approving Dr. T.J. Ameredes, Advanced Dentistry Ameredes & Associates, as the contracted school dentist for the district for the 2026-27 school year at a cost of $1.60/student, which is at the same cost as 2025-26.

12.20 Approving Dr. Katherine Mirich for the 2026-27 school year as the contracted school eye doctor at $2.00/exam, which is a $.40 increase from 2025-26.

12.21 Approving Chelsie D'Amico as the School Board Secretary for a four-year term, beginning July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2030.

12.22 Approving George Safin as the School District Treasurer and Purchasing Agent for the 2026-27 school year.

12.23 On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mrs. Adams McBain, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve the hiring of Olivia Pasquino as middle school assistant principal effective July 1, 2026, at a salary of $107,000.

13. Property & Supply

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

13.1 Approving a one-year agreement with Twiin, Inc./My Class Software, to provide a digital site assessment platform at no cost to the District.

14. Finance

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mr. Psomas, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 14.1 through 14.4 and 14.6 through 14.10 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 On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Pustover, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve the final 2026-27 general fund budget with revenues of $84,494,975 and expenditures of $91,148,075 containing a property tax millage rate of 18.51. The millage rate is unchanged from 2025-26.

14.6 Approving Resolution 2026-5 regarding the 2026-27 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion as presented.

14.7 Approving the District’s workers’ compensation insurance renewal for the 2026-27 fiscal year with UPMC/Work Partners, through AON Risk Management, at a premium cost not to exceed $246,308.

14.8 Approving the District's liability insurance renewals with the companies listed below, through the Peterson-Strouse Agency, for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Utica National Insurance Co. at a cost not to exceed $242,911 and,
Chubb Insurance/Westchester Underwriting Co. at a cost not to exceed $23,350.

14.9 Approving the property assessment appeal settlement as recommended by the solicitor.

14.10 Approving the settlement agreement with student D as 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 15.8 on the Policy & Programs agenda.

15.1 Approving BFW Publishers Business with Personal Finance for the AP Course textbook as the core AP Business with Personal Finance textbook at a cost not to exceed $5,052.32.

15.2 Approving the Educational Services Agreement with The Day School at The Children's Institute for the 2026-27 school year as presented.

15.3 Approving an agreement with UPMC to provide Student Assistance Program services for the 2026-27 school year as presented at no cost to the District.

15.4 Approving a renewal contract with Parla! Language & Consulting, LLC to provide continued English Language Learning consulting services at a cost not to exceed $8,500.

15.5 Approving the Educational Services Agreement with MHY/Longmore for the 2026-27 school year as presented.

15.6 Approving the Educational Services Agreement with The School at McGuire Memorial for the 2026-27 school year as presented.

15.7 Approving the Contract for Special Education Programs and Services with the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit for the 2026-27 school year as presented.

15.8 Approving the District Level Comprehensive Plan as presented along with plan submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

16. Athletics & Activities

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

16.1 Approving an addendum to the UPMC Sports Medicine contract to add strength training and conditioning services, 30 hours per week, and athletic training services, 10 hours per week, at a cost of $68,000 per year effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.

17. Federal Programs & Legislation

No report.

18. Student Representatives

No report.

19. Library

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- Summer Reading Challenge
- Miles Moral and Memories of Bob Hope in World War II.

Please visit the Library and their website for more information www.westernalleghenylibrary.org.

20. Parkway West CTC

Mr. Tomei reported on the following activities:

- Open Positions
- Summer Camp

Please visit their website for more information www.parkwaywest.org.

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 new business.

26. Open Forum

No comments.

27. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mr. Psomas, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

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Robert Ostrander, Board President

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Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary