

11923
Wyoming Area School District
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education
252 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, September 26, 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. Fifteen people of the public were in attendance. A non-public executive session preceded the meeting. Mrs. Valenti, Vice President of the Board, called the meeting to order in the absence of Ms. Best at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: 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

Absent: Ms. Lara Best, President

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 Bugelholl, Director of Facilities, Jason Jones, Network Engineer, Angelo Falzone, Director of Transportation/Attendance. Senior, Daniel Feeney and Junior, Mia Altavilla, Student Representatives.

Communications Report

Mr. Alberigi read additions to the Communications Report.

1. West Side Career and Technology Center submitting their minutes of the Joint Operating Committee of July 24, 2023.
2. Michael Dzedzic submitting his letter of resignation as a maintenance employee.
3. Luke Baloga submitting his letter of resignation as a custodian.
4. Katelyn Marianelli submitting her letter of resignation as school psychologist.
5. Melanie Vankevich submitting her letter of resignation as food service employee.
6. Amy Saunders, Wyoming Area Intermediate Center PTO, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
7. Rachel Leandri, Broadway on the Boulevard, requesting permission to rent the auditorium, lobby, band room and chorus room for a holiday show.
8. Jennifer Bonita, Wyoming Area Field Hockey Parents Association, requesting permission to hold a Wheel Barrel of Cheer fundraiser.
9. Right to Know Request submitted for information regarding the outdoor refrigeration system at the Primary Center.

10. Right to Know Request submitted for contracts, agreements and documentation between the district and Kooth services.
11. Right to Know Request submitted for information of Wyoming Area employees.
12. Eric Fairchild, Wyoming Area Girls Soccer Parents Association, requesting permission to hold a "Kick Out Cancer" t-shirt fundraiser.
13. Caroline Kudasik, Secretary, requesting permission to take a medical leave of absence.
14. Susan Feeney, Wyoming Area Boys Basketball Parents Association, requesting permission to hold various fundraisers.

Summary of Applications Received

Cleaning – 2
Custodian – 6
Maintenance- 2
School Psychologist – 1
Title I Reading Computer Tech – 1
Food Service - 1

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Valenti asked for approval of the minutes of August 22, 2023. All board members present voted aye.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pollard read his report.

1. Thank you to our Teachers, Administration, Support Staff, Secretaries, Building and Grounds, Food Service, Bus Drivers, Staff at transportation companies on a successful school opening!
2. Congratulations to Kelly Pacelli, who was chosen by readers of the Sunday Dispatch as the Best High School Teacher!
3. Congratulations to Hannah Fairchild, Girls Soccer, she scored her 50th goal.
4. Congratulations to Randy Spencer, Varsity Football Coach on his 100th win.
5. Congratulations to Hubert Dixon for outstanding performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test in 2022. Hubert has been named Commended Student in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success.
6. I am pleased to announce that there will be efforts to re-start our Wyoming Area Foundation. The Foundation lost steam when the Pandemic hit and everyone's focus turned to addressing day to day life concerns. Reflecting on the many of the needs of the District, it is time we re-started the Foundation. If you are interested in being a part of this program that is focused on the future of the Wyoming Area School District and the communities that it services, I invite you to contact me so that we can start the process to get the Foundation running again. You can contact me via email at Superintendent@wyomingarea.org or via phone at 570-655-3733 ext. 2426.

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7. I would like to welcome Daniel Feeney as the Senior Class Student Representative and Mia Altavilla as the Junior Class Student Representative to serve on the Wyoming Area School Board. Congratulations Daniel and Mia!

Solicitor’s Report

Attorney Ferentino reported an executive session took place last week and tonight. Support negotiations, litigation and personnel issues.

Student Representative’s Report

Daniel Feeney reported: The senior class has multiple events coming up involving Homecoming. The Homecoming Pep Rally during school on Friday, where the King and Queen will be announced. The night the court will be recognized as they walk across the field before the football game. The following night, we have organized a Homecoming dance taking place in the cafeteria from 8:30 to 10:30 for grades 7-12.

Mia Altavilla reported: The junior class is holding their 1st fundraiser this Friday at the Homecoming football game. We will have a basket raffle during the first half of the game and prizes will be announced during the 3rd quarter. We are finalizing details for our annual t-shirt fundraiser for the PA vs WA game.

Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Kopko read the Treasurer’s Report.

First National Community Bank	General Fund	6,006,245.52
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	6,304.65
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	5,770.01
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	143,420.15
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	9,271.60
First National Community Bank	Purchasing Account	500.00
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust	General Fund Account	138,619.29
First National Community Bank	Series 2022 GON Account	7,905.37

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

Finance Report

Mr. Kopko read additions to the Finance Report.

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1. Berkheimer Income Tax

Earned Income Tax	464,119.21
Local Services Tax	5,996.40
Per Capita Tax	17,212.42
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>4,557.47</u>
Total:	491,885.50

State & Federal Subsidy Payments

Social Security	170,313.83
Title I- Improving Basic Programs	232,244.00
Title IV – Student Support & Academic Enrichment	13,236.44
Medicaid Admin Claims	9,656.60
Basic Education Funding	1,361,886.00
School District Special Education	278,364.00
School District Transportation	188,377.00
School District Transportation Balance Due	11,630.24
ARP ESSER III	999,977.44
ARP ESSER 2.5%	7,365.12
Property Tax Relief Payment	<u>295,513.00</u>
Total:	3,568,563.67

Local Realty Transfer Tax

Luzerne County	37,756.75
Wyoming County	<u>3,753.40</u>
Total:	41,510.15

2023 Real Estate Taxes

Paul Konopka – Wyoming Borough	625,663.23
Wayman Smith – Exeter Twp., Luzerne County	594,127.40
George Miller – West Pittston Borough	821,542.05
Robert Connors – West Wyoming Borough	716,008.19
Thomas Pizano – Exeter Borough	1,520,475.08
Carol Barzel – Exeter Twp., Wyoming County	<u>108,669.58</u>
Total:	4,386,485.53

2. Approve the September payment of \$94,926.95 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 the September payment of \$4,958.33 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for the Lighthouse Academy Dual Diagnosis Services for 2023-2024 school year.
4. Approve to ratify the payment in the amount of \$56,223.00 due to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for other related services to the Lighthouse Academy. This amount represents an advance for services for the months of July and August 2023.
5. Approve to ratify the payment in the amount of \$9,916.66 due to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for services related to the Lighthouse Academy Dual Diagnosis Program. This amount represents an advance for services for the months of July and August 2023.
6. Approve to ratify the September payment of \$69,097.00 to the West Side Career & Technology Center for the 2023-2024 school year.
7. Approve the Partial Agreement with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for Partial Hospitalization Therapeutic services for the 2023-2024 school year.

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8. Approve the appointment of Conrad Siegel Actuaries to provide services regarding compliance with Section 6055 and 6056 Employer Reporting Mandate under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The 2023 fee for the proposed consulting service is \$5,750.00.

9. Approve the step placements for the following temporary professional employees:

Nicole Dileo	Bachelors Step 5	\$42,983.00
Cordell Gresh	Bachelors Step 4	\$41,483.00

10. Approve the step placements for the following long term substitutes:

Kayla Taddai	Bachelors Step 4	\$41,483.00
Alexandria Arndt	Bachelors Step 4	\$41,483.00 (pro-rated according to the duration of assignment)

11. Approve the Settlement Agreement for student I.M.

12. Approve payments to the following vendors:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Invoice #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Description</u>
Champion Builders	App#4	1,809.00	JFK	HVAC Equipment
Mark Whitehead	App#4	6,288.57	JFK	Electrical Equipment
CM3 Building Solutions	App#2	72,567.00	WASD	Fencing
JBM Mechanical	App#4	75,651.25	JFK	Mechanical
CM3 Building Solutions	App#3	<u>114,651.00</u>	WASD	Fencing
		Total:		270,966.82

13. Approve the contract amendment of CM3 Building Solutions pending approval by the School Solicitor and Business Manager.

14. Approve the Settlement Agreement for student #3001220.

15. Approve a Mediation Settlement Agreement General Release and Waiver of All Claims Re: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission Matter No. 202201808.

16. Approve the Letter of Agreement between the Children’s Service Center of Wyoming Valley and Wyoming Area School District. Children’s Service Center will provide mental health and drug and alcohol rehabilitation services and other statutory or regulatory provisions pertaining to the Student Assistance Program (SAP).

17. Approve the general ledger account:

Bill Listing: September 2023	987,111.18	
Prepays: August 2023	<u>219,460.77</u>	1,206,571.95
Cafeteria Account:	27,969.61	
Athletic Account:	<u>10,854.20</u>	<u>38,823.81</u>
	Total:	1,245,395.76

Motion by Mr. Kopko, second by Mr. Pribula, to accept the Finance Report.

Roll Call: Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Stofko voted no on item #12 and yes on remaining report. Mr. Campenni voted no on item #12 and yes on remaining report. Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.
Motion passed.

Education Report

Mr. Butera read the Education Report in the absence of Ms. Best.

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. Accept, with regret, Katelyn Marianelli’s letter of resignation as school psychologist retroactive to September 7, 2023.
3. Approve to rescind the appointment of Danielle Milunic as learning support paraprofessional effective immediately.
4. Approve the following teachers for tenure having completed three years of satisfactory service as a temporary professional employee:

 Janine Mitkus
 Matt Finn
5. Approve the revised professional substitute teacher list for the 2023-2024 school year.
6. Approve the Tuition Reimbursements for September 2023.

**WYOMING AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
 SCHEDULE FOR TUITION REIMBURSEMENT
 SEPTEMBER, 2023**

EMPLOYEE NAME	AMOUNT TO BE REIMBURSED	
AMITIA	AMANDA	\$600.00
BARTOLI	SUSAN	\$600.00
CONFLETTI	JENNIFER	\$1,200.00
EVANS	ASHLEY	\$1,200.00
EVANS	BRANDI	\$1,800.00
FASCIANA	AMANDA	\$1,200.00
HANCZYC	ALAN	\$900.00
HIZYNSKI	CHRISTOPHER	\$600.00
HUGHES	ALEXANDRA	\$1,200.00
LOPRESTO	DANIELLE	\$900.00
MACDOUGALL	MARGUERITE	\$1,200.00
MARTINO	SARAH	\$600.00
MATOSKY	JULIE	\$1,200.00
MCDERMOTT	MICHELLE	\$1,200.00
MITKUS	JANINE	\$1,200.00
MOSCATELLI	CARLA	\$300.00
PORFIRIO	DEEDRA	\$600.00
POWERS-ORTH	JILL	\$600.00
ROMAN	NANCY	\$600.00
SELENSKI	JENNIFER	\$1,500.00
SELTZER	MELANIE	\$600.00
SOLANO	SARAH	\$600.00
STEVENS	MARIAH	\$600.00
SUPEY	JEANINE	\$1,200.00
WAGNER	COURTNEY	\$1,200.00
WARNEK	JOHN	\$300.00
WEBER	AMY	\$1,500.00
WYSOCKI	LAUREN	\$900.00
	<u>\$26,100.00</u>	

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7. Approve the Credit Adjustments submitted September 1, 2023.

Wyoming Area School District 2023/2024 Credit Adjustments Submitted 09/01/2023					
Name		From	To	Step	Columnar Increase
AMITIA	AMANDA	M+36	M+42	8	2,093.00
ANTHONY	KARA	M+30	M+36	9	1,487.00
BARTOLI	SUSAN	M	M+06	12	874.00
CONFLETTI	JENNIFER	M+48	M+60	8	2,963.00
EVANS	ASHLEY	M+12	M+24	7	1,750.00
EVANS	BRANDI	M+06	M+18	8	1,750.00
HANCZYC	ALAN	M+48	M+54	8	1,481.00
HIZYNSKI	CHRISTOPHER	M+42	M+48	9	2,093.00
HUGHES	ALEXANDRA	M+18	M+30	8	1,750.00
LEMONCELLI	ROBERT	M+36	M+42	8	2,093.00
LOMBARDO	BRITTANY	M+54	M+60	8	1,482.00
LOPRESTO	DANIELLE	M+30	M+36	8	1,487.00
MACDOUGALL	MARGUERITE	M	M+12	5	1,750.00
MARTINO	SARAH	B	B+06	6	1,733.00
MATOSKY	JULIE	M+24	M+36	8	2,361.00
MCDERMOTT	MICHELLE	M+42	M+54	8	3,574.00
MITKUS	JANINE	M+12	M+24	7	1,750.00
MOSCATELLI	CARLA	M+36	M+42	8	2,093.00
PORFIRIO	DEEDRA	M+54	M+60	12	1,482.00
POWERS-ORTH	JILL	M+06	M+12	9	876.00
SELENSKI	JENNIFER	M+12	M+24	6	1,750.00
SELTZER	MELANIE	M+36	M+42	7	2,093.00
SOLANO	SARAH	B+12	B+18	5	1,582.00
STEVENS	MARIAH	M+06	M+12	8	876.00
SUPEY	JEANINE	M+12	M+24	7	1,750.00
WAGNER	COURTNEY	B+24	M	7	4,274.00
WEBER	AMY	M+30	M+42	7	3,580.00
WYSOCKI	LAUREN	B+24	M+06	6	5,148.00
				Total	\$57,975.00

8. Approve the appointment of Michelle Harden as Co-Advisor for the Builders Club.

9. Approve the appointment of Kathleen Pryor-Rome as School Psychologist.

10. Approve the appointment of Julianna Scappaticci as Title I Reading Program Computer Technician.

11. Approve the appointment of Kaila Slack as Yearbook Advisor.

12. Approve the election of the following PSBA officers:

2024 President (one-year term)

Allison Mathis – North Hills School District

2024 Vice President (one-year term)

Sabrina Backer – Franklin Area School District

2024-2026 PSBA Treasurer (three-year term)

Karen Beck Pooley – Bethlehem Area School District

PSBA Insurance Trustees (term ends Dec. 31, 2026)

Marianne Neel

Michael Faccinetto

Secretaries Forum Steering Committee (term ends Dec. 31, 2025)

Bethanne Zeigler – Shikellamy School District

Jaime Lynn Zimerofsky – Schuylkill IU 29

Jennifer Davidson – Manheim Township School District

13. Approve a contract for Independent School Psychologist services pending approval by the School Solicitor and Business Manager.

Motion by Mr. Butera, second by Mr. Kopko, to accept the Education Report.

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

Motion passed.

Activities Report

Mr. Alberigi read the Activities Report.

1. Approve the request of Amy Saunders, Wyoming Area Intermediate Center PTO, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Krispy Kreme Sale – January
 - Spring Apparel Sale – March/April
2. Approve the request of Jennifer Bonita, Wyoming Area Field Hockey Parents Association, to hold a Wheel Barrel of Cheer fundraiser on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
3. Approve the appointments of the following assistants and volunteer coaches for the 2023-2024 winter sports season:

BOYS BASKETBALL

Ian Gilmartin- JV Coach

Ken Kopetchny – 9th Grade Coach

Tim DePriest – 8th Grade Coach

Derrick West – 7th Grade Coach

Skip Stocknick – Volunteer Coach

Alan Keisinger – Volunteer Coach

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Joe Chacke – JV Coach (split salary)

Liz Waleski – JV Coach (split salary)

Mary Price – 9th Grade Coach

Jada Sharp – 8th Grade Coach

Sara Solano (McGarry) – 7th Grade Coach

Drew Casper – Volunteer Coach

Gina Manganiello – Volunteer Coach

Ron Foy – Volunteer Coach

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Wrestling

Brian Hines – Assistant Coach
Dan Larson – JH Coach
Patrick Heck – Assist. JH Coach

Wrestling

Jude Polit-Moran – Volunteer Coach
Jaryn Polit-Moran – Volunteer Coach

Swimming

Kayla Taddei – Diving Coach

Winter Track

Mike Fanti – Volunteer Coach
Kristen Lombardo – Volunteer Coach
Ashton Ashby – Volunteer Coach
Lou DeMark – Volunteer Coach

4. Approve the request of Eric Fairchild, Wyoming Area Girls Soccer Parents Association, to hold a “Kick Out Cancer” t-shirt fundraiser on October 10, 2023.
5. Approve the request of Susan Feeney, Wyoming Area Boys Basketball Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Kalahari Basket Raffle – 10/9/23
 - Gerrity’s Bagging – 10/29/23
 - Sabatini’s Night Out – 11/14/23
 - Raffle Baskets for PA Game (to be sold at PA. basketball game) 12-1-23
 - Lottery Ticket Sale – February 2024

Motion by Mr. Alberigi, second by Mr. Supey, to accept the Activities Report.

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

Motion passed.

Building Report

Mr. Pribula read the Building Report.

1. Accept, with regret, Luke Baloga’s letter of resignation as custodian effective September 29, 2023.
2. Accept, with regret, Michael Dzedzic’s letter of resignation as maintenance employee effective October 20, 2023.
3. Approve the agreement between Wyoming Area Education Support Professionals Association and Wyoming Area School District to allow any member of the support staff to voluntarily donate one sick day to Caroline Kudasik, Secretary, during the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Accept, with regret, Melanie Vankevich’s letter of resignation as food service employee effective immediately.
5. Approve the support personnel substitute list for the 2023-2024 substitute list.

6. Approve the request of Rachel Leandri, Broadway on the Boulevard, to rent the auditorium, lobby, band room and chorus room for a holiday show on Saturday, December 16, 2023 with one show at 11:00 a.m. and another show at 4:00 p.m. Also, requesting to have a private rehearsal on Friday, December 15, 2023, 4:30 p.m. pending availability of the auditorium and approval of the building principal.
7. Approve the appointment of Margaret Robbins as a personal care aide effective for the 2023-2024 school year.
8. Approve the appointment of Mike Steinberger as (10 month) cleaner.
9. Approve the appointment of John Devine as custodian. (This item was tabled it was originally for a 10 month cleaner but changed to custodian).
10. Approve the appointment of John Brennan as Maintenance Employee.
11. Approve the appointment of Lindsey Masler as Food Service Employee.
12. Approve the appointment of Teriq Durham as custodian.
13. Approve the appointment of Noah Threatt as custodian.
14. Approve the appointment of John Englert as custodian.
15. Approve for the Wyoming Area Weight Room located on Boston Avenue in West Pittston be name the Paul J. Marranta Performance Center.
16. Approve the request of Caroline Kudasik, Secretary, to take a medical leave of absence retroactive to Monday, September 25, 2023 through January 2, 2024.

Motion by Mr. Pribula, second by Mr. Campenni, to accept the Building Report.

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

Motion passed.

Policy Report

Mr. Supey read the Policy Report.

1. Approve the first reading of new and revised policies of Volume II of 2023:

Policy 800: Records Management

Policy 830: Copy of Security of Computerized Personal Information/Breach Notification

Policy 830.1: Data Governance – Storage/Security (New Policy)

2. Approve the first reading of new and revised policies of Volume III of 2023:

Policy 006: Meetings

Policy 216.1: Supplemental Discipline Records (New Policy)

Policy 251: Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational
Instability

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Motion by Mr. Supey, second by Mr. Stofko, to accept the Policy Report.

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

Motion passed.

Open Discussion:

Mr. Supey asked why the police report was no longer a part of the minutes. Dr. Pollard responded that the police report will be listed on the website to review.

At this time, Mr. Supey made a motion to include the police report as part of the minutes. Second by Mr. Campenni.

Roll Call: Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Stofko, no, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. Pribula, no, Mr. Kopko, no, Mrs. Valenti, no, Mr. Alberigi, no.

Motion failed.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Stofko, second by Mr. Kopko.

Lara Best, President

David Alberigi, Secretary