

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

**May 18, 2022**

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

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, May 18, 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 7:08 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call of Directors**

Present -	Robert Ostrander – President	Tracy Pustover – Vice President
	Joel Colinear	Kevin Hancock
	Todd Kosenina	Tracy Kosis
	Debbie Mirich	Mark Rosen

Absent - George Bartha

Also Present - Mr. Anthony Giglio, 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

Mr. Ostrander announced that the Board met in executive session on May 11 and prior to tonight's meeting regarding personnel and legal matters.

**3. Public Comment**

No comment.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

- 4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the April 20, 2022, meetings to the Board. On a motion by Mr. Rosen, seconded by Mr. Hancock, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve the minutes as distributed.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report from the last two months was read by Mr. George Safin, Business Manager, and accepted by the board indicating a balance on April 30, 2022 of \$34,681,403.69.

**6. Communications**

No communications this month.

**7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award**

The recipients of the Distinguished Achievement Awards are:

- School Nurses – Barb Lecker, Mary Beth Hill, Linda Hart, Michele Psaros and Carolyn Stultz
- Music Department – TJ Fox, Terisa Sharlow, Andrew Peters, Steve Groba, Clare Tunney, Darren Humbert, Megan Bruno, Laura Jack and Ashley Tomaceski

**8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators**

Dr. Lippert discussed the following activities:

- National designation as a Lighthouse District
- 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year recognized as U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools
- Senior Celebration – June 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8 AM
- Graduation – June 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7 PM,

**9. President's Report**

Mr. Ostrander reported that everyone is looking forward to graduation.

**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 Mrs. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.21 on the Personnel agenda.

12.1 Approving the list of professional and support substitutes as presented.

12.2 Approving George Safin as the School District Treasurer and Purchasing Agent for the 2022-23 school year.

12.3 Approving the retirement resignation of Sheila Horvath, Class III paraprofessional at the high school, effective the end of the 2021-22 school year.

12.4 Approving the retirement resignation of Kathy Wilkinson, Class III paraprofessional at the middle school, effective the end of the 2021-22 school year.

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- 12.5 Approving the retirement resignation of Susan McKissick, Class III paraprofessional at Donaldson Elementary, effective the end of the 2021-22 school year.
- 12.6 Approving the retirement resignation of Jean Ann Shaw, Class IV-B cafeteria server at the middle school, effective the end of the 2021-22 school year.
- 12.7 Approving the resignation of Master Sergeant Thomas Short, JROTC, effective June 30, 2022.
- 12.8 Approving the resignation of Melissa Underwood, Class IV-A cook at the high school, effective April 26, 2022.
- 12.9 Approving the resignation of Mary Buffington, Class IV-B lunch aide at Wilson Elementary, effective June 3, 2022.
- 12.10 Approving the resignation of Kelly Ziehler, Class IV-B lunch aide at McKee Elementary, effective the end of the 2021-22 school year.
- 12.11 Approving an intermittent family medical leave of absence for Kathy Krull, Class III paraprofessional at McKee Elementary, effective April 26, 2022.
- 12.12 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Kristin Kobert, grade 3 teacher at Wilson Elementary, effective May 31, 2022, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.13 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Wallace Darbous, Class IC custodian at Donaldson Elementary, effective May 19, 2022 not to exceed 20 days.
- 12.14 Approving continuing an unpaid medical leave of absence for Gary Kolesky, Class IC custodian at Wilson Elementary continuing no longer than November 15, 2022.
- 12.15 Approving hiring Kimberly Brands as a high school English teacher effective the start of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Master's Step 5, \$55,775.
- 12.16 Approving hiring Brianna Caridi as a high school English long-term substitute for the first semester of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Bachelor's Step 1, \$49,775, prorated.
- 12.17 Approving hiring Megan Erb, McKee grade 3 teacher, effective with the start of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Master's Step 4, \$54,775.
- 12.18 Approving continuing an unpaid parental leave for Denise Stitch, Donaldson Elementary grade 2, for the first semester of the 2022-23 school year.
- 12.19 Approving summer hours for the following employees:
  - High School nurse – not to exceed 20 hours
  - Middle School nurse – not to exceed 20 hours
  - McKee School nurse – not to exceed 20 hours
  - Wilson School nurse – not to exceed 20 hours
  - Donaldson School nurse – not to exceed 20 hours

- 12.20 Approving summer hours for the following employees:  
High School clerks – not to exceed 110 total hours  
Middle School clerk – not to exceed 70 total hours
- 12.21 Approving a family medical leave for Becky Barney, grade 1 teacher at Wilson Elementary, beginning May 19, 2022 not to exceed 60 days.

### **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 13.4 on the Property & Supply agenda.

- 13.1 Approving a 2-year planned maintenance service agreement for two chillers located at the West Allegheny Middle School with Trane US Inc., as presented.
- 13.2 Approving a Contract with Thomas & Williamson Program Management to provide Construction Management Services for the Alterations and Additions to the West Allegheny Middle School per proposal dated 5/8/2022 as recommended by the administration and subject to review and approval by the solicitor.
- 13.3 Approving a Contract with Hayes Design Group to provide Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the Alterations and Additions to West Allegheny Middle School per proposal dated 5/4/2022 as recommended by the Administration and subject to review and approval by the Solicitor.
- 13.4 Approving advertisement for the receipt of bids for the Food Service Capital Equipment Replacement Project at the West Allegheny School District.

### **14. Finance**

The Finance portion of the Committee report was presented by Mrs. Kosis:

On a motion by Mrs. Kosis, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 14.1 through 14.9 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 Accepting April Activity Reports as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.3 Approving the Construction Fund and Construction Treasurer's reports as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.4 Approving a tax settlement appeal with Bateman NFIA & Associates for commercial property in North Fayette Township as presented and recommended by the solicitor.
- 14.5 Approving a tax settlement appeal with Massaro LP for commercial property in Findlay Township as presented and recommended by the solicitor.

- 14.6 Approving a tax settlement appeal with ET Findlay, LLC for commercial property in Findlay Township (Amazon distribution center) as presented and recommended by the solicitor.
- 14.7 Approving the state audit report and subsequent recommendations as presented.
- 14.8 Approving authorizing the finance team to consider the issuance of its General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2022 (the “2022 Bonds”) for the purpose of financing district capital improvements and does hereby (i) authorize the School District's Administration to work with PNC Capital Markets LLC, as Investment Banker, and Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, as Bond Counsel, with respect to the proposed issuance of the 2022 Bonds and (ii) authorize Dinsmore & Shohl LLP to take such actions as may be required to prepare the proceeding for the approving of the 2022 Bonds as required by the Local Government Unit Debt Act (including, specifically, the publishing of required notices).
- 14.9 Approving awarding bids for the following: General Supplies, Arts and Crafts Supplies, Light Bulbs, Janitorial Supplies, Industrial Arts Supplies and Lumber, Athletics Supplies and Equipment, and Copier Paper.

## **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. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 15.1 through 15.8 on the Policy & Programs agenda.

- 15.1 Approving the 2022-2023 Flexible Instructional Day application for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
- 15.2 Approving the dual enrollment agreement with Community College of Beaver County for the aviation sciences program as presented.
- 15.3 Approving revisions to the Federal Programs Conflict of Interest Policy #8456 as presented and reviewed by the solicitor. This represents the second of two required readings.
- 15.4 Approving revisions to the Federal Programs Travel Reimbursement Policy #8457 as presented and reviewed by the solicitor. This represents the second of two required readings.
- 15.5 Approving the adoption of Envision Mathematics grades 6-8 mathematics program at a cost not to exceed \$120,000.
- 15.6 Approving the adoption of Into Literature grades 6-12 English Language Arts program at a cost not to exceed \$345,000.
- 15.7 Approving the grades 6-12 supplemental novel list as recommended by the English Language Arts department.
- 15.8 Approving the student adjudication for Student J as presented.

## **16. Athletics & Activities**

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

On a motion by Mr. Colinear, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 16.1 through 16.4 on the Athletics & Activities agenda.

- 16.1 Approving hiring Carolyn Stout as the head girls tennis coach for the 2022 fall season at a salary of \$5,406.47.
- 16.2 Approving hiring Troy Reaghard as the head Wrestling Coach for the 2022-23 season at a salary of \$9,191.00. All clearance requirements have been met.
- 16.3 Approving a request from Elana Ragan for one speech and debate student and two parental chaperones to attend the CFL National Championships in Washington, DC from May 27-29, 2022. Estimated cost to the district is \$1,500.
- 16.4 Approving an overnight trip request for the Varsity and Junior Varsity softball teams to attend The Ripken Experience in Pigeon Forge, TN from March 31 - April 2, 2023, at a cost to the district of \$750 for tournament entry fee.

## **17. Federal Programs & Legislation**

No report.

## **18. Student Representatives**

Juhi Patel and Jaxon Pottle reported on the following activities:

### **Academics**

- All Advanced Placement testing is completed with a few make-ups still occurring. Students put forth their best effort for all tests and reviews have been positive.
- Students have completed the Biology Keystones and are in the process of completing the Literature Keystones this week and Algebra Keystones next week. Keystones have also gone well, even with the partial power outage.
- Seniors final grades are due on May 23rd.

### **Activities**

- The Senior Volleyball Game is this Friday, May 20th.
- Senior Celebration and the Senior Car Parade will be held on June 1st

### **Athletics**

- The boys baseball team won their playoff game against Fox Chapel at Burkett Field last night. They will face Shaler on Thursday night in the Quarter Final Playoffs.
- The girls softball team lost their playoff game against Latrobe at North Allegheny last night in a close game.

- The track team has WPIALS today at Slippery Rock University. Girls have qualified to compete in 10 different events and boys have qualified to compete in 3 different events.

Culture

- Last week was Senior spirit week where themes were decided by the seniors. Everything but a Backpack day was a big success.
- Senior Awards Night is May 24th.
- Seniors are excited for the graduation ceremony, which will be held on June 2nd

Arts

- Art Show 38 installations, 3 winners, Sophia Eger (2nd- Award of Excellence), Taylor Wilsher (3rd Place- honorable mention), Rachael Mamula won best in show for her for art installation
- West Allegheny's Legally Blonde musical has been nominated for 5 Gene Kelly nominations. These include Best vocal ensemble, best dance ensemble, best crew/technical execution, best supporting actress (McKenzie Heidenreich), and best overall musical. Congratulations to everyone involved in the production

Mr. Ostrander thanked Jaxon and Juhi.

**19. Library**

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- Summer reading program – Ocean of Possibilities– June 6<sup>th</sup>  
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 everything has gone well.

**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**

No

**27. Adjournment**

On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

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Robert Ostrander, Board President

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Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary