

11835
Wyoming Area School District
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education
252 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, February 28, 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. Ms. Best, President of the Board, asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and to remain standing in memory of Michelle Belcastro, a retired teacher and Rita Colondo, a West Pittston Crossing Guard, who both passed away recently. Ms. Best called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:	Ms. Lara Best, President Mrs. Toni Valenti, Vice President Mr. David Alberigi, Secretary Mr. Joseph Kopko, Treasurer Mr. Philip Campenni Mr. Nick DeAngelo Mr. Leonard Pribula Mr. Gerald Stofko Mr. Michael Supey
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Also present were: Dr. Jon Pollard, Superintendent, Attorney Jarrett J. Ferentino, School Solicitor, Tom Melone, Business Consultant, Eric Speece, Secondary Center Building Principal, Brian Stradzus, Intermediate Center Building Principal, David Pacchioni, Primary Center Building Principal, Mike Bugelholl, Director of Facilities, Jason Jones, Network Engineer, Angelo Falzone, Director of Transportation/Attendance.

Communications Report

Mr. Alberigi read there were no additions to Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 submitting their regular meeting minutes of December 21, 2022.
2. West Side Career & Technology Center minutes of Joint Operating Committee of December 15, 2022.
3. Rebecca Holl, Paraprofessional, submitting her letter of resignation.
4. Ashley Moska, Teacher, requesting permission to take a maternity leave of absence.
5. Right to Know Request submitted for records regarding general data questions: air/water quality testing, COVID information and climate information.
6. Wyoming Area Kindergarten Primary Center PTO, requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for Bingo fundraiser.
7. Leonarda Sperrazza, Chorus Teacher, requesting permission to attend the PMEA Region Chorus at Williamsport Area High School along with one student.
8. Chuck Yarmey, Drama Advisor, along with the drama students requesting permission to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for a Fairy Night fundraiser.
9. Scott Skesavage, Custodian, requesting permission to extend his medical leave of absence.
10. Kimberly D'Aiello, Elementary Teacher, requesting permission to take a maternity leave of absence.

11. Robert Galella, Director of Curriculum/Assistant Elementary Principal, submitting his letter of resignation.
12. Devin Dougherty, Head Boys Varsity Soccer Coach, submitting his letter of resignation.

Summary of Applications Received

Cleaner – 2
 Cafeteria – 1
 Kindergarten Aide – 2
 Special Education - 1
 Elementary – 1

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Best asked for approval of the minutes of regular meeting of January 24, 2023. All board members voted aye.

Ms. Best asked for approval of the minutes of special meeting February 7, 2023. All board members voted aye.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pollard read his report.

1. The Primary Center was selected for an America250PA Keystone Classroom visit, a storytelling and visitation program for kindergarten through fourth grade classrooms, children's hospitals, and youth camps across the Commonwealth. Members of the America250PA team visited all Primary Center classrooms to educate them about their shared Pennsylvania story, as well as distributed their originally-designed America250PA Coloring Book and related materials.



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2. The School Wide Positive Behavior team held a glow in the dark dance party at the Intermediate Center for students who earned it with good behavior. To prepare for the Behavior Bash, the students decorated glow signs and wrote essays arguing for which songs they wanted to have played at the party.





3. Mrs. Supey's Life skills class at the Intermediate Center took a poll to see who would win the Superbowl this year. We had fun making predictions. The fun continued when Life skills went to social group with Miss Amy. She had a pizza party with a very special guest of honor (Jalen Hurts).



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4. The Friends of Rachel Club, a club found in schools nationwide and formed in memory of Rachel Scott, the first victim of the Columbine school shootings, is dedicated to creating a chain reaction of kindness as a way of preventing bullying, violence and suicide. Wyoming Area's Friend of Rachel Club worked for a month to create personalized valentines for every person at the Secondary Center. Over 1,200 valentines were cut out, decorated and hung on students' lockers and teachers' classroom doors. Administration, maintenance and cleaning personnel, cafeteria workers and social works, aides, student observers and student teachers were also included.

The Friends of Rachel wanted everyone to walk into school on Valentine's Day and feel special, respected, loved, appreciated, and a valued part of the Wyoming Area family. A contest was held and students were asked to take a selfie with their heart and post it to social media using the club's hashtag for a chance to win a \$10 Dunkin Donuts gift card. The three winners chosen for the gift cards were: Simon Pollard, Erica Gilligan and Suditi Dhanecha. Thank you to the students and club advisors: Ms. Lisa Day, Mrs. Briana Littzi, Mrs. Carmie Magyar, Mrs. Trudy McAndrew, Mrs. Kate Menta, Mrs. Kelly Pacelli, Mrs. Christine Rutledge and Mrs. Jen Sieger.



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5. I would like to congratulate Jakiyah Spellman, a 12th grade student for her nomination through the United Way of Wyoming Valley “Vision of the Valley”. Congratulations to her and her family.

Vision of the Valley

Emerging Black Student Leaders Making a Change







Jakiyah Spellman
Wyoming Area

- 6. Miss Sperrazza was recently notified that Wyoming Area received a \$500 grant from the 1st Lieutenant Jeffrey F. DePrimo Memorial Fund of the Luzerne Foundation. Miss Sperrazza applies for this grant every year to help defray the cost of sending all the Third Grade students to the Northeast PA Philharmonic Young People's Concert at the Kirby Center in Wilkes Barre. The students, along with their teachers, will attend the concert on Friday, April 21st.
- 7. Senior Caitlyn Maslar just returned from a 3 day Choral Festival (sponsored by PMEA) in Williamsport. At this festival, Caitlyn auditioned for ALL STATE CHORUS and was accepted. She will attend the PMEA ALL STATE FESTIVAL in April at Khalahari. Caitlyn will be accompanied by her choral director/teacher Miss Sperrazza.
- 8. Congratulations to Morgan Janeski of the girls basketball team, who has now officially sunk more than a thousand points as a member of the Wyoming Area Warriors basketball team.
- 9. And another shout out to the entire girls basketball team who will head to Mohegan Sun Arena on Thursday evening for their first playoff game in the district's playoff.

Solicitor's Report

Attorney Ferentino reported the board met in executive session February 21st and February 28th this evening at 5:30 p.m. to discuss ongoing support contract, negotiations with our support union, some posts on the agenda and special education litigation we have ongoing.

The student representatives were not present.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Kopko read Treasurer's Report.

First National Community Bank	General Fund	11,380,277.60
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	6,036.55
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	161,511.42
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	123,563.26
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	4,924.41
First National Community Bank	Purchasing Account	500.00
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust	General Fund Account	134,842.65
First National Community Bank	Series 2018 GON Account	226,013.84

The treasurer's report will be kept on file for audit.

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Finance Report

Mr. Kopko read the additions to the Finance Report.

1. Received the following checks:

<u>Berkheimer Income Tax</u>	
Earned Income Tax	113,564.94
Local Services Tax	1,080.02
Per Capita Tax	687.62
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>4,771.77</u>
Total:	120,104.35
<u>State & Federal Subsidy Payments</u>	
Title I – Improving Basic Programs	58,061.00
Title II – Improving Teacher Quality	7,732.07
Title IV – Student Support & Academic Enrichment	3,533.13
School District Special Education	272,115.00
ARP ESSER III	90,907.04
ARP ESSER 7%	7,065.51
ARP ESSER 2.5%	<u>920.64</u>
Total:	440,334.39
<u>Local Realty Transfer Tax</u>	
Luzerne County	50,753.53
Wyoming County	<u>1,337.70</u>
Total:	52,091.23

2. Approve the February payment of \$136,428.89 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit in accordance with the terms of the approved contract for Special Education Services and other related services for the 2022-2023 school year.
3. Approve the February payment of \$67,705.13 to the West Side Career & Technology Center for the 2022-2023 school year.
4. Approve the February payment of \$4,958.33 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for the Lighthouse Academy Dual Diagnosis Services for the 2022-2023 school year.
5. Approve the 2023-2024 Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 General Operating Budget.
6. Approve the credit adjustments effective for February 1, 2023.

Name	From	To	Step	Increase
GLATZ, MARJORIE	M+48	M+54	7	\$ 1,481.00
HARDEN, MICHELLE	M+54	M+60	17	\$ 1,482.00
HIZYNSKI, CHRISTOPHER	M+36	M+42	8	\$ 2,093.00
MATOSKY, JULIE	M+18	M+24	7	\$ 876.00
MOSES, MARLA	B+18	B+24	6	\$ 897.00
SELTZER, MELANIE	M+30	M+36	6	\$ 1,487.00
WARNEK, JOHN	M+06	M+12	5	\$ 876.00
TOTAL				<u>\$ 9,192.00</u>

7. Approve the tuition reimbursements for February 2023.

		AMOUNT TO BE REIMBURSED
COLLURA	KAYLA	\$900.00
DAY	LISA	\$600.00
GLATZ	MARJORIE	\$600.00
HARDEN	MICHELLE	\$300.00
HINES	JENNIFER	\$300.00
HIZYNSKI	CHRISTOPHER	\$600.00
LEMONCELLI	ROBERT	\$600.00
MATOSKY	JULIE	\$600.00
MOSES	MARLA	\$1,200.00
PASQUARIELLO	MICHAEL	\$300.00
ROMAN	NANCY	\$300.00
SELTZER	MELANIE	\$600.00
SOLANO	SARAH	\$300.00
WALSH	JILL	\$900.00
WARNEK	JOHN	\$600.00
WYSOCKI	LAUREN	\$600.00
		\$9,300.00

8. Approve a refund of penalty and fees for the following paid property taxes for year 2022:

66-E10SE1-008-009-000	\$145.04
66-E10SE1-008-08A-000	<u>26.05</u>
Total:	171.09

9. Approve a refund of penalty and fees for the following paid property taxes for year 2022:

67-E10SE2-002-020-000	\$179.09
65-D11SE4—010-001-000	242.15
65-D11SE4-010-009-000	<u>284.45</u>
Total:	705.69

10. Approve Lifetouch School Portrait Agreement for the 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years.

11. Approve the Letter of Agreement between Wyoming Area School District and The Meadows Psychiatric Center for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

12. Approve agreements submitted by OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services to serve as TPA for IRC Section 403(b) Salary Reduction Agreement & IRC Section 403(b) Post Severance Employer Contribution plan administration and compliance, effective March 1, 2023, subject to revision by the school solicitor and business consultant.

13. Approve Resolution calling for Charter School Funding Reform by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Area School District.

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

Keriann Balucha Masters+0 Step 4 \$51,782.00.
Marguerite MacDougall Masters+0 Step 4 \$51,782.00.
(Both Pro-rated according to start date)

15. Approve the general ledger sheet:

Bill Listing: February 2023	1,162,253.10	
Prepays: January 2023	<u>36,386.61</u>	1,198,639.71
Cafeteria Account:	150,616.01	
Athletic Account:	<u>7,870.00</u>	<u>158,486.01</u>
Total: 1,357,125.72		

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

On the Question: John Disanferdinand, West Pittston, questioned item #13, Resolution calling for Charter School Funding Reform. Attorney Ferentino responded there has been push back on how charter schools are funded and how that formula is calculated if a student of ours attends a charter school. Our board is signing on to support it along with other schools across the state.

Roll Call: Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. DeAngelo, 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, and Drugs and Alcohol) have been planned for the 2022-2023 school year. Anyone desiring information regarding these programs, contact Jon Pollard, Superintendent, at the District’s Business Office.
2. Approve the request of Ashley Moska to take a maternity leave of absence effective on or about April 28, 2023 with an anticipated return date at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Approve the Early College Program between Luzerne County Community College and the Wyoming Area School District July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2027.
4. Approve the revised guest teacher/professional substitute list for the 2022-2023 school year.
5. Approve the request of Kimberly D’Aiello to take a maternity leave of absence effective on or about May 1, 2023 with an anticipated return date at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.
6. Accept, with regret, Robert Galella’s letter of resignation as Director of Curriculum/Assistant Elementary Principal.
7. Approve the appointment of Kristen Santey as special education teacher.
8. Approve the Program of Studies for middle school and high school for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

On the Question: Mr. Supey wished Mr. Galella the best of luck on his new position. Mr. Supey stated Mr. Galella’s position is a dual role as Director of Curriculum and Instruction/Assistant Elementary Principal. The posting on the website is a stand alone Curriculum Director and an Assistant Elementary Principal/Assistant Special Education Director. Stephanie Anuzewski was hired as a Special Education Director and doesn’t need an assistant. She is doing a great job with the money she is being paid.

- 9. Mr. Supey made a motion to keep our administration structure the way that it is: Director of Curriculum and Instruction/Assistant Elementary Principal and rescind the two job postings on the Wyoming Area website. Second by Mr. Pribula because the funds could be freed up to vote for other things like the activities, sports, etc.

Roll Call: Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. DeAngelo, yes, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, no, Mrs. Valenti voted no on item #9 and yes on the remaining report. Mrs. Valenti stated more discussion is needed. Ms. Best voted no on item #9 and yes on remaining report. She stated more discussion is needed and also changes that we’re going to be doing at Wyoming Area with the curriculum, we need to have those two separate entities. Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Activities Report

Mr. Alberigi read the additions to the Activities Report.

- 1. Approve the request of Narda Sperrazza, Chorus Teacher, to attend the PMEA Regional Chorus, along with a student, at Williamsport Area High School, February 22, 2023 to February 24, 2023. Cost for registration, lodging and meals is \$266.00.
- 2. Accept, with regret, Devin Dougherty’s letter of resignation as Head Boys Varsity Soccer Coach for the 2023-2024 season.
- 3. Approve the appointments of the following assistant coaches and volunteer coaches for the 2022-2023 spring sports season:

Baseball

Sam Parente	Assistant Coach
Dylan Melberger	Junior High Coach
Paul Angeli	7/8 Grade Coach
Rob Lemoncelli, Sr.	Volunteer Coach
Justin Martinelli	Volunteer Coach
Pat McGinty	Volunteer Coach
Matthew Wright	Volunteer Coach
Jake Hogan	Volunteer Coach
Geoff Baumes	Volunteer Coach

Boys Lacrosse

Lindo Sabatini	Volunteer Coach
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Girls Lacrosse

Rob Switzer	Volunteer Coach
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Softball

Dean Carey	Assistant Coach
Nicole Turner (Thomas)	Junior High Coach
Kayla Taddei	Assistant Junior High Coach

Tennis

Joe Skrip	Volunteer Coach
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Track & Field

Mike Fanti	Assistant Coach
Kristen Lombardo	Assistant Coach
Ashton Ashby	Assistant Coach
Lou DeMark	Junior High Coach
Jason Speece	Junior High Coach
Elizabeth Waleski	Junior High Coach
Randy Spencer	Volunteer Coach
Ron D'Eliseo	Volunteer Coach
Bree Bednarski	Volunteer Coach
Drew Bednarski	Volunteer Coach
Mark Farrell	Volunteer Coach
Janine (Smith) Mitkus	Volunteer Coach

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

Mr. Supey motioned to amend item #3 to approve Geoff Baumes as a Junior Varsity Baseball Coach. Second by Mr. DeAngelo.

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

Motion passed.

Roll Call on Activities Report: Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. DeAngelo, yes, Mr. Pribula, Yes, Mr. Kopko, yes except for motion of coach, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Ms. Best, yes except for motion of coach, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Building Report

Mr. Pribula read additions to the Building Report.

1. Accept, with regret, Rebecca Holl's letter of resignation as a paraprofessional retroactive to February 3, 2023.
2. Approve the request of the Wyoming Area Kindergarten Primary PTO to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for a bingo fundraiser on Sunday, April 23, 2023, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., pending approval by the building principal and food service director.
3. Approve the request of Chuck Yarmey, Drama Advisor, along with the drama students to use the Secondary Center cafeteria for Fairytale Night fundraiser on Saturday, March 18, 2023 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Drama students will dress up as fairytale characters. There will be face painting, snacks and activities. Pending approval by the building principal and food service director.
4. Approve the revised support personnel substitute list for the 2022-2023 school year.

5. Approve the request of Scott Skesavage, Custodian, to extend his medical leave of absence through approximately July 31, 2023.
6. Approve the appointment of Bonnie Moughan as kindergarten aide.
7. Approve the appointment of Tariq Dunham as 10 month cleaner.
8. Motion to authorize Quad 3 to explore cost effect piping options for a change order on HVAC.
9. Approve contract with NRG for HVAC system upgrades at the Kindergarten Center at a cost of no more than \$18,500.00.
10. Approve the MOU between Wyoming Area School District and United Way of Wyoming Valley to establish a nurse pantry at the district's elementary buildings.

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

On the Question: Mr. Campenni asked if the board could look at the fencing around the football field, maybe getting some bids to replace it before track & field season and graduation. Dr. Pollard responded that we already met with a person to start constructing the bid package. So, hopefully in the next two to three weeks we'll have that.

Roll Call: Mr. Stofko, no on item #8, yes on remaining report, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. DeAngelo, abstained on item #8, yes on remaining report, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Ms. Best, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Policy Report

Mrs. Valenti read the Policy Report.

1. Approve the second reading of revised Volume IV policies of 2022:

Policy# 200 Enrollment of Students

Policy# 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students

Policy# 203 Immunizations and Communicable Diseases

Policy# 204 Attendance

Policy# 217 Graduation

Policy# 221 Dress and Grooming

Policy# 233 Suspension & Expulsion

Policy# 251 Students Experiencing Homelessness Foster Care & Other Educational
Instability

Policy# 810 Transportation

2. Approve the second reading of revised Volume V policies of 2022:

Policy# 610 Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation

Policy# 611 Purchases Budgeted

Policy# 626 Procurement-Federal Programs Attachment

3. Approve the second reading and adoption of Policy #701.1 Facilities Naming.

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Motion by Mrs. Valenti, second by Mr. Campenni, to accept the policy report.

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

Motion passed.

Police Report

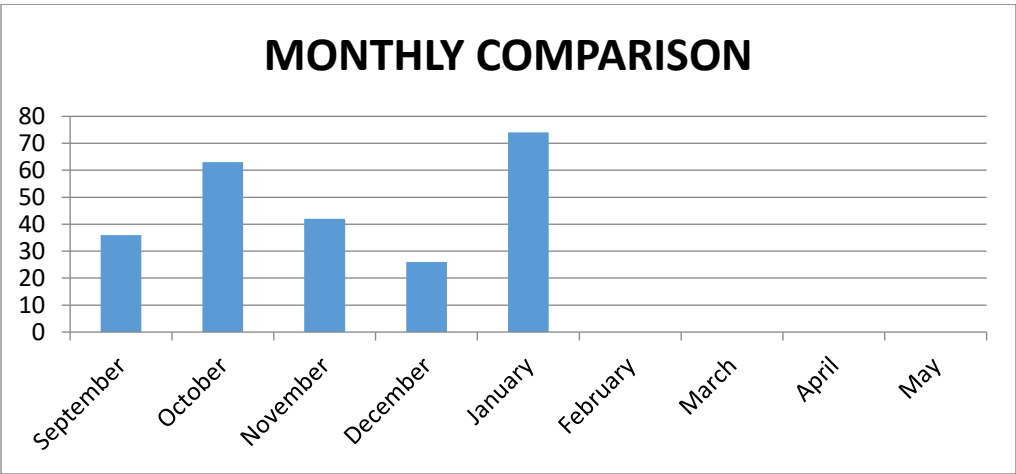
Mr. Kopko read the Police Report.

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

<u>CODE</u>		<u>COUNT</u>
0002	Transport	1
2400	Disorderly Conduct	4
2450	Harassment	11
2480	Juvenile Petition Filed	1
2601	Use of Tobacco in Schools	8
2660	Trespassing of Real Property	2
2664	All Other Offenses – All Other (Misc.)	2
2890	Curfew & Loitering (Juvenile) – Reports	4
2910	Lost/ Missing Property	3
3100	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1
3400	Mental Health	1
3610	Disturbances - Juvenile	1
3870	Medical Emergency	3
3900	Traffic & Parking Problems	3
4010	Traffic Offenses	1
4090	Non-Criminal – Reports	1
7016	Follow Up Information	8
7502	Assist Fire Department	1
7504	Assist Other Agencies – Other Police	5
7506	Assisting Other Agencies –All Others	3
TRUA	Compulsory School Attendance	10
Total		74

Monthly Comparison

<u>December Calls for Service</u>	<u>January Calls for Service</u>	<u>Plus/Minus Comparison</u>
26	74	+48



Open Discussion:

- Walt Stevens, West Wyoming – Parents saying Primary Center Library losing funding and shutting down next year.
- Kyleigh Hutchins, West Pittston – Staff members attacking musical instructors on social media and hearing rumors that the band may not be coming back next year.

- John Disanferdinand, West Pittston – Facebook group and what can be discussed and not discussed. Dr. Pollard responded he will talk to anyone if needed. Mr. Disanferdinand questioned why the public cannot vote only the board voted (Nick DeAngelo’s position). Attorney Ferentino explained that a statute applies her for Porfirio’s resignation. Nick will serve out until the next municipal election and then somebody will run in the general public and fill the rest of that term.
- Logan Tomser, Exeter – Was told there is a chance there won’t be a marching band next year. Ms. Best responded she was in the band, spoke very highly of the band and would never want to see the band go away. Dr. Pollard asked both, Kayleigh and Logan to come talk to him.

Ms. Best acknowledge three young girls in the audience and how vocal they were reciting the Pledge of Allegiance earlier.

There will be a combined board meeting on March 21, 2023.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Alberigi, second by Mrs. Valenti.

Lara Best, President

David Alberigi, Secretary