

**WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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

**August 21, 2024**

**1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, in the District Office Board Room located at Wilson Elementary School. The President, Mr. Robert Ostrander, presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call of Directors**

Present -	Robert Ostrander – President	Tracy Pustover – Vice President
	George Bartha	Vicki Bozic
	Todd Kosenina	Debbie Mirich
	Steve Psomas	Seth Tomei

Absent - Steven Pons

Also Present - Mr. William Andrews, Solicitor  
Dr. Jerri Lynn Lippert, Superintendent  
Dr. Chris Shattuck, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Lynn Utchell, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Dr. Shana Nelson, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Mr. George Safin, Director of Finance

Mr. Ostrander announced that the Board met in executive session on August 13, August 14, and prior to tonight's meeting in regards to litigation, personnel and student matters.

**3. Public Comment**

No comments.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the July 17, 2024, meetings to the Board. On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mrs. Bozic, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve the minutes as distributed.

**5. Treasurer’s Report**

The treasurer’s report from last month was read by Mr. George Safin, Business Manager, and accepted by the board indicating a balance on July 31, 2024, of \$42,413,379.38.

**6. Communications**

Dr. Lippert shared that a back to school video was sent out.

**7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award**

No awards.

**8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators**

Dr. Lippert reported that it was a great first day back at school.

**9. President's Report**

Mr. Ostrander thanked the staff and welcomed them back. He also thanked Mrs. Ruhl for putting together the back to school video.

**10. Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business this month.

**11. Solicitor's Report**

No report.

**12. Personnel**

On a motion by Mrs. Mirich, seconded by Mr. Tomei, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.9 on the Personnel agenda.

Mrs. Bozic abstained from voting on item 12.6.

12.1 Approving the list of professional and support substitutes as presented.

12.2 Approving the following WAVA staff for the 2024-25 school year. Salary per collective bargaining agreement.

Secondary ELA – Lauren Corrado

Secondary Social Studies – Josh Bears

Secondary Mathematics/Technology Education – Bob Coulter

Secondary Mathematics/Physics – Matt McBurney

Secondary Biology – Suzanne Lambert

Secondary Chemistry – Jim Hamilton

Secondary BCIT – Carrie Morgan

Secondary Spanish – Colleen Hollihan

Art K-12 – Sharon Harn

Physical Education K-12 – Mindy McFate

Physical Education K-12 – Scott Meehan

Elementary Grades 3-5 – Tiffany Mangan

Elementary Grades K-2 – Tammy Chiccarello

12.3 Approving the transfer of Jodie Messner, Class IV-B server to Class V bus aide, effective the start of the 2024-25 school year. Salary for this position, \$22.40/hour.

- 12.4 Approving the resignation of Stephanie Santucci, middle school Class IV-B server, effective August 21, 2024.
- 12.5 Approving a salary adjustment for Kelly Mancuso from Bachelor's (\$63,975) to National Board Certification/ Doctorate (\$77,375), effective the start of the 2024-25 school year.
- 12.6 Approving Stacy Miller as a Class IV-B lunch aide at McKee Elementary effective the start of the 2024-25 school year. Salary - \$20.15/hour.
- 12.7 Approving Jaymarie Ault as a Class IV-B lunch aide at McKee Elementary effective the start of the 2024-25 school year. Salary - \$20.15/hour.
- 12.8 Approving hiring Viktoria Stang as a Class V bus aide effective with the start of the 2024-25 school year. Salary, \$20.15/hour.
- 12.9 Approving Dayna Trosky as a Class IV-B server at Wilson Elementary effective the start of the 2024-25 school year. Salary - \$20.15/hour.

### **13. Property & Supply**

On a motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 13.1 through 13.8 on the Property & Supply agenda.

- 13.1 Approving the list of bus drivers for the district for the 2024-25 school year. All necessary requirements have been met.
- 13.2 Approving order GC-036 with Hudson Group to provide labor material and equipment repair existing subbase for new asphalt paving at front parking lot in the total amount of \$5,119.00.
- 13.3 Approving change order GC-037 with Hudson Group to complete additional demolition services in Phase 6 construction area in the total amount of \$5,929.00.
- 13.4 Approving change order GC-038 with Hudson Group to provide labor, material and equipment to infill an unforeseen subsurface void with structural grout per CCD#2 in the total amount of \$15,960.00.
- 13.5 Approving change order GC-039 with Hudson Group to furnish and install privacy slats at the chain link dumpster enclosure in the total amount of \$1,856.00.
- 13.6 Authorizing change order GC-040 with Hudson Group to provide labor, material and equipment to install end wall returns at the new segmented retaining wall for the ADA parking area in the total amount of \$8,815.00.
- 13.7 Authorizing change order GC-041 with Hudson Group to furnish and install install dowels and epoxy grout into the existing grade beam along column line 57.1 for the new LGI room foundation in the total amount of \$ 5,045.67.

- 13.8 Authorizing change order HC-005 with Lugaila Mechanical to furnish and install new diffusers and rework ductwork at the new serving area of the kitchen in the total amount of \$5,338.23.

#### **14. Finance**

On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mr. Tomei, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 14.1 through 14.6 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 Accepting Activity Reports as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.4 Approving a real estate tax assessment appeal with AFP II LP for commercial property in Findlay Township as recommended by the solicitor.
- 14.5 Approving a contract with Questeq as the District's E-rate consultant for the 2025-26 funding year at a cost of 5% of the pre-discounted costs of any E-rate eligible costs incurred by the District.
- 14.6 Approving PowerSchool SIS as the district's Student Information System effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### **15. Policy & Programs**

On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 15.1 through 15.3 on the Policy & Programs agenda.

- 15.1 Approving Policies 301, 302, 305, 307, 308 & 309 of Section 300 of the updated policy manual. This represents the first of two required readings.  
301 Creating a New Position  
302 Employment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent  
305 Employment of Substitutes  
307 Student Teachers/Interns  
308 Employment Contract/Board Resolution  
309 Assignment and Transfer
- 15.2 Approving a staffing agreement with STAT Staffing Medical Services, Inc. on an as needed basis for nursing services.
- 15.3 Approving a staffing agreement with Amergis Educational Staff on an as needed basis for nursing services.

#### **16. Athletics & Activities**

On a motion by Mr. Kosenina, seconded by Mrs. Bozik, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 16.1 through 16.4 on the Athletics & Activities agenda.

- 16.1 Approving Mara Greer as a musical theatre production consultant for the fall and spring musicals at a cost not to exceed \$6,000.
- 16.2 Approving Scott Appel as a middle school football volunteer for the 2024 season. All clearance requirements have been met.
- 16.3 Approving Lynn Ann DeBor as a marching band volunteer for the 2024 season. All clearance requirements have been met.
- 16.4 Approving an agreement with Takaction to provide strength and conditioning services from August 1, 2024, to July 31, 2027, as presented.

## **17. Federal Programs & Legislation**

Dr. Roche reported on the Tugboat grant that the District was awarded to help with career exposure for students.

## **18. Student Representatives**

Dr. Roche announced that the student representatives have been confirmed. Ava Elliott, Lindsay Worthington and Jack Campbell will be joining the board meetings.

## **19. Library**

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- New parking lot and driveway
- Fall For Your Library, September 14, 6-10 pm at Celebrations
- Garage sale, August 31, 9 – 2
- Digital library always open

Please visit the Library and their website for more information  
[www.westernallegHENYlibrary.org](http://www.westernallegHENYlibrary.org).

## **20. Parkway West CTC**

Mrs. Mirich reported on the following activities:

- Students were excited for the new school year
- Enrollment is up, close to 1200, WA has around 130 enrolled students

## **21. SHASDA**

No report.

## **22. West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame**

Mr. Psomas announced the seven elected nominations that will be inducted on October 5, at the SNPJ.

Garrett Browning  
Dave Brytus  
Kellen Campbell

Kevin Campbell  
Michael Caputo  
Nick Kolarac  
Troy Reaghard

**23. West Allegheny Foundation**

No report.

**24. Wellness and Safe Schools Committee**

No report.

**25. New Business**

No new business.

**26. Open Forum**

Michael DeMichela, son of Joe P. DeMichela, voiced concerns over an application submitted on behalf of his father for the West Allegheny Hall of Fame.  
Mr. Bartha and Mr. Psomas responded.

Shannon Lebak, Findlay Township, asked about class rankings.  
Dr. Lippert, Dr. Roche and Mr. Ostrander answered.

Bobby Kartychak, North Fayette Township, voiced his concerns over the guidance counselors communicating class rankings.  
Colleen Karychak, North Fayette Township, also voiced the same concerns.  
Dr. Lippert and Mr. Bartha responded.

Zachary Lebak, Findlay Township, voiced his concerns over not being recognized for academic achievements.  
Dr. Lippert and Dr. Roche responded.

**27. Adjournment**

On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

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Robert Ostrander, Board President

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Alyssa Athanas, Board Secretary