

11914
Wyoming Area School District
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education
252 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, August 22, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education was held this evening in the Secondary Center auditorium, 252 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643. Twenty people of the public were in attendance. A non-public executive session preceded the meeting. Ms. Best, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence for Doreen Dougherty from Holy Redeemer who recently passed away.

Roll Call:

- Ms. Lara Best, President
- Mrs. Toni Valenti, Vice President
- Mr. David Alberigi, Secretary
- Mr. Joseph Kopko, Treasurer
- Mr. Peter Butera
- Mr. Philip Campenni
- Mr. Leonard Pribula
- Mr. Gerald Stofko
- Mr. Michael Supey

Also present were: Dr. Jon Pollard, Superintendent, Attorney Jarrett J. Ferentino, School Solicitor, Tom Melone, Business Consultant, Eric Speece, Secondary Center Building Principal, Cathy Ranieli, Assistant Secondary Center Building Principal, William Wright, Primary Center Building Principal, Shaun Rohland, Assistant Principal of Discipline, David Pacchioni, Kindergarten Center Building Principal, Brian Strazdus, Intermediate Center Building Principal, Stephanie Anuszewski, Director of Special Education, Mike Bugelhol, Director of Facilities, Jason Jones, Network Engineer.

At this time, Colin Dempsey of the PSBA presented a plaque to Toni Valenti for her 28 years of service.

Communications Report

Mr. Alberigi read the additions to the Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 submitting their regular meeting minutes of June 21, 2023.
2. West Side Career & Technology Center minutes of Joint Operating Committee of June 26, 2023.
3. Stacie Gula, Wyoming Area Drama Club Parents requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
4. Julie Matosky's letter of intent to return from her maternity leave.
5. Nikki Milcavage, Wyoming Area Intermediate Center PTO, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
6. Chuck Yarmey, Wyoming Area Drama Club Advisor, requesting permission to attend the Pennsylvania State Thespian Conference, along with Thespian Troupe #4795, at North Penn High School in Lansdale, PA.
7. Brenda Bitters, Elementary Teacher, requesting permission to extend her medical leave of absence.
8. Mindy Stevens, Wyoming Area Kindergarten/Primary Center PTO, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.

9. Scott Skesavage, Custodian, requesting permission to extend his medical leave and intent to retire.
10. Bill Roberts, Tennis Coach, notification letter that Joe Skrip will not be returning as a volunteer tennis coach.
11. Right to Know Request submitted for any written district, state, local for policies regarding updating and posting of approved board meeting minutes for public view.
12. Mara Kudasik, Computer Technician at the Wyoming Area Catholic School submitting her letter of resignation.
13. Kristi Wilk, School Psychologist, submitting her letter of resignation.
14. Eric Fairchild, Wyoming Area Girls Soccer Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.

Summary of Applications Received

Long Term Sub 2nd Grade – 9
Long Term Sub 3rd Grade – 2
Special Education Teacher – 7
First Grade Teacher – 5
Elementary- 3
Teacher's Aide – 1
Art - 1

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Best asked for approval of the minutes of July 25, 2023. All member present voted aye.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pollard read his report.

1. Communications are coming from each building principal. Opening day procedures will be published in Pittston Progress on August 27th. All other information including bus transportation, district calendar and handbook information may be found on our website under District Links.
2. All-calls are being sent. Our website will be updated in the coming days.
3. We are encouraging families to check their CSIU logins and passwords and remind them that there is a demographic verification that needs to be done in CSIU before they will be able to access their child's accounts. It is important this is done so that we have updated telephone numbers and email addresses as we are transitioning to a new all-call system.
4. We are working on an extensive revision to our website and we should be rolling out an application in the next few months.
5. The following information was not given for last month's meeting:
The Girls Lacrosse Team finished another great winning season with a 2023 record of 12-6. The girls that were recognized by the Wyoming Valley Leagues Coaches All Conference Teams First Team All-Conference was; Juliana Gonzales with 100 + goals. Sofia Sabatini with 200+ goals and Halle Kranson with 100+ goals and 100+ assists. Wyoming Valley Honorable Mention was Kendal Day. The 2024 season shows a lot of promise with numerous experienced players returning.

6. Leadership Wilkes-Barre is happy to share the list of Wyoming Area students for the 2023-2024 Junior Leadership Class:

Mia Altavilla
 Mario Belza
 Jake Bonin
 Abigail Butler
 Arianna Gaylord
 Renee Haddock

7. The first day of school for students will be Thursday, September 7th with September 7th and 8th being Act 80 Early Dismissals.

Solicitor’s Report

Attorney Jarrett Ferentino reported that the school board met in executive session last Tuesday and tonight for personnel issues, pending special education matters and negotiations. The retention of appraisal regarding assessment of a property was added to the agenda in the last 24 hours and we also received a resignation in the last 24 hours. (These items were not on the agenda published on the website).

Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Kopko read the Treasurer’s Report.

First National Community Bank	General Fund	4,082,893.03
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	6,264.09
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	19,816.83
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	145,674.81
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	47,219.05
First National Community Bank	Purchasing Account	500.00
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust	General Fund Account	138,019.38
First National Community Bank	Series 2022 GON Account	7,900.02

The Treasurer’s Report will be kept on file for audit.

Finance Report

Mr. Kopko read Finance Report.

1. Berkheimer Income Tax

Earned Income Tax	90,741.56
Local Services Tax	1,013.92
Per Capita Tax	9,838.44
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>3,682.29</u>
Total:	101,593.21

Local Realty Transfer Tax

Luzerne County	30,707.13
Wyoming County	<u>548.80</u>
Total:	31,255.93

2022 Supplemental Real Estate Taxes

Paul Konopka – Wyoming County	165.28
Thomas Pizano – Exeter Borough	<u>34.44</u>
Total:	199.72

2023 Real Estate Taxes

George Miller – West Pittston Borough	52,127.05
Paul Konopka – Wyoming Borough	1,725.31
Carol Bardzel – Exeter Twp., Wyoming County	<u>113,201.95</u>
Total:	167,054.31

Delinquent Real Estate Taxes

Wyoming County	5,705.00
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2. Approve the August payment of \$66,815.45 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit in accordance with the terms of the approved contract for Special Education Services and other related services for the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Approve to ratify the August payment of \$69,097.00 to the West Side Career & Technology Center for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Approve the request of Carol Bardzel, Exeter Township/Wyoming County Tax Collector, for remittance of payment for \$279.50 for services of auditing, sorting and mailing of the 2022 Wyoming Area School Real Estate Tax bills.
5. Approve the Guest Teacher Agreement with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 for the 2023-2024 school year. Annual membership is \$325.00 per year.
6. Approve to ratify the following payments:

Vendor	Invoice #	Amount	Location	Description
Champion Builders	App#2	72,308.70	JFK	HVAC Equipment
Mark Whitehead Electrical	App#3	<u>25,394.40</u>	JFK	Electrical Construction
		Total:	97,703.10	
7. Approve contract with Evercor for sponsorship of a scoreboard at the Primary Center pending approval of the district’s solicitor.
8. Approve the step placement of professional employee, Jennifer Shandra, at Masters+60, Step 4, \$65,092.00.
9. Approve the step placement of temporary professional employee, Terri Bugelholl, at Masters+30, step 8, \$62,456.00.
10. Motion to approve a retainer agreement of Rosen Real Estate, Inc., of Wilkes-Barre, PA., to conduct a commercial real estate appraisal regarding the property at PIN No. 67-E10SE2-002-001 for a retainer of one thousand (\$1,000.00) not to exceed two thousand (\$2,000.00).

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11. Approve the general ledger account:

Bill Listing: August 2023	627,212.90	
Prepays: July 2023	<u>580,625.83</u>	1,207,838.73
Cafeteria Account:	59,563.65	
Athletic Account:	<u>875.00</u>	<u>60,438.65</u>
	Total:	1,268,277.38

Motion by Mr. Kopko, second by Mr. Pribula, to accept the finance report.

Roll Call: Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Ms. Best, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Education Report

Ms. Best read additions to the Education Report.

1. Reporting as per Federal Regulations Requirement that the District’s Federal Programs (Title I, Title II, Title III and Title IV) are currently being planned for the 2023-2024 school year. Anyone desiring information regarding these programs, contact Dr. Jon Pollard, Superintendent, at the District’s Business Office.
2. Approve Julie Matosky’s anticipated date to return to work from her maternity leave will be October 10, 2023.
3. Approve the professional substitute list for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Approve the request of Brenda Bitters to extend her medical leave of absence for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year.
5. Approve the tentative guest teacher substitute list for 2023-2024 school year.
6. Approve the ATSI non-Title School Plan for the school year 2023-2024 school year.
7. Approve the Health and Safety Plan for the 2023-2024 school year.
8. Approve the appointment of Celeste Calpin as Driver Theory Instructor for the 2023-2024 school year.
9. Approve the appointments of the following Learning Support Paraprofessionals:
 - Sandra McCracken
 - Danielle Milunic
 - Amanda Nowak
10. Approve the transfer of Renee DeAngelo from First Grade Teacher to Intervention Teacher effective for the 2023-2024 school year.
11. Approve the transfer of Amanda Amitia from Learning Support Teacher to First Grade Teacher effective for the 2023-2024 school year.
12. Approve the appointment of Nicole Dileo as Learning Support Teacher effective for the 2023-2024 school year.

13. Approve the appointment of Cordell Gresh as Learning Support Teacher effective for the 2023-2024 school year.
14. Approve the appointment of Kayla Taddai as Long Term Substitute 2nd Grade Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.
15. Approve the appointment of Alexandria Arndt as Long Term Substitute 3rd Grade Teacher for the 1st semester of the 2023-2024 school year.
16. Approve the appointments of Rosella Fedor and Juel Ann Klepadlo as Co-chairs for the Scholarship Program at their current stipend.
17. Accept, with regret, Kristi Wilk's letter of resignation as School Psychologist effective October 20, 2023.

Motion by Ms. Best, second by Mrs. Valenti, to accept the education report.

On the Question: Mr. Supey asked if the ATSI non-Title School Plan will be placed on the website. Dr. Pollard responded yes, after we get the affirmations submitted and get approval by the state. Dr. Pollard explained to the audience what ATSI is.

Roll Call: Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Ms. Best, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Activities Report

Mr. Alberigi read additions to the Activities Report.

1. Approve the request of Stacie Gula, Wyoming Area Drama Club Parents, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Apparel sale fundraiser - September 1, 2023
 - Sabatini's Parents Fundraising – October 17, 2023
2. Approve the request of Nikki Milcavage, Wyoming Area Intermediate Center PTO, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Smencils Sale – Sell every other Wednesday, starting September 13th
 - Candle Sale – October/November 2023
 - Apparel Sale – October/November 2023
 - Turkey Bingo fundraiser - Secondary Center cafeteria- Sunday, November 12, 2023, 10:00 to 5:00 p.m. (includes set up and break down)
 - Lucky Draw Calendar – February 2024
 - Annual Earth Day Rummage Sale – April 20, 2024
3. Approve the marching band staff for the 2023-2024 school year:

Kristen Santey	Assistant Band Director
Zachary Houston	Percussion Instructor
Jillian Vito	Color Guard Instructor

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Kendra Dewey	Volunteer
Ben Hollister	Percussion Student Intern
Kyleigh Hutchins	Color Guard Student Intern

4. Approve the marching band schedule for the 2023-2024 school year.
5. Approve the request of Chuck Yarmey, Wyoming Area Drama Club Advisor, to attend the Pennsylvania State Thespian Conference, along with Thespian Troupe #4795, at North Penn High School in Lansdale, PA., from November 30th through December 2, 2023.
6. Approve the request of Mindy Stevens, Wyoming Area Kindergarten/Primary Center PTO, to hold the following fundraisers for November/January.
 - Movie Night – January 19, 2023
 - Pointsettia Sale with Tobins
 - Smencils Sales
 - Holiday Shopping Workshop at Primary Center – December 14, 2023
 - Holiday Shopping Workshop at Kindergarten Center – December 14th & 15th
7. Approve the Cooperative Agreement with Hanover Area School District for varsity girls wrestling.
8. Approve the following assistant/volunteer coaches for the 2023-2024 Fall sports season:

Field Hockey

Christina Granteed	Junior High Asst.
Joe Bednarski	Volunteer

Football

Patrick Nelson	Volunteer
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Cross Country

John Kearns	Volunteer
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Girls Soccer

Eric Fairchild	Volunteer
Nicholas Evans	Volunteer

9. Approve the head coaches for the 2023-2024 winter sports season:

Boys Basketball

Anthony Macario

Girls Basketball

Mark Casper

Winter Track

Joe Pizano

Wrestling

Steve Mytych

Swimming

Maureen Pikas

10. Approve the request of Eric Fairchild, Wyoming Area Girls Soccer Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:

- Parent's Night at Sabatini's
- Sell Business and Player Banners to be hung at Tenth St. Field
- Sell ads for the "Soccer Yearbook"

Motion by Mr. Alberigi, second by Mr. Kopko, to accept the activities report.

On the Question: Mindy Stevens, from the Wyoming Area Kindergarten/Primary Center PTO and Nikki Milcavage, Wyoming Area Intermediate Center PTO, raised their concerns regarding fundraisers. Dr. Pollard explained that it wasn't a good idea to have their bingos back to back with each other. Dr. Pollard suggested a meeting so this doesn't happen.

Mr. Stofko made a motion for the Kindergarten to continue with their bingo fundraiser on October 15th. Second by Mr. Supey.

Board Member, Peter Butera asked if the board could approve both ending approval. Attorney Ferentino responded it would be pending licensure.

Dr. Pollard set up a meeting on September 11th at 5:30 p.m. at the Intermediate Center.

Ms. Best stated the motion is out there to approve the kindergarten gift card bingo fundraiser on October 15th, pending green light on the bingo licensure.

Roll Call: Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Ms. Best, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed for the bingo.

There was a virtual question from John Bonin regarding the cooperative agreement for wrestling. Dr. Pollard answered Mr. Bonin's questions.

Roll call for activities report: Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Ms. Best, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Building Report

Mr. Pribula read additions to Building Report.

1. Approve the support personnel substitute list for the 2023-2024 school year.
2. Approve the request of Scott Skesavage, Custodian, to extend his medical leave of absence through September 29, 2023, at which time he will retire.
3. Approve the transportation drivers for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Accept, with regret, Mara Kudasik's letter of resignation as Computer Technician at the Wyoming Area Catholic School effective August 21, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Pribula, second by Mr. Supey, to accept the building report.

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Roll Call: Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Ms. Best, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Open Discussion:

- Rob Switzer, West Pittston, thanked Dr. Pollard for including the girls lacrosse on the agenda and questioned the girls wrestling team

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned by Ms. Best at approximately 7:50 p.m. second by Mrs. Valenti.

Lara Best, President

David Alberigi, Secretary