

Board Work Session Minutes February 7, 2024

WESTERN WAYNE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
1970C Easton Turnpike
LAKE ARIEL, PA 18436

The work session of the Western Wayne Board of Education was held on February 7, 2024, at 6:05 pm at the Western Wayne Administration Building located at 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436 in preparation for the February 7, 2024, Board Meeting to be held immediately following the work session.

The meeting was advertised in the legal section of the January 11, 2024, edition of the Tri-County Independent.

Board members present are as follows:

Board President – William Gershey
Board Vice President – Joseph Gombita
Board Treasurer – Dana DeSiato
Board Member – Angela Booths
Board Member – James Collins
Board Member – Christina Hinz
Board Member – Michael Ochlan
Board Member – Kerin Weinberger
Board Member- Ethan Wood

Solicitor Brendan Ellis was present.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Dr. Matthew Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Cindy LaRosa, Business Manager/Board Secretary Rose Emmett, High School Principal Paul Gregorski, Middle School Principal Jennifer Bradley, EverGreen Principal Justin Pidgeon, Robert D. Wilson Principal Maria Miller, Principal of STEAM Elizabeth Watson, Assistant Middle School Principal Matthew Barr, Director of Special Education Jennifer DeNike, Ed.D., Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Katie Shemanski, Psy.D., Food Service Director Maria Liptak, Technology Director Brian Seaman, and Assistant High School Principal Robert Black and Athletic Director Tyler Jakes.

Assistant Elementary Principal Kerrie Fitzsimmons and Early Intervention Supervisor Elizabeth Gregory were excused.

The Board of Education met in executive session for personnel and legal prior to the work session at 5:30 pm.

Dr. Barrett announced that we will have a new format, our student and staff recognition will be held during the work session instead of during the board meeting.



Student Recognition:

Principal of STEAM, Ms. Watson congratulated several of our Middle School students who participated in a STEM Design Challenge at Johnson College recently, their were 12 students who participated and three of them were in attendance this evening to be recognized, Cody Maros, Joslyn Gonzalez and Egor Barth.

High School Principal, Mr. Gregorski recognized members of the PMEA Chorus group and Athletic Director, Mr. Jakes recognized three outstanding basketball team members who also maintain a high GPA, Allie Pauler, Stephanie Mildner and Emily Romanowski.

Mr. Gershey stated he was proud of all the students recognized this evening and thanked them for taking advantage of the programs we have to offer at the district.

Staff Recognition:

Elementary Principal, Mrs. Miller, recognized Erica Germani, Guidance Counselor, in achieving RAMP Certification and PA Diamond Status (only two elementary schools in the state have achieved this) for her work in counseling.

Erica Germani then recognized Mrs. Miller for receiving an Administrator Appreciation Award from the American School Counselors Association.

Mr. Gershey offered thanks on behalf of the Board of Education to Mrs. Miller upon her upcoming retirement. Mrs. Miller received a standing ovation from all those present this evening for her dedication and service to the district.

Thomas Burke and Taylor Bass, from Brian T. Kelly, CPA and Associates, presented a summary of the 2022-2023 Audit and Financial Statements that are presented on the agenda this evening.

Mr. Pidgeon and Dr. Shemanski presented an opportunity they would like to gain support of for hosting a service dog at EverGreen.

Dr. Barrett reviewed the agenda for the Board Meeting.

The work session concluded at 6:53 PM. At this time the Board of Education started the Regular Board Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rose E. Emmett
Board Secretary

ATTEST:



