

11964
Wyoming Area School District
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education
252 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 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. Three people of the public were in attendance. A non-public executive session preceded the meeting. Mr. Michael Supey, 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 Richard Dushok, a former employee, who passed away.

Roll Call:

- Mr. Michael Supey, President
- Mrs. Kirby Kunkle, Vice President
- Mr. David Alberigi, Secretary
- Mr. Peter Butera, Treasurer
- Mr. Philip Campenni
- Mr. Michael Kachmarsky
- Mrs. Kirby Kunkle
- Mrs. Rebecca Rutkoski
- Mrs. Mara Valenti

Also present were: Dr. Jon Pollard, Superintendent, Attorney Jarrett J. Ferentino, Solicitor, Mr. Thomas Melone, Business Consultant, David Pacchioni, Kindergarten Center Building Principal, William Wright, Primary Center Building Principal, Brian Strazdus, Intermediate Center Building Principal, Jason Jones, Network Engineer, Michael Bugelholl, Director of Facilities, Mia Altavilla, Student Representative.

Communications Report

Mr. Alberigi read additions to the Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 submitting minutes of their regular meeting of November 15, 2023.
2. Letter of resignation from Employee #20547, Emotional Support Teacher.
3. Letter of resignation from Employee #14598, Cafeteria Employee.
4. Karen Donati, Wyoming Area Baseball Parents Association, requesting to hold fundraisers.
5. Letter from Employee #13250 requesting permission to take a family leave of absence.
6. Ballots received from the LIU for Wyoming Area Board Members to elect Directors from school districts to serve on the LIU Board.
7. Ballots received from the WSC&TC for Wyoming Area Board Members to elect Directors from school districts to serve on the WSC&TC Joint Operating Committee.
8. Attorney Tom Campenni requesting permission to use the weight room and surrounding area for a ceremony honoring Coach, Paul Marranca.
9. Lindsay Dragon requesting permission to hold a Valentine's Day Social with Parenting Autism United in the Secondary Center cafeteria.
10. Attorney Bill Anzalone, on behalf of the Wilkes-Barre chapter of UNICO, requesting permission to hold the UNICO all-star charitable football game at the stadium.

11. Employee #4350, Paraprofessional, requesting permission to take a medical leave of absence.
12. Olivia Gatto, Luzerne Intermediate Unit, on behalf of the Wyoming Area Community and School Based Behavioral Health Program requesting to use the Primary Center for an in person mental health summer program.

Summary of Applications Received

Cafeteria – 2

Cleaner – 4

Assistant Principal of Discipline - 4

Special Education – 3

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Supey asked for approval of the minutes of combined board meeting of December 19, 2023. All members present voted aye.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pollard read his report.

1. **January is School Director Recognition Month honoring those who volunteer their time and talents for the betterment of public education in our community. Ms. Holmes has placed the certificates in their binders recognizing our board members for their commitment in education.**
2. **The high school Life Skills class took part in a field trip in the beginning of December. The class took a field trip to pick out their own real Christmas tree. After, they went to Walmart to pick out all of the items needed for the tree such as lights, garland, ornaments, and candy canes. When they left there, they went to enjoy lunch at Sabatini's. They had a great day out all while practicing skills they learn each day such as communication skills, money skills, safety skills, etc.**





3. Melchidek Andoh completed all 16 levels in Our Rocket Math Program. The program includes adding and subtracting learning tracks, multiplication and division learning tracks, and pre-algebra learning tracks. He was awarded with a Trophy and Certificate for his accomplishment. Melchi is the first student in WA to complete rocket match since we started this program. Great job Melchi!!!!



4. **Wyoming Area Troupe #4795 and Troupe Director, Charles Yarmey are now recognized by the Pennsylvania Thespians as a Gold Honor Troupe for their hard work and efforts for the 2022-2023 school year. Congratulations!**
5. **Congratulations to Dane Schutter on his 1000 points in basketball!**
6. **WA organized a fundraiser to assist the family of Scranton Police Officer Kyle Gilmartin, brother of Ian Gilmartin, who is our Assistant Basketball Coach. The team is wearing shirts to show their support.**
7. **The Wyoming Area Cheerleading team will be in Harrisburg to compete in the State Championship Cheerleading Finals on Thursday! Good luck!**

Solicitor’s Report

Attorney Ferentino reported the board met in executive session last week at 5:15 p.m. and tonight to discuss several personnel matters that are on the agenda, some contract interpretation and an update on two pending grievances.

Student Representative’s Report

Mia Altavilla reported on the successful Junior Semi, still accepting dress donations for future dances, they will be planning more fundraisers in the near future and are beginning to discuss prom.

Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Butera read the Treasurer’s Report.

First National Community Bank	General Fund	7,148,188.21
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	6,414.72
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	6,828.77
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	168,108.26
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	15,228.33
First National Community Bank	Purchasing Account	500.00
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust	General Fund Account	141,030.27
First National Community Bank	Series 2022 GON Account	7,905.37
First National Community Bank	Money Market Account	8,089,671.94

Exeter, PA.
January 23, 2024

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

Finance Report

Mr. Butera read additions to the Finance Report.

1. Received the following checks:

<u>Berkheimer Income Tax</u>	
Earned Income Tax	42,120.05
Local Services Tax	258.96
Per Capita Tax	1,272.44
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>4,117.79</u>
Total:	47,769.24

<u>State & Federal Subsidy Payments</u>	
Retirement	735,850.92
Title I – Improving Basic Programs	123,620.46
Title II – Improving Teacher Quality	12,054.00
Title IV- Student Support & Academic Enrichment	9,879.84
PCCD Safety & Mental Health Grant	115,193.95
PlanCon Bond Projects	95,665.89
Medical Assistance-Access	43,104.48
Basic Education Funding	1,361,886.00
IU Contributions 23-24	(25,953.26)
School District Transportation	470,943.00
ARP ESSER III	90,907.04
ARP ESSER 7%	7,065.51
ARP ESSER 2.5%	920.64
ARP ESSER Homeless Children & Youth	356.33
Non Public Transportation	<u>34,650.00</u>
Total:	3,076,144.80

<u>Local Realty Transfer Tax</u>	
Luzerne County	24,856.40
Wyoming County	<u>384.65</u>
Total:	25,241.05

<u>2023 Real Estate Taxes</u>	
Paul Konopka – Wyoming Borough	62,038.62
George Miller – West Pittston Borough	158,565.99
Thomas Pizano – Exeter Borough	244,167.23
Wayman Smith – Exeter Twp., Luzerne County	68,132.28
Robert Connors – West Wyoming Borough	62,129.29
Carol Bardzel – Exeter Twp., Wyoming County	<u>33,182.66</u>
Total:	628,216.07

<u>In Lieu of Taxes</u>	
Exeter Township Housing Project - Falls, PA.	578.85

2. Approve the January 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 January 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 January payment of \$69,097.00 to the West Side Career & Technology Center for the 2023-2024 school year.

5. Approve the following refunds for paid property taxes for the year 2023:

66-E10NE4-002-015	3,269.46
16-D11S3-002-047-000	1,641.01
16-D11S1-004-02A-000	2,261.98
16-E11SW1-014-006-000	<u>100.75</u>
Total:	7,273.20

6. Approve payments to the following vendors:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Invoice#</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Description</u>
Champion Builders	App# 6	2,000.00	JFK	HVAC (retainage)
CM3 Building Solutions	App# 4	1,265.40	WASD	Fencing
CM3 Building Solutions	App# 5	28,741.60	WASD	Fencing
CM3 Building Solutions	App# 1	83,866.95	WASD	HVAC (Non-ESSER)
CM3 Building Solutions	App# 2	80,338.95	WASD	HVAC (Non-ESSER)
CM3 Building Solutions	App# 1	169,283.70	WASD	HVAC (ESSER-Related)
CM3 Building Solutions	App# 2	<u>97,200.00</u>	WASD	HVAC (ESSER-Related)
Total:		462,696.60		

7. Approve the general ledger account:

Bill Listing: January 2024	1,624,877.92	
Prepays: December 2023	<u>96,734.45</u>	1,721,612.37
Cafeteria Account:	75,061.45	
Athletic Account:	<u>4,238.00</u>	<u>79,299.45</u>
Total:		1,800,911.82

Motion by Mr. Butera, second by Mr. Campenni, to accept the finance report.

Roll Call: Mr. Kopko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mrs. Kunkle, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mrs. Rutkoski, yes, Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Kachmarsky, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Education Report

Mr. Kachmarsky 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) have been 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, the resignation letter of employee #20547 as an emotional support teacher.
3. Approve the Resolution for Principles for Governance and Leadership.
4. Approve to appoint Rebecca Rutkoski as an alternate for the Northeast PA. School District Health Trust.

Exeter, PA.
January 23, 2024

5. Approve the request of employee #13250 to take a family leave of absence retroactive to January 11, 2024 through tentatively February 22, 2024.
6. Approve the revised professional substitute list for the 2023-2024 school year.
7. Approve termination of Sarah Kester from her employment as a special education teacher with the Wyoming Area School District effect immediately.
8. Approve Agreement Regarding Waiver of Expulsion and Stipulation for student #100371 pending approval by the school solicitor.
9. Approve the Program of Studies for secondary and middle school students for the 2024-2025 school year.
10. Approve the calendar adjustment for the 2023-2024 school year.
11. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding for cyber school special education teacher caseload.
12. Approve Agreement Regarding Waiver of Expulsion Hearing and Free Appropriate Public Education Stipulation for student #148408 and student #3002770 pending approval by the school solicitor.

Motion by Mr. Kachmarsky, second by Mr. Campenni, to accept the education report.

On the Question: Daneen Kearns, West Pittston, questioned item #10. Dr. Pollard responded June 13th won't be the last day for students, June 12th will be. Faculty and staff will be coming in on February 26th for professional development and June 10th becomes a ½ day now.

Roll Call: Mr. Kopko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mrs. Kunkle, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mrs. Rutkoski, yes, Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Kachmarsky, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Activities Report

Mrs. Rutkoski read additions to the Activities Report.

1. Approve the request of Karen Donati, Wyoming Area Baseball Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - SBC Night – 3/23/24
 - Jr. High Baseball Teams Bagging Groceries at Gerrity's – 4/7/24
2. Approve the appointments of the following assistants/volunteer coaches for the 2023-2024 spring/winter sports season:

Boys/Girls Lacrosse

Lindo Sabatini Volunteer

Wrestling

Christopher Cummings Volunteer

Tyler Lutecki Volunteer

Softball

Annie Karcutskie Asst. Jr. High Coach
Julia Kopetchny Volunteer Coach

3. Approve to rescind the appointment of Kayla Taddei as an assistant Jr. high softball coach and approve her appointment as Jr. high softball coach.

Motion by Mrs. Rutkoski, second by Mr. Campenni, to accept the activities report.

Roll Call: Mr. Kopko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mrs. Kunkle abstained on item #2 and voted yes on remaining report. Mrs. Valenti, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mrs. Rutkoski, yes, Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Kachmarsky, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Building Report

Mr. Campenni read additions to Building Report.

1. Accept, with regret, the resignation letter of employee #14598 as a cafeteria employee retroactive to January 11, 2024.
2. Approve the appointment of Daniella DeAngelo as a 10 month cleaner.
3. Approve the appointment of Mike Bestider as a 10 month floater (cleaner).
4. Approve the appointment of Kayla Dupras as a 10 month floater (cleaner).
5. Approve the appointment of Donna Rigle as a 4 hour food service employee.
6. Approve the request of Attorney Tom Campenni to use the weight room and surrounding area for a dedication ceremony to honor Coach Paul Marranta and to unveil the new sign to be installed on the facade of the weight room on Friday, July 18, 2024 starting at 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., pending approval by the athletic director.
7. Approve the request of Lindsay Dragon to hold a Valentine's Day Social with Parenting Autism United in the Secondary Center cafeteria on Saturday, February 10, 2024, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and food service director. The fee to rent the cafeteria will be waived.
8. Approve the New Story Memorandum of Understanding for Wyoming Area School District's Secondary Center to be an evacuation site.
9. Approve the request of Attorney Bill Anzalone, on behalf of the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of UNICO, to hold their annual UNICO all-star charitable football game at the stadium on Saturday, June 1, 2024, 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., pending approval by the athletic director.
10. Approve the request of Employee #4350, Paraprofessional, to take a medical leave of absence effective February 2, 2024 through April 1, 2024.

Exeter, PA.
January 23, 2024

11. Approve the request of Olivia Gatto, Luzerne Intermediate Unit, and on behalf of the Wyoming Area Community and School Based Behavioral Health Program (CSBBH) to utilize the Primary Center, room 103, room 101, the gym, cafeteria and outside playground area. This mental health summer program will run Monday through Thursday, at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for 6 weeks starting July 1st to August 7, 2024, pending approval by the building principal.

Motion by Mr. Campenni, second by Mrs. Rutkoski, to accept the building report.

Roll Call: Mr. Kopko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mrs. Kunkle, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mrs. Rutkoski, yes, Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Kachmarsky, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Policy Report

Mr. Supey stated there were no additions to the Policy Report.

1. Approve the first reading of revised and new policies of volume V of 2023:

- Policy 200: Enrollment of Students
- Policy 202: Eligibility of Nonresident Students
- Policy 217: Graduation
- Policy 254: Educational Opportunity for Military Children (new policy)
- Policy 626: Attachments
- Policy 810: Transportation

Motion by Mr. Supey, second by Mrs. Rutkoski, to accept the policy report.

Roll Call: Mr. Kopko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mrs. Kunkle, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mrs. Rutkoski, yes, Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Kachmarsky, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Police Report

Mr. Supey read the Police Report.

**Wyoming Area Police Department
Monthly Report for December 2023
Total Calls for Service**

<u>CODE</u>		<u>COUNT</u>
1532	Weapons – Possession - Knife	1
2400	Disorderly Conduct	5
2450	Harassment	4
2690	All Other Offenses – Reports	2
3400	Mental Health	1
3900	Traffic & Parking Problems	1
7501	EMS Assist	1
S2S	Safe-2-Say Reports	3
TRUA	Compulsory School Attendance	8
Total		26

Open Discussion: Mindy Stevens, West Wyoming, inquired about the status of metal detectors in elementary schools. Dr. Pollard responded that is a discussion that would come from Safety and Security and needs assessment. Dr. Pollard also informed Mrs. Stevens that parents can set up an appointment to meet to have a conversation regarding this matter.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Supey, second by Mr. Alberigi.

Michael Supey, President

David Alberigi, Secretary