

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

November 20, 2024

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in the District Office Board Room located at Wilson Elementary School. The President, Mr. Robert Ostrander, presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:07 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
	Todd Kosenina	Debbie Mirich
	Steven Pons	Steve Psomas
	Seth Tomei	

Also Present -	Mr. William Andrews, Solicitor
	Dr. Jerri Lynn Lippert, Superintendent
	Dr. Chris Shattuck, Assistant Superintendent
	Mr. George Safin, Director of Finance

Mr. Ostrander announced that the Board met in executive session on November 13, and prior to tonight's meeting in regards to litigation, real estate, personnel and safety.

3. Public Comment

Jaime Sanabria, North Fayette Township, commented on Item 15.2, specifically the language of Policy 312.

Mr. Andrews responded about the required language.

John Ziegler, North Fayette Township, had questions about the budget and expenditures surrounding Item 13.2, cafeteria furniture bid. John Ziegler also asked questions surrounding change orders under the Property & Supply section of the agenda.

Mr. Ostrander responded.

The Board meeting recessed at 7:22 p.m.

The Board meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

4. Approval of Minutes

- 4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the October 16, 2024, meetings to the Board. On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mr. Tomei, 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 October 31, 2024, of \$68,318,882.00.

6. Communications

No communications this month.

7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award

Dr. Lippert recognized the following recipients of the Distinguished Achievement Awards:

- Melissa Wagner
- Vladimir St. Surin

8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators

Dr. Lippert reported on the following activities:

- Thanksgiving break
- Gold Card concert
- Instagram page @westallegheeny_news

9. President's Report

No report.

10. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business this month.

11. Solicitor's Report

No report.

12. Personnel

On a motion by Mrs. Mirich, seconded by Mr. Tomei, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.5 on the Personnel agenda.

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

PROFESSIONAL SUBSTITUTES - \$135/day
Kimberly Fessenden
Abby Jackson

SUPPORT SUBSTITUTES - \$15/hr.
Cynthia Dunstan

- 12.2 Approving an intermittent family medical leave of absence for Denise Stitch effective October 20, 2024, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.3 Approving Kelly Timco as a Class IV-B lunch aide at Wilson Elementary effective November 25, 2024. Salary - \$20.15/hour.
- 12.4 Approving the following student intern at a cost of \$11/hour effective through the end of the 2024-25 school year:
Music Education - Jack Campbell
- 12.5 Approving the Administrative Compensation Plan as presented.

13. Property & Supply

On a motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 13.1 through 13.9 on the Property & Supply agenda.

- 13.1 Approving an agreement with Civil & Environmental Consultants Inc. for Professional Services associated with the Secondary Access Drive at the High School / Middle School campus (proposal dated November 6, 2024) as presented pending final review and approval by the Solicitor.
- 13.2 Approving the contract award for new cafeteria furniture to HiTouch Business Services at the West Allegheny Middle School for the base bid amount of \$61,578.00 and at the West Allegheny High School for the alternate bid amount of \$63,090.00 for a total contract award of \$124,668.00.
- 13.3 Approving Change Order GC-051 with the Hudson Group for work associated with necessary revisions to the existing building slab edge detail at column line 14 through 21 to coordinate with the new grade beam detail. Total Cost - \$17,881.00
- 13.4 Approving Change Order GC-052 with the Hudson Group to complete additional masonry demolition and modify the existing 2nd floor structure prior to the installation of the eight (8) new 10'-0" storefront windows along the front of the building. Total Cost - \$5,312.00
- 13.5 Approving Change Order GC-053 with the Hudson Group for the removal and reinstallation of the existing casework to remain to install additional structural steel and masonry to complete the removal of the existing cafeteria stairs. Total Cost - \$1,096.00
- 13.6 Approving Change Order GC-054 with the Hudson Group for additional framing, drywall and drywall finishing within the serving area and cafeteria. Work included new drywall to receive ceramic tile installation within the serving area and a new bulkhead in the cafeteria to maximize the new ceiling height. Total Cost - \$18,932.64
- 13.7 Approving Change Order PC-005 with Enders Plumbing to install three hole sinks in the boys and girls restroom across from the cafeteria and provide a faucet mounting plate for additional strength to the new faucets. Total Cost - \$2,732.00

- 13.8 Approving Change Order EC-019 with Allegheny City Electric to add two additional data drops above the countertops in the admin suite. Total Cost - \$1,221.05
- 13.9 Approving Change Order EC-020 with Allegheny City Electric to add additional receptacles in the corridor wall outside of the gymnasium for a new vending machine location. Total Cost - \$4,171.97

14. Finance

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 14.1 through 14.6 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 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 real estate tax assessment appeal with JMD Apartments for commercial property in North Fayette Township as presented by the solicitor.
- 14.5 Approving a real estate tax assessment appeal with Massaro Limited Partnership for commercial property in Findlay Township as presented by the solicitor.
- 14.6 Approving Resolution 2024-3, Approval of Dissolution of Westport TIF, as presented.

15. Policy & Programs

On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 15.1 and 15.4 on the Policy & Programs agenda.

- 15.1 Approving the student agreement for Student Q as recommended by the solicitor.
- 15.2 Approving Policies 202 & 254 of Section 200 and Policies 311 – 328 of Section 300 of the updated policy manual. This represents the second of two required readings.
 - Policy 202 - Eligibility of Nonresident Students
 - Policy 254 – Educational Opportunity for Military Children (New Policy)
 - Policy 311 – Reduction of Staff
 - Policy 312 – Performance Assessment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent
 - Policy 313 – Evaluation of Employees
 - Policy 314 – Physical Examination
 - Policy 314.1 – HIV Infection
 - Policy 317 – Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
 - Policy 317.1 – Educator Misconduct
 - Policy 318 – Attendance and Tardiness
 - Policy 321 - Political Activities
 - Policy 323 - Tobacco and Vaping Products
 - Policy 324 - Personnel Files
 - Policy 328 - Compensation Plans/Salary Tables

- 15.3 Approving Policies 330-351 of Section 300 of the updated policy manual. This represents the first of two required readings.

Policy 330 – Overtime

Policy 331 – Job Related Expenses

Policy 332 – Working Periods

Policy 333 – Professional Development

Policy 334 – Sick Leave

Policy 335 – Family and Medical Leaves

Policy 336 – Personal Necessity Leave

Policy 338 – Sabbatical Leave for Restoration of Health

Policy 338.1 – Leave of Absence for Professional Development (Educational Sabbatical)

Policy 340 - Responsibility for Student Welfare

Policy 342 – Jury Duty

Policy 351 - Drug and Substance Abuse

- 15.4 Approving the 2025-26 school calendar as presented.

16. Athletics & Activities

On a motion by Mr. Kosenina, seconded by Mrs. Psomas, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 16.1 through 16.6 on the Athletics & Activities agenda.

- 16.1 Approving an overnight trip request for the Varsity Wrestling Team to attend the King of the Mountain Tournament in Mill Hall, PA from December 19-21, 2024 at no cost to the District.
- 16.2 Approving a request for the wrestling team to attend the Wheeling Duals in Triadelphia, WV from December 27-28, 2024, at a cost to the district of \$500 for tournament entry fee.
- 16.3 Approving a request for the wrestling team to attend the Mid-Winter Mayhem in Indiana, PA January 10-11, 2025, at a cost to the district of \$525 for tournament entry fee.
- 16.4 Approving the 24-25 coaching additions as presented.
- 16.5 Approving the purchase of two (2) Sharp scoreboards for the high school gymnasium from The Wilson Group, as an approved Costars vendor #001-E22-093, at a cost not to exceed \$157,500.
- 16.6 Adjusting bowling coaching salaries previously approved (Item 16.1 - October 16, 2024):
Bowling Volunteer (Shared) - Joyce Bowers - \$200
Bowling Volunteer (Shared) - Vincenzo D'Amore - \$600

17. Federal Programs & Legislation

No report.

18. Student Representatives

No report.

19. Library

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- Tables and chairs for rent
- Two North Fayette Board members needed

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

20. Parkway West CTC

No report.

21. SHASDA

Dr. Shattuck announced that the senior recognition will now be done quarterly.

22. West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame

No report.

23. West Allegheny Foundation

No report.

24. Wellness and Safe Schools Committee

Mrs. Pustover announced that they are currently holding a gift card drive.

25. New Business

No new business.

26. Open Forum

Jaime Sanabria, North Fayette, asked about the dance-a-thon being held at McKee.
Dr. Lippert and Dr. Shattuck responded.

Tiffany Metz, North Fayette, asked about the first student day for the 2025-2026 school year. Dr. Lippert responded.

27. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Robert Ostrander, Board President

George M. Safin, Pro-Tem Secretary