

Summary of Minutes  
Regular Board Meeting  
June 8, 2015

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**President, Louis M. Elmy** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Superintendent Dr. Bernard S. Prevuznak** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Board Secretary Leonard B. Przywara** called the roll.

9 MEMBERS PRESENT: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

President Elmy stated:

- The chair wishes to announce that the Board held an Executive Session prior to the Regular Board Meeting of June 8, 2015.
- THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RELATED SOLELY TO MATTERS OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, LABOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND/OR THREATENED OR ACTUAL LITIGATION.

**Miss Katsock moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas**, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 25, 2015 and May 11, 2015 and dispense with the reading of those minutes.

The vote was as follows:

**All In Favor:** Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

There was no **Unfinished Business**

There were no **Communications from the Superintendent**

**Communications from Citizens**

Joshua Schiowitz, 2 Riverside Drive, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Mr. Schiowitz informed the Board that he is a senior at Meyers High School and is here to address the Board in regard to local schools. Mr. Schiowitz noted that the Board has an impending decision which will affect the City of Wilkes-Barre for years to come. Mr. Schiowitz expressed to the Board that a decision to combine schools will have a negative impact on education and drain the City of tradition and culture. Mr. Schiowitz further noted that he is asking the Board to consider the cost of demolition, bussing and to ask themselves what will save a brand new state of the art school from falling into disrepair. Mr. Schiowitz asked the Board to put aside politics, bias, money concerns and to base their decision on what will be best for students in the years to come.

Marie Koulik, 421 South Meade Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Ms. Koulik informed the Board that she was an employee of Nutrition Inc., and requested that the Board intervene on behalf of the food service employees and request that Nutrition Inc., provide their employees with a fair wage increase.

Richard Wren, 257 Grant Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Mr. Wren addressed the Board in regard to the necessity of installing an access gate at G.A.R. High School Football Field, for the safety and protection of students.

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**LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT**

Miss Katsock informed the Board that the next meeting of the LIU is scheduled for June 24, 2015.

**WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER**

Mr. Quinn informed the Board that the next meeting scheduled for the Wilkes-Barre Career and Technical Center is Monday, June 15, 2015.

**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Mr. Galella presented the following report and recommendations for the Board's approval:**

1. That approval be given to enter into an Agreement with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit No. 18, 368 Tioga Avenue, Kingston, PA to provide instructional programs and support services to students of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District during the 2015-2016 school year. A complete copy of the agreement (Exhibit "A") is on file in the Office of the Board Secretary and incorporated into this resolution with full force and effect as if same had been pronounced in its entirety herein.
2. That approval be given to enter into an Agreement with Wyoming Valley Alcohol and Drug Services, Inc., 437 N. Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA to provide Prevention/Education Services to students of this District for the 2015-2016 school year. A complete copy of the agreement (Exhibit "B") is on file in the Office of the Board Secretary, and incorporated into this resolution with full force and effect as if same had been pronounced in its entirety herein.
3. That approval be given to the "Chapter 339-Comprehensive School Counseling Program" as developed by the District's Chapter 339 Committee. This program will provide guidance and application of life skills that will benefit students K-12 in the domains of academic, career and personal/social development.

**Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Miss Katsock, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:**

**9 Ayes:** Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Katsock, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

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**BUDGET FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Quinn presented the following report and recommendations for the Board's approval:

**A. ADMINISTRATIVE**

1. That approval be given to the below listed payments:

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Cert/Appli. Invoice #</b>	<b>Payment Due</b>
Apollo Group, Inc.	District Feasibility Study	Capital Projects	09	\$540.80
Borton Lawson Architecture	District Feasibility Study	Capital Projects	10	\$2,972.50
Apollo Group, Inc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	09	\$86,340.47
Borton Lawson Architecture	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	09	\$2,200.00
Leonard Engineering, Inc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	09	\$2,750.00
Panzitta Enterprises, Inc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	02	\$408,252.15
Leonard Engineering, Inc.	Coughlin Courtyard Masonry & Parapet Repair	Capital Projects	07	\$1,520.00
Apollo Group, Inc.	Daniel J Flood Roof Replacement	Capital Projects	06	\$7,000.00
Apollo Group, Inc.	Heights Murray Elementary Reroofing	Capital Projects	06	\$18,000.00
Dunmore Roofing & Supply Co., Inc.	Heights Murray Elementary Reroofing	Capital Projects	02	\$336,906.00

2. That approval be given to the Repository Tax Sales by Northeast Revenue Service, LLC, as agent for the Luzerne County Tax Claim Bureau as follows:

<b>PROPERTY OWNER</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>PROPOSED BID</b>
20/60 East North Street Prop LLC 207-09 N. Washington Street Wilkes-Barre, PA	73-H10SW4-005-001-000	\$500.00
Michael Millet, Sr. 57 N. Hancock Street Wilkes-Barre, PA	73-H10SW4-004-007-000	\$500.00

3. That approval be given to exonerate the following listed property owner from the payment of school property taxes. The Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission for Real Estate Tax Exemption has verified with the Department of Veterans Affairs that the property owner is totally and permanently disabled as a result of service connected causes incurred during a period of war or armed conflict.

<b>PROPERTY OWNER</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>
Joseph A. Naperkowski	25 South Walnut Street Wilkes-Barre Twp., PA	August 26, 2014

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4. That approval be given to the Controller to post to the 2014-2015 fiscal year end accounting ledgers all budgetary transfers made necessary by closing and adjusting entries and year end auditor adjustments. These transfers will be required to be presented to the Board for review and final approval.
5. That approval be given to renew membership, and continue the Board Policy Maintenance Program with the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, Inc., 400 Bent Creek Blvd, Mechanicsburg, PA for the 2015-2016 school year at a cost of \$13,544.00.
6. The District is in receipt of the approval, by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Budget and Fiscal Management of PLANCON PART K: PROJECT REFINANCING in respect to the issuance of a General Obligation Note, Series of 2014 to Refund General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2007. A copy of this document (Exhibit "A") is on file in the Office of the Board Secretary and incorporated into this resolution with full force and effect as if same had been pronounced in its entirety herein.
7. The District is in receipt of the approval, by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Budget and Fiscal Management of PLANCON PART K: PROJECT REFINANCING in respect to the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2015 to Refund General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2005. A copy of this document (Exhibit "B") is on file in the Office of the Board Secretary and incorporated into this resolution with full force and effect as if same had been pronounced in its entirety herein.

**B. FEDERAL**

That, in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal AP Checks #1409-1412 and Federal Wire transfer 201400814 from April 1, 2015 through April 30, 2015 and Chapter I AP checks #1403-1408 and Chapter I Wire Transfers 201400805-201400813 were drawn for payment since the last regular meeting of the Board of Education held on May 11, 2015 be approved.

- C. That payment be approved for the following General Fund Wire Transfers #201410174-201410187 and General Fund checks, #39170-39285 and Food Service checks # 2600-2615 which were drawn for payment since the last regular meeting of the Board of Education held on May 11, 2105.
- D. That the checks listed on the following pages #39286 to 39435 which have been inspected be approved and that orders be drawn for the respective amounts set down opposite the names of persons or firms.

**Mr. Quinn moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas,** to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

**9 Ayes:** Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

**1 Nay:** Katsock #1, 6 & 7 – C & D

There was no **ATHLETIC COMMITTEE REPORT**

There was no **SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

**CONTRACTED SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Dr. Susek presented the following report and recommendations for the Board’s approval:**

1. That approval be given to award a contract to Borton Lawson Architecture, 613 Baltimore Drive, Wilkes-Barre, PA to provide design services in respect to the G.A.R. Drainage and Retaining Wall Repairs at a fee, not to exceed \$24,100.00. This award is based upon the recommendation of the Apollo Group, Inc., the District’s Construction Manager.
2. That ratification be given to the contract, awarded to Dunmore Roofing Supply Co., Inc., 158 Tigue Street, Dunmore, PA for repairs of the roof at the Wilkes-Barre Township Maintenance Building at a cost of \$39,065.00.
3. That approval be given to accept the 2015-2016 Budget Proposal, as presented by The Nutrition Group, 580 Wendel Road, Suite 100, Irwin, PA in respect to Food Service Management Services for the 2015-2016 school year. This proposal incorporates the continuation of the CEP program. A copy of the Budget Proposal (Exhibit “A”) is attached hereto and incorporated into this resolution with full force and effect as if same had been pronounced in its entirety herein.

**Dr. Susek moved, seconded by Mr. Galella,** to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

**9 Ayes:** Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

**1 Nay:** Katsock, Item #3

**1 Nay:** Susek, Item #3

There was no **LEGISLATIVE /FEDERAL REPORT**

**MATERIAL SUPPLIES REPORT**

**Mr. Galella presented the following report and recommendations for the Board’s approval:**

That having inspected bids opened on April 8, 2015 that the award is made to the following bidders for:  
(See Exhibit “A”)

1. **FALL SPORTS SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT**

**COUGHLIN FOOTBALL**

BATTAGLIAS	\$1,694.00
	\$1,819.40
BSN	\$1,714.30
	\$3,231.20
PYRAMID	\$46.00

**\$8,504.90**

**COUGHLIN CROSS COUNTRY**

BATTAGLIAS	\$192.00
BSN	\$331.92

**\$523.92**

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**COUGHLIN FIELD HOCKEY**

BATTAGLIAS	\$864.00
BSN	\$243.82
PYRAMID	\$9.45
	<b>\$1,117.27</b>

**COUGHLIN GOLF**

BATTAGLIAS	\$871.20
	<b>\$871.20</b>

**COUGHLIN JH FIELD HOCKEY**

BSN	\$1,540.71
	<b>\$1,540.71</b>

**COUGHLIN BOYS SOCCER**

BATTAGLIAS	\$444.60
BATTAGLIAS	\$144.00
BSN	\$903.80
METUCHEN	\$59.75
	<b>\$1,552.15</b>

**COUGHLIN GIRLS SOCCER**

BATTAGLIAS	\$197.48
BSN	\$275.04
BSN	\$855.34
PYRAMID	\$63.33
	<b>\$1,391.19</b>

**COUGHLIN SOCCER JH**

BATTAGLIAS	\$4.74
BSN	\$229.20
BSN	\$595.32
	<b>\$829.26</b>

**COUGHLIN GIRLS TENNIS**

BATTAGLIAS	\$120.00
BSN	\$214.47
	<b>\$334.47</b>

**COUGHLIN GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**

BSN	\$195.60
	<b>\$195.60</b>

COUGHLIN TOTAL    **\$16,860.67**

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**GAR FOOTBALL**

BATTAGLIAS	\$283.20
BATTAGLIAS	\$789.84
BSN	\$4,212.36
METUCHEN	\$866.40
PYRAMID	\$17.80
	<b>\$6,169.60</b>

**GAR CROSS COUNTRY**

BATTAGLIAS	\$137.76
BSN	\$155.70
	<b>\$293.46</b>

**GAR FIELD HOCKEY**

BATTAGLIAS	\$864.00
PYRAMID	\$123.84
PYRAMID	\$11.34
	<b>\$999.18</b>

**GAR GOLF**

BATTAGLIAS	\$126.00
	<b>\$126.00</b>

**GAR JH FIELD HOCKEY**

BSN	\$1,540.71
	<b>\$1,540.71</b>

**GAR BOYS SOCCER**

BATTAGLIAS	\$448.80
	\$34.74
BSN	\$3,571.97
BSN	\$16.47
PYRAMID	\$9.45
	<b>\$4,081.43</b>

**GAR GIRLS SOCCER**

BATTAGLIAS	\$247.80
BATTAGLIAS	\$60.74
BSN	\$82.62
BSN	\$725.88

**GAR SOCCER JH**

BATTAGLIAS	\$532.80
BATTAGLIAS	\$32.74
BSN	\$16.47
BSN	\$779.76

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METUCHEN	\$10.95	PYRAMID	\$9.45
PYRAMID	\$367.56		
PYRAMID	\$30.96		
	<b>\$1,526.51</b>		<b>\$1,371.22</b>
<b><u>GAR GIRLS TENNIS</u></b>		<b><u>GAR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL</u></b>	
BATTAGLIAS	\$3,144.00	BATTAGLIAS	\$16.00
BSN	\$214.47	BSN	\$10.98
		BSN	\$1,552.43
	<b>\$3,358.47</b>		<b>\$1,579.41</b>
		GAR TOTAL	<b>\$21,045.99</b>
<b><u>MEYERS FOOTBALL</u></b>		<b><u>MEYERS CROSS COUNTRY</u></b>	
BATTAGLIAS	\$400.80		
BATTAGLIAS	\$1,176.40		
BSN	\$2,956.72		
METUCHEN	\$59.00		
PYRAMID	\$17.80		
	<b>\$4,610.72</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b><u>MEYERS FIELD HOCKEY</u></b>		<b><u>MEYERS GOLF</u></b>	
BATTAGLIAS		BATTAGLIAS	\$503.64
BSN	\$2,305.50	BSN	\$150.00
BSN	\$2,497.57		
METUCHEN	\$32.85		
PYRAMID	\$82.56		
PYRAMID	\$7.56		
	<b>\$4,926.04</b>		<b>\$653.64</b>



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**MEYERS JH FIELD HOCKEY**

**MEYERS BOYS SOCCER**

BATTAGLIAS	\$532.80
BATTAGLIAS	\$90.06
BSN	\$868.08
BSN	

<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,490.94</b>
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**MEYERS GIRLS SOCCER**

**MEYERS SOCCER JH**

BATTAGLIAS	\$89.28
BATTAGLIAS	\$30.74

BATTAGLIAS	\$266.40
BATTAGLIAS	\$30.74

BSN	\$819.59
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BSN	\$165.24
BSN	\$433.08

METUCHEN

PYRAMID  
PYRAMID

<b>\$939.61</b>	<b>\$895.46</b>
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**MEYERS GIRLS TENNIS**

**MEYERS GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**

BATTAGLIAS	\$480.00
BSN	\$10.98
BSN	\$616.76

<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,107.74</b>
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MEYERS TOTAL    **\$14,624.15**

**Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Miss Katsock,** to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:  
**9 Ayes:** Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

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**Dr. Susek presented the following report and recommendations for the Board's approval:**

The Personnel Committee respectfully makes the following report and recommendations:

All appointments are made pending receipt of PDE required clearances, certifications, and any applicable pre-employment drug test.

**A. Professional**

1. That the following professional employees be hired as a Secondary Summer School Teacher, July 6, 2015 through July 30, 2015, Monday through Thursday, 7:45AM to 2:00PM at rate of \$1,000 per course:

**Math**

Michael Jarus  
Nicole Karkut

**English**

John Gosciwski  
Ryan Wroblecki

**Reading**

Erin Mihalchik

**Science**

Michael Namey  
Renee Pizzella

**Social Studies**

Joseph Bisulca  
Michael Bergold  
Amanda Mendoza

**Health/PE**

Kenneth White

**ESL**

Keryn Evanko

**Special Education**

David Kuhl

2. That **Melissa Myers** be hired as a Secondary Summer School Dean of Students, July 6, 2015 through July 30, 2015, Monday through Thursday, 7:45AM to 2:00PM at rate of \$4,000.

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3. That the following professional employees be hired as a Primary Elementary Summer School Teacher, June 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29 & 30, 8:45AM to 1:15PM at rate of \$25 per hour:

**Primary Elementary K-3**

Wendy Anderson  
Lorrie Gardner  
Heather Lavelle  
Mary Beth Sharkey  
Annette Delasandro  
Maria Hillard  
Lauren Medvec  
Tracy Oram  
Leah Zelinka  
Carol Hiscox  
Melissa Matello  
Kelly Pryor  
Joseph Sebastian  
Mary Tranguch  
Mary Jo Youngblood  
Dionne Fisher  
Diane Grochowski  
Rita Gubbiotti  
Keli Shanahan  
Daniel Volpetti

Colleen Yanora  
Tania Burton  
Courtney Griffiths  
Dave Hagenbaugh  
Kaycee Hughes  
Maria Unice  
Maura Leighton  
Erin Mihalchik

**Primary Special Education**

Maria Deno  
Crystal Kane  
Kristen Pstrak

**Primary ESL**

Carrie Bubul  
Amy Wargo-Secor  
Kelly Jackson  
Linda Scarantino

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4. That the following professional employees be appointed to the following Summer Curriculum Committees at a hourly rate of \$25.

**Secondary**

**Math**

Corinne Drost, Supervisor  
Mary Krolewski  
Christopher Sedon  
Brittany Scarnulis  
Christina Nordmark  
Katherine Genovese  
Gerald Gillis

**English**

Tom Zelinka, Supervisor  
Karen Gayton  
Denise DeMellier  
Heather Johnson  
Melinda Heffron  
Amanda Brooks

**Science**

Mike Sulcoski, Coordinator  
Meredith Falchek  
Jared Meehan  
Michael Shimko  
Deborah Wychock  
Keith Moules  
Joyce Marzouca  
Renee Pizzella  
Rob Osanski  
Brenda Banaszek  
Nicole Lewis

**STEM**

Mike Sulcoski, Coordinator  
Keith Eberts  
Sam Elias  
William Hatzis  
David Lewis  
Vito Pasone Jr.  
Sean McLaughlin  
Erik O'Day  
Deborah Wychock  
Sarah Jackson

**Elementary**

**3-6 Science/Math**

Mike Corcoran, Supervisor  
Lindsay Tasker-Barker  
Christopher Anthony  
Michelle Krzywicki  
Megan Peters  
Yvonne Corcoran  
Amy Sullivan  
Amanda Searfoss  
Carissa Wargo  
Kevin Sickle  
Jill Pestoski

**3-6 ELA**

Tom Zelinka, Supervisor  
Maura Leighton  
Colleen Franchi  
Lisa Giovannini  
Susan Domiano  
Susan Schwab

**K-2**

Erika Jacobs, Coordinator  
Jennifer Yuhas  
Mary Grace Walkowiak  
Lorrie Gardner  
Mary Tranguch  
Tracy Oram  
Melissa Matello  
Lauren Greeley

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5. The following members of the professional staff, having made claim for an incentive raise under the WBAEA Agreement and having produced official transcripts listing the graduate credits earned, be granted the following effective June 9, 2015:

**Bachelors +15**

Beth Gagliardi  
Michelle Gorey  
Tom Leighton

**Masters +9**

Marsha Hanson  
Brian Leighton  
Jamee Rucco  
Amanda Searfoss  
Holly Shubilla  
Jessica Speicher

**Masters +18**

Sara Broody  
Sarah Jackson  
Melissa Matello  
Robert McGrady  
Jennifer Thomas

**Masters +27**

Erika Goyne  
Theresa Slusser  
Richard Simon  
Kenneth White

**Masters +36**

Elias Cross  
Dino Galella  
Lisa Prevuznak

**Masters +45**

Patricia Mikiewicz

**Masters +54**

Eric Drako  
Brian Hample  
Jeffrey Labatch

6. That **Frank J. Castano**, having made claim for an incentive raise under his employment contract and having produced the required documents, be granted an incentive of **Masters +9** effective June 9, 2015.
7. That the retirement of **Linda Crake** be accepted with regret effective May 7, 2015.
8. That ~~**Kriston DeMaranville's**~~ request for unpaid leave for the first semester of the 2015-16 be approved.—WAS NOT APPROVED

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**B. Secretaries & Teachers' Associates**

1. That **Migdalia Roldan** be hired as a Secondary Summer School ESL Teachers' Aide, July 6, 2015 through July 30, 2015, Monday through Thursday, 7:45AM to 2:00PM at their current hourly rate.
2. That the following employees be hired as a Elementary Summer School ESL Teachers' Aide, June 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29 & 30, 8:45AM to 1:PM at their current hourly rate:

**Christine Zak**  
**Margaret Bailoni**

**Mary Claire Corcoran**  
**Donna Majikes**

3. That **Mildred Yench's** retirement effective date be amended from June 30, 2015 to June 11, 2015.
4. That **Bernard Ott's** request for unpaid leave for the 2015-16 school year be approved.

**E. Security Greeters**

1. That the resignation of **Darryl Stewart** be accepted with regret effective June 4, 2015.

**F. Custodial**

1. That the resignation of **John F. Zelones** be accepted with regret effective August 28, 2015.

**G. Athletics**

1. That the resignation of **James Lavan** as G.A.R.'s Junior High Basketball Coach be accepted with regret effective June 8, 2015.
2. That the resignation of **Joseph Rodzinak Jr.** as Coughlin's boys' basketball junior high coach be accepted with regret effective April 28, 2015.
3. That the resignation of **Lonnie Lee Jr.** as Coughlin's boys' basketball junior high assistant coach be accepted with regret effective June 8, 2015.
4. That the resignation of **Frank Spagnuolo** as G.A.R.'s cross country coach be accepted with regret effective June 8, 2015.
5. The following appointments are made for the sport season and will be continued on a season to season basis unless, the post is declared vacant by the Board of School Directors. All appointments are effective upon all PDE required clearances and documents being submitted.

Coughlin	Boys' Basketball	Jr. High Head Coach	<b>Jessie Francis</b>
Coughlin	Boys' Basketball	Jr. High Assistant. Coach	<b>Erik Heffers</b>
Coughlin	Girls' Volleyball	Varsity Assistant Coach	<b>Lori Owens</b>
Meyers	Football	Volunteer Jr. High Assistant	<b>Christian Skrepenak</b>

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ADDENDUM

1. That **Cheryl Wright** be appointed as a Grade II, 10 month secretary.

**Dr. Susek moved, seconded by Miss Katsock** to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

**9 Ayes:** Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

**8 Nays:** Caffrey, Galella, Katsock, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy - A- Professional - #8

There was no **New Business**

Mr. Caffrey, Chairperson of the Feasibility Committee, thanked Dr. Prevuznak, Superintendent, Attorney Raymond Wendolowski, District Solicitor, Board Members, Ned Evans, Denise Thomas and John Quinn, Brian Costello, Director of Secondary Education, Dr. Rochelle Koury, Director of Elementary Education, Bob Makaravage, Cyber School/Data Quality Administrator, Business Manager, Leonard B. Przywara, Controller, Tom Telesz, and Jim Post, Purchasing Agent, for their collective effort in regard to the Feasibility Study.

Mr. Caffrey noted that it was not a rushed process and it has been the intention of the Feasibility Committee to make a recommendation to the full Board at this time.

At this time Mr. Caffrey, Chairperson of the Feasibility Committee, presented the following information to the Members of the Board and those in attendance at the Regular School Board Meeting of June 8, 2015.

This evening the Feasibility Committee of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board will be making its final recommendation to all members of the board.

This recommendation is based on months of meetings and countless hours devoted to unraveling the layers of issues our buildings have presented to this current board and an attempt to balance the needs of our students, educators, communities, and taxpayers.

Since the formation of the Feasibility Committee in September 2014, there was not one meeting or moment that did not present a significant challenge to all members of our committee. The meetings were long, spirited, and sometimes extremely intense, but at no time did any board member or committee member veer away from our central mission-to do the best we could with the information and resources we had available to us in a responsible manner.

At the beginning of this feasibility journey, I suspect all of us hoped we would be able to address all of our problems with one fell swoop, but as we continued to research the overwhelming scope of this project and the true reality of our financial resources, we began to shift direction.

To be clear, every non-district and district-owned site that was reviewed by the feasibility study was vetted extensively regarding the advantages, disadvantages, and cost to our district and taxpayers. The committee even had extensive conversations regarding properties not included in the feasibility study. The public/private partnership (P3) was discussed often, even with officials from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. It was never clear that the uncertainty surrounding such a partnership held any advantage or benefit for the Wilkes-Barre Area School District. The P3 may, however, be an avenue to travel for future district projects.



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Tonight's recommendation is not the ultimate final solution for all that ails our district facilities. We believe that no committee can have all the answers, but we feel very strongly that this report and recommendation puts our district at the starting line of a future in which the Wilkes-Barre Area School District offers its students a quality educational program in buildings that we will be proud of and, most importantly, our students and employees can thrive safely.

The Feasibility Committee recommendation is based on the following:

- 1) Initial feasibility report of December 2014 and the renovation costs of Coughlin High School and Meyers High School.
- 2) The land acquisition and site development costs of non-district owned properties.
- 3) Transportation logistics and projected costs.
- 4) Geo Technical studies.
- 5) Internal and External Task Force reports.
- 6) Design Team research of district-owned properties.
- 7) Financial roadmap for project funding and completion based on recommendations of Wilkes-Barre Area School District Business Office and projected debt service structure by PNC capital markets.

The Feasibility Committee of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board recommends the construction of a 9th through 12th grade building on the site that is currently Coughlin High School.

Additionally, we recommend a 7th and 8th grade addition be built on the current Kistler Elementary district-owned property. If this project is approved, at its completion the school district will have a:

K to 8 campus at the Solomon/Plains complex, K to 8 campus at the Kistler complex, a 9 to 12 high school on the current Coughlin High School site, and renovated Mackin building. At this point, GAR will remain a 7 to 12 Junior/Senior High School

It is also recommended that the district pay close attention to the short and long term maintenance plan recently developed for all district buildings by our construction partner Apollo.

The Feasibility Committee of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board strongly urges the board to vote for the approval of the first wave of this project at a special meeting to be held on June 10th, 2015 and encourage this board and future boards to work with the community and the limits of our budget on short and long term solutions for all our facilities.

Mr. Caffrey noted that there are binders for all Board Members and copies for the media that include all reports. Mr. Caffrey further noted that the Feasibility Report will be available on the District Website later this evening ( June 8, 2015) in order for all citizens and taxpayers to review the report prior to the Special Meeting-General Purposes that will be held at G.A.R. High School on June 10, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

Janelle Davison of STA presented a power point presentation relating to transportation findings and conclusions in regard to the new building project.

Leonard B. Przywara, Business Manager and Tom Telesz, Controller, presented a power point presentation that addressed the costs associated with the anticipated building project.

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David Payne, PNC Capital Markets, addressed the Plan Con possible reimbursement and the advantages of submitting to Plan Con by July 1, 2015. Mr. Payne also discussed the disadvantages of not submitting to Plan Con by July 1, 2015. Board Members, Dino Galella, Denise Thomas and John Quinn had questions in regard to the Plan Con process. David Payne, PNC Capital Markets, Jude Cooney and Pat Noonan, Members of the Design Team, Attorney Ray Wendolowski and Dr. Prevuznak addressed the Board Members questions and concerns.

Jude Cooney, Kyle Kinsman and Pat Noonan, members of the Design Team, presented information to the Board in regard to the anticipated building project.

Mr. Caffrey noted that there is a belief within the Community that only a small amount of work needs to be done to the outside of Meyers. Mr. Caffrey requested that the Design Team address that belief.

Pat Noonan of the Design Team noted that the outside of Meyers does not look as bad as it actually is. Mr. Noonan stated that decades of water infiltration has caused damage to the bricks, terracotta and windows, along with the steel frame not being up to code. Mr. Noonan noted that it would cost approximately twenty-five million dollars to repair/renovate the outside and there would not be one improvement on the inside included in the cost of twenty-five million dollars.

Mr. Galella asked if the annex at Coughlin High School could be saved and utilized.

Kyle Kinsman informed Mr. Galella that it may not be financially feasible to save the annex; however, the possibility of saving the annex can be investigated.

Mr. Caffrey noted that the issue of saving the annex at Coughlin High School can be addressed and evaluated during the design phase of the project.

There were no **Communications from Solicitor**

**Board Secretary Report**

Leonard B. Przywara, Board Secretary/Business Manager announced the following Meeting schedules.

**SPECIAL MEETING-GENERAL PURPOSES**

**June 10, 2015 – 6:00 PM**

**G.A.R. Memorial High School**

**July – 2015**

**Committee Meeting**

Monday July 13, 2015 – 5:30 PM

**Regular Board Meeting**

Monday, July 13, 2015– 7:00 PM

**Ms. Katsock moved** to adjourn the Meeting.

**President Elmy** adjourned the Meeting at 8:45 PM.