

WEST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

June 19, 2024

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The West Allegheny Board of School Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, June 19, 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 7:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Directors

Present -	Robert Ostrander – President	Tracy Pustover – Vice President
	George Bartha	Todd Kosenina
	Debbie Mirich	Steven Pons
	Steve Psomas	

Absent - Vicki Bozic

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, Business Manager

Mr. Ostrander announced that the Board met in executive session on June 12, and prior to tonight's meeting in regards to personnel and legal matters.

3. Public Comment

No comments.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 The board secretary previously distributed copies of the minutes from the May 15, 2024, meetings to the Board. On a motion by Mrs. Pustover, seconded by Mr. Pons, 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 May 31, 2024, of \$46,506,744.25.

6. Communications

Dr. Lippert passed around a thank you card from Nathaniel Elek.

7. Acknowledgements/Distinguished Achievement Award

No awards.

8. Reports of Superintendent and Administrators

No report.

9. President's Report

Mr. Ostrander asked Karen Ruhl to give a report on the viewership statistics on the graduation live stream.

Graduation was discussed.

10. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business this month.

11. Solicitor's Report

No report.

On a motion by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Pons, and unanimously carried, it was moved to approve items 12.1 through 12.9 on the Personnel agenda, items 13.1 through 13.10 on the Property & Supply agenda, items 14.1 through 14.3 and 14.5 through 14.9 on the Finance agenda, items 15.1 through 15.4 on the Policy & Programs agenda, and items 16.1 through 16.2 on the Athletics & Activities agenda.

12. Personnel

- 12.1 Approving an unpaid medical leave of absence for Harold Nation, custodian, beginning on June 11, 2024 through August 16, 2024.
- 12.2 Approving an intermittent family medical leave of absence for William Wilson, middle school custodian, effective May 30, 2024, not to exceed 60 days.
- 12.3 Approving the resignation of Amy Healy, middle school special education/English language arts teacher, effective May 20, 2024.
- 12.4 Approving Allegheny Medical to provide school physician services for the 2024-25 school year at a cost of \$8,035.38, which is an increase of 3% over last year.
- 12.5 Approving Dr. T.J. Ameredes, Advanced Dentistry Ameredes & Associates, as the contracted school dentist for the district for the 2024-25 school year at a cost of \$1.60/student, which is at the same cost as 2023-24.
- 12.6 Approving Dr. David Quinn for the 2024-25 school year as the contracted school eye doctor at \$1.60/exam, which is the same cost as 2023-24.

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- 12.7 Approving Alysa McCann as a Class III elementary swim aide effective with the start of the 2024-25 school year contingent upon acquiring life guard/CPR certification. Salary - \$21.68/hour.
- 12.8 Approving hiring Colonel Matthew R. Cicchinelli as a senior JROTC instructor at the high school effective August 12, 2024, at a salary of \$116,875 as presented.
- 12.9 Approving the following student interns for the Special Education Internship supporting the 2024 Extended School Year Program at a cost of \$11/hour:
Emma Dollahon
Hannah Kiss
Mandy Mahen
Jenna Nolan
Mack Santoro

13. Property & Supply

- 13.1 Approving Change Order GC-031 with the Hudson Group Cost for the removal and replacement of west corridor wall (HB106) outside the admin suite. Total cost of \$10,354.00.
- 13.2 Approving Change Order GC-032 with the Hudson Group to replace a section of masonry wall in classroom B210 that was found to lack the structural integrity to accommodate installation of the new curtain wall. Total cost of \$3,087.00.
- 13.3 Approving Change Order GC-033 with the Hudson Group to infill the missing expansion joint between the original building and the previous science room addition, provide a furred partition wall at B208 and realign the existing corridor wall per construction bulletin #33. Total cost of \$10,768.00.
- 13.4 Approving Change Order GC-034 with the Hudson Group to modify the new underground storm system between CB-1.1 and the new pond, increase underground piping to 18" to accommodate an additional 8" line connection to the storm system. Total cost of \$5,234.00.
- 13.5 Approving Change Order EC-014 to Allegheny City Electric to provide material and labor for the installation of the access control, intrusion, and door security alarm system. Total cost of \$ 169,855.10.
- 13.6 Approving Change Order GC-035 to the Hudson Group to provide a new epoxy floor coating system and cover base in classroom C107 Industrial Arts per request of the owner. Total cost of \$9,326.00.
- 13.7 Approving awarding Asphalt Paving Project Contract Number 2024-02-A to Peter J. Caruso & Sons Inc. in the base bid amount of \$74,498.00 with alternate #2 in the amount of \$5,200.00 added to the base bid for a total Contract award amount of \$ 79,698.00.
- 13.8 Approving awarding Food Service Equipment Capital Project Contract Number 2024-01-A to Great Lakes Hotel Supply in the Base Bid amount of \$326,650.00 with

alternate #1 in the amount of \$1,827.00 and alternate #2 in the amount of \$1,827.00 added to the base bid for a total Contract award amount of \$330,304.00.

- 13.9 Approving a 5-year trash/recycling removal services contract with Iron City Express of Crescent, PA, subject to review and approval by the solicitor, not expected to exceed the annual costs below: 2024-25 - \$48,216.00 2025-26 - \$48,216.00 2026-27 - \$48,216.00 2027-28 - \$48,216.00 2028-29 - \$48,216.00
- 13.10 Approving DQE Communications as the secondary internet connection provider for the District, with a recurring monthly cost of \$750 for a 3-year term commencing July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.

14. Finance

- 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 Approving the Cafeteria Report as presented to the Board Members.
- 14.4 On a motion by Mr. Bartha, seconded by Mrs. Mirich, and unanimously carried, it was move to approve the proposed final 2024-25 general fund budget with revenues of \$80,864,669 and expenditures of \$83,300,921 containing a property tax millage rate of 18.51. This millage rate reflects no increase to our property tax levy (which equates to no millage increase).
- 14.5 Approving the continuation of the current real estate tax assessment appeal program as presented and recommended by the solicitor.
- 14.6 Approving Resolution 2024-2 regarding the 2024-25 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion as presented.
- 14.7 Approving the District's workers' compensation insurance renewal for the 2024-25 fiscal year with Berkshire Hathaway (BHHC), through AON Risk Management, at a premium cost not to exceed \$214,687.
- 14.8 Approving the District's liability insurance renewals with the companies listed below, through the Peterson-Strouse Agency, for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Utica National Insurance Co. at a cost not to exceed \$173,868 and, Chubb Insurance/Westchester Underwriting Co. at a cost not to exceed \$24,736.
- 14.9 Approving the purchase of 60 HP ProBook laptops from Questeq, Costars approved vendor, at a cost not to exceed \$42,983.

15. Policy & Programs

- 15.1 Approving the renewal of ebook licensing for the following textbooks beginning with the 2024-2025 school year: Ancient World History by History Alive for grade 6 and Medieval World History by History Alive for grade 7 at a cost not to exceed

\$53,900.00. U.S. History Beginnings to 1877 by National Geographic for grade 8 at a cost not to exceed \$27,421.68. U.S. History 1877 to Present by National Geographic for grade 9 at a cost not to exceed \$27,615.23. American Government for grade 10 by Magruder Pearson at a cost not to exceed \$23,595.00.

- 15.2 Approving the student adjudication for Student P as presented.
- 15.3 Approving Policies 214-237 of Section 200 of the updated policy manual. This represents the second of two required readings. Policy 214 Class Rank Policy 215 Promotion and Retention Policy 216 Student Records Policy 216.1 Supplemental Discipline Records Policy 217 Graduation Policy 218 Student Discipline Policy 218.1 Weapons Policy 218.2 Terroristic Threats Policy 218.3 Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault Policy 220 Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials Policy 221 Dress and Grooming Policy 222 Tobacco and Vaping Products Policy 223 Use of Bicycles and Motor Vehicles Policy 226 Searches Policy 227 Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia Policy 229 Student Fundraising Policy 231 Social Events and Class Trips Policy 233 Suspension and Expulsion Policy 234 Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students Policy 235 Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy 235.1 Surveys Policy 236 Student Assistance Program Policy 236.1 Threat Assessment Policy 237 Electronic Devices
- 15.4 Approving Policies 239-251 of Section 200 of the updated policy manual. This represents the first of two required readings. Policy 239 Foreign Exchange Students Policy 246 School Wellness Policy 247 Hazing Policy 249 Bullying/Cyberbullying Policy 250 Student Recruitment Policy 251 Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability

16. Athletics & Activities

- 16.1 Approving Betty D'Amico to assist with equipment and athletic uniform maintenance as presented.
- 16.2 Approving a request from Terisa Sharlow for the High School Chorus to attend an overnight musical experience trip in New York City from November 16-17, 2024, at no cost to the District.

17. Federal Programs & Legislation

No report.

18. Student Representatives

No report.

19. Library

Mrs. Pustover reported on the following activities:

- Fall For Your Library, September 14, 6-10 pm
- Various summer programs

Please visit the Library and their website for more information
www.westernallegHENYlibrary.org.

20. Parkway West CTC

Mrs. Mirich reported on the following activities:

- Summer camp
- Enrollment update

Please visit their website for more information www.ptcollege.edu.

21. SHASDA

No report.

22. West Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame

No report.

23. West Allegheny Foundation

Mrs. Mirich announced that thank you cards were received from teachers who received grants.

24. Wellness and Safe Schools Committee

No update.

25. New Business

No new business.

26. Open Forum

No comments.

27. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Pons, seconded by Mrs. Psomas, and unanimously carried, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Robert Ostrander, Board President

George M. Safin, Pro-Tem Secretary