

Board Minutes January 8, 2025

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 January 8, 2025, 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 January 4, 2025 edition of the Tri-County Independent.

President William Gershey called the meeting to order at 6:23 p.m.

Mr. Gershey offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Gershey took roll call. (8) Board Members were present and are they listed 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 was excused.

Solicitors Brendan and Jessica Ellis were present.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Dr. Matthew Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Cindy LaRosa, Rose Emmett, Business Manager/Board Secretary, Matthew Barr, Assistant MS Principal, Robert Black, Assistant HS Principal, Kerrie Fitzsimmons, EverGreen Assistant Principal, Paul Gregorski, High School Principal, Maria Liptak, Food Service Director, Casey Newcomer, Middle School Principal, Justin Pidgeon, EverGreen Principal, Brian Seaman, Technology Director, Katie Shemanski, Psy.D. Supervisor of Pupil Personnel and Elizabeth Watson, Robert D. Wilson Principal.

Jennifer DeNike, Ed.D., Dir. of Special Education, Elizabeth Gregory, Early Intervention Supervisor and Tyler Jakes, Athletic Director were excused.

5. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Gombita and seconded by Mr. Ochlan to accept the minutes generated from the Board Work Session – December 4, 2024, the Board Reorganization Meeting – December 4, 2024 and the Regular Board Meeting – December 4, 2024; along with the Special Board Meeting of May 29, 2024.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

6. Treasurer's Reports

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

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

7. Approval of Bills

A motion was made by Mrs. DeSiato and seconded by Mr. Collins 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. Student Recognition:

January - School Board Recognition Month - Thank you to the School Directors for your hard work and dedication. Several High School students thanked the Board of Education during the work session.

Mr. Gregorski recognized the football and girls volleyball teams for their successful fall seasons. Many were appointed to all state teams.

10. Public Recognition

None

11. Enrollment Report:

ENROLLMENT - DAY # 78

2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

GRADE	EG	RDW	MS	HS	TOTAL
EARLY INT.	15	6			21
PRE-K	56	39			95
KDG	79	62			141
GR. 1	68	42			110
GR. 2	76	56			132
GR. 3	80	52			132
GR. 4	67	57			124
GR. 5	97	40			137
GR. 6			117		117
GR. 7			120		120
GR. 8			133		133
GR. 9				141	141
GR. 10				142	142

GR. 11				148	148
GR. 12				148	148
TOTAL	538	354	370	579	1841

Totals: EG 538; RDW 354; MS 370; HS 579; **TOTAL: 1841**

A motion was made by Mrs. DeSiato and seconded by Mr. Gombita to approve a consent block motion for items 12 through 27h.

The motion carried with all affirmatives

12. Policies

The Board of Education approved the following policy:

a. First Reading

800.1 Electronic Signatures / Records

b. The Board of Education reviewed the following policy:

1401. Extracurricular Participation by Charter/Cyber Charter Students

c. The Board of Education revised the following policy:

801 Public Records

d. The Board of Education retired the following policy:

012 Conflicts of Interest (this was replaced with policy 827 Conflict of Interest)

13. Budget Resolution

The Board of Education adopted the attached resolution regarding no increase in the rate of any tax for the support of its public schools for the 2025-2026 fiscal year by more than the index established by the Department of Education for the District. The index for the District is 4.0%. Section 327 of SS Act 1 limits our increase in real estate taxes levied in the year following countywide reassessment or change in predetermined ration to no more than the school district's index for the preceding year. ATTACHMENT I

14. Equipment Sale

The Board of Education approved the sale of the attached list of items which were advertised and bid. ATTACHMENT II

15. Building Use Approval

The Board of Education approved the following building use request:

Western Wayne Band Parents Association – Middle School – 2025 Craft Fair - Friday, October 10, 2025 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 11, 2025 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

16. Transportation - Drivers and Substitutes

The Board of Education approved the following list of Western Wayne School District Transportation Drivers for the listed contractor for the 2024-2025 school year as follows contingent upon receipt of necessary paperwork:

1. Contractor - Henwood Busing – Driver Wendy Torres
2. Contractor - Utegg Transportation, LLC – Driver Kimberly Glosenger

17. Overnight Field Trip

The Board of Education approved the following overnight field trip and chaperones:

1. FIRST Robotics – March 21-23, 2025 – Warren Hills High School Chaperones: Brian Landry, Josh Shelly, Matt Rosengrant, and Ayla Savage.

18. Curriculum Guide

The Board of Education approved the Western Wayne High School Curriculum Guide for the 2025-2026 school year.

19. Feasibility Study

The Board of Education approved the participation of Western Wayne School District in a feasibility study for the potential Wayne/Pike Career & Technology Center.

20. Agreement – JC Ehrlich Co.

The Board of Education approved the 2025 Pest Control Service Agreement between Western Wayne School District and JC Ehrlich Co. Inc. at \$71.00 per month per building and \$45.00 per month for the field house effective until June until 30, 2025.

21. Agreement – Human Resource Center, Inc.

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Human Resource Center, Inc. for psychological evaluation, academic training, and transportation for students at a rate of \$29.56 per hour for Level 1 and \$22.60 per hour for level 2 students for the 2024-2025 school year.

22. Service 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 \$56.00 per hour for the 2025-2026 school year.

23. Service Agreement – Erika Mauro MS, OTR/L

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Erika Mauro MS, OTR/L for Occupational Therapy Evaluations, hours as needed at a rate of \$100.00 per hour for the 2024-2025 school year.

24. Service Agreement – Einstein Tutoring LLC

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Einstein Tutoring LLC for Tutoring services at a one-time assessment fee of \$250.00 per student and hourly rates as outlined in the agreement, effective October 4, 2024 and continuing until mutually terminated.

25. Audit Acceptance

The Board of Education accepted the Audit Report of the Western Wayne School District for the year ended June 30, 2024, as prepared by Brian T. Kelly, CPA & Associates, LLC.

26. Fund Balance Designation

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Business Manager to designate a portion of our ending 2023-2024 Fund Balance to manage future budgets as per Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 54 (GASB 54). Committed: \$1,137,922; Assigned: \$4,916,089 and Unassigned: \$3,495,952.

27. Personnel

a. Termination

The Board of Education approved the termination of the following employee for neglect of duty in the performance of employment duties effective November 4, 2024:

1. #24-25-07

b. Resignation

The Board of Education approved the following resignation:

1. Samantha Crawn – Food Service – effective December 20, 2024.

c. Appointment – Long Term Substitute

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the following appointment:

1. Riley Gibbons – Long Term Substitute – Elementary – Step 1B – \$62,863.00 pro- rated with applicable fringe benefits, effective January 6, 2025 to the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

d. Appointment – Coaching

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:

- 1. John Sabolick Jr. High Wrestling (7-8-9)- 1st Year \$ 4,218.00

e. Appointment – Custodian

The Board of Education approved the following appointment for Custodian at \$14.00/hour with applicable fringe benefits effective January 13, 2025:

- 1. Susan Edwards – EverGreen – 2nd Shift

f. Appointment of Mentor

The Board of Education appointed the following Mentor for the 2024-2025 school year at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract:

MENTEE	PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE	SALARY
Riley Gibbons	Lorrie Zeiler	\$1,823.00 Pro-Rated

g. Leave of Absence

The Board of Education approved the following unpaid leave of absences:

- 1. #24-25-08 – Estimated effective February 3, 2025 to May 1, 2025
- 2. #24-25-09 – Estimated effective February 25, 2025 to May 16, 2025

h. Approval – Volunteer/Chaperone

The Board of Education approved the following to the list of volunteers/Chaperones for the 2024-2025 school year. Attendance by request of the Building Principal:

- 1. Trent Bryden – Middle School Band

Informational Items:

- a. The following Professional has attained Tenure in the Western Wayne School District:
 - 1. Alizabeth Takacs
- b. The Western Wayne School District has entered into an Internship Agreement with Marywood University, School Psychology program.
- c. Practicum Student: Marywood University: Kristen Reitano – School Psychology - effective January 13-May 16, 2025 – Stephanie Major.

d. Student Observer: Drexel University: Courtney Kizer – 20 hours, January through March 2025 – RDW - Elizabeth Takacs.

e. Effective January 1, 2025, the IRS mileage rate is 70.0 cents per mile.

Upcoming Dates:

1. January 6-17, 2025 – Winter Keystone Testing
2. January 7, 2025 – RDW After school Roller-skating PreK – 2nd
3. January 7, 2025 – 6th Grade Band Concert, Veterans Memorial Auditorium - 7:00 p.m.
4. January 8, 2025 – EG Universal Technical Institute Presentation – 8:30 a.m. – 4th & 5th Grades
5. January 8, 2025 – RDW Universal Technical Institute Presentation – 10 a.m. – 4th-5th Grades
6. January 8, 2025 – RDW After school Roller-skating 3rd-5th
7. January 9, 2025 – RDW Victim's Intervention Program
8. January 9-11, 2025 – PMEA District Orchestra
9. January 15, 2025 – EG PTA Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
10. January 15, 2025 – RDW PTA Meeting – 6:30 p.m. - Cafeteria
11. January 20, 2025 – NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
12. January 21, 2025 – End of 2nd Quarter – Report Card Distribution - TBD
13. January 22, 2025 – 7th Grade Social – 3:00-5:45 p.m.
14. January 29, 2025 – Curriculum Night – 6:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Auditorium

Correspondence

None

Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Federal Program Report

No report

Other Business

An executive session for legal and personnel items was held prior to the work session this evening.

Future Meetings:

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 – 6:00 p.m. – Board Work Session with Regular Monthly Board Meeting to follow, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on February 6, 2025, or the next school day.

Meetings held:

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. Executive Session, followed by the Board Work Session, the Reorganization meeting, and the regular monthly meeting, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Gombita and seconded by Mr. Ochlan to adjourn the regularly scheduled meeting of the Western Wayne Board of Education at approximately 6:30 p.m.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rose E. Emmett
Board Secretary

ATTEST:

