

Board Work Session Minutes February 5, 2025

**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 5, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Western Wayne Administration Building located at 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436 in preparation for the February 5, 2025 board meeting to be held immediately following the work session.

The meeting was advertised in the legal section of the February 1, 2025 edition of the Tri-County Independent.

Mr. Gershey announced that the Board of Education met in executive session prior to this meeting for legal and personnel matters.

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, Rose Emmett, Business Manager/Board Secretary, Matthew Barr, Assistant MS Principal, Robert Black, Assistant HS Principal, Jennifer DeNike, Ed.D., Dir. of Special Education, Kerrie Fitzsimmons, EverGreen Assistant Principal, Elizabeth Gregory, Early Intervention Supervisor, 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.

Tyler Jakes, Athletic Director was excused.

Student Recognition:

Ms. Watson recognized students Christopher Owens and Joshua Harrison, they recently organized a Chinese New Year Celebration during lunch period. They worked with Ms. Watson and Mrs. Liptak to plan the menu and decorations. They did a wonderful job and the celebration was experienced in all four buildings.

Mr. Gregorski recognized several regional band and orchestra students for earning seats at the regional competition. The students are Lia Hartman, Lillian Maros, Travis Locker, Antonio Fisichella and Nicholas Fisichella. Mr. Gregorski also recognized our Boys Varsity Wrestling team for competing in the recent District AA Team competition.

Jersey Mike's Subs recently made a donation to the Western Wayne School District. They held a fundraiser during their grand opening which resulted in a donation of over \$3,000 to the district. The district is grateful for their generous support of our school community.

Mr. Gershey congratulated all the students for their hard work and dedication to the district.

Public Recognition:

There were several members of the public who voiced their opinions regarding the changes to CAT Pack games. The Administration notified staff that we will be participating in the Special Olympic games this year and not hosting CAT Pack games. Many felt this was not the right decision and encouraged the board to keep the games. Dr. Barrett and Dr. LaRosa noted that the CAT Pack games were put in place post COVID as an alternative to Special Olympics, but now that Special Olympics are back, we want our students to participate in those games.

Dr. Barrett reviewed the agenda for the Board Meeting.

The work session concluded at 6:52 PM. At this time, the Board of Education started the Regular Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rose E. Emmett
Board Secretary

ATTEST:

