

Board Minutes June 10, 2026

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 June 10, 2026 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 June 6, 2026 edition of the Tri-County Independent.

President William Gershey called the meeting to order at 6:22 p.m.

Mrs. Booths offered a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Miss Emmett took roll call. (6) 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 - Kerin Weinberger
Board Member - Ethan Wood

Board Members James Collins, Christina Hinz and Matthew Nied were excused.

Solicitor Ellis was present.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Dr. Matthew Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Cindy LaRosa, Rose Emmett, Business Manager/Board Secretary, Robert Black, Assistant HS Principal, Jennifer DeNike, Ed.D., Dir. of Special Education, Kerrie Fitzsimmons, EverGreen Assistant Principal, Paul Gregorski, High School Principal, Mary Hoover, TNG Food Service Director, Tyler Jakes, Athletic Director, Michael Motsko, Ass't Director of Special Education, Casey Newcomer, Middle School Principal, Justin Pidgeon, EverGreen Principal, Brian Seaman, Technology Director, Elizabeth Watson, Ed.D., Robert D. Wilson Principal and Curt Yenchick, Middle School Ass't Principal.

Elizabeth Gregory, Early Intervention Supervisor was excused.

5. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Gombita to accept the minutes generated from the work session and Regular Board meeting May 6, 2026.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

6. Treasurer's Reports

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

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

8. Student Recognition

Student recognition occurred during the work session.

9. Recognition of visitors and comments on Agenda items only

None

10. Enrollment Report:

ENROLLMENT - DAY #

2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

GRADE	EG	RDW	MS	HS	TOTAL
EARLY INT.	7	3			10
PRE K	50	41			91
KDG	66	63			129
GR. 1	90	58			148
GR. 2	71	40			111
GR. 3	80	52			132
GR. 4	75	47			122
GR. 5	68	58			126
GR. 6			135		135
GR. 7			122		122
GR. 8			119		119
GR. 9				126	126
GR. 10				127	127
GR. 11				137	137
GR. 12				146	146
TOTAL	507	362	376	536	1781

Totals: EverGreen – 507; RDW – 362; MS – 376; HS - 536; TOTAL: - 1781

MAY TOTAL: - 1813

A motion was made by Mrs. DeSiato and seconded by Mr. Gombita to approve a consent block motion for items 11 through 43r.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

11. Year End Bills

The Board of Education authorized the Board Treasurer and Business Manager to review purchase orders and bills payable for the end of this fiscal year and approve the payment of 2025-2026 purchase orders or contracts which are in order and ready for payment. Bills processed under this authorization will be reported to the Board of Education at the August Board Meeting.

12. July Accounts Payable

The Board of Education authorized the Board Treasurer and Business Manager to approve payment of the July 2026 General Fund Accounts Payable and Payroll with a report to the Board of Education at the August Board Meeting.

13. Fund Balance Designation

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Business Manager to designate a portion of our ending 2025-2026 Fund Balance, if necessary, to manage future budgets as per Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement Number 54 (GASB 54). Amount to be determined based on final adjusted balances as reflected in our Annual Financial Report.

14. Adoption of the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Final Budget

The Board of Education adopted the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Final Budget showing estimated available resources of \$65,715,930.00 and estimated expenditures and ending fund balance in the amount of \$65,715,930.00 establishing real estate tax millage of 13.2193 with a 2.00% discount if the whole amount of the tax is paid within two months after the date of the tax notice; payment at face if the tax is paid within two months following the end of the discount period; penalty of 10.00% on all taxes not paid within four months after the date of the tax notice. (ATTACHMENT I)

15. Adoption of the 2026-2027 Tax Resolutions

The Board of Education adopted the attached 2026-2027 Tax Resolutions. (ATTACHMENT II)

16. Homestead/Farmstead Resolution

The Board of Education approved the attached Homestead/Farmstead Resolution. (ATTACHMENT III)

17. Federal Program Allocations

The Board of Education approved filing applications for Federal Program allocations for the 2026-2027 school year as follows:

- a. Title I
- b. Title IIA
- c. Title III
- d. Title IV

18. Printing of Tax Duplicates

The Board of Education approved a contract with Government Software Services, Honesdale, PA to print school tax duplicates and bills for Real Estate for the year 2026 as proposed at \$0.09 each, per name printed for the two copies of the Real Estate Duplicate and the Occupation/Per Capita Duplicate and the sum of \$20.00 each per duplicate bound. The sum of \$0.2495 for each tax statement prepared.

19. Tractor Purchase

The Board of Education approved the purchase of a Ventrac tractor and accessories through Sourcewell for an amount not to exceed \$57,500. This will be a 2026-2027 budget item for maintenance.

20. Bus Camera System Upgrade

The Board of Education approved the purchase of upgraded bus camera systems which will include internal cameras, stop arm cameras, wifi connections, software and installation from Safety Vision through TIPS cooperative purchasing program at a cost not to exceed \$163,500. This will be a 2026-2027 budget item for transportation.

21. Access Control and Secure Entry – Partial Acceptance of Bid

The Board of Education awarded a bid to NRG Controls to furnish, install, configure, and commission access control and secure entry system upgrades at Robert D. Wilson Elementary as per their bid dated June 3, 2026. The total award is \$33,829.00, this is a partial award, additional work at RDW and EverGreen that was included with this bid will not be awarded at this time due to cost. This upgrade will be funded fully by our 25-26 PCCD grant.

22. NRG Access Control

The Board of Education entered into an agreement with NRG Controls for access control work throughout the district at a cost not to exceed \$42,000. This agreement will be based on COSTARS Contract #040-E22-165 and will be funded through the 25-26 PCCD Grant and our 2025 Construction Account.

23. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) – Title IX Coordinator

The Board of Education appointed the Assistant Superintendent as the district's ADA Officer and Title IX Coordinator, in compliance with the American Disabilities Act, for the 2026-2027 school year.

24. Affirmative Action Compliance Officer

The Board of Education appointed the Assistant Superintendent as the district's "Affirmative Action Compliance Officer" for the 2026-2027 school year.

25. Right-to-Know Officer

The Board of Education appointed the Assistant Superintendent as the district's "Right-to-Know" Officer for the 2026-2027 school year.

26. Early Intervention Assurance

The Board of Education approved the Early Intervention Assurance for the Operation of Special Education Services and Programs for the 2026-2027 school year.

27. Agreement – Head Start

The Board of Education approved the joint educational partnership between Western Wayne School District and the Agency for Community Empowerment of NEPA, Head Start Program effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

28. PSBA Participation Agreement

The Board of Education approved an Agreement between Western Wayne School District and Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) for the terms and conditions of participation in the Policy Maintenance Program effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

29. Transportation Substitute

The Board of Education approved Brenda Diehl as a Substitute Driver (Van) for Dennis Brown through the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

30. Summer Transportation Contracts

The Board of Education approved the Transportation Contracts for the Extended School Year Program, Summer 2026 for the following contractors contingent upon enrollment at State Formula. (Attachment IV)

31. Building Use Approval

The Board of Education approved the following building use requests:

- a. Faith Baptist Fellowship Church – Car Show, Saturday August 15, 2026. EverGreen Elementary parking lot – 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- b. Firefighters Cancer Awareness Walk/Run – Saturday August 29, 2026. High School Stadium – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- c. RDW PTA – Fall Carnival, Saturday October 10, 2026. Robert D. Wilson cafeteria, Gym, Kitchen, LGI, and Stage – 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., event time 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

32. Agreement – Keystone Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Keystone Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services for School Interpreting Services starting at \$73.00 per hour for the 2026-2027 school year.

33. Agreement – Children's Service Center

The Board of Education approved an Agreement between Western Wayne School District and Children's Service Center, at a cost of \$199.00 per student per day for the time the youth is enrolled in the Milford E. Barnes Jr. School - Partial Hospitalization Program and \$199.00 per student per day for the

Therapeutic Educational Program for the time of the student's enrollment effective for the 2026-2027 school year including Extended School Year (ESY) if eligible with appropriate ESY billing rate.

34. Intergovernmental Agreement – Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit 19

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and NEIU 19 for Special Education Services for the 2026-2027 school year as needed as the Special Education population requires, at an estimated cost of \$194,500 and to approve the Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit Resolution pursuant to said contract.

35. Intergovernmental Agreement – Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and LIU 18 for services for the 2026-2027 school year on an as needed basis per Student needs.

36. Agreement – Graham Academy

The Board of Education approved an Agreement between Western Wayne School District and The Graham Academy at a rate of \$329.00 per student per day with an extended school year rate of \$213.00 per student per day effective August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2027.

37. Agreement – Interpretrek

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Interpretrek for interpreting services at the standard daily rate of \$154.00 (2 hours or less) for onsite and video remote interpreting(VRI) and \$76.00 per hour for Long-term staffing.

38. Agreement – Northern Light Counseling & Integrative Wellness

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and Northern Light Counseling & Integrative Wellness for the 2026-2027 school year. All billable counseling services will incur no out-of-pocket cost to the District, as they will be covered by the students' insurance. A \$75.00 per hour fee will apply for non-billable units, which may potentially be covered under the PCCD Mental Health Grants.

39. Agreement – LearnWell

The Board of Education approved an agreement between Western Wayne School District and LearnWell for Virtual Teaching Services at a rate of \$57.85 per hour for hours requested through "Homebound Instruction Request Form" for the 2026-2027 school year.

40. Settlement and Release Agreement

The Board of Education approved the revised Settlement and Release Agreement between Western Wayne School District and the following:

- a. S# 07-25-26

41. Waiver of Expulsion Hearing and Stipulations

The Board of Education adopted the proposed Waiver of Expulsion Hearing and Stipulations relating to the following student, thereby excluding the student from the Western Wayne School District in accordance with the terms thereof:

- a. S# 08-25-26

42. Job Description – Elementary STEM Teacher

The Board of Education approved the Elementary STEM Teacher job description.

43. Personnel

a. Resignations

The Board of Education accepted the following resignations:

1. Kenneth Hemmler – Elementary Professional Employee – Effective June 8, 2026.
2. Teri Carey – Paraprofessional – Effective June 8, 2026.
3. Yesenia Acevedo – Food Service Worker - Effective June 5, 2026.
4. Patricia Stevens – Food Service Worker – Effective June 5, 2026.

b. Appointment – Secondary Mathematics Teacher

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the appointment of Shari Franklin - Professional Employee – Secondary Math Teacher – Step 1M - with applicable fringe benefits at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract of \$72,386.00 effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

c. Appointment – Elementary Teacher

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the appointment of Tracey Hess, Professional Employee – Elementary Teacher - Step 1M - with applicable fringe benefits at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract of \$72,386.00 effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

d. Appointment – Elementary STEM Teacher

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the appointment of Gianna Volpe, Temporary Professional Employee, Elementary STEM Teacher - Step 1B – with applicable fringe benefits at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract of \$67,836.00 effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

e. Appointment – Speech Language Pathologist

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the appointment of Karleigh Lukasik, Temporary Professional Employee - Speech Language Pathologist – Step 1M – with applicable fringe benefits at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract of \$72,386.00 effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

f. Appointment – Emotional Support Teacher

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the appointment of Lauryn Kobrynich, Professional Employee – High School Emotional Support Teacher – Step 1M+24 – with applicable fringe benefits at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract of \$78,386.00 effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

g. Appointment – Autistic Support Teacher

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the appointment of Ellen Fago, Temporary Professional Employee – Elementary Autistic Support Teacher – Step 1B – with applicable fringe benefits at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract of \$67,836.00 effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

h. Appointment – Certified School Nurse

The Board of Education approved the recommendation of the Superintendent and District Administrators in the appointment of Morgan Sledzinski, Temporary Professional Employee – Certified School Nurse – Step 1B – with applicable fringe benefits at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract of \$67,836.00 effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

i. Appointment – Registered Nurse

The Board of Education appointed the following as a Registered Nurse with applicable fringe benefits, effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year:

1. Amy Vicki - Full-Time-184 days per year \$40.00/hour

j. Appointment – Paraprofessional

The Board of Education appointed the following as a Paraprofessional with applicable fringe benefits, effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year:

1. Sydney Emerson – Full-Time, Special Education Paraprofessional \$15.00/hour

k. Appointment – Food Service Worker

The Board of Education appointed the following as a Food Service worker with applicable fringe benefits, effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year:

1. Christina Kucera – Full-Time, Food Service Worker \$15.75/hour

l. Appointment – Extended School Year 2026

The Board of Education appointed the following to the listed position for the summer 2026 extended school year program, contingent upon enrollment, at the rate listed in the Professional Employees Contract:

1. Nicole Weber – Teacher – 2nd Session \$41.82/hour
2. Ashley Paciotti – Teacher \$41.82/hour
3. Shana Carmody – Social Worker \$41.82/hour

4. Michael Bershefsky - Paraprofessional \$32.04/hour
5. Sydney Emerson – Paraprofessional \$15.00/hour

m. Appointment – Substitute

The Board of Education approved the following personnel to be added to the District Substitute list starting summer 2026:

1. Oliver Harty – Custodian \$15.00/hour

n. Appointment – Fall Coaching

The Board of Education approved the following to the coaching position listed for the 2026-2027 school year at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract:

1. Brent McClelland – Boys Soccer, Assistant Coach – 2nd year \$4,078.00

o. Appointment – Winter Coaching

The Board of Education approved the following to the coaching positions listed for the 2026-2027 school year at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract:

1. Michael Judge – Girls Basketball, Head Coach – 8th year \$10,407.12
2. Steve Fahnstock – Girls Basketball, Assistant Coach – 5th year \$ 7,157.34
3. Zach Rovinsky – Boys Basketball, Head Coach – 3rd year \$10,306.08
4. Christopher Stefalo – Boys Basketball, Assistant Coach – 3rd year \$ 7,157.34
5. Eric Olsommer – Jr. High (7,8,9) Boys Basketball Coach – 8th year \$ 5,279.78
6. Kolyn Schane – Jr. High (7,8,9) Boys Basketball Coach – 5th year \$ 5,228.52
7. Joshua Harrison – Boys Wrestling, Head Coach – 6th year \$10,121.81

p. Correction

The Board of Education approved a correction to the number of years' experience from 17 to 9 for Jaime-Lyn Thomas, Health, PE, Safety Department Chairperson for the 2026-2027 school year with an adjusted salary of \$2,372.09.

q. Appointment – Advisor/Department Chairperson

The Board of Education approved the following to the listed positions for the 2026-2027 school year at the salary listed in the Professional Employees Contract:

1. Theodore Macdonough – Math Department Chairperson – 20th year \$2,452.70
2. Amanda Dalessandro – School Nurse Department Chairperson – 1st year \$2,303.00
3. Elaine Ort – HS Musical Pit Director – 13th year \$2,432.25
4. Elaine Ort – Marching Band Director – 13th year \$8,032.64
5. Martin Ort – HS Musical Accompanist - 13th year \$ 912.87

r. Approval – Volunteer

The Board of Education approved the following to the list of volunteers for the 2026-2027 school year:

1. Christine Davis – Western Wayne School District
2. Steve Fahnestock – Jr. High (7,8,9) Girls Soccer

Informational Items:

The Safety and Security coordinator provided the Board of Education with the 2025-2026 Safety and Security report in Executive session.

Dates to Remember:

June 23, 2026	Summer School Registration – 8-11 a.m., Middle School Lobby
June 24, 2026	Summer School Registration – 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Middle School Lobby
June 29-July 2, 2026	FBLA National Leadership Conference – San Antonio, TX

Correspondence

None

Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Federal Programs Report

None

Other Business

None

Recognition of visitors and comments on Non-Agenda items only

Meghan Rath, Adysen Wargo, Morgan Malloy, Frankie Fedoryk, Khloe Elias and Rheagan Wargo of the Girls Wrestling Team spoke in support of the program and Mr. Harrison but also stated they are in need of a wrestling room. Mr. Gershey and Dr. Barrett thanked and complimented the students for their comments and courage to speak up.

Future Meetings:

July Regular Monthly Meeting – The Board of Education will recess for the month of July.

Wednesday, August 5, 2026 - 6:00 p.m. - Board Work Session with Public Board Meeting to follow, District Board Room, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

Meetings Held:

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 – 5:30 p.m. – Executive Session for legal matters, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 – 6:00 p.m. – Board Work Session followed by the Regular Monthly Board Meeting, Administration Building, 1970C Easton Turnpike, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

An Executive Session for safety and personnel was held at 5:30 pm prior to the work session this evening and the board will meet again after the meeting for Executive Session on legal matters.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Gombita and seconded by Mr. Wood to adjourn the regularly scheduled meeting of the Western Wayne Board of Education at 6:31 p.m.

The motion carried with all affirmatives.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rose E. Emmett
Board Secretary

ATTEST:

