

WYOMING VALLEY WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR APRIL BOARD MINUTES
APRIL 9, 2025
In Person and Zoom

The Regular April Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Wyoming Valley West School District was held at the Middle School and on Zoom on the above date. Meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm by President Kamus. The following Board Members answered present to roll call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus. Finance Manager Kachurak, Attorney Messinger, David Novrocki, and Board Secretary Bullock were present. Superintendent Tosh was absent. Student representatives, Isabel Carrozza and Emily Bolan were also present.

Moment of silence was followed by a salute to the flag.

President Kamus announced that an executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss our Superintendent and Operations Manager.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD – Isabel Carrozza; Emily Bolan

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Novrocki said a huge congratulations goes out to each and every cast and crew member for bringing *Bye Bye Birdie* to life with such dedication, passion, and talent. From the brilliant performances on stage to the behind-the-scenes magic that made everything come together for this year's high school musical. All of the hard work and commitment have truly paid off. A special thank you to Rachel Kislin, our outstanding director. Her vision, creativity, and leadership guided this production to perfection. Her ability to bring out the best in every cast member and ensure that every detail was attended to has made *Bye Bye Birdie* an unforgettable experience. The district is incredibly grateful for Rachel's dedication. This show was a true testament to the power of teamwork, and we are so proud of everything that was accomplished. The Wyoming Valley West School District has a long-standing tradition with top notch musical productions and this production is in line with that tradition. Once again, congratulations. On Saturday, March 29th, the Middle School Music Department hosted a PMEA Solo and Small Ensemble Music Performance Assessment in conjunction with the NEPA Philharmonic. More than 40 area musicians performed solos and small ensembles for the judges. The students were scored and rated based on their performances. Among the performers, several of our own WVW students received the highest possible rating of superior for their efforts. Congratulations to Liam Bealla, Lauren Bealla, Abigail Manfre, Amelia Nankivell, Samantha Burton, Grace Dempsey, and Patrick Schneider.

STATEMENTS FROM INTERESTED CITIZENS

Citizens addressing the Board are asked to state their name and town of residence in accordance with Board Policy #903 (copy available). Statements are limited to three minutes.

(none)

MINUTES APPROVED

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Cussatt, that the Board of School Directors approve the minutes of the Regular **March 5, 2025** Board Meeting.

Voice vote. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Keating, *Contracts & Personnel, Finance*, The Board as a whole has been extremely busy interviewing and deliberating over the replacement of our Superintendent and Operations Manager Position. We have other key positions to interview for due to retirement. We put together a counteroffer that we are still working on for the pending teachers' contract. Several teaching positions need to be filled and will be interviewed for. Finance, we are running right into our budget timeline and working with Mr. Kachurak on some preliminary discussions, offering help and assistance at any time to him. Being his last year on the Board and with everything that was done to attain the fund balance we presently have, he would like to come to the Board with some type of proposal to preserve a significant portion for future capital improvements needed by the district.

Mr. McGinley, *Education/Policy*, General Recommended Action Items #1 to #49 is work done by the Policy/Education Committee. He thanked everybody for their hard work. Some policies are up for the second reading, and some are the first reading tonight.

Mr. Hardwick, *Special Education*, The Special Education Committee met on April 7th. A School Psychologist was posted in-house. If there is not an internal candidate, we advertise outside. An Autistic Support at Third Ave. and a Life Skills position at Dana Street were also posted. A lot of activity going on in every department. Being on this Board, he and Mr. Kobusky sit on the library Boards. He is on the Hoyt Library Board and Mr. Kobusky is on the Plymouth Library Board. The Hoyt Library recently opened a display, Path to Presidential History, through Larry Cook and his wife, friends of President Carter. An amazing exhibit over the years, Mr. Cook kept memorabilia and collected it from different Presidents. It is currently displayed at the Hoyt Library for anyone to see.

Mr. Kamus, *Buildings & Grounds*, The Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. at Central Office. We are working with Mr. Kachurak and Mr. Cordes, our domestic water holding tank sprung a little bit of a leak. We are going to get it repaired as we start our budget.

GENERAL RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Keating that the Board of School Directors act on the following General Recommended Items:

1. Adopted **Policy 701**, Facilities Planning. (Second Reading)
2. Adopted **Policy 702**, Gifts, Grants, Donations. (Second Reading)
3. Adopted **Policy 703**, Sanitary Management. (Second Reading)
4. Adopted **Policy 704**, Maintenance. (Second Reading)
5. Adopted **Policy 705**, Facilities and Workplace Safety. (Second Reading)
6. Adopted **Policy 706**, Property Records. (Second Reading)
7. Approved recommendation to retire **Policy 706.1**, Disposal of Surplus Property, Obsolete Equipment, and Real Estate. (Second Reading)
8. Adopted **Policy 707**, Use of School Facilities. (Second Reading)
9. Adopted **Policy 708**, Lending of Equipment and Books. (Second Reading)
10. Adopted **Policy 709**, Building Security. (Second Reading)
11. Approved recommendation to retire **Policy 715**, Use of Fax Machines. (Second Reading)
12. Adopted **Policy 716**, Integrated Pest Management. (Second Reading)
13. Adopted **Policy 717**, Cellular Telephones. (Second Reading)
14. Adopted **Policy 718**, Service Animals in Schools. (Second Reading)
15. Approved recommendation to retire **Policy 719**, Metal/Weapon/Security Screening Systems/Devices. (Second Reading)

16. Adopted **Policy 800**, Records Management. (First Reading)
17. Adopted **Policy 800.1**, Electronic Signatures/Records. (First Reading)
18. Adopted **Policy 801**, Public Records. (First Reading)
19. Adopted **Policy 802**, School Organization. (First Reading)
20. Adopted **Policy 803**, School Calendar. (First Reading)
21. Adopted **Policy 804**, School Day. (First Reading)
22. Adopted **Policy 805**, Emergency Preparedness and Response. (First Reading)
23. Adopted **Policy 805.1**, Relations With Law Enforcement Agencies. (First Reading)
24. Adopted **Policy 805.2**, School Security Personnel. (First Reading)
25. Adopted **Policy 806**, Child Abuse. (First Reading)
26. Approved recommendation to retire **Policy 806A**, Student Abuse by School. (First Reading)
27. Adopted **Policy 807**, Opening Exercises/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays. (First Reading)
28. Adopted **Policy 808**, Food Services. (First Reading)
29. Adopted **Policy 810**, Transportation. (First Reading)
30. Adopted **Policy 810.1**, School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers. (First Reading)
31. Adopted **Policy 810.2**, Transportation - Video/Audio Recording. (First Reading)
32. Adopted **Policy 810.3**, School Vehicle Drivers. (First Reading)
33. Adopted **Policy 811**, Bonding. (First Reading)
34. Adopted **Policy 812**, Property Insurance. (First Reading)
35. Adopted **Policy 813**, Other Insurance. (First Reading)
36. Adopted **Policy 814**, Copyright Material. (First Reading)
37. Adopted **Policy 815**, Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Facilities. (First Reading)
38. Approved recommendation to retire **Policy 815.1**, Student Laptops. (First Reading)
39. Approved recommendation to retire **Policy 815.2**, Staff Laptops. (First Reading)
40. Adopted **Policy 816**, District Social Media. (First Reading)
41. Adopted **Policy 818**, Contracted Services Personnel. (First Reading)
42. Adopted **Policy 819**, Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response. (First Reading)
43. Approved recommendation to retire **Policy 820**, Electronic Devices. (First Reading)
44. Adopted **Policy 822**, Automated External Defibrillator (AED)/Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). (First Reading)
45. Adopted **Policy 823**, Opioid Antagonist. (First Reading)
46. Adopted **Policy 824**, Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries. (First Reading)
47. Adopted **Policy 828**, Fraud. (First Reading)
48. Adopted **Policy 830**, Security of Computerized Personal Information/Breach Notification. (First Reading)
49. Adopted **Policy 830.1**, Data Governance - Storage/Security. (First Reading)
50. Approved **Real Estate Property Tax Exemption** through the Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission to the following, as presented:
 - ❖ Wayne Holbrook
 - ❖ Walter P Stook
51. Approved extension of Agreement with **Aramark Educational Services, LLC** for fiscal year 2025/2026 with a guarantee of \$585,000.
52. Approved Service Agreement between **The Gregory Center for Applied Behavior Analysis** and Wyoming Valley West School District until the conclusion of the 2024/2025 school year.
53. Approved lease with **Pitney Bowes** for 5 years; \$331.88/month.

54. Approved Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between **Little People Daycare** and Wyoming Valley West School District for transitioning to kindergarten.

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Amended Item on Agenda:

Motion made by Mr. McGinley, seconded by Mr. Dubaskas, to table **Item #19** under Staff Recommended Action.

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

Moved by Keating, seconded by Cussatt, that the Board of School Directors act on the following Staff Recommended Items:

1. Approved **excused absences** March 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025.
2. Appointed the following **new hires**:
 - ❖ **Jennifer Waters** – Nurse Assistant/Floater, \$152.50/day effective March 17, 2025.
 - ❖ **Nathan Searfoss** – Computer Aide/State Street, \$12.00/hr. effective March 18, 2025.
 - ❖ **Rebecca Harris** – General Duty Aide/Middle School Attendance, \$12.00/hr. effective March 19, 2025.
 - ❖ **Angel Snyder** – General Duty Aide/Middle School Learning Support, \$12.00/hr. effective April 2, 2025.
 - ❖ **Zahmir Tisdol** – Cleaner/State Street, \$13.50/hr. effective April 7, 2025.
 - ❖ **Alan Syreika Jr.** – Cleaner/State Street, \$13.50/hr. effective April 7, 2025.
3. Accepted the following **resignations**:
 - ❖ **Elizabeth Brizzy** – Cleaner/State Street, last day February 21, 2025.
 - ❖ **Karen Adamski** – General Duty Aide/Middle School Attendance, last day March 5, 2025.
 - ❖ **Melinda Gillow** – Nurse Assistant/Floater, last day March 7, 2025.
4. Approved the following **transfer of positions**:
 - ❖ **Sharon Davis** – General Duty Aide/Special Education Office to General Duty Aide/High School Nurse's Office, effective March 10, 2025.
 - ❖ **Paul Reese** – Custodian/High School to Utility/State Street effective March 10, 2025.
5. Appointed the following **Mentor** for 2024/2025:

<u>Teacher</u> (State Street)	<u>Mentor</u>
Megan Small	Sam Cohen
6. Approved the **School Calendar** for the 2025/2026 school year.
7. Approved **Compensation** to professional staff members, as presented:
 - ❖ 24 Credits Beyond Bachelor's Degree
 - ❖ Master's/Master's Equivalency
 - ❖ Beyond Master's/Master's Equivalency for courses approved by the Superintendent
8. Accepted resignation, with regret, due retirement, **Janet Sott**, Transportation Secretary, Central Office, effective August 4, 2025.

9. Approved the recommendation for the **2025 Spring Coaching Position:**
Boys Volleyball
 Assistant Varsity 9-12 **Casey Shipman** \$1949
10. Medical Leave, **Emp. #999492**, effective April 24, 2025; returning July 1, 2025.
11. Child-Bearing Leave, **Emp. #485556**, effective March 24, 2025; returning the first day of the 2025/2026 school year.
12. Medical Leave, **Emp. #297526**, effective March 6, 2025; returning March 21, 2025.
13. Medical Leave, **Emp. #342784**, effective May 20, 2025; returning the first day of the 2025/2026 school year.
14. Child-Rearing Leave, **Emp. #632822**, effective March 31, 2025; returning April 14, 2025.
15. Child-Bearing Leave, **Emp. #912635**, effective May 2, 2025; returning the first day of the 2025/2026 school year.
16. Medical Leave, **Emp. #463568**, effective May 5, 2025; returning TBD.
17. Approved the following tutors for the After School Tutoring Program:
 - ❖ **Samuel McNeil**
 - ❖ **Kayla Koonrad**
 - ❖ **Erica Ortega Ibarra (ESL)**
18. Approved the recommendation for the **2025 WVW Unified Track and Field Head Coach:**
Abigail Rodway \$1500 (plus \$1500 stipend from Special Olympics)
- (TABLED) 19. Appoint **David Bond Jr.**, Computer Science Teacher, Middle School 7th Grade, effective the first day of the 2025/2026 school year, subject to terms and conditions of April 7, 2025 letter.

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

FINANCE RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Cussatt, that the Board of School Directors approve the following:

1. Accepted and approved the following as presented: **Bills for Payment, Finance Manager's Reports and Treasurer's Report.**

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

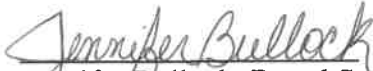
NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kobusky stated Mr. Perfetto is also on the Plymouth Library Board as well, serving since January. The Plymouth Library just finished up their new roof and rooftop air conditioning and heating unit. The Plymouth Hose Co. #1 is having a recycling event this Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to noon. They are located by the Turkey Hill on Gaylord Ave. It is free to the public. Individuals as well as businesses throughout the entire Wyoming Valley can bring recyclables to the hose company. They are asking for a monetary donation. They will take any size flat panel TV for \$20.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Cussatt, that the Board of School Directors adjourn this meeting.
Motion Carried.

Adjourned: 7:36 p.m.


Jennifer Bullock, Board Secretary

A tape of this meeting will be maintained at the District Office until the minutes are accepted at the next scheduled Board Meeting.