

WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

November 15, 2023

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, November 15, 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
	Tracy Kosis	Mark Rosen

Absent -	Joel Colinear
	Kevin Hancock
	Debbie Mirich

Also Present -	Mr. William Andrews, Solicitor
	Dr. Jerri Lynn Lippert, Superintendent
	Dr. Chris Shattuck, Assistant Superintendent
	Ms. 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 November 8 and prior to tonight’s meeting regarding personnel, legal matters, and negotiations.

3. Public Comment

Jaime Sanabria, North Fayette, asked for her email supporting Eric Vannoy to be taken into consideration for item 25.0 on tonight’s agenda – Board Appointment of a replacement.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the October 18, 2023, meeting to the Board. On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, 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, 2023, of \$72,453,280.75.

6. Communications

Nothing to report.

7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award

Dr. Lippert recognized Tracy Kosis and Mark Rosen. The Administration team thanked them for their dedication and service.

8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators

No report.

9. President's Report

Mr. Ostrander thanked Mr. Rosen and Mrs. Kosis for their dedication, involvement, and commitment.

10. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business this month.

11. Solicitor's Report

Mr. Andrews thanked Mr. Rosen and Mrs. Kosis for everything.

12. Personnel

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

On a motion by Mrs. Kosis, seconded by Mr. Rosen, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.13 on the Personnel agenda.

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

PROFESSIONAL SUBSTITUTES - \$135/day

Stoffella, Stephanie
Wade, Grace

SUPPORT SUBSTITUTES - \$15/hr.

Miller, Rachel
Bielecki, Reese

12.2 Approving the resignation of Michelle Beuchat, McKee 3.75-hour cafeteria server, effective November 13, 2023.

12.3 Approving the termination of Major Robert Paugh effective November 15, 2023, for lack of proper certification.

November 15, 2023

- 12.4 Approving hiring Rebecca Duch as a high school English language arts, long-term substitute effective December 4, 2023 through the remainder of the 2023-24 school year. Salary, 1st step of the bachelor's salary scale, \$49,975 prorated.
- 12.5 Approving a salary adjustment for Joshua Bears, middle school social studies teacher, from Bachelor's step 17 (\$107,875) to Master's Equivalency step 17 (\$109,875) effective September 1, 2023.
- 12.6 Approving an intermittent family medical leave for Molly Cornelius, Wilson grade 2 teacher, effective October 2, 2023, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.7 Approving an intermittent family medical leave for Denise Stitch, Donaldson grade 2 teacher, effective October 18, 2023, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.8 Approving an intermittent family medical leave for Monica Heyl, high school clerk, effective October 18, 2023, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.9 Approving Anastasia Fisher as a Class IV-B server at Donaldson Elementary effective November 16, 2023. Salary - \$19.47/hour
- 12.10 Approving Linda Gagu as a Class IV-B server at McKee Elementary effective November 16, 2023. Salary - \$19.47/hour
- 12.11 Approving hiring Lauren Weaver as a Class I-C custodian, effective date to be determined. Salary, \$25.27/hour.
- 12.12 Approving a retirement resignation under the Early Retirement Incentive for Tamara Adams, Assistant to the Superintendent for Special Education and Student Services, effective June 30, 2024.
- 12.13 Approving the retirement resignation of Barbara Kelly, Class II-B clerk at McKee Elementary, effective January 29, 2024.
- 12.14 On a motion by Mrs. Kosis, seconded by Mr. Rosen, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve the resignation of Mr. Joel Colinear as Region 2 West Allegheny School Board Director effective November 15, 2023.

Mr. Ostrander, Mr. Bartha and Mrs. Pustover asked everyone to please keep Mr. Colinear and his family in their thoughts and prayers. They also thanked him for his service.

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 13.8 on the Property & Supply agenda.

- 13.1 Approving Sue Ellen Gatto as a bus driver for the district. All requirements have been met.

- 13.2 Approving Change Order GC-008 with Hudson Group to furnish and install three (3) additional casework pieces for instrument storage in the band room. Total cost - \$5,491.25
- 13.3 Approving Change Order GC-009 with Hudson Group to furnish and install metal stud framing, drywall and drywall finishing over the existing walls in C200, C205 and C103 and laminate drywall on the block wall in restrooms RC-20 and RC-21 prior to painting and installation of ceramic tile. Total Cost - \$10,531.25
- 13.4 Approving Change Order GC-010 with Hudson Group to provide labor, material and equipment to grind the existing concrete floor, clean and repair with epoxy crack filler two large cracks within classrooms C100 and C103. Total Cost - \$5,202.00
- 13.5 Approving Change Order GC-011 with Hudson Group to furnish and install metal stud framing, drywall and drywall finishing over the existing west wall in the Media Center. Total Cost - \$6,448.00
- 13.6 Approving Change Order PC-003 with Enders Plumbing to furnish and install Chicago brand lavatory faucets as requested by owner. Total Cost - \$6,864.35
- 13.7 Approving Change Order EC-005 with Allegheny City Electric to perform work on a time and material basis to clean-up the existing electrical and data wiring specified to remain in use that was exposed after demolition in the Phase 2 construction area. Total Cost - \$3,904.40
- 13.8 Approving Change Order EC-006 with Allegheny City Electric to provide labor material and equipment to provide temporary electric branch circuiting to the new band and chorus classrooms to accommodate phased construction. Total cost - \$4,333.08

14. Finance

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

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 14.1 through 14.5 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 Accepting October Activity Reports as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.4 Approving the Interested Purchaser Agreement with Divot Energy Associates, LLC as prepared and recommended by the solicitor.
- 14.5 Approving a real estate assessment appeal with CLNC Credit SL Pit Mar, LLC (Airport Marriott) for commercial property in Findlay Township as presented and recommended by the solicitor.

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. Kosis, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 15.1 through 15.3 on the Policy & Programs agenda.

15.1 Approving an addendum to the memorandum of agreement with Pittsburgh Technical College clarifying updated procedures for registration, course completion, and grade submission.

15.2 Approving Policies 100-106 of Section 100 of the updated policy manual. This represents the first of two required readings.

Section 100 – Programs

Policy 100, Comprehensive Planning

Policy 102, Academic Standards

Policy 103, Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students

Policy 103.1, Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students with Disabilities

Policy 104, Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff

Policy 105, Curriculum

Policy 105.1, Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/Guardians/Students

Policy 105.2, Exemption From Instruction

Policy 106, Guides for Planned Instruction

15.3 Approving the Educational Services Agreement with Intermediate Unit 1 for the 2023-24 school year as presented.

16. Athletics & Activities

No report.

17. Federal Programs & Legislation

No report.

18. Student Representatives

Jacob Monti and Esther Newton reported on the following activities:

Culture

- Powder Puff Game - Seniors Won 33-0
- Penny - HS Therapet - 11/10
- Senior Bonfire - Nov. 21st
- Dodgeball Tournament hosted by Softball - Nov. 22nd after dismissal
- Senior Volleyball Tournament - Mr. Druga speaking to all senior English classes
- Winter formal

Academics

- Academic Awards Ceremony - Nov. 9th - 216 students invited
- Immersive experience
- Rosedale Automotive Career Information Session - Nov. 7th - Students learned about careers in automotive and diesel technology. At least 1 student plans to attend our ECIHSA Rosedale program next year for Auto Tech.
- Aviation Career Day - Nov. 21st AM with Allegheny County Airport Authority (ACAA)
- Engineering Career Day - Nov. 21st PM with RMU
- When we return from Thanksgiving break we will be ½ through the 2nd quarter

Nathaniel Ellick spoke about the JROTC events

- JROTC
 - pancake breakfast fundraiser
 - marine corp birthday
 - November 11th veterans day
 - Gold Card breakfast
 - December 2 and 9 – Heroes Helping Heroes – gift wrapping at the Mall at Robinson
 - wreaths across America
 - Christmas party

Arts/Activities

- Pen pals with elementary students through Students in Action
- Fall Musical wrapped up - a success - really good
- Friday they will announce the Spring Musical
- Art Club - Pumpkin Carving (pumpkins donated by Mrs. Brindle)

Athletics

- Fall sports wrapping up
- Winter sports starting soon
- Sports Commitment - Signing Day
- grace fitzman 2nd at wipals
- winter sports starts friday
- we are in the same classification as before will the expectation of cross country

Mr. Ostrander asked Nathaniel to speak about the Aviation Academy Program.

19. Library

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- Fall challenge ends
- Closed November 23-25
- Gingerbread House decorating – December 2, 10-2
- Community Blood Drive – December 9, 9-2

Please visit the Library and their website for more information
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

Dr. Shattuck reported that the Family Support Committee is working with them to relaunch the gift card drive to support families in our community.

25. New Business

Mr. Ostrander asked for a motion for item 25.1.

25.1 On a motion by Mr. Rosen, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and on a roll call vote, it was moved to approve the appointment of Debbie Mirich to complete the unexpired term of Joel Colinear, West Allegheny School Board Director - Region 2, effective December 4, 2023.

Yes = Bartha, Kosenina, Kosis, Ostrander, Pustover and Rosen
Absent = Colinear, Hancock and Mirich

26. Open Forum

Jaime Sanabria, North Fayette, voiced her opinions about the new business just approved. She also asked for a virtual compromise.
Mr. Ostrander responded.

27. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Kosis, seconded by Mr. Rosen, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Robert Ostrander, Board President

Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary