

**WYOMING VALLEY WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR FEBRUARY BOARD MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 14, 2024  
In Person and Zoom**

The Regular February 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 7:30 pm by President Kamus. The following Board Members answered present to roll call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus. Superintendent Tosh, Attorney Messinger and Board Secretary Bullock were 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 personnel items, contracts, and litigation.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD** – Mikhail Hazlak and Aaron Girvan

**SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Tosh said we have our midwinter break this Friday and Monday; school will not be in session.

**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 Keating, that the Board of School Directors approve the minutes of the Regular **January 10, 2024** Board Meeting and the Special Meeting **January 18, 2024** to appoint a Business Manager.

Voice vote. **Motion Carried.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Mr. Dubaskas, Athletics*, said there has been a lot of activity with winter sports. Spring sports start in two weeks. The baseball team is going to organize a Salute to Service Game. More information to follow.

*Mr. McGinley, Education/Policy*, said there will be a Policy Committee meeting next week with the committee and members of the central administration staff. He spent some time today at the central office meeting with Ms. Troy and Ms. Walck. He thanked them for their time and said they are doing nice work for the district.

*Mr. Hardwick, Special Education/ESSERS*, said he will put two dates out for consideration in an email on the Board Education for Special Education, a Saturday at 1:00 pm or a 5:00 pm. *ESSERS*, he spoke with Bill King today and there is a grant that the state is offering that is already open. He will meet with Bill and Andrew to review the grant opportunities and bring it back through the committee to see if there is value to what the district may be able to apply for.

*Mr. Kamus, Buildings & Grounds*, said that our RFP will be done very shortly for engineering services. We will have a special meeting to advertise it. We will be doing cosmetic upgrades to this cafeteria (Middle School) and to Dana Street's.

GENERAL RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

1. Approved **Real Estate Property Tax Exemption** through the Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission to the following, as presented:
  - ❖ Christopher Sabb
2. Approved in accordance with Section 914-A(6)(i) Act 102 of 1970, **LIU #18 General Operating Budget** for 2024/2025.
3. Accepted and authorized advertisement for **bids** to be received and opened at the District Office on March 12, 2024 at 11:00 am:
  - ❖ **2024-2025 - Art Supplies and Janitorial Supplies**
4. Approved a **Placement Agreement** with Crestwood School District and Wyoming Valley West School District for special and regular education and related services provided; \$26,691.41 for each full school term, prorated on a per diem basis for any partial school term.
5. Approved a **Placement Agreement** with Wilkes Barre Area School District and Wyoming Valley West School District for special and regular education and related services provided; \$26,691.41 for each full school term, prorated on a per diem basis for any partial school term.
6. Adopted **Policy 201**, Admission of Students. (First Reading)
7. Approved recommendation from PSBA to retire **Policy 201.1**, New Student Registration.
8. Adopted **Policy 203**, Immunizations and Communicable Diseases. (First Reading)
9. Adopted **Policy 203.1**, HIV Infections. (First Reading)
10. Adopted **Policy 204**, Attendance. (First Reading)
11. Adopted **Policy 205**, Postgraduate Students. (First Reading)
12. Adopted **Policy 206**, Assignment Within District. (First Reading)
13. Adopted **Policy 207**, Confidential Communication of Students. (First Reading)
14. Adopted **Policy 208**, Withdrawal From School. (First Reading)
15. Adopted **Policy 209**, Health Examinations/Screenings. (First Reading)
16. Adopted **Policy 209.1**, Food Allergy Management. (First Reading)
17. Adopted **Policy 209.2**, Diabetes Management. (First Reading)
18. Approved recommendation from PSBA to retire **Policy 211**, Student Accident Insurance.
19. Adopted **Policy 212**, Reporting Student Progress. (First Reading)
20. Approved recommendation from PSBA to retire **Policy 213**, Grading of Student Progress.
21. Adopted **Policy 214**, Class Rank. (First Reading)
22. Adopted **Policy 215**, Promotion and Retention. (First Reading)
23. Adopted **Policy 216**, Student Records. (First Reading)
24. Adopted **Policy 216.1**, Supplemental Discipline Records. (First Reading)
25. Adopted **Policy 218**, Student Discipline. (First Reading)
26. Adopted **Policy 218.1**, Weapons. (First Reading)
27. Adopted **Policy 218.2**, Terroristic Threats. (First Reading)
28. Adopted **Policy 218.3**, Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault. (First Reading)
29. Adopted **Policy 219**, Student Complaint Process. (First Reading)
30. Approved the **Addendum** for Interim Business Manager Services with Wyoming Valley West School District and **Kimberly Walck**, Consultant, (January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024; \$5,000 monthly), as presented.

31. Approved **Agreement** pursuant to File ODR 28571-23-24 KE.
32. Approved MOU with Wyoming Valley West School District and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeastern Pennsylvania for “**Bigs in Blue Mentoring Program**”, as presented.
33. Approved **Invoice No. 4182-01** for the Guaranteed Energy Savings Project, from SitelogIQ for **\$1,564,575** as presented.

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

### STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

- A. RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION:
  1. Approved **excused absences** January 1, 2024 – January 31, 2024.
  2. Approved **long-term status** for the following substitute teachers:
    - ❖ **Maureen Salley** – effective January 22, 2024.
    - ❖ **Kelsey Novak** – effective January 24, 2024.
    - ❖ **Jarrod Dalley** – effective January 26, 2024.
  3. Appointed the following **new hires**:
    - ❖ **Fatikha Tikhtova** – Cleaner/State Street, \$13.00/hr. effective January 18, 2024.
    - ❖ **Melissa Carpenter** – General Duty Aide/Middle School Attendance, \$11.50/hr. effective January 22, 2024.
    - ❖ **Deborah Kolva** – Autistic Support Aide/State Street, \$13.00/hr. effective January 22, 2024.
    - ❖ **Donna Rigle** – Autistic Support Aide/State Street, \$13.00/hr. effective February 1, 2024.
    - ❖ **Benjamin Polomchak** – Security Guard/High School, (part time/weekends) \$12.00/hr. effective January 20, 2024.
    - ❖ **Dawn Littman** - Cleaner/High School, \$13.00/hr. effective February 12, 2024.
  4. Approved the following **termination** for abandonment of employment:
    - ❖ Emp. #162823 – effective December 6, 2023.
  5. Medical Leave, **Emp. #569981**, effective February 1, 2024; returning TBD.
  6. Child Bearing Leave, **Emp. #974638**, effective April 2, 2024; returning approx. 6-8 weeks.
  7. Medical Leave, **Emp. #979518**, effective March 22, 2024; returning May 6, 2024.
  8. Accepted resignation, with regret, due retirement, **Joseph Luksa**, State Street Music Teacher K-2, effective last day of the 2023/2024 school year.
  9. Accepted resignation, with regret, due retirement, **David Placek**, High School Chemistry Teacher, effective last day of the 2023/2024 school year.
  10. Accepted the following **resignations**:
    - ❖ **Idrissa Lampley** – Cleaner/State St., last day January 15, 2024.
    - ❖ **Victoria Pickering** – Aide/State St., last day February 15, 2024.
    - ❖ **DaVae Lewis** – Computer Aide/State St., last day February 7, 2024.
  11. Accepted resignation, due retirement, **Donna Ras**, Registration/Central Office, effective August 19, 2022.
  12. Sabbatical Leave, **Emp. #563986**, effective February 20, 2024; (approx. 8 weeks)

- 13. Approved the **School Calendar** for the 2024/2025 School Year.
- 14. Approved the recommendations for the **2024 Spring Coaching positions:**  
2023-2024 School Year

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
<b><u>Boys Baseball</u></b>	
Varsity 10-12 - <b>Mike Petroski</b>	\$4165
Assistant 10-12 - <b>David Rosario</b>	\$2841
Assistant 7-9 - <b>Dominic Bayo</b>	\$2841
Assistant 7-9 - <b>TBA</b>	\$2841
<b><u>Boys Tennis</u></b>	
Varsity 9-12 - <b>Edward Groth</b>	\$2816
<b><u>Boys Volleyball</u></b>	
Varsity 9-12 - <b>Ryan Hettes</b>	\$2816
<b><u>Track Boys &amp; Girls</u></b>	
<b><u>Winter 9-12 &amp; Spring</u></b>	
Varsity (Girls) - <b>Courtney Thomas</b>	\$4371
Varsity (Boys) - <b>Ashley Tamarantz</b>	\$4371
<b><u>Spring Track</u></b>	
Assistant Girls 10-12 - <b>Kelly Savage</b>	\$2841
Assistant Boys 10-12 - <b>George Simms</b>	\$2841
<b><u>Boys and Girls Track</u></b>	
Assistant 7-9 (Head) - <b>Abigail Rodway</b>	\$2419
Assistant 7-9 (Head) - <b>Elizabeth Kane</b>	\$2419
Assistant 7-9 - <b>Brian Meyer</b>	\$2105
Assistant 7-9 - <b>Lindsay Meyer</b>	\$2105
<b><u>Girls Softball</u></b>	
Varsity 10-12 - <b>Jess Ras</b>	\$4165
Assistant 10-12 - <b>William Smedley</b>	\$2841
Assistant 7-9 - <b>Jerry Storz</b>	\$2841
Assistant 7-9 - <b>Andy Barilla</b>	\$2841
15. Appointed recommended candidate, <b>Misty Simon</b> , Attendance Officer/School Parent Liaison, effective February 15, 2024, \$43,000.	
16. Medical Leave, <b>Emp. #524254</b> , effective February 12, 2024; returning TBD.	

**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.**

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Hardwick thanked Mr. Dubaskas, Mr. Gill and also all the coaches appointed tonight for their hard work.

Mr. McGinley said he is a short-term member but sees the Board and Mr. Tosh's administrative staff recognize the fact that we have some things to deal with and work on. He is happy everybody is trying to work together to get some plans together and implement those plans. He is looking forward to the plans coming together and getting implemented. It is going to be very positive for the school district.

President Kamus agreed. This Board has worked together very hard and we are moving forward in the right direction.

President Kamus announced the next Work Session, Wednesday, March 6, 2024 and the Regular Monthly Meeting, Wednesday, March 13, 2024.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Cussatt, seconded by Wilson, that the Board of School Directors adjourn this meeting.

**Motion Carried.**

**Adjourned: 7:42 pm**



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.