

**WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**June 21, 2023**

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

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, in the District Office Board Room located at Wilson Elementary School. The President, Mr. Robert Ostrander, presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call of Directors**

Present -	Robert Ostrander – President	Tracy Pustover – Vice President
	George Bartha	Todd Kosenina
	Debbie Mirich	Mark Rosen

Absent -	Joel Colinear
	Kevin Hancock
	Tracy Kosis

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

Mr. Ostrander announced that the Board met in executive session on June 14 and prior to tonight’s meeting regarding legal matters and personnel.

**3. Public Comment**

No public comments.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the May 17, 2023, meeting to the Board. On a motion by Mr. Rosen, seconded by Mrs. Pustover, 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, 2023 of \$39,039,891.61.

**6. Communications**

No communications this month.

**7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award**

Nothing to report this month.

**8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators**

Dr. Lippert discussed the following activities:

- Senior Celebration
- Graduation
- Middle School construction projectt

**9. President's Report**

Mr. Ostrander wished the staff a happy summer.

**10. Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business this month.

**11. Solicitor's Report**

No report.

**12. Personnel**

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

On a motion by Mrs. Mirich, seconded by Mr. Bartha, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.18 on the Personnel agenda.

12.1 Approving the retirement resignation of Elizabeth Marshall, Class II-A secretary at Wilson, effective August 4, 2023.

12.2 Approving the retirement resignation of Nancy Isenberg, Class I-C custodian at the middle school, effective August 8, 2023.

12.3 Approving the resignation of Clare Tunney, music teacher at McKee Elementary, effective August 14, 2023.

12.4 Approving a salary adjustment for Meagan Bruno, music teacher at Donaldson, from Master's (\$107,975) to Master's +15 (\$108,975), effective May 1, 2023.

12.5 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Katharine Roche, principal at the high school, effective July 10, 2023, not to exceed 60 days.

- 12.6 Approving a family medical leave of absence for John Lacek, Class I-C custodian at Wilson, effective July 14, 2023, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.7 Approving the two school psychologist positions held by Erica Cicero and Meredith Gillo to be added to the collective bargaining agreement between the West Allegheny School District and West Allegheny Education Association in accordance with the unit clarification through PERA-U-23-5-W as presented.
- 12.8 Approving the administrative salary adjustments for the 2023-24 school year as presented.
- 12.9 Approving hiring Amanda Rutkauskas as a long-term substitute elementary teacher at McKee beginning the start of the 2023-24 school year through the end of the third quarter. Salary, Step 1 Bachelor's \$49,975, prorated.
- 12.10 Approving hiring Tessa Letso, High School ELA teacher, effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year. Salary, Bachelor's Step 2, \$50,975.
- 12.11 Approving hiring Dane Chiccarello as a Class I-C custodian, effective date July 10, 2023 Salary, \$25.27/hour.
- 12.12 Approving Allegheny Medical to provide school physician services for the 2023-24 school year at a cost of \$7,801.34, which is an increase of 3% over last year.
- 12.13 Approving Dr. T.J. Ameredes, Advanced Dentistry Ameredes & Associates, as the contracted school dentist for the district for the 2023-24 school year at a cost of \$1.60/student, which is at the same cost as 2022-23.
- 12.14 Approving Dr. David Quinn for the 2023-24 school year as the contracted school eye doctor at \$1.60/exam, which is the same cost as 2022-23.
- 12.15 Approving the promotion of Lindsie Grega to Class III paraprofessional at Wilson Elementary effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year. Salary \$21.20/hour.
- 12.16 Approving the promotion of Elaine Vattimo to Class III paraprofessional at Wilson Elementary effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year. Salary \$21.20/hour.
- 12.17 Approving hiring Warren McGee to Class III paraprofessional at the high school effective with the start of the 2023-24 school year and pending the completion of Pennsylvania Department of Education's Paraprofessional Credential of Competency Program by the conclusion of the 2023-24 school year. Salary \$21.20/hour.
- 12.18 Approving the resignation of Francesca Corrado, science teacher at West Allegheny Middle School, effective June 20, 2023.

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

No report this month.

## 14. Finance

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

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, 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 May Activity Reports as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.5 On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve the final 2023-24 general fund budget with revenues of \$78,620,167 and expenditures of \$78,891,349 containing a property tax millage rate of 18.51. This millage rate reflects no increase to our property tax levy (which equates to no millage increase).
- 14.6 Approving Resolution 2023-3 regarding the 2023-24 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion as presented.
- 14.7 Approving the District's workers' compensation insurance renewal for the 2023-24 fiscal year with Berkshire Hathaway (BHHC), through AON Risk Management, at a cost not to exceed \$185,487.
- 14.8 Approving the District's liability insurance renewals with the companies listed below, through the Peterson-Strouse Agency, for the 2023-24 fiscal year.  
Utica Mutual Insurance Co. at a cost not to exceed \$140,057  
Chubb Insurance/Westchester Underwriting Co. at a cost not to exceed \$26,032.
- 14.9 Approving eLoop as the preferred vendor for electronics recycling and secure destruction of data-containing devices as reviewed by the solicitor.
- 14.10 Approving the awarding of the bid for the Security Camera Server Upgrade to FNA Solutions LLC at a cost not to exceed \$34,400 in accordance with their bid submittal. The project will be paid out of the 2023-24 budget.

## 15. Policy & Programs

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

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

- 15.1 Approving Marni Pastor as a grant writer and project consultant to support the development of a teacher certification residency program at a rate of \$250/ hour not to exceed \$60,000, fully funded by a grant from the Grable Foundation.
- 15.2 Approving the School Resource Officer Agreement with North Fayette Township for a second shift School Resource Officer for a three-year term beginning August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2026 as presented.

**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. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve item 16.1 on the Athletics & Activities agenda.

- 16.1 Approving an agreement with John Hornung to provide strength and conditioning services from August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2025 starting at \$45,000 as presented.

**17. Federal Programs & Legislation**

No report.

**18. Student Representatives**

No report this summer.

**19. Library**

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- Fall for Your Library tickets on sale
- Summer reading for students and adults
- Experience passes are available to check out

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

**20. Parkway West CTC**

No report.

**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**

Jaime Sanabria, North Fayette, asked the Board to reconsider the dentist for next year.

Victoria Bozic, Findlay, commended everyone on how superior our graduation ceremony is.

Lindsay Worthington, Findlay, asked about Major Robert Paugh.

Mr. Andrews responded that personnel is not allowed to be discussed in public.

**27. Adjournment**

On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

---

Robert Ostrander, Board President

---

Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary