

11243
Wyoming Area School District
Combined Work Session/Regular Meeting
Wyoming Area Board of Education
252 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643
Tuesday, July 23, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

The combined work session/regular meeting of the Wyoming Area Board of Education was held this evening in the Secondary Center auditorium, 252 Memorial Street, Exeter, Pennsylvania, 18643. Thirty + 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 7:38 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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, Eric Speece, Secondary Center Building Principal, Cathy Ranieli, Assistant Secondary Center Building Principal, Brian Strazdus, Intermediate Center Building Principal, David Pacchioni, Kindergarten Center Building Principal, Director, Douglas Piazza, Assistant Principal of Discipline, Stephanie Anusewski, Special Education Director, Jason Jones, Technology Director.

Communications Report

Mr. Alberigi read the Communications Report.

1. Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 submitting their regular meeting minutes of May 22, 2024.
2. West Side Career and Technology Center Joint Operating Committee submitting their minutes of May 23, 2024.
3. Employee #20549 requesting permission to extend her maternity leave of absence.
4. Kim Gittens, WAIC PTO, requesting permission to hold a Kalahari Raffle fundraiser.
5. Katelyn Yanora, Wyoming Area Lady Warriors Volleyball Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
6. Maria Sabatini, Wyoming Area Varsity Boys/Girls Lacrosse Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
7. Vanessa Smith, Wyoming Area Wrestling Parents Association, requesting permission to hold fundraisers.
8. Employee #11890 requesting to take a personal leave of absence.
9. Employee #12270 requesting to extend a medical leave of absence.
10. Right to Know Request submitted for itemized list of 23/24 and 24/25 budget report and budget for police department.

11. Right to Know Request submitted for information regarding pay structure of tax collectors.
12. Employee #20496 requesting permission to take a maternity leave of absence.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Supey asked for approval of the minutes of June 25, 2024. All board members present voted aye.

At this time, Dr. Pollard addressed the Intermediate Center. An expert from JMSI Environmental Corp. was brought in. Air and surface samplings were taken. The 2nd and 3rd floors were normal. There is concern at the basement level which is being taken care of. Mr. Jeff Miller from JMSI added there was some humidity readings and some small pipe water leaks which contributed to some of the issues. There is no widespread concerns and no health concerns. It may take 12 to 14 days to complete.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pollard read his Superintendent's Report.

1. **Congratulations to Coach Marranca on the dedication of the Paul J. Marranca Performance Center. Thank you to the Board and Administration and Thank you to our Buildings and Grounds for cleaning up the area for the dedication.**

2. **2023-2024 Spring Sports Wrap-up**

BOYS LACROSSE

The season went very well. We beat a strong Lewisburg team and were able to beat Lake Lehman for the first time in four years. We had two players score their 100th goal, TJ Kearns and Ben Byers, both of whom are committed to play in college next year. Anthony Giunta recorded his 100th save at the goalie position. Our goal for this season was to make the playoffs which we did, but ran into a very strong Crestwood team in the first round and that is where our season ended.

BOYS TENNIS

Our season was a rebuilding season, losing 6 starting seniors, and our record was 4-7-1. However at districts we medaled in Singles with a Silver from Luca Argenio and a Bronze with the team of Luca Argenio and Christian Abromovage. Both players return next year.

BASEBALL

The Wyoming Area Baseball team had a very successful season capturing the Wyoming Valley Conference Division 2 Title. The team won 13 games while playing a very difficult schedule. They return 7 starters next year and look to continue their winning ways.

SOFTBALL

We started our season with a group of freshman who were given the task of attempting to fill gaps created by the loss of 7 seniors from the previous season. As our season began the team started to take shape with the freshman pushing for starting positions. In summation we played tough and were able to finish 10 & 10, and earned a playoff position finishing # 5 in the power ratings. In closing I feel we have formed a good group of players, and look to finish better in 2025.

TRACK & FIELD

Both varsity boys and girls were undefeated. Boys were conference champs and undefeated for the past 6 years and girls the past 3 years.

JH were the WVC D2 champs. 4 years in a row undefeated.

Ella McKernan was the individual district champion and broke 4 school records. She broke the district record that was held for 29 years in the 800 meter.

GIRLS LACROSSE

2024 Wyoming Area Girls Lacrosse Season came to an end with a loss in District 2 playoffs. This young team finished 11-4-1 after starting the season 0-2. The coaches challenged the players to pick up their game and play harder. The girls responded, they won 11 of the next 14 games. This team has a lot of talented girls that play multiple sports and are competitive not only on the field but in school. We have 22 girls on the team and are looking to increase our numbers next year to 26 girls. We currently played a varsity and JV schedule with about five girls getting some playing time on varsity and JV.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The music department had a very busy year as usual, and would like to thank our teachers, staff and administration for their continued support!

The department held a total of 12 Concerts this school year, 6 additional community outreach performances, trips to both the Scranton Cultural Center, F.M. Kirby Center and Valley View HS for the students to attend live professional performances, and also hosted a performance by members of the NEPA Philharmonic at the Secondary Center. Special Thank You to our newest department member Mr. Malocheski, who accompanied Senior Michael Steinberger on his Class Day performance of *"The 12 Days of Accounting"*. Mr. Bufalino and his staff had a successful spring of Indoor Winds as well. The group gave a special performance at the Secondary Center Band concert, unveiling this year's field show *Willy Wonka*. They also performed at the Intermediate Center Concert for Mrs. Becker's students and their families on June 5th.

Finally, we have had a total of 44 students attend 9 Honors Festivals this school year. Students and staff will end their year with a final performance at the 2024 Graduation Ceremony on June 14th.

Thank you and Congratulations to all on a successful school year from our Music Department Faculty!!

3RD Grade Philharmonic Trip to the Scranton Cultural Center

5th and 6th Grade Bank Jazz Ambassadors Trip to the FM Kirby Center



2024 Luzerne County Band



Solicitor's Report

Attorney Ferentino stated that they met in executive session on July 16th and tonight. They discussed upcoming labor negotiations, special education litigation, personnel issues and we do have a settlement agreement on the agenda.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Butera read the Treasurer's Report.

First National Community Bank	General Fund	2,212,537.01
First National Community Bank	Payroll Account	6,560.68

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First National Community Bank	Cafeteria Account	42,905.40
First National Community Bank	Student Activities Account	148,829.40
First National Community Bank	Athletic Fund Account	2,552.00
First National Community Bank	Purchasing Account	500.00
Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust	General Fund Account	144,662.54
First National Community Bank	Series 2022 GON Account	1,078,316.96
First National Community Bank	Money Market Account	5,240,378.14

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

Finance Report

Mr. Butera read the Finance Report.

1. Received the following checks:

Berkheimer Income Tax

Earned Income Tax	46,752.88
Local Services Tax	1,506.26
Delinquent Per Capita	<u>1,057.38</u>
Total:	49,316.52

State & Federal Subsidy Payments

Retirement	938,002.22
Title I – Improving Basic Programs	61,810.23
Title II – Improving Teacher Quality	6,027.00
Title IV – Student Support & Academic Enrichments	4,939.92
Section 1305 & 1306	10,923.33
School District Transportation	220,312.20
ARP ESSER III	90,907.04
ARP ESSER 7%	7,065.51
Non Public Transportation	<u>34,650.00</u>
Total:	1,374,637.45

Local Real Estate Transfer Tax

Luzerne County	19,195.61
Wyoming County	<u>686.00</u>
Total:	19,881.61

2023 Real Estate Supplements

Paul Konopka – Wyoming Borough	22,334.82
Robert Connors – West Wyoming Borough	1,690.42

Thomas Pizano- Exeter Borough	6,725.97
George Miller – West Pittston Borough	<u>741.86</u>
Total:	31,493.07

2. Approve the July payment of \$72,456.06 to the Luzerne Intermediate Unit in accordance with the terms of the approved contract for Special Education Services.
3. Approve to ratify the July payment of \$69,742.73 to the West Side Career & Technology Center for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Children’s Service Center and Wyoming Area School District for the 2024-2025 school year.
5. Approve to extend the contract for Betsy O’Malley, Food Service Director, for two years, July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.
6. Approve the final version of the agreement between the Wyoming Area School Board and the Wyoming Area Education Support Professionals Association/ESPA/PSEA retroactive to July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026, pending final review and approval by the District’s Solicitor.
7. Approve to renew the Management Advisory Services Agreement between Albert B. Melone Co., Certified Public Accountants and the Wyoming Area School District. The contract is for a (1) year period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The contract cost is at an amount of \$121,444.52. The agreement is subject to the review of the District’s Superintendent and the District’s Solicitor.
8. Approve the Administrator Compensation Plan pursuant to Act 93 of 1984, 24 P.S. Sect. 1164 retroactive to July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, pending final review and approval of the District’s Solicitor.
9. Motion to authorize Attorney Ferentino to execute a Stipulation on behalf of the District in the matter of Serentiy Care, LLC vs. Luzerne County Board of Assessment Appeals, Wyoming Area School District, & the Borough of Wyoming in the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County No 11162 of 2022 agreeing that the improved property having Parcel No 67-E10sE2-002-001 shall have an assessment value for the tax year 2023 and subsequent years (until changed or modified in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and/or the terms of the Settlement Order as follows Total Assessment of \$950,000.00).

10. Approve payments to the following vendor:

Vendor	Invoice #	Amount	Location	Description
CM3 Building Solutions	App#6	43,042.32	WASD	HVAC (Non-ESSER) CF
CM3 Building Solutions	App#7	89,441.78	WASD	HVAC (Non-ESSER) CF
CM3 Building Solutions	App#4	57,155.31	WASD	HVAC (ESSER-Related)GF
CM3 Building Solutions	App#5	<u>69,492.51</u>	WASD	HVAC (ESSER-Related) GF
		Total: 259,131.92		

11. Approve the Partial Agreement with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit and Wyoming Area School District for Partial Hospitalization Therapeutic Services for the 2024-2025 school year.

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- 12. Approve to authorize the secretary to advertise for refuse bids.
- 13. Approve a reduction of no more than 30 summer hours for school nurse.
- 14. Approve the general ledger sheet:

Bill Listing: July 2024	421,226.02	
Prepays: June 2024	<u>111,381.59</u>	532,607.61
Cafeteria Account:	55,627.02	
Athletic Account:	<u>347.00</u>	<u>55,974.02</u>
	Total: 588,581.63	

Dr. Pollard stated that #13 should read "not to exceed" thirty hours.

Mr. Butera motioned to amend #13 to read "not to exceed" thirty hours for the school nurse. Seconded by Mrs. Rutkoski.

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 to amend item #13.

Mr. Supey made a motion to table items #5, #6 and #8, seconded by Mrs. Valenti.

Roll Call: Mr. Kopko, yes, Mr. Campenni, no, Mrs. Kunkle, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mrs. Rutkoski, yes, Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Kachamarsky, yes Mr. Alberigi yes.

Motion passed to table items #5, #6 and #8.

ON the Question: Joe Price of Falls, questioned item #7, how is contract salary determined. Attorney Ferentino responded the contract is negotiated. As for #9, Attorney Ferentino responded it is commercial property that filed for a reassessment of its property. An assessor was hired by the district to evaluate property.

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

Motion passed to accept finance report.

Education Report

Mr. Kachmarsky read 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 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 Celeste Calpin as Driver Theory Instructor for the 2024-2025 school year.
- 3. Approve to rescind the appointment of Arly Flores-Cantoran as School Psychologist.

4. Approve contract for Katelyn Marianelli, School Psychologist pending final approval by the Superintendent and District’s Solicitor.

5. Approve the following Edmentum WA Cyber Teachers for the 2024-2025 school year:

Damien Rutkoski	Science
Paula Cecil	Math
Lauren Wiedl	Special Education
Mike Fanti	Social Studies
Christine Rutledge	English
Molly Kearns	Science/Biology (if needed)
Erica Robaczewski	Science (if needed)
Ed Grivensky	Biology (if needed)
Trudy McAndrew	Math (if needed)
Maureen Pikas	Social Studies (if needed)
Dennis Hando	Social Studies (if needed)
Melissa Dolman	English (if needed)
Dennis Hando	English (if needed)
Sarah Latona	English (if needed)

6. Approve the request of employee #20549 to extend her maternity leave of absence until January 2025.

7. Approve the request of employee #12270 to extend a medical leave of absence for the 2024-2025 school year.

8. Approve Settlement Agreement and Release for student #3000332.

9. Approve the request of employee #20496 to take a maternity leave of absence on or about November 22, 2024 with an anticipated return date of May 27, 2025.

10. Approve the tentative professional substitute list for the 2024-2025 school year.

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

Mr. Supey motioned to table item #4, seconded by Mr. Campenni.

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

Motion passed to table item #4.

ON the Question: Joanna Pechal, Exeter, asked what are we doing for the new year with the school psychologist being tabled. Dr. Pollard responded that we already have a school psychologist. This is an additional one. Item #9. Why are we bringing a teacher back from maternity leave for a few days. Dr. Pollard responded he wasn’t sure who this was and would look into it.

Roll Call for Education Report: Mr. Kopko, yes, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mrs. Kunkle, yes, Mrs. Valenti, yes, Mr. Supey, yes, Mrs. Rutkoski, yes, Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Kachamarsky, yes Mr. Alberigi yes.

Motion passed.

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Activities Report

Mrs. Rutkoski read the Activities Report.

1. Approve the following marching band staff for the 2024-2025 school year:

Kristen Santey	Assistant Director
Cassidy Heid	Color Guard
Zachary Houston	Percussion
Lucy Sickler-Obrzut	Color Guard (paid by music sponsors)

2. Approve the marching band schedule for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. Approve the request of Kim Gittens, Wyoming Area Intermediate Center PTO, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Back to School Apparel Sale – 8/12/24 to 9/9/24
 - Kalahari Raffle – Starting 9/1/24
4. Approve the request of Katelyn Yanora, Wyoming Area Lady Warriors, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Cooler of Cheer
 - Calendar Raffle
 - Sabatini Night Out
 - Apparel Sale
5. Approve the request of Maria Sabatini, Wyoming Area Varsity Boys/Girls Lacrosse Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Seasonal Online/Facebook Raffles – (Fall, winter, spring, summer)
 - Youth Lacrosse camp/clinic – August or September
 - Gerrity's Bagging – Wyoming – 11/24/24
 - Gerrity's Bagging – Wyoming & West Pittston – 2/9/25
 - Blast Fundraiser – March through May, 2025
 - Boden Sale – 3/29/25
 - Sabatinis Parent Night/Social Fundraiser – 5/2025
 - Online Apparel Sale
 - One Amusement at home football game – (ex. Test your strength, football accuracy, speed pitch)
6. Approve the request of Vanessa Smith, Wyoming Area Wrestling Parents Association, to hold the following fundraisers:
 - Ticket Raffle – Early October
 - Yard Signs
 - Bagging for Gerrity's- October or November
 - 50/50 Raffle at home meets
7. Approve the appointments of the following assistant/volunteer coaches for the 2024-2025 Fall sports season:

Soccer

Allison Klus	Jr. High Coach
Elizabeth Poor	Jr. High Volunteer Coach

Field Hockey

Kara Rehill Jr. High Coach
Chris Comiskey Assistant Jr. High Coach (pending clearances)

Motion by Mrs. Rutkoski, second by Mr. Alberigi, to accept the activities 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. Kachamarsky, yes Mr. Alberigi yes.

Motion passed.

Building Report

Mr. Campenni read the Building Report.

1. Approve the appointments of the following building coordinators for the 2024-2025 school year:

Lisa DeMichele	Primary Center
Kory Lyn Angeli	Intermediate Center
Daneen Kearns	Kindergarten Center

2. Approve the appointment of Louise Tracey as a ten month cleaner.
3. Approve the request of employee #11890 to take a personal leave of absence beginning August 21, 2024 and returning on January 6, 2025.
4. Approve the appointment of Tammara Brown as a personal care aide.
5. Approve the appointment of Stephanie McDonald as a paraprofessional.
6. Approve the appointment of Angelo Bufalino as a paraprofessional.

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. Kachamarsky, yes Mr. Alberigi yes.

Motion passed.

Open Discussion:

Mr. Butera stated he sent an email regarding SAT tutoring to all board members and Dr. Pollard. Dr. Pollard responded he received it and will contact him tomorrow. Mrs. Rutkoski asked if clearances would be needed. Dr. Pollard answered yes.

- Rosella Fedor, West Pittston, -The scholarship program. She didn't say she didn't want to work on the scholarship anymore. She didn't think a full time teacher with extra curricular activities could handle the program full time.

Mrs. Valenti asked if she turned in a letter stating she would resign. Mrs. Fedor said no she did not but she did want a lesser role. Mr. Campenni stated that Mrs. Fedor was in the interview process.

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There were two applicants. Mr. Campenni read the motion to appoint Mrs. Rutledge in November. Mrs. Fedor was supposed to be transitioning her this year. Mr. Campenni also stated Mrs. Fedor was not giving the person currently in the position a chance. Mrs. Rutledge stated she will try her very best to continue this program.

Mr. Supey stated we can change this tonight. Retain Mrs. Rutledge as Co-chair and Mrs. Fedor as Co-chair for one year to transition. Mrs. Rutkoski stated some of the board members weren't on the board at the time and she would like to have a meeting to discuss it more.

Marrilee Foy, West Pittston – There should be a transitioning how Mrs. Fedor does it starting in the summer.

Mr. Supey made a motion for the 2024-2025 school year for position of scholarship chair: Christine Rutledge as Chairperson and Rosella Fedor as Co-Chair, \$5,000 and \$3,000.

Mrs. Fedor stated she will take the \$3,000 as long as the board puts in the \$2,000 for a scholarship.

Mr. Supey motioned and Mr. Campenni seconded the motion.

Mr. Butera stated that back in November he said to hire both since the job took more than one person and there were two candidates. He couldn't understand the board knew this was coming but they didn't have all the information. It's not the board members fault, he was just asking.

Mr. Supey said the motion was that Mrs. Rutledge would be Scholarship Chair for 3 years at \$5,000 and Mrs. Fedor as Co-chair for 1 year at \$3,000 and the board would put in \$2,000 for a scholarship.

Roll Call: Mr. Kopko, no, Mr. Campenni, yes, Mrs. Kunkle, no, Mrs. Valenti, no, Mr. Supey, yes, Mrs. Rutkoski, yes, Mr. Butera, yes, Mr. Kachmarsky, yes, Mr. Alberigi, abstained.

Many board members still would like a meeting set up with Mrs. Rutledge and Mrs. Fedor.

Motion passed.

Open Discussion from Audience Members:

- John Kearns, West Pittston – Thanked board for remediation regarding Mrs. Fedor.
- Pat Morgan, Exeter – A Donor – The work that is put into Scholarship Program.
- Kathy Chuzas, Harding – Part Time Police Officers and their arresting authority.
- Brenda Jurchak, Exeter – Daughter Rebecca received a trophy and a Princess for her participation in the Miss Amazing Pageant. Students with disabilities and sports activities.

To listen to the meeting in its entirety, log on to the Youtube Channel on the Wyoming Area School District's web site.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Supey, second by Mr. Alberigi.

Michael Supey, President

David Alberigi, Secretary