

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

September 21, 2022

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, September 21, 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 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Directors

Present -	Robert Ostrander – President	Tracy Pustover – Vice President
	George Bartha	Kevin Hancock
	Tracy Kosis	Debbie Mirich
	Mark Rosen	

Absent -	Joel Colinear
	Todd Kosenina

Also Present -	Mr. William Andrews, 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 August 25, September 14 and prior to tonight's meeting regarding personnel and legal matters.

Mr. Ostrander introduced Alex Booth, one of the new student representatives.

3. Public Comment

No public comments.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the August 17, 2022, 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 August 31, 2022 of \$51,981,733.41.

6. Communications

No communications this month.

7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award

The recipients of the Distinguished Achievement Awards are:

- Claire March, McKee Elementary art teacher
- Nathan Watt, Technology Director

8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators

Dr. Lippert discussed the following activities:

- Elementary Open Houses – September 22
- Middle School Open House – September 29
- Cavalcade of Bands – October 1
- HS Advanced Placement Breakfast – October 6
- Homecoming Dance – October 15
- Fall Musical – end of October

9. President's Report

Mr. Ostrander expressed his condolences to the family of Sergeant Mike Hayes.

10. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business this month.

11. Solicitor's Report

No report this month.

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 12.14 on the Personnel agenda.

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

12.2 Amending Item 12.19 from August 2022, approving hiring Kylie Martin as a Kindergarten teacher at Wilson Elementary effective with the start of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Step 1 Bachelor's, \$49,775.

12.3 Approving hiring Ryan Andrews as a grade 5 long-term substitute teacher at Wilson Elementary effective October 3, 2022. Salary, Step 1 Bachelor's, \$49,775 prorated.

12.4 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Stephanie White, English teacher at the high school, effective August 18, 2022, not to exceed 60 days.

- 12.5 Approving hiring Tessa Letso as a high school long-term substitute English teacher effective September 21, 2022 through the remainder of the 2022-23 school year. Salary, Step 1 Bachelor's, \$49,775, prorated.
- 12.6 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Darla Shepard, special education teacher at Wilson Elementary, effective September 27, 2022, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.7 Approving the retirement resignation of Susan Burgoon, Class IV-A cook at the middle school, effective November 4, 2022.
- 12.8 Approving the retirement resignation of Joseph Cyprych, Class I-C custodian at the middle school, effective September 16, 2022.
- 12.9 Approving the resignation of Scott Smith, Facilities Services Supervisor, effective August 31, 2022, and reassignment to Class I-C custodian, location to be determined after posting under the collective bargaining agreement.
- 12.10 Approving hiring Angela Ashbery as a middle school special education teacher effective September 22, 2022. Salary, Step 1 Master's +30, \$53,775, prorated.
- 12.11 Approving hiring Bryanne Michaels as a special education teacher at Wilson Elementary effective on or before November 21, 2022. Salary, Step 1 Master's, \$51,775, prorated.
- 12.12 Approving hiring Lindsie Grega as a Class IV-B lunch aide at Wilson Elementary effective September 22, 2022. Salary - \$18.81/hour.
- 12.13 Approving hiring Vickie Mixter as a Class IV-B server at the middle school effective September 26, 2022. Salary - \$18.81/hour.
- 12.14 Approving the resignation of Joseph Szyjko, Class I-A maintenance worker, effective October 3, 2022.

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 item 13.1 on the Property & Supply agenda.

- 13.1 Approving Kim Rohbeck as a bus driver for the district. All requirements have been met.

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 14.4 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 September Activity Reports as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.4 Approving a real estate assessment appeal with Wal-Mart Real Estate Business Trust for commercial property in North Fayette Township as recommended by the solicitor.
- 14.5 On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Kosis, and on a roll call vote, it was moved to authorize the incurring of nonelectoral debt by the issuance of general obligation (limited tax) bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000.00); covenanting to pay, and pledging all available taxing power of the local government unit for the payment of, the bonds; establishment of a sinking fund and appointment of a sinking fund depository; fixing the form, maximum interest rates, maturity dates and other provisions for the payment thereof; authorizing the acceptance of a proposal for the purchase of the bonds; authorizing a filing of required documents with the department of community and economic development; authorizing the acquisition of bond insurance; ratifying and directing certain actions of officers; and making certain other covenants and provisions in respect of the bonds.

7-0-2 roll call vote.

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

- 15.1 Approving the student adjudication for Student K as presented.

16. Athletics & Activities

The Athletics & Activities portion of the Committee report was presented by Mrs. Pustover:

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

- 16.1 Approving Kylie Martin as a cheerleading volunteer for the 2022-23 school year. All requirements have been met.
- 16.2 Approving Michelle Nowakowski and Kim Dugan as volunteers for the fall musical. All requirements have been met.
- 16.3 Approving Zach Thrasher and Chris Arnal as volunteers for the football program for the 2022 season. All requirements have been met.

- 16.4 Approving a request from the Ski Club to attend an overnight trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, from January 12-16, 2022. Cost to the District not to exceed \$450 for substitute teachers.

17. Federal Programs & Legislation

No report.

18. Student Representatives

Alex Booth reported on the following activities:

- College and Career Fair
- Golf sectionals
- Senior recognition night for fall sports
- Scholar Panel monthly meetings began
- Academics & Activities Fair
- Pep Assembly – October 14
- Homecoming – October 15
- Art Club monthly meetings began
- Marching Pride – Cavalcade of Bands – October 1
- Fall Musical – You're a Good Man Charlie Brown – Thursday, October 27, Saturday, October 29, and Sunday, October 30
- Cafeteria shortage of food
- Universal free breakfast in PA

19. Library

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- Love your library month
- Fall For Your Library
- Reading Challenge
- New Hours
 - Monday – Thursday – 9 am – 8 pm
 - Friday – Saturday – 9 am – 4 pm
 - Sunday - closed

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

20. Parkway West CTC

Mr. Ostrander reported on the following items:

- Enrollment is up (12/13 school year = 579 students, 22/23 school year = 1228)
- Power motor sports – brand new program with 17 students enrolled
- #1 program – Vet Tech has 165 students enrolled
- #2 program – Cosmetology has 142 students enrolled
- #3 program – Welding

21. SHASDA

No report.

22. West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame

Mr. Rosen announced that it is the 10th year for the Hall of Fame. This year's banquet will be at the SNPJ on October 22. Tickets can be purchased online at www.westahalloffame.org. The inductees this year are Mark Davis, Christopher Lape, the 2012 ice hockey team, Dale Rettinger and Manny Rohaus.

23. West Allegheny Foundation

Mrs. Mirich announced that applications for the teacher's grants are going out.

24. Wellness and Safe Schools Committee

No report.

25. New Business

No report.

26. Open Forum

Libby Bohley, North Fayette, voiced her concerns regarding the school's discipline policy and the student handbook.
Mr. Ostrander responded.

Jaime Sanabria, Oakdale, voiced her concerns again over the meetings being virtual.

Cheryl Walsh, North Fayette, inquired about the replies to public comments not being published in the minutes.
Mr. Ostrander responded.

27. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Kosis, seconded by Mr. Hancock, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Robert Ostrander, Board President

Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary