

11904
Wyoming Area School District
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education
252 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, July 25, 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 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

- Ms. Lara Best, President
- Mrs. Toni Valenti, Vice President
- Mr. David Alberigi, Secretary
- Mr. Joseph Kopko, Treasurer
- Mr. Philip Campenni (attended virtually)
- 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, Stephanie Anuszewski, Director of Special Education, Mike Bugelholl, Director of Facilities.

Partial Education Report

1. Approve the appointment of Peter Butera to fill the vacancy on the school board. Seconded by Mr. Kopko.

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

Magisterial District Judge, Joseph Carmody, swore in Mr. Butera.

Communications Report

Mr. Alberigi read additions to Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 submitting their regular meeting minutes of May 24, 2023.
2. West Side Career & Technology Center minutes of Joint Operating Committee of May 22, 2023.
3. Sharon Hollister, Wyoming Area Music Sponsors, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
4. Ashley Moska requesting permission to extend her maternity leave.
5. Wyoming Area Lacrosse Boys/Girls Parents Association requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
6. Katelyn Yanora, Wyoming Area Volleyball Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.

7. Molly Kearns, Wyoming Area Boys Soccer Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
8. Mindy Stevens, Wyoming Area Kindergarten/Primary Center PTO, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
9. Right to Know Request submitted for winter coaching applications for the 2023-2024 season, specifically swim coaching applications.
10. Right to Know Request submitted for complete budgets and expenditures for each individual sport in the district.
11. Jennifer Bonita, Wyoming Area Field Hockey Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
12. Lucy Obrzut, Wyoming Area Senior Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
13. Marylee Rishko, Cleaner, submitting her letter of intent to retire.
14. Kimberly D’Aiello, 2nd Grade Teacher, requesting permission to take a sabbatical leave for the 2023-2024 school year.
15. Louis Palmeri, Wyoming Area Class of 1973, requesting permission to tour the Intermediate Center along with classmates for their 50th High School Reunion.

Summary of Applications Received

Title I Aide/Level II Clerical Aide – 4

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Best asked for approval of the minutes of June 27, 2023. All board members voted aye.

Superintendent’s Report Dr.

Pollard read his report.

 **SPORTS SPRING WRAP –UP**

- *Boys Lacrosse - The goal this year was to make the playoffs and they met that goal. Their record was 5-11. They had some milestones this year, Juniors TJ Kearns and Ben Byers both reached 100 points for their career, as well as Bryce Harry reaching 400 Career saves.*
- *Track and Field Boys and Girls – Won the WVC Division 2 Championship with another undefeated season. ○ Baseball – The team played baseball down the stretch. With a good mix of youth and experience, we look forward to continuing to build a winning culture.*
- *Varsity Softball – Had a successful seasoning picking up 7 more wins than the 2022 season. The team was led by 6 seniors and 10 underclassmen who developed throughout the season. 2024 looks to be a productive season as well.*
 - *Tennis - Boys exceeded expectations by running up a 10-0 record, Beating Sem for the first time in School history, and it setup a conference championship matchup against Dallas (both were 10-0); we lost a close one 3-2;*

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Then went 1-1 in TEAM districts winning the Bronze Medal; Our #1 District singles seed(Sophomore Luca Argenio received a #6 seeding in District Singles) went to Single Quarterfinals before being defeated by the eventual Gold Medalist from Scranton Prep; Our Boys District Doubles entry, Dylan Stoss and Luca Argenio(received a #6 seed in the tourney) swept the first days matches, upsetting the 4th seeded North Pocono (it was the only upset in the entire doubles Tournament); the next day they lost a close Semifinal match vs Sem (7-6, 7-5) and won Bronze in doubles. Our 1st Doubles team finished the Regular season undefeated 11-0; Braidon Kostik/Gabe Cable. Down side to this great season is we graduated 6 of 7 starters, but we do have 5 talented players returning. A lot of Firsts this year in Boys and Girls Tennis and hope to bring the School more firsts in the future.

🚩 ORIENTATION DATES ○ August 21 – Intermediate Center @ 6:00 pm ○ August 22 Primary Center @ 6:00 pm ○ August 28 – Secondary Center @ 6:00 pm ○ August 29 – 30 - 31 – Kindergarten Center @ 6:00 pm

Solicitor’s Report

Attorney Ferentino reported executive sessions were held July 18th and tonight July 25th and discussed support negotiations, collective bargaining agreement, a grievance resolution and special education matters.

Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Kopko read Treasurer’s Report.

First National Community Bank	General Fund	6,245,699.66
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	6,238.76
First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	30,381.56
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	138,250.08
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	688.45
First National Community Bank	Purchasing Account	500.00
Pennsylvania Local General Government Investment Trust	Fund Account	137,440.93
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 additions to the Finance Report.

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1. Berkheimer Income Tax

Earned Income Tax	33,220.83
Local Services Tax	443.90
Per Capita Tax	20.89
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>439.08</u>
Total:	34,124.70

State & Federal Subsidy Payments

Retirement	901,259.18
Title I – Improving Basic Programs	58,061.00
Title IV – Student Support & Academic Enrichment	3,533.13
Section 1305 & 1306	73,628.51
Medical Assistance-Access	55,373.37
Health Services	39,479.84
Basic Education Funding	2,415,448.90
IU Transportation Recovery 21-22	(60,597.32)
APS rev SY 21-22	(29,190.33)
APS rev SY 20-21	71.26
PRRI 21-22	(3,348.45)
School District Special Education	453,466.16
School District Transportation	478,031.65
ARP ESSER III	90,907.04
ARP ESSER 7%	7,065.51
Non Public Transportation	<u>32,917.00</u>
Total:	4,516,106.45

Local Realty Transfer Tax

Luzerne County	17,758.12
Wyoming County	<u>2,796.10</u>
Total:	20,554.22

2022 Real Estate Taxes (Supplement)

Thomas Pizano – Exeter Borough	3,577.09
George Miller – West Pittston Borough	183.64
Wayman Smith – Exeter Twp., Luzerne County	997.81
Paul Konopka – Wyoming Borough	242.41
Robert Connors – West Wyoming Borough	<u>9.18</u>
Total:	5,010.13

2. Approve the July 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 July payment of \$69,097.00 to the West Side Career & Technology Center for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Approve the agreement between Wyoming Area School District and Luzerne Intermediate Unit for Community and School Based Behavioral Health Teams IBHS Services: Group & Individual for the 2023-2024 school year.
5. Approve retroactively the Addendum to Contract -Tennis Court LSA Agreement for Grant Money between the Wyoming Area School District and Grace Industries.

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6. Approve a required written notice to terminate the June 30, 2014 Healthy Vending Machine Reservation, Placement & Operations Agreement between Wyoming Area School District and Kornfeld Healthy Vending, Inc.
7. Approve a refund of \$11.48 of paid property taxes to #17-A10-00A-40A-000 for the 2022-2023 tax year.
8. Approve a refund of \$93.07 of paid property taxes to #16-E10SE2-002-01A-000 for the 2022-2023 tax year.
9. Approve a refund of \$57.03 of paid property taxes to #17-B10-00A-11G-000 for the 2022-2023 tax year.
10. Approve to authorize the business manager to prepare and submit appropriate paperwork and documents to secure a tax anticipation note pending final approval by the superintendent and school solicitor.
11. Approve the following payments:

Vendor	Invoice #	Amount	Location	Description
JBM Mechanical	App#2	42,570.00	JFK	HVAC
Mark Whitehead Electrical Contractor	App#2	8,866.26	JFK	HVAC
JBM Mechanical	App#3	75,600.00	JFK	HVAC
Champion Builders	App#3	13,272.30	JFK	HVAC
CM3 Building Solutions	App#1	<u>70,191.00</u>	WASD	Fencing
		Total: 140,308.56		

12. Approve the Settlement Agreement for student #148204.
13. Approve Letter of Agreement for Professional Development Services between Wyoming Area School District and Kimberly Walck. Payment will be with appropriate federal funding.
14. Approve Amendment to the Administrator Compensation Plan (Act 93) for William Wright, Elementary School Principal, at a salary of \$80,000.00 as of July 1, 2023, pro-rated based on start date and to increase the pay of Brian Strazdus, Elementary School Principal, to \$82,786.35, effective July 1, 2023.
15. Approve to authorize Betsy O'Malley, Food Service Director, to complete application and necessary paperwork to continue Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) pending final approval by the Superintendent, School Solicitor and Business Manager.
16. Approve the client representation agreement to join the potential litigation against social media platform for nuisance and other damages.
17. Approve the general ledger account:

Bill Listing:	July 2023	448,264.50	
Prepays:	June 2023	<u>278,172.66</u>	726,437.16
Cafeteria Account:		8,109.82	
Athletic Account:		<u>1,039.77</u>	<u>9,149.59</u>
		Total:	735,586.75

18. Approve to settle the grievance to extend the collective bargaining agreement to 2025 and to amend Article 9 of the current agreement Section 11.

Motion by Mr. Kopko, second by Ms. Best to approve item #18.

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.

On the question: Vanessa Smith, Exeter, asked for item #15 to be explained. Dr. Pollard responded it is a calculation in a program that allows for free breakfast and lunch to students per day. Mrs. Smith questioned item #16. Attorney Ferentino responded educational institutions like ours are seeking the opportunity to recoup what they are claiming are damages as a result of things that have gone on such as bullying, depression and high suicide rates so we'd be joining that class, actually a lot of the districts across the country. It's all social media platforms.

John Bonin, West Wyoming, questioned the fencing for stadium and asked where the funds came from. Mr. Melone responded in April or May meeting a contract with CM3 was approved.

Roll Call: Mr. Butera abstained, 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 the 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 the request of Ashley Moska to extend her maternity leave of absence date to November 13, 2023.
3. Approve the appointment of Amy Kosco as Yearbook Advisor for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. Approve the revised appointments for the Cyber School Program for the 2023-2024 school year pending student enrollment:

Trudy McAndrew
Paula Cecil
Mike Fanti
Ashley Evans
Melissa Dolman
Dennis Hando
Christine Rutledge
Molly Kearns

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Damien Rutkoski
Carmen Latona (if needed)
Maureen Pikas (if needed)
Ed Grivensky (if needed)
Chris Hizynski (if needed)
Sarah Latona (if needed)

5. Approve the appointment of Terri Bugelholl as Occupational Therapist.
6. Approve the appointment of Holly Rishko as 1/2 day Title I Aide/1/2 day Level II Clerical Aide.
7. Approve the request of Kimberly D’Aiello, 2nd Grade Teacher, to take a sabbatical leave for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion by Ms. Best, second by Mr. Pribula, to accept the education report.

On the Question: Kathy Chuzas, Harding, asked what the purpose was of the district needing an Occupational Therapist. Dr. Pollard responded that we have students with specific needs and qualify for an occupational therapist required under Title 14, IDEA, under the special education legislation. Mrs. Anusweski also stated we are obligated to provide these services for them to be successful during the school day. We have a plethora of students to meet those needs so instead of contracting out we brought someone on staff to meet those needs.

Roll Call: Mr. Butera abstained, Mr. Stofko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mr. Pribula, yes, Mr. Kopko, yes, Mrs. Valenti abstained on item #5 and yes on remaining report. Ms. Best, yes, Mr. Alberigi, yes.

Motion passed.

Activities Report

Mr. Alberigi read additions to Activities Report.

1. Approve the request of Molly Kearns, Wyoming Area Boys Soccer Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Kettel’s mum sale – end of August through end of September Bagging for Charity at Gerrity’s.
2. Approve the request of the Wyoming Area Girls/Boys Lacrosse Parents Association to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Gerrity’s bagging
 - Boden Clothes Sale
 - Sell Gatorade/water/hot dogs/snacks during home games at 10th St.
 - LAX Camp Days (2 different sessions) Fall and Spring in Secondary Gym or 10th St.
 - Sr. Night Games for girls/boys at WA stadium
 - Sr. Night Games- Sell water/Gatorade/snacks/candy at WA Football Stadium
 - Sabatini’s Parents Fundraising Night – over 21
 - Susquehanna Brewery Parents Fundraising- over 21
 - Fundraising Ticket Sales for Basket of Cheer, Cornhole Sets Sale and Calendar Fundraising during season by date or month

- Cornhole Tournament – over 21
 - Blast-Online/Email Fundraising
3. Approve the request of Katelyn Yanora, Wyoming Area Volleyball Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:
- Krispy Kreme
 - Apparel Sale
 - Wagon of Cheer – over 21
 - Sabatini's Night Out
 - Kalahari ticket give away
4. Approve the request of Sharon Hollister, Wyoming Area Music Sponsors, to hold the following fundraisers:
- Country Meats meat stick fundraiser – September through November 2023
 - Designer Purse Bingo – February 4, 2024 (Snow Date is 2/18/24)
5. Approve the request of Mindy Stevens, Wyoming Area Kindergarten/Primary Center PTO, to hold the following fundraisers:
- Spirit West Sale, Mad Tees
 - Flower Sale, Tobins
 - Smencils Sale
 - T-shirt, bow and magnet sale at get acquainted nights
6. Approve the request of Jennifer Bonita, Wyoming Area Field Hockey Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:
- Online Snapraise fundraiser – Month of September
 - Bagging at Gerrity's – September 3rd and September 8th
 - Panera Night Restaurant fundraiser – August 21st- 4-8 pm
 - Sabatini's Night – September 19th
 - Booyah Burgers & Bites Night – October 5th
7. Approve the request of Lucy Obrzut, President of Wyoming Area Senior Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:
- Meat Fundraiser – September or October
 - Stand/Table at football games – September 15- Bake Sale and Popcorn Sale
October 27 -Basket Raffle
 - Basket of Cheer
 - T-shirt Sale
 - Flower Sales
 - Popcorn Sales
 - Candy Grams
 - Basket Raffles

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8. Approve the following appointments for the following assistant coaches for the 2023-2024 Fall sports season:

Brian Shandra	Assistant Varsity Boys Soccer Coach
Brett Kostik	Junior High Soccer Coach
Nicholas Sommons	Junior High Cross Country Coach

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

Roll Call: Mr. Butera abstained, 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 the Building Report.

1. Approve the water management contract with Main Line Commercial Pools at a monthly cost of \$1,500.00, for the 2023-2024 school year, subject to final approval by school solicitor.
2. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Marylee Rishko as a cleaner retroactive to July 19, 2023.
3. Approve payment of \$4,950.00 to All American Athletics, LLC, for the gymnasium floor.
4. Approve revisions to job description for Learning Support Paraprofessional (formally Learning Support Aide) and Personal Care Aide (PCA) pending final approval by the school solicitor, special education director and superintendent.
5. Approve the request of Louis Palmeri, Wyoming Area Class of 1973, to tour the Intermediate Center along with classmates for their 50th High School Reunion, on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 11:30 a.m., pending approval by the building principal.

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

Roll Call: Mr. Butera abstained, 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:

- Mr. Price, Falls -Raising Taxes.
- Rob Switzer, West Pittston – The Girls Lacrosse were not included in Superintendent’s Report.
- Kathy Chuzas, Harding – Kooth.
- Vanessa Smith, Exeter – Low number of students for summer enrichment classes.
- Erica Gazda, Exeter – How the board chose to fill vacancy on the board.

To listen to the meeting in its entirety, log on to the Wyoming Area website’s Youtube Channel.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 on a motion by Ms. Best, second by Mr. Kopko.

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Lara Best, President

David Alberigi, Secretary

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