

# Board Minutes March 6, 2024

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

The regular meeting of the Western Wayne Board of Education was held on March 6, 2024, at the Western Wayne Administration Building located at 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436.

The meeting was advertised in the legal section of the March 9, 2024, edition of the Tri-County Independent.

President William Gershey called the meeting to order at 6:55 P.M.

Mr. Ochlan offered a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Gershey took roll call. (9) Board Members were present and are listed as follows:

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

Board Member James Collins was excused.

Solicitor Brendan Ellis was present.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Dr. Matthew Barrett, High School Principal Paul Gregorski, Middle School Principal Jennifer Bradley, EverGreen Principal Justin Pidgeon, Principal of STEAM Elizabeth Watson, Assistant Middle School Principal Matthew Barr, Assistant Elementary Principal Kerrie Fitzsimmons, Director of Special Education Jennifer DeNike, Ed.D., Early Intervention Supervisor Elizabeth Gregory, Technology Director Brian Seaman, and Athletic Director Tyler Jakes.

Dr. Cindy LaRosa, Assistant Superintendent, Business Manager/Board Secretary Rose Emmett, Robert D. Wilson Principal Maria Miller, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Katie Shemanski, Psy.D., Food Service Director Maria Liptak, and Assistant High School Principal Robert Black were excused.

## 5. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Gombita to accept the minutes generated from the Board Work Session and the Regular Board Meeting – February 7, 2024.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### 6. Treasurer's Reports

A motion was made by Mrs. DeSiato and seconded by Mr. Wood to accept the Treasurer's Reports generated from the General Account and the Food Service Account.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### 7. Approval of Bills

A motion was made by Mrs. DeSiato and seconded by Mr. Wood to approve the payment of bills generated from the General Account and the Food Service Account.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

### 8. Accounting of Taxes

### 9. Recognition of Public

None.

### 10. Enrollment Report:

ENROLLMENT - DAY #\_112\_ 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

GRADE	EG	RDW	MS	HS	TOTAL
EARLY INT.	16	8			
PRE-K	67	44			
KDG	71	41			
GR. 1	77	50			
GR. 2	83	50			
GR. 3	67	57			
GR. 4	97	42			
GR. 5	83	39			
GR. 6			125		
GR. 7			132		
GR. 8			138		
GR. 9				148	
GR. 10				152	
GR. 11				143	
GR. 12				133	
TOTAL	561	331	395	576	1,863

Totals: EverGreen 561\_; RDW-\_331\_; MS-\_395\_; HS-\_576\_ TOTAL: \_1,863\_

Last month's Total: 1,848

A motion was made by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Gombita to approve a consent block motion for items 11 through 21.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

**11. District School Calendar for the 2024-2025 School Year**

The Board of Education approved the 2024-2025 School District Calendar.

**12. Act 80 Days 2024-2025 School Year**

The Board of Education approved the listed early dismissal days for students in order to conduct Act 80 activities with the Professional Staff:

- a. September 27, 2024
- b. October 31st, 2024\* (flex day)
- c. November 11, 2024
- d. February 14, 2025
- e. March 14, 2025

**13. Fuel Oil Purchase**

The Board of Education authorized the Business Manager to solicit bids for the purchasing of fuel oil for the 2024-2025 school year.

**14. Agreement-Friendship House**

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Friendship House for mental health counseling and consulting services at a rate of \$55.00 per hour for the 2024-2025 school year.

**15. Amendment to Agreement Sayegh Pediatrics**

The Board of Education approved an amendment to the previously approved agreement between Western Wayne School District and Sayegh Pediatrics for speech and language therapy to allow for an increase in service hours at the previously agreed upon rate.

**16. E-rate Funding Application**

The Board of Education approved the E-Rate Funding Application as follows:

Allowing the Technology Department to apply for E-rate funding to purchase Network equipment. If awarded, E-rate funding will cover approximately \$38,700.00 of the \$48,375.00 cost of the equipment. Final purchase will be contingent on receiving the E-rate funding. Total of \$9,675.00 owed by Western Wayne.

**17. Settlement**

The Board of Education approved a Settlement Agreement between the Western Wayne School District and S#07-23-24.

### **18. Building Use Approval**

The Board of Education approved the building use requests:

- a. Hamlin Community Library-June 29, 2024, for Wayne County's Got Talent at The Western Wayne High School.
- b. The Hamlin Dance Studio-June 15, 2024, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Western Wayne High School.

### **19. Overnight Field Trips**

The Board of Education approved the following overnight field trips and chaperones for the 2023-2024 school year:

- a. Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA-April 7, 2024-April 10, 2024-FBLA State Championship Leadership Conference  
Chaperone: Douglas Posten, Fran Vitovsky, Theresa Lubash and Denise Johnson.

### **20. Transportation Drivers and Substitutes**

The Board of Education approved the following list of Western Wayne School District Transportation Drivers and Substitutes for the listed contractor for the 2023-2024 school year as follows contingent upon receipt of necessary paperwork:

- a. Contractor, Sara Wasman, Driver, Lisa Skelton
- b. Contractor, Kreutz- Driver, Mary Ann Reese
- c. Contractor, Caruth Bus-Driver, Constance Swingle
- d. Contractor, Henwood-Driver, Carole Homeyer

### **21. Personnel**

#### **a. District Substitute List**

The Board of Education approved the following personnel to be added to the District Substitute List for the 2023-2024 school year per Certification, Act 24/34/151/114/153/168 Guidelines, Employment Eligibility Verification - U.S. Department of Justice, Contingent upon receipt of clearances:

1. Jenny Hatton-Custodian
2. Ilonda Barnes-Custodian\*
3. George Pease-Guest Teacher
4. Colleen Tweedy-Guest Teacher

\*pending receipt of all clearances

#### **b. Appointment-Custodian**

The Board of Education approved the following appointments as Custodians at \$13.25 per hour with fringe benefits contingent upon receipt of employment paperwork/clearances.

1. Michael Pajalich-Custodian

**c. Extension of Appointment for Long-Term Substitute**

The Board of Education approved an extension of the term of employment from the end of the third making period to continue for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year for:

1. Kaitlin McConnell

**d. Amendment as to Coach Salaries**

The Board of Education approved the following to the listed coaching position for the 2023-2024 school year at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract contingent upon receipt of clearances:

1. Previously approved salaries for Eric Olsommer, Assistant Boys Basketball Coach and Kolyn Schane, Jr. High (7,8,9) Boys Basketball Coach shall be combined to total \$11,284.26 and split equally between the two coaches in the amount of \$5,642.13 each.

**e. Appointment Fall Coaches**

The Board of Education approved the following to the listed coaching position for the 2024-2025 school year at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract contingent upon receipt of clearances:

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Laura Wojnar-Head Cross County Coach 6th yr.                | \$ 4,719.46  |
| 2. Zane Janiszewski-Assistant Football Coach 2nd yr.           | \$ 3,535.33* |
| 3. Jason Sauter-Assistant Football Coach 7th yr.               | \$ 3,641.39* |
| 4. David Elias-Assistant Football Coach 1st yr.                | \$ 3,535.33* |
| 5. Kaitlyn Torquati-Football Cheerleading Head Coach 5th yr.   | \$ 4,646.10  |
| 6. Matthew Fitzsimmons-Varsity Boys Soccer Head Coach 21st yr. | \$ 6,678.08  |
| 7. Ashton Fitzsimmons-Varsity Boys Assistant Coach 2nd yr.     | \$ 3,825.00  |
| 8. Anthony Besten-Varsity Football Assistant Coach 1st yr.     | \$ 5,303.00  |

\*Two positions split three ways

**f. Volunteers**

The Board of Education approved the following to the list of volunteers for the 2023-2024 school year contingent upon receipt of necessary clearances and upon request of the Building Principal:

1. Megan Sees-Middle School Band trip to Dorney Park
2. Amanda Steinmetz-Middle School Chorus
3. Ashley Parry-Middle School Band\*
4. Christa Maiocco-Varsity Boys Tennis
5. Drew Boandl-Baseball
6. Greg Martin-Baseball

\*pending receipt of all clearances

## 22. Informational Items:

- a . Student Recognition (during Work Session)
- b . Staff Recognition (during Work Session)
- c . Dates to Remember:

1. March 4, 2024-Robert D. Wilson Elementary Roller-Skating Pre-K, K, 1st and 2nd grades after school until 4:30 p.m.
2. March 4-8, 2024-EverGreen Elementary Read Across America Spirit Week
3. March 6, 2024-Middle School Final PROSPER: Guiding Good Choices, 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. via Zoom.
4. March 6, 2024-Robert D. Wilson Elementary Roller-Skating 3rd, 4th and 5th grades after school until 4:40 p.m.
5. March 7, 2024-Robert D. Wilson Elementary Spelling Bee during school hours.
6. March 7-9, 2024-High School PMEA Region Chorus
7. March 11-15, 2024-Robert D. Wilson Elementary Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration.
8. March 11-15, 2024-EverGreen Elementary Pre-K & Kindergarten Registration.
9. March 11, 2024-High School/Middle School Bus Evacuation Drill
10. March 12, 2024-Robert D. Wilson Elementary PTA Meeting 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.
11. March 12, 2024-EverGreen Elementary Bus Evacuation Drill
12. March 13, 2024-Middle School Honor Roll Breakfast
13. March 13, 2024-Robert D. Wilson Elementary Bus Evacuation Drill
14. March 15, 2024-Middle School PBIS Blowout
15. March 15, 2024-Act 80 Day Noon Dismissal for Students.
16. March 15, 2024-EverGreen PTA Meeting 6:00 p.m.
17. March 20, 2024-EverGreen AG Literacy Day-1st & 2nd.
18. March 21, 2024-EverGreen Spelling Bee 1st&2nd 8:30 a.m.
19. March 21-23, 2024-High School PMEA Region Orchestra
20. March 22, 2024-EverGreen Spelling Bee 3rd-5th 8:30 a.m.
21. March 22, 2024-High School Blood Drive
22. March 25-28, 2024-High School Spirit Week
23. March 28, 2024-Noon Dismissal-Easter Break.
24. March 29th & April 1st, 2024- Easter Break.
25. April 2,2024-Tenative end of 2nd quarter.

- d . OBSERVATION–Bridgette Flannery-Marywood University-Observing Joyce Covalleski-third marking period of the 2023-2024 school year.
- e . Memorandum of Understanding between Wilkes University School of Education Certification Programs and the Western Wayne School district to jointly prepare and support new school leaders or instructions to improve curriculum, instruction, and student achievement in our region’s schools .

## Correspondence

None.

**Superintendent's Report**

**Assistant Superintendent's Report**

**Principal's Reports**

**Federal Program Report**

No report.

**Other Business**

None.

**Future Meetings:**

Wednesday, April 3, 2024– 6:00 PM – Board Work Session followed by the Public Board Meeting, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on April 4, 2024, or the next school day.

The Board of Education met in executive session for personnel after this meeting.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. Gombita and seconded by Mr. Gershey to adjourn the regularly scheduled meeting of the Western Wayne Board of Education at approximately 7:20 P.M.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rose E. Emmett  
Board Secretary

ATTEST: William Gershey