

WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

January 12, 2022

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, in the Gymnasium located at Wilson Elementary School. The President, Mr. Robert Ostrander, presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 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
	Todd Kosenina	Debbie Mirich
	Mark Rosen	

Absent -	Joel Colinear
	Edward Faux

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 January 5, and prior to tonight’s meeting regarding personnel and student matters.

3. Public Comment

Jamie Sambria asked to see the substitute list that is supposed to be attached.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the December 8, and 15, 2021, meetings to the Board. On a motion by Mrs. Mirich, seconded by Mrs. Pustover, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve the minutes as distributed.

5. Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Safin announced that there will be two reports in February.

6. Communications

Dr. Lippert read thank you card from the following: Carrie Davis and Family, Mindy Partyka, and Leda Niccolai. All of them were in regard to the passing of Mark Davis.

7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award

Dr. Lippert acknowledged that January is School Board Appreciation Month. The Board members were presented with tokens of appreciation.

The recipients of the Distinguished Achievement Awards are two valued partners: Amy McDonald, from the library and Jeremy Angus from the Prevention Network.

8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators

Dr. Lippert reported on the following activities:

- Kindergarten Registration
- Middle School – Don Eichner School to Watch

9. President's Report

Mr. Ostrander thanked the Administration and staff working so hard for the students.

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. Rosen, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.7 on the Personnel agenda.

- 12.1 Approving the list of professional and support substitutes as presented.
- 12.2 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Denise Stitch, grade 2 teacher at Donaldson Elementary, effective January 4, 2022, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.3 Approving a salary adjustment for Jennifer Jones, English teacher at the High School, from Master's +15 (\$107,250) to PhD/National Board Certification (\$111,250) effective December 11, 2021.
- 12.4 Approving the resignation of DeVonna Stephens as per the WAESPA Collective Bargaining Agreement - Article XI-A effective January 19, 2022.

- 12.5 Approving the retirement resignation of Barbara Bell, class IV-A account handler, effective March 4, 2022.
- 12.6 Approving promoting Kristin DeLisio from Class IV-B server at the Middle School to Class IV-A account handler at Donaldson Elementary effective January 13, 2022. Salary for this position, \$19.70/hour.
- 12.7 Approving a family medical leave of absence for Brianna Halfhill, grade 4 teacher at Wilson Elementary, effective January 10, 2022, not to exceed 60 days.

13. Property & Supply

No report.

14. Finance

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

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mr. Hancock, 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 Approving the Cafeteria Report as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.4 Approving Resolution 2022-1 that guarantees that the Board will not exceed its PDE established Act 1 index of 3.9% (.72 mills) when adopting its millage rate for the 2022-2023 General Fund Budget.

15. Policy & Programs

No report.

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. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 16.1 and 16.2 on the Athletics & Activities agenda.

- 16.1 Approving hiring the following volleyball coaches for the 2022 season (all clearance requirements have been met):
 - 3rd Assistant (MS Head) - Yoko Nagao - \$4,568.43
 - 4th Assistant (MS Asst.) – Karen Horwatt - \$4,153.12
 - Volunteer – Morgan Ziolkowski
 - Volunteer – Kelly Reynolds

- 16.2 Approving the following as musical volunteers for the 2022 spring production. All clearance requirements have been met.

Andy Ostrowski
Rick Montgomery
Bob Weiss
Jess Fitzpatrick
Michelle Nowakowski
Josh Dudukovich

17. Federal Programs & Legislation

No report.

18. Student Representatives

Jaxon Pottle reported on the following activities:

Academics

- Winter Wave Keystone's are wrapping up this week. Some students are still testing during the make-up window, but we are very proud of their dedication and hard work over the last two weeks.
- Our NHS Induction Ceremony was held on Monday night and led by our executive board. 84 of our students took the NHS oath and became official members in the society.
- On this Friday, we will be at the midpoint of the school year as we wrap up our 2nd Quarter. Quarter 3 will begin on Tuesday, January 18.

Activities

- Seniors in NHS are actively preparing our Mr. West A Program. Mr. West A will be held on Tuesday, February 8 and will be live streamed as well as having in-person attendance.

Athletics

- All of our athletic teams are in the middle of their seasons and performing at their best. Varsity wrestling took 2nd place at the MAC tournament last weekend.
- We also will be hosting the MAC swimming and diving tournament on Friday, February 4 and Saturday, February 5.
- We hosted our first bocce game of the season this past Monday. Unfortunately, we did not win, however all of our student athletes had a great time competing.

Culture

- Our sophomores will engage in a Listen Lucy program focused on mental health on January 19th.
 - Tammy Adams elaborated on the Listen Lucy program.

Arts

- Students participating in the musical have been hard at work preparing for Legally Blonde that will be in production from March 17-20.
- Students in art are also getting ready for the annual Art Show that will be held in the gym on April 26-30. Middle school students will be joining us in showcasing their work this year as well. 8th Grade students will also have the opportunity to view the Art Show during the school day.

19. Library

Mrs. Pustover thanked Amy McDonald, Library Director.

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- Fundraiser – March 4 and 5 – Links For Your Library – mini golf
Please visit the Library and their website for more information
www.westernallegHENYlibrary.org.

20. Parkway West CTC

Mr. Ostrander reported that Parkway West CTC operated virtually this past Friday.

21. SHASDA

Dr. Shattuck reported that the first meeting was held on December 16 and legal updates were discussed. The student forum and student conference are both set to return this year.

22. West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame

Mr. Rosen reported that the first meeting will be held on January 13.

23. West Allegheny Foundation

Mrs. Mirich reported that a meeting will be held in the next week.

24. Wellness and Safe Schools Committee

Mrs. Pustover announced more details surrounding the Listen Lucy program taking place on January 19 at 6 pm.

25. New Business

No new business.

26. Open Forum

Julia McHugh, North Fayette, voiced her concerns surrounding Dr. Lippert, water bottle fountains and modifications to the Health and Safety Plan.

Mr. Ostrander responded.

Jamie Sambria, Oakdale, voiced her concerns about water fountains and the following items in the Health and Safety revision: preschool masks, vaccine required for volunteers and mask exemptions.

Lisa Fields, North Fayette, voiced her concerns over masks for parents at functions.

Caroline, North Fayette, wanted to voice that she agrees with everyone else that just spoke up.

27. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Hancock, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Robert Ostrander, Board President

Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary