

**WYOMING VALLEY WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR MAY BOARD MINUTES
MAY 8, 2024
In Person and Zoom**

The Regular May 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 7:06 pm by President Kamus. The following Board Members answered present to roll call: Wilson, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus. Mr. Dubaskas was absent. Superintendent Tosh, Finance Manager Kachurak, Attorney Messinger and Board Secretary Bullock were present.

President Kamus announced that an executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss a labor contract.

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD – Lilian Mahoney; Simona Debru

Mr. Tosh thanked the student representatives for their hard work this year. Senior Representative Lilian Mahoney will have her name placed on the dedication tree in the new Stem Lab at the High School.

A brief Title I presentation was given. (Ms. Troy, Mr. Needle, Mr. DeRocco, Mr. Dicton)

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

Mr. Tosh said he would like to take this opportunity to thank King’s College, and particularly Dr. Jill Yurko, a former Wyoming Valley West School District Middle School English Teacher and Dr. Sunny Weiland for all of their help with our recently concluded Kid’s at King’s STEM Program. This was the second year of the program that we first initiated last year, and the students and the parents have commented what a wonderful academic experience our students had at King’s College. Students with a GIEP or a Gifted Individual Education Plan attended four STEM sessions at King’s for specially designed instruction and were taught by students at King’s who will be future educators. Thank you again to King’s College for the partnership that we have with them.

Summer Academic Enrichment camps, principals sent out remind messages this week, it will also be Roboed on Sunday night. These camps will be held again this year, information about the camps and the application for the camp are now posted on the district website. Finally, this is Teachers’ and Nurses’ appreciation week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Wyoming Valley West School District Teachers, Nurses and Nurse Assistants for your dedication and your commitment to education as well as the health, safety, and welfare of the Wyoming Valley West School District students.

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.

Jacob Cintronelle, Kingston, believes Mr. Kevin Hettrich is the best decision of hire for the Fall Musical. There is no man in the state capable of doing what he does and making the magic work. He generates sales, he brings in people and he is able to make people feel at home within the theater department. Mr. Hettrich made Jacob feel that he could pursue what he wanted.

James Sincavage, Plymouth, with his son Noah, spoke about the disgrace of the elevators in the High School. Also, at Middle School when Noah went there, he was stuck in the basement in an elevator by himself. February 2023, two weeks after his son returned to school after a 10 hour back surgery with rods in his back, the elevator at the high school broke, they had to carry Noah off the elevator and carry his chair, over 400 lbs. that costs over \$30,000. October 18th the elevator broke, they were able to get Noah to the second floor and he was able to depart the school. October 19th the elevator was still broken, and Noah could not go to school. April 10th the elevator broke again, his son was on the 2nd floor, he missed Chemistry. April 30th he lost 4 hours of work time to be at the high school when his son was stuck and had to carry him down two flights of stairs and wait 3 hours to see if the elevator would move enough to get his wheelchair from the third floor to the second floor. The following day he could not go to school because the elevator was still broken. Today, when the elevator at the high school broke, his son was sitting in Chemistry class. They were able to get the elevator to move just enough to get him from the third floor to the second floor so he could drive out of the building. He wants to know what is going to be done so his son can go to school in a safe environment and not worry about getting stuck.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Keating, Contracts and Finance, said we will be holding a special budget meeting within the next two weeks, our business manager is working on that along with some other staff. We are working with the Superintendent on identifying vacancies and positions that may be needed for the coming school year. He commended the staff for the great Title presentation tonight and all the improvements made over the year.

Mr. McGinley, Education/Policy, said there is a whole list of policies tonight. We are moving along, a lot of work to get done. Mr. Shook worked with people to come up with an elementary math program beginning next year. We had a great committee that worked hard together, and we really took all the different levels into consideration.

Mr. Hardwick, Special Education/ESSERS, the Special Education Committee met prior to our work session and discussed several due process cases. ESSERS, The HVAC and the roof construction will continue throughout the summer. The STEM Lab tutoring construction will continue throughout the summer. ESSERS funds will offer summer academic camps. Elementary will offer reading, math, and STEM program camps, middle and high school will offer academic enrichment camps, and the middle school and high school will also offer online credit recovery camps.

Mr. Kamus, Buildings and Grounds said there was a meeting today, a two hour long discussion with Mr. Tosh, Mr. Kachurak, and our engineers about a lot of issues in our district. They are going to work on them. We discussed in great detail the construction project inside this building (middle school), the high school, and our future project that we are looking at for Dana Street.

MINUTES APPROVED

Moved by Wilson, seconded by McGinley, that the Board of School Directors approve the minutes of the Regular **April 10, 2024** Board Meeting.

Voice vote. **Motion Carried.**

GENERAL RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by Cussatt, seconded by Kobusky that the Board of School Directors **table item #39** under General Recommended Action.

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

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

1. Adopted **Policy 200**, Enrollment of Students. (Second Reading)
2. Adopted **Policy 202**, Eligibility of Nonresident Students. (Second Reading)
3. Adopted **Policy 210**, Medications. (Second Reading)
4. Adopted **Policy 210.1**, Possession/Administration of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-Injectors. (Second Reading)
5. Adopted **Policy 217**, Graduation. (Second Reading)
6. Adopted **Policy 220**, Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials. (Second Reading)
7. Adopted **Policy 222**, Tobacco and Vaping Products. (Second Reading)
8. Adopted **Policy 223**, Use of Motor Vehicles. (Second Reading)
9. Adopted **Policy 224**, Care of School Property. (Second Reading)
10. Adopted **Policy 226**, Searches. (Second Reading)
11. Adopted **Policy 227**, Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia. (Second Reading)
12. Adopted **Policy 228**, Student Government. (Second Reading)
13. Adopted **Policy 229**, Student Fundraising. (Second Reading)
14. Adopted **Policy 230**, Public Performances by Students. (Second Reading)
15. Adopted **Policy 231**, Social Events and Class Trips. (Second Reading)
16. Adopted **Policy 232**, Student Involvement in Decision-Making. (Second Reading)
17. Adopted **Policy 233**, Suspension and Expulsion. (Second Reading)
18. Adopted **Policy 234**, Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students. (Second Reading)
19. Adopted **Policy 235**, Student Rights and Responsibilities. (Second Reading)
20. Adopted **Policy 235.1**, Surveys. (Second Reading)
21. Adopted **Policy 236**, Student Assistance Program. (Second Reading)
22. Adopted **Policy 236.1**, Threat Assessment. (Second Reading)
23. Adopted **Policy 237**, Electronic Devices. (Second Reading)
24. Adopted **Policy 239**, Foreign Exchange Students. (Second Reading)
25. Adopted **Policy 246**, School Wellness. (Second Reading)
26. Adopted **Policy 247**, Hazing. (Second Reading)
27. Adopted **Policy 249**, Bullying/Cyberbullying. (Second Reading)
28. Adopted **Policy 250**, Student Recruitment. (Second Reading)
29. Adopted **Policy 251**, Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability. (Second Reading)
30. Adopted **Policy 254**, Educational Opportunity for Military Children. (Second Reading)
31. Approved Agreement between **ProCare Therapy** and Wyoming Valley West School District for referring and placing consultants with specified student(s).
32. Approved **Invoice No. 4182-03** for the Guaranteed Energy Savings Project, from SitelogIQ for **\$3,764,724** as presented.

33. Approved **bonding** Wyoming Valley West Board Secretary in the amount of \$300,000 for the 2024/2025 fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2024.
34. Approved **Real Estate Property Tax Exemption** through the Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission to the following, as presented:
- ❖ Joyce Jones
 - ❖ Michael W. Romanowski Jr.
35. Approved **Flexible Instruction Days (FIDs)** for the 2024/2025 school year.
36. Approved upon completion of the 2023/2024 school year (as per negotiated agreement) all remaining monies due for the school year in one **lump sum** in the last pay of this fiscal year to professional employees.
37. Adopted a new K-5 Math series, **Reveal Math** by McGraw Hill, \$409,311.02 (6 years).
38. Approved the purchase of a **Synthetic Turf Groomer** from GreensGroomer, \$4,705.
- TABLED** 39. Approve request from **Northeast Pride**, travel baseball league, to use the baseball field for practice, \$ _____.
40. Approved Agreement between **Kimberly Walck** and Wyoming Valley West School District as Assistant Finance Manager with Title I Federal Programs Fiscal Coordination, July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025, \$90,000.

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

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by Kobusky, seconded by McGinley, that the Board of School Directors **table item #8** under Staff Recommended Action:

Roll Call: Wilson, Hardwick, Keating, Perfetto, Cussatt, and Kamus voting no. Mr. McGinley and Mr. Kobusky voting yes. Mr. Dubaskas was absent. **Motion Failed. (6-no; 2-yes; 1 absent)**

Moved by Hardwick, seconded by Keating, 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** April 1, 2024 – April 30, 2024.
 2. Appointed the following **new hires**:
 - ❖ **Sahar Graham** – Emotional Support Aide/State Street, \$13.00/hr. effective April 19, 2024.
 - ❖ **Ashley Morris** – Cleaner/State Street, \$13.00/hr. effective April 18, 2024.
 - ❖ **Arthur Parsons** – Cleaner/Dana Street, \$13.00/hr. effective April 15, 2024.
 - ❖ **Shamina Boardman** – Cleaner/Dana Street, \$13.00/hr. effective April 17, 2024.
 - ❖ **Quinn Taylor** – PCA/Dana Street, \$13.00/hr. effective April 15, 2024.
 - ❖ **Marisol Tejada** – Cleaner/Middle School, \$13.00/hr. effective April 29, 2024.
 - ❖ **Stephanie Lawson** – Cleaner/State Street, \$13.00/hr. effective April 8, 2024.
 - ❖ **Angela Millikin** – Cleaner/Middle School, \$13.00/hr. effective April 4, 2024.
 - ❖ **Shanelle Dates-Hines** – Autistic Support Aide/State Street, \$13.00/hr. effective April 25, 2024.
 - ❖ **Kylee Ritchie** – Cleaner/Middle School, \$13.00/hr. effective April 26, 2024.
 - ❖ **Bonnie Long** – Cleaner/Middle School, \$13.00/hr. effective April 26, 2024.

- ❖ **Serah Pursel** – Cleaner/Middle School, \$13.00/hr. effective April 26, 2024.
 - ❖ **Elizabeth Brizzy** – PCA/State Street, \$13.00/hr. effective May 6, 2024.
3. Accepted the following **resignations**:
 - ❖ **Donald Bush** – Head Custodian/High School, last day April 15, 2024.
 - ❖ **Marlene Guminsky** – Cleaner/High School, last day April 10, 2024.
 - ❖ **Barbara Kasson** – PCA/Middle School, last day May 3, 2024.
 - ❖ **Michelle Collis** – PCA/Middle School, last day April 29, 2024.
 - ❖ **Barbara Sims** – Cleaner/State Street, last day April 19, 2024.
 4. Approved the following **transfer of positions**:
 - ❖ **Anthony Deitrick** – Cleaner/Middle School to Custodian/Dana Street (second shift), effective April 16, 2024.
 - ❖ **Sean Price** – Custodian/Dana Street to Custodian/Chester Street, effective April 16, 2024.
 - ❖ **Scott Stuffick** – Custodian/Chester Street to Custodian/Middle School, effective April 16, 2024.
 - ❖ **Chris Hogan** – Custodian/Middle School to Head Custodian/Dana Street, effective April 16, 2024.
 - ❖ **A.J. Pugliese** – Custodian/High School to Head Custodian/High School, effective April 23, 2024.
 - ❖ **Arthur Parsons** – Cleaner/Dana Street to Custodian/High School, effective April 30, 2024.
 5. Granted **diplomas** to graduates of Wyoming Valley West High School, upon recommendation of Tara Carey, High School Principal, (tentative list-as presented).
 6. Medical Leave, **Emp. #757466**, effective April 8, 2024; returning April 22, 2024.
 7. Approved request from Doug Shook, FBLA Advisor, for one competing junior to attend the **FBLA National Leadership Conference** in Orlando, Florida, June 28, 2024 – July 3, 2024.
 8. Approved the job description for a **Director of Operations and Facilities Management**, salary TBD.
 9. Medical Leave, **Emp. #586922**, effective May 6, 2024 – June 10, 2024.
 10. Approved the following **Co-Curricular Positions** for the **2024-2025 school year**.

Class Advisors

Grade 12 (2) Shelley Bartolomei; Diane Gordon	\$1920
Grade 11 (2) Anna Toupin; Meghan Davis	\$1501
Grade 10 (2) Suzanne Aboutanos-Fellerman; Amanda Carey	\$1102
Grade 9 (2) Melissa Bennett; Lisa Granahan	\$933

Student Government Advisors

Grades 9-12 (2) Christina Sickler; Michael Chmiola	\$1676
Grades 6-8 (2) Joanne Derwin; Michael Munzing	\$1638
A-V Director Charles Potter	\$5116
A-V Aide 9-12 Douglas Shook	\$954
A-V Aide 6-8 Michael Munzing	\$954

Publications

Newspaper Advisor 9-12 Nicole McNelis	\$2800
Yearbook 9-12 Nicole McNelis	\$4583
Interim Advisor 9-12 Karin Ulitchney	\$3058
Yearbook Advisor 6-8 Pamela Oliveira	\$2006
Newspaper Advisor 6-8 Michael Munzing and Joanne Derwin (share)	\$2232
Business Manager Publications Nicole McNelis	\$1558

Fall Dramatic Production

Dramatic Production (per-play) Rachel Kislin \$1909

Music

Assistant Band Director Dax Sowul \$2342

Director (Band Front) Chelsea Margallis \$2342

Orchestra Director 6-8 Megan Wilski-Schneider \$1830

Band Director – Elementary Emily Bly \$1830

Director Glee Club 9-12 Justin Davis \$1956

Director Orchestra 9-12 Christine Attanasio-Eyer \$1956

Director Glee Club 7-8 Scott Coates \$1512

- 11. Appointed the recommended candidate, **Courtenay Degnon**, Assistant Special Education Director, effective TBD, \$85,000.
- 12. Appointed the recommended candidate, **Sean McCormick**, High School Social Studies/Business Education Teacher, effective August 30, 2024, \$46,500.
- 13. Appointed the recommended candidate, **Mollie Murphy**, High School Spanish Teacher, effective August 30, 2024, \$46,500.

Roll Call: Wilson, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky (No on #8), Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. Mr. Dubaskas was absent. **Motion Carried.**

FINANCE RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Wilson, 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, Hardwick, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. Mr. Dubaskas was absent. **Motion Carried.**

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Kachurak said there will be a Special Meeting held once the budget is complete.

Mr. Kobusky said it was a great meeting this morning and the Board is definitely looking at the elevators in both buildings.

Mr. Perfetto thanked all the teachers for all their hard work within the district. The Orchestra Concert held at the Middle School last night was an excellent program.

Mr. Wilson thanked all Title 1 staff for all of the amazing events held this school year. He thanked all the teachers during Teacher Appreciation week.

Mr. Hardwick thanked all the Title staff. He thanked Kim Walck for helping with the group. The turf installation is complete. He thanked Brian and Athletic Director Nick Gill for putting everything together in time for commencement. We need someone in this new position to take care of the buildings and grounds and oversee everything that needs to be done.

Mrs. Cussatt thanked the faculty, staff, and the Title I presentation. The buildings have not been taken care of for many years and we need to rectify the elevator situation and a lot of others going forward. We are on the right path and doing a good job.

President Kamus said historically, there has been a lead position and an assistant position in multiple administration positions throughout the district that have fallen vacant for many years and never refilled. This Board made a very positive step forward.

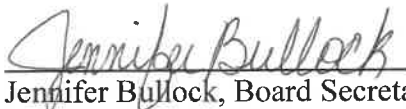
President Kamus announced the next Work Session, Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. and the Regular Monthly Meeting, Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion Carried.

Adjourned: 7:53 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.