

11352
Wyoming Area School District
Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education
252 Memorial Street, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 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. Approximately twenty people of the public were in attendance. A non-public executive session preceded the meeting. Mr. Philip Campenni, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of silence for Frank Pugliese, a former employee of the district that passed away.

Roll Call:

Mr. Philip Campenni, President
Mr. Peter Butera, Vice President
Mr. David Alberigi, Secretary
Mr. Joseph Kopko, Treasurer
Mrs. Erica Gazda
Mr. Michael Kachmarsky
Mrs. Kirby Kunkle
Mr. Michael Supey
Mrs. Mara Valenti

Also present were: Dr. Jon Pollard, Superintendent, Attorney Jarrett J. Ferentino, District Solicitor, Mr. Thomas Melone, Business Consultant, Eric Speece, Secondary Center Building Principal, David Pacchioni, Kindergarten Center Building Principal, Brian Strazdus, Intermediate Center Building Principal, William Wright, Principal of Primary Center, Doug Piazza, Principal of Discipline, Jason Jones, Technology Director, Denai Dymond and Mia Altavilla, Student Representatives.

Communications Report

Mr. Alberigi read additions to the Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 submitting their meeting minutes of January 22, 2025.
2. West Side Career & Technology Center Joint Operating Committee submitting their minutes of January 27, 2025.
3. Nikki Milcavage, Wyoming Area Boys Baseball Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
4. Kim Gittens, Wyoming Area Intermediate Center PTO, requesting permission to hold a fundraiser.
5. Trudy McAndrew, Math Teacher, requesting permission to attend the 2025 Governor's STEM Competition State Finals along with four students at State College, PA.
6. Employee #20464 submitting a letter of intent to retire.
7. Employee #20091 submitting a letter of intent to retire.
8. Employee #20435 requesting permission to extend a medical leave of absence.
9. Employee #14051 submitting a letter of intent to retire.
10. Employee #1570 submitting a letter of intent to retire.

- 11. Right to Know Request submitted for score sheets from cheerleading judges and communications between administration, cheerleading coach and special education director regarding accommodations for a student during the tryout process.
- 12. Right to Know Request for documents related to District Board Meeting Minutes or policies for posting the minutes to the website or making available to taxpayers.
- 13. Right to Know Request for a copy of a listing of all Wyoming Area District employees’ names, e-mail addresses’, title/positions and primary campus/department location.
- 14. Employee #2825 requesting permission to extend medical leave of absence.

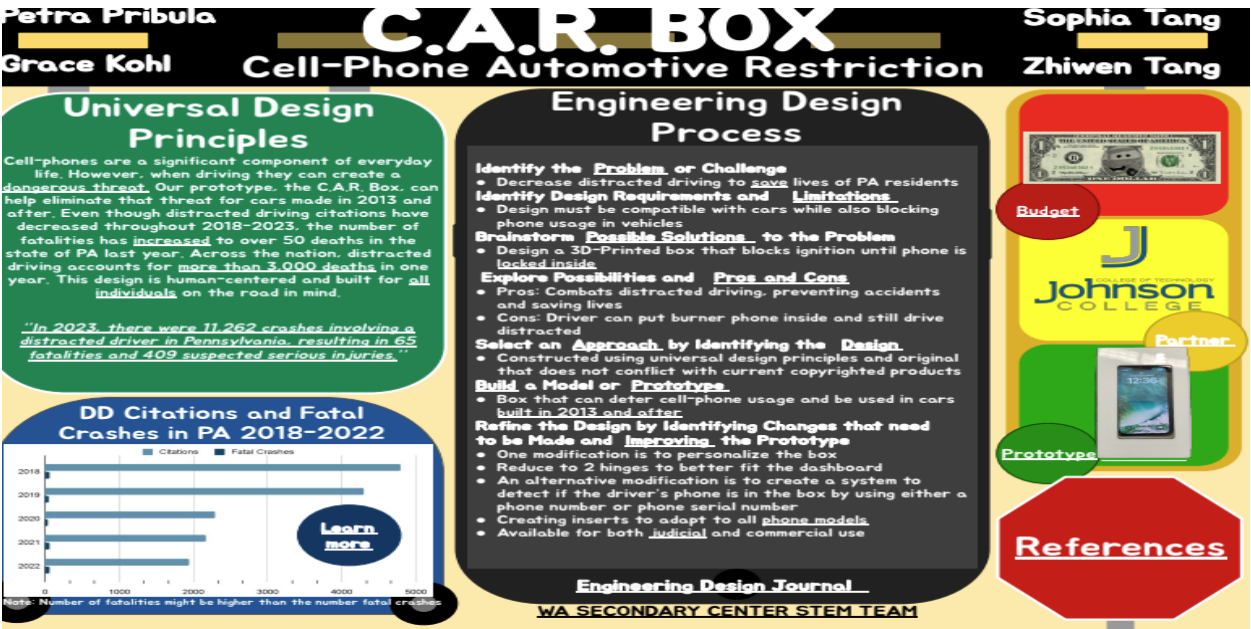
Summary of applications received
Level II Administrative Assistant - 9

Approval of Minutes
Mr. Campenni asked for approval for the minutes of combined meeting of January 21, 2025. All board members present voted aye. The January minutes were already approved at the board meeting in February. February minutes will be approved in the April board meeting.

Superintendent’s Report
Dr. Pollard introduced the STEM team who demonstrated their project for their upcoming state level competition along with their advisor Mrs. Trudy McAndrew. They are one of the top teams of the state to go to this competition. The following students are: Petra Pribula, Grace Kohl, Sophia Tang and Zhiwen Tang.

They demonstrated a C.A.R. Box that would lock your cell phone in it when the car is started preventing you from talking on the phone while driving.

- 1. Please welcome our STEM Team who have a demonstration for us.
- 2. Please see the digital poster that the STEM team submitted. All information is connected via links on the poster. They are currently researching to apply for patent.



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3. On February 11th, the Primary Center celebrated 100 days of school with school wide bingo. Multiple students won and earned prizes. To go along with the 100 days theme, we collected items for Blue Chip Animal Refuge. Our goal was to collect 100 items per class. We collected an amazing 1600 items. Blue Chip was extremely grateful. On behalf of Blue Chip and the faculty and staff at the primary center, thank you families for your generosity. Please see response from Blue Chip.



4. Primary Center's Junior Deputy for the month of February was Brielle Gallagher. She has shown strong leadership skills, classroom independence, kindness and compassion towards others, and willingness to help and share with her classmates. Great job Brielle
5. During the week of March 3rd to the 7th, Read Across America was celebrated. High school students from baseball, field hockey, basketball and national honor society read to our Primary Center students. Tux, from the Wilkes-Barre-Scranton Penguins hockey team made an appearance at the school. Throughout the week, students dressed in crazy socks, favorite hats, and sports shirts. To end the week's long celebration, guest readers from the community read to classes.

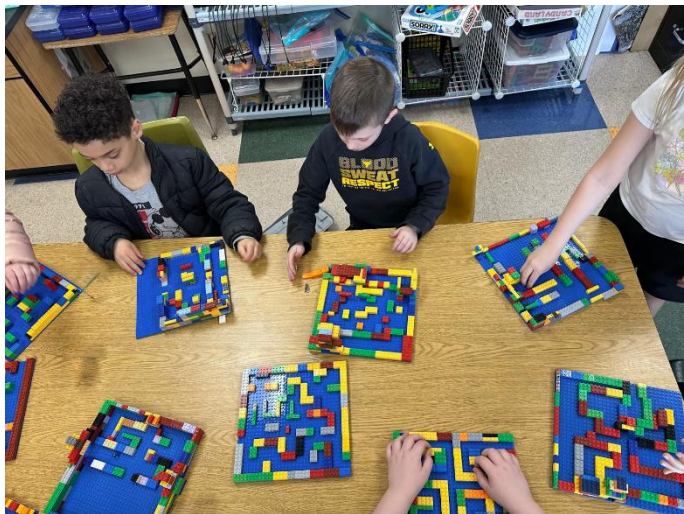


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6. CDE Exotics Reptiles came to the Primary Center for an assembly. Students learned about various reptiles and had the opportunity to pet them as well. Thank you to our SWBIS team for sponsoring this event.
7. Our After School Programs have started, this is from STEAM, weeks 1 and 2. This is Lego marble maze and slime





Solicitor’s Report

Attorney Ferentino reported that an executive session was held last week before the work session and tonight to discuss ongoing personnel matters and the first professional negotiation session will begin in April.

Student Representative’s Report

Denai Dymond, Junior, reported that the junior class just finished their Crispy Crème fundraiser which raised around \$1,000 for their junior class and they are currently helping the senior class with the prom.

Mia Altavilla, Senior, reported the prom will be held on April 25th at the casino. They are still finalizing all the details and they will be holding a junior/senior class meeting this Friday. The senior class colors have been decided and are blue/teal and silver. The flower is the tulip and yard signs for the seniors have been distributed.

Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Kopko read the Treasurer’s Report.

Peoples Security Bank & Trust	General Fund	6,801,275.97
Peoples Security Bank & Trust	Payroll Account	6,887.55
Peoples Security Bank & Trust	Cafeteria Account	19,223.82
Peoples Security Bank & Trust	Student Activities Account	156,469.43
Peoples Security Bank & Trust	Athletic Fund Account	4,634.70
Peoples Security Bank & Trust	Purchasing Account	500.19

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Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust	General Fund Account	149,206.85
Peoples Security Bank & Trust	Series 2022 GON Account	889,043.58
Peoples Security Bank & Trust	Money Market Account	5,233,204.89

Finance Report

Mr. Butera read additions to the Finance Report.

1. Received the following checks:

<u>Berkheimer Income Tax</u>	
Earned Income Tax	499,026.32
Local Services Tax	4,559.75
Per Capita Tax	358.12
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>3,035.89</u>
	Total: 506,980.08
<u>State & Federal Subsidy Payments</u>	
Social Security	193,934.63
Title I – Improving Basic Programs	119,014.50
Title II – Improving Teacher Quality	13,894.66
Title IV – Student Support & Academic Enrichment	10,056.16
PCCD Safety & Mental Health Grant	53,834.12
Basic Education Funding	1,403,354.00
Stronger Connections Grant	<u>270,935.08</u>
	Total: 2,065,023.15
<u>Local Real Estate Transfer Tax</u>	
Luzerne County	14,840.86

2. Approve the March payment of \$82,733.06 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit in accordance with the terms of the approved contract for Special Education Services and other related services for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. Approve the March payment of \$4,958.33 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit for the Lighthouse Academy Dual Diagnosis Services for 2024-2025 school year.
4. Approve to ratify the March payment of \$69,742.73 to the West Side Career & Technology Center for the 2024-2025 school year.
5. Approve the Luzerne Intermediate Unit’s Notice of Adoption of Approved LEA Policies and Procedures and Use of Funds by Wyoming Area School District for 2025-2026 school year.
6. Approve Letter of Agreement between The Meadows Psychiatric Center and Wyoming Area School District for the 2025-2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years pending final approval by the district solicitor.
7. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Yondr, Inc., regarding Phone Pouches, pending approval by the superintendent, business manager and district solicitor.
8. Motion to approve Request For Proposals for Athletic Training Services.

9. Approve the general ledger account:

Bill Listing: March 2025	1,299,860.37	
Prepays: February 2025	<u>141,644.53</u>	1,441,504.90
Cafeteria Account:	89,298.71	
Athletic Account:	<u>4,753.00</u>	<u>94,051.71</u>
Total: 1,535,556.61		

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

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

Motion passed.

Education Report

Mrs. Gazda 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 2024-2025 school year. Anyone desiring information regarding these programs, contact Dr. Jon Pollard, Superintendent, at the District’s Business Office.
2. Approve the appointment of Gabrielle Furner as long term substitute retroactive to October 17, 2024 through the end of the 2024-2025 school year, at the step placement of Bachelors +24, Step 4, \$47,686.00. (pro-rated according to the duration of assignment)
3. Approve the revised professional substitute list for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. Accept, with regret, Employee #1570 submitting a letter of intent to retire effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.
5. Approve the request of employee #2825 to extend a medical leave of absence to May 16, 2025. Return date will be May 19, 2025.
6. Approve contract for Katelyn Moore, School Psychologist, effective April 1, 2025 to December 30, 2025, pending final approval by the superintendent and district solicitor.

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

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

Motion passed.

Activities Report

Mrs. Valenti stated there are no additions to the Activities Report.

1. Approve the request of Kim Gittens, Wyoming Area Intermediate Center PTO, to hold a Spring Apparel Sale fundraiser, on April 1, 2025 to April 15, 2025.

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2. Approve the request of Nikki Milcavage, Wyoming Area Boys Baseball Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:

- Dumpster Day – 3/23/25
- Getting Piggy With It & Freezer Raffles – Sold throughout season
- SBC Night Out – 4/5/25
- Battle of the Bridge Shirt Sale for WA/PA Game – 4/12/25
- Jr. High Bagging at Gerrity's – 4/13/25
- Banners/Yard Signs/Magnets for Team – Sold throughout season

3. Approve the request of Trudy McAndrew, Math Teacher, to attend the 2025 Governor's STEM Competition State Finals at State College, PA., along with four students, April 29th and 30th, 2025. All travel, lodging and meal expenses are covered by the competition organizers.

4. Approve the following volunteers for the 2024-2025 Spring sports season:

Baseball

Francis DeAngelo Jr. High Volunteer
Caden Strobel Varsity Volunteer

5. Approve to rescind the appointment of Lou DeMark as Jr. High Track & Field Coach for the 2024-2025 Spring sports season.

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

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

Motion passed.

Building Report

Mrs. Kunkle read addition to the Building Report.

1. Accept, with regret, employee #20464 letter of intent to retire effective June 30, 2025.
2. Accept, with regret, employee #20091 letter of intent to retire effective June 6, 2025.
3. Approve the request of employee #20435 to extend a medical leave of absence to March 31, 2025.
4. Accept, with regret, employee #14051 submitting a letter of intent to retire effective June 3, 2025.
5. Approve the appointment of Adrienne Wolfe as Level II Administrative Assistant.

Motion by Mrs. Kunkle, second by Mrs. Valenti, to accept the building report.

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

Motion passed.

Police Report
Mr. Kopko read the Police Report.

**Wyoming Area Police Department
Monthly Report for February 2025
Total Calls for Service**

<u>CODE</u>		<u>COUNT</u>
1810	Drug Violations	2
2400	Disorderly Conduct	2
2410	Harassment by Communication	1
2450	Harassment	8
3610	Disturbances - Juvenile	3
3840	Fire Alarm/ Unfound	1
3900	Traffic & Parking Problems	2
4010	Traffic Offenses	1
4022	Non-Criminal – Reports	4
7506	Assisting Other Agencies – All Others	2
S2S	Safe-2-Say Reports	2
TRUA	Compulsory School Attendance	<u>17</u>
Total:		45

On the Question: Walt Stevens, West Wyoming, asked if these numbers are from the Wyoming area School District Police Department or is this the Wyoming Area Police Department. Dr. Pollard respond the Wyoming Area School District Police Department. Mr. Stevens asked if the incidences are outside of school. Dr. Pollard responded they are on school property.

Open Discussion:

- Vannessa Smith, Exeter, Lily Kasa, Wyoming, Jackie Kasa, Wyoming, Natalie Liebman, Exeter, expressed their concerns regarding having the All Night Party the night before graduation. Going against tradition.
- Michelle McDermott and a senior parent, the numbers are down in attendance for the All Night Party. Many of the kids leave the party early. Doesn’t make sense to have all this money to spend on only the ones who attend. This was all posted and discussed to have the parade, sunset and All Night Party the night before.
- Walt Stevens, Library being removed at Intermediate Center. Grant to put fencing around exterior for the playground, around the blacktop area.
- Nicole Dietrich, Wyoming, Acknowledged Chuck Yarmey, Drama Advisor, and asked the board to attend the play “Hadestown”.
- Len Pribula, Wyoming – Speakers, sound stage and the curtains last year for the Drama Club.
- Steve Homza, Exeter, request to use Atlas field for summer baseball teams but was turned down last year.
- Vannessa Smith, Exeter – Department of Education funding being slashed. Funding for our school to the end of the school year.
- Tiffany Bonning, Harding – Equality and opportunity in our school’s athletic program.
- Todd Bonning, Harding – Will email a written proposal to the school board asking that the board joins in with other schools in sponsoring a high school girl’s team for wrestling.
- Brenda Yurchak, Exeter – Has advocated for a junior high cheerleading squad but was told there is no funding. Policy Extra Curricular Activities. Non-competitive cheerleading.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:07 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Campenni, seconded by Mr. Alberigi.

To listen to the meeting in its entirety, log on to the YouTube Channel on the district's website.

Philip Campenni, President

David Alberigi, Secretary