

**WYOMING VALLEY WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING – General Purposes
JUNE 25, 2024
In-Person and Zoom**

A Special Meeting for General Purposes was held at the Middle School and on Zoom, on the above date. President Kamus called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. The following Board Members answered present to roll call: Dubaskas, Kamus, McGinley, Kobusky, Cussatt, Keating (by phone), Perfetto, Hardwick (by phone), and Wilson. Superintendent Tosh, Attorney Messenger and Finance Manager Kachurak were present. Board Secretary Bullock was absent.

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

Motion was made by Keating, seconded by Cussatt to:

Delete **Item #6** under Staff Recommended Action.

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

Motion was made by McGinley, seconded by Kobusky to:

Authorize the administration to increase the contributions to the Hoyt Library from \$65,000 to \$75,000 and to the Plymouth Library from \$25,000 to \$30,000. Increase of \$15,000 taken from the district fund balance, **Item #1** under General Recommended Action.

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

STATEMENTS FROM INTERESTED CITIZENS

(none)

GENERAL RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

1. Approved the **final budget** for **2024/2025** in the amount of **\$93,420,406**.
2. Established the school **tax millage** for fiscal year **2024/2025** at **18.4807 mills** on each dollar of assessed valuation on real estate.
3. Set date on 2024 tax bills of **July 26, 2024**.
4. Approved **Real Estate Tax Installment Payment Plan Resolution**, as presented.
5. Approved **Resolution** on state-funded **Taxpayer Relief Act** for the **2024/2025** school year, as presented.
6. Approved the **2024-2025 Annual Tax Levy** as follows: 18.4807 mills real estate tax, \$5.00 per capita tax under Act 511, \$5.00 per capita tax under Section 679 of the Public School Code, \$5.00 per local services tax under Act 511, 0.5% earned income tax under Act 511, 0.5 % real estate transfer tax under Act 511, 0.03 mills business privilege tax under Act 511 and 0.09 mills mercantile tax under Act 511. The discount rate is 2% and ends on September 30, 2024. Face period begins on October 1, 2024 and ends on November 30, 2024. The penalty rate is 10% and begins on December 1, 2024 and ends on December 31, 2024. The last day to pay tax collector is December 31, 2024. Installment payments are due by September 1, 2024, October 15, 2024 and November 30, 2024, respectively.

7. Approved **Invoice No. 4182-05** for the Guaranteed Energy Savings Project from SitelogIQ for **\$1,063,074** as presented.
8. Approved request from **Northeast Pride**, travel baseball league, to use the baseball field for practice, \$1,000.

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

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

1. Medical Leave, **Emp. #395525**, effective August 30, 2024 returning TBD.
2. Appointed the following recommended candidate as **High School Science Teacher**, effective August 30, 2024:
 ❖ **Robert Stelma**
3. Appointed the following recommended candidate as **Middle School Mathematics Teacher**, effective August 30, 2024:
 ❖ **Jessica Sims**
4. Appointed the following recommended candidate as **Middle School Family and Consumer Science Teacher**, effective August 30, 2024:
 ❖ **Heather Shaw**
5. Appointed the following recommended candidate as **High School English Teacher**, effective August 30, 2024:
 ❖ **Matthew Mahalak**
- ~~6. Appoint the following recommended candidate as a **Special Education Teacher**, effective August 30, 2024:
 ❖ **Elizabeth Jordan**~~
7. Appointed the following recommended candidate as a **Special Education Teacher**, effective August 30, 2024:
 ❖ **Kelsey Coslett**
8. Approved salary adjustment for **Anthony Waskevich**, Technology Director.
9. Approved the following **Co-Curricular Positions** for the **2024-2025 school year**:

Newspaper Advisor 9-12	Desiree Munzing	\$2800
Yearbook 9-12	Desiree Munzing	\$4583
Business Manager Publications	Desiree Munzing	\$1558

DELETED

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

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. McGinley said the libraries will be thankful for the increase in donations. He thanked the financial department for doing great work on the budget. We are looking forward to a good summer and a good start to the school year.

Mr. Kobusky said he appreciates all the hard work that went into the budget, especially for someone just coming on. The rain garden at the high school should be completed this week. The fence is almost done, and the logs are gone.

Mr. Perfetto said he saw the rain garden yesterday and it really looks nice.

Mr. Dubaskas said the budget included some money for the E-Sports Program at the high school. He thanked Anthony for everything. We should be able to start the program in late August. We lost a very important person in our District after many years of support, Mr. Mackay, our former Athletic Director. We will really miss him, condolences to the Mackay family for their loss. As an Athletic Committee, we will get together to figure out a way to honor his legacy in our District.

Mrs. Cussatt said condolences to the family, and it is a great idea to honor him. He was a great man. Thanks to everyone who worked on the budget. Looking forward to a month off.

President Kamus thanked Rob from start to finish, from the interview process to now. The undertaking he took on was immense. Thank you for sticking by us and putting in all those extra hours. Hope you are over the hump. You have full support going forward. We all realize where you were to where you are now, and we are very happy. Thank you very much.

Mr. Kachurak said he appreciates all the kind words and support. He does not feel we are over the hump yet but headed in the right direction.

Mr. Keating thanked Rob for everything he has done since he was brought on board. Today is another great day for Wyoming Valley West, as we pass a budget with no tax increase. We also have a state recommended fund balance on hand, coming from a negative fund balance a few years ago. We have done a lot of tangible improvements to the schools, and we could not do that without the support of the administration and our School Board. He is very pleased where we sit today. He echoes Brian's comments on Sandy Mackay.

Mr. Hardwick thanked Rob, the Finance Team, the Personnel Committee, and Mr. Tosh. Everybody did a great job with no tax increase to the taxpayers. He thanked Brian, Rick, and Paul for handling the interview activity over the last month.

Mr. Kachurak said this is a full team effort with administration and staff. Going forward, our funding is still depending on the state budget that is not passed yet. Hopefully, that will be in more of our favor.

Mr. Tosh thanked the Board for all their hard work with the budget. It has been a pleasure working with Rob and seeing all the time he has put in and the direction, the vision he has given us. He thanked the Board. The interview process is just about concluded, and we have all our new teachers hired before July 1st, a proactive step. There are not too many times you can say an individual in a school district is legendary, but Mr. Mackay based on being such an integral part of this District, the Athletics, the male and female sports that he brought to Wyoming Valley West, and the amount of time he put in, close to 50 years, is just almost unprecedented. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Mackay family.


President Kamus announced the next Work Session, Wednesday, August 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. and the Regular Monthly Meeting, Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned: 9:26 am.


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 meeting