

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2014

President, Louis M. Elmy called the meeting to order at 7:08 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 January 13, 2014.
- 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 Mr. Caffrey, to approve the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting of December 3, 2013 and the Regular Board Meeting of December 12, 2013 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 **Treasurer's Report**

There were **no bids to be opened**

Unfinished Business

Mr. Quinn motioned, seconded by Mr. Evans, that the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Board of Education and the Wilkes-Barre Area Custodial/Maintenance/Cafeteria Educational Support Personnel Association-ESPA-PSEA-NEA, effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017 be approved.

The vote was as follows:

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

Communications from the Superintendent

Dr. Prevuznak informed the Board that the new communication system has been working very effectively notifying parents, teachers and staff in regard to cancellations/delays. Dr. Prevuznak stated that he monitors weather reports so that if possible he can announce a delay or cancellation in the evening in order to make it possible for parents/guardians who both work to make necessary arrangements for their children in the event of cancellations/delays.

Dr. Prevuznak announced that it is School Director Recognition month and the theme for 2014 is celebrating our everyday heroes and would present Certificates of Recognition to all Board Members following the conclusion of the Board Meeting.

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2014

Communications from Citizens

1. Ronald Shivers, 56 Orchard Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
Mr. Shivers addressed the Board in regard to the lack of handicap accessibility at Meyers High School and other schools within the Wilkes-Barre Area School District. Mr. Shivers informed the Board and Dr. Prevuznak, Superintendent, that it is necessary for his son to attend school in Plains due to the lack of handicap accessibility at Meyers.

Dr. Prevuznak stated that the District is in the process of inspecting all buildings in regard to handicap accessibility and hopes to ensure that all buildings within the Wilkes-Barre Area School District are made handicap accessible.

Dr. Prevuznak also stated that he was going to ask Mr. Mehalick, Director of Special Education, to contact Mr. Shivers to discuss the possibility of accommodating his son's IEP in another school building closer to their home.

LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT

Miss Katsock informed the Board that the next meeting of the LIU will be held January 22, 2014, at 6:30 PM at the Luzerne Intermediate Unit. Miss Katsock noted that all Wilkes-Barre Area Board Members were given copies of the minutes of the November LIU Board Meeting.

WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

Mr. Quinn noted that the January Meeting of WBACTC will be held on Monday, January 27, 2014 at 6:30 PM. Mr. Quinn informed the Board that the WBACTC Board is working on two innovative programs and he will keep the Board of Wilkes-Barre Area School District informed in regard to the progress of the new programs.

There was no **CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT**

BUDGET FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

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

A. ADMINISTRATIVE

1. That ratification be given to the Repository Tax Sale by Northeast Revenue Service, LLC, as agent for the Luzerne County Tax Claim Bureau as follows:

| PROPERTY OWNER | PARCEL NO. | PROPOSED BID |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Elizabeth Bator 89 Madison Street Wilkes-Barre, PA | 73-H10NW4-022-081-000 | \$500.00 |

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2014

B. FEDERAL

That, in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal Project wire transfer #201300348 and Federal AP Checks 1282-1290, Chapter I wire transfers #201300349-201300357 and Chapter AP checks 1261-1264 were drawn for payment since the last regular meeting of the Board of Education held on December 12, 2013 be approved.

C. That payment be approved for the following General Fund wire transfers for December 1 through December 31, 2013 and General Fund checks #33817-33890 and Food Service checks #2317-2328 which were drawn for payment since the last special meeting of the Board of Education held on December 12, 2013.

D. That the checks listed on the following pages # 33891-34082 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 Rev. Walker, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

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

1 Nay: Katsock, – Items: C & D

There was no **ATHLETIC 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 enter into a contract with Daniel Werner, 52 Walter Dam Road, White Haven, PA to provide "Student Transportation" services for the 2013-2014 school year at a cost of \$0.45 per mile. The contractor must provide proof of insurance to the District.
2. That approval be given to renew the Flood Insurance coverage on District properties with Selective Insurance, effective February 13, 2014 at a cost of \$7,620.00 per location. Three (3) District properties are included in this coverage.

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

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

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

1. Requests for USE OF GYMS, STADIUM, & FIELDS:

G.A.R. HIGH SCHOOL

Rick Simon, Varsity Head Wrestling Coach requests permission to hold the "Annual JV Wrestling Tournament at G.A.R. High School on Sunday, February 16, 2014 from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Proof of insurance will be provided by all participating teams in tournament. There will not be any custodial overtime fees incurred.

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

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

There was no **LEGISLATIVE /FEDERAL REPORT**

MATERIAL SUPPLIES REPORT

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

1. That having researched Time and Attendance Terminals, for implementation with the District's new accounting system that the award for acquisition of same be made to School Technology Associates, Inc., P.O. Box 308, Stone Lake, WI at their quoted price of \$25,470.90.

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

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

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

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

A. Professional

1. That **Mark Belles** be appointed a Technology Education long term substitute effective the start of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, but not before all PDE required clearances and documents have been submitted.
2. That **Jill Pesotski** be appointed an Acting Title 1 Math Teacher effective the start of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, but not before all PDE required clearances and documents have been submitted.
3. That **Erika Jacobs** be appointed the Early Childhood Coordinator under the Act 93 Agreement, effective upon all PDE required clearances and documents being submitted.

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2014

4. That **Tammy Latinski** be appointed an Elementary Education long term substitute effective the start of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, but not before all PDE required clearances and documents have been submitted.
5. That **Courtney Sawicki** be appointed an Elementary Education long term substitute effective the start of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, but not before all PDE required clearances and documents have been submitted.
6. That **Leah Zelinka** be appointed an Elementary Education long term substitute effective the start of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, but not before all PDE required clearances and documents have been submitted.
7. That **Jessica Hendler** be appointed an Elementary Education long term substitute effective the start of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, but not before all PDE required clearances and documents have been submitted.
8. That **Denise Elko** be appointed an Elementary Education long term substitute effective the start of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, but not before all PDE required clearances and documents have been submitted.
9. That **Alicia Erwine** be appointed an Acting Elementary Dean of Students under the Act 93 Agreement, effective the start of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, but not before all PDE required clearances and documents have been submitted.
10. That **Patricia Gribble** be granted a medical sabbatical for the second semester of the 2013-14 school year, pending physician certification.
11. That **Mollie Nealon** be granted a leave under FMLA expected to begin March 10, 2014 and expected to return on May 30, 2014.
12. That **Lauren Gavlick** be granted a leave under FMLA expected to begin March 19, 2014 and expected to return on May 19, 2014.
13. That **Mary Ann Rizzo** be granted a leave under FMLA expected to begin January 13, 2014 with an expected return date to be determined, pending physician certification.
14. That **Elise Mosca** be granted an unpaid leave of absence for the 2nd semester of the 2013-2014 school year.
15. That **Jill Hall** be appointed an Elementary Special Education long term substitute for the 2nd Semester of the 2013-2014 school year.
16. The **William Hatzis** of the professional staff, having made claim for incentive raise under the Collective bargaining Agreement and having produced official transcripts listing the graduate credits earned, be granted **Masters' 45 September 10, 2013**.

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2014

B. Secretaries & Associates

1. That **Migdalia Roldan** be appointed a 20 hour per week ESL teacher associate at an hourly rate in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective upon all PDE required clearances and documents being submitted.
2. That **Lenore Benzi** be appointed a Grade II, 12 month secretary at a salary in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective February 11, 2014.
3. That **Sylvia Decker** be appointed a Grade I, 12 month secretary at a salary in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective upon all PDE required clearances and documents being submitted.

C. Custodial

1. That **Marc Krebs** be appointed a Grade I utility custodian at a salary in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective upon all PDE required clearances and documents being submitted.
2. That **Steven Gilroy** be appointed a Grade I utility custodian at a salary in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective upon all PDE required clearances and documents being submitted.

D. Security Greeters

1. That **Andrew Yelland** be appointed a Substitute Security Greeter, effective upon all PDE required clearances and documents being submitted.

E. Classified

Food Service

1. Notice is given that **Judith Sarnoski** began Workers Compensation on November 21, 2013. It is necessary to be recognized by the Board in order for Ms. Sarnoski to buy back her PSERS time.
2. Notice is given that **Marlene DeAnthony** began Workers Compensation on December 19, 2013. It is necessary to be recognized by the Board in order for Ms. Sarnoski to buy back her PSERS time.

ADDENDUM

1. That **Kristen Bergold** be appointed a Grade I, 12 month secretary at a salary in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective upon all PDE required clearances and documents being submitted.

Dr. Susek 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 – C – Custodial – No. 1 & 2

1 Nay: Walker – C – Custodial – No. 2

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2014

Mr. Quinn presented Resolution # 1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District has determined that there will be no increase in the rate of any tax for the support of its public schools for the 2014-2015 fiscal year by more than the Index established by the Department of Education (Department) for the District;

WHEREAS, the Index for the District is 2.9%;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District does hereby certify that the District will comply with the procedures as set forth in Section 687 of the Public School Code as it relates to the annual budget for the adoption of its proposed and final budget;

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors certifies that increasing any tax at a rate less than or equal to the established index will be sufficient to balance its final budget;

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors certify that the District will submit information on a proposed increase in the rate of a tax levied for the support of the public schools to the Department on a uniform form prepared by the Department no later than five (5) days after the adoption of this resolution;

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors certify that a copy of this resolution adopted pursuant to Section 311 of the Taxpayer Relief Act of Special Session No. 1 of 2006 will be sent to the Department no later than five (5) days after the adoption of this resolution;

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors recognize that the District shall not be eligible to seek referendum exceptions under Section 333 (f) of the Taxpayer Relief Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors recognize that the Department shall compare the proposed percentage increase in the rate of the tax with the index; within ten (10) days of the receipt of the information as required, the Department shall inform the District whether the proposed tax rate increase is less than or equal to the index.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District as follows:

The Board of School Directors adopts this RESOLUTION on the 13th day of January, 2014 indicating that it will not raise the rate of any tax for the support of its public schools for the 2014-2015 fiscal year by more than the index established by the Department of Education for the District of 2.9%.

DULY ADOPTED, by the Board of School Directors of this School District, this 13th day of January, 2014.

*Wilkes-Barre Area School District
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania*

President

Wilkes-Barre, Pa
January 13, 2014

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

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2014

Mr. Galella presented Resolution # 2

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the recent death of **WILLIAM JOSEPH LAVAN** has brought sorrow to his family, friends, and all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, he served with the US MARINE CORPS during World War II where he was wounded in the Battle of Iwo Jima and he was awarded the Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, he worked in the coal mines for seventeen years and the State Correctional Institution at Dallas for twenty-six years; and

WHEREAS, he is the father of Brian Lavan, Director of Police Operations of Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Marie Harding, Secondary Secretary at G.A.R. High School and the grandfather of Todd Harding, Purchasing Assistant for Wilkes-Barre Area School District; and

WHEREAS, his passing on December 15, 2013 will leave an unfillable void in the lives of all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that his death be recorded in the minutes of the Board of School Directors and that the Secretary be instructed to express the sympathy of the members of the Board to his wife, Madeline; his daughter Marie; his sons, Brian and William; his grandchildren, Todd, Jason, William, Brian and Ross; and to his entire family.

Wilkes-Barre, PA
January 13, 2014

Mr. Galella moved to accept the Resolution by Acclamation.

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

There was no **New Business**

Communications from Solicitor

Attorney Wendolowski informed the Board that Dr. Prevuznak, Superintendent, Leonard Przywara, Business Manager/Board Secretary, Jim Post, Purchasing Agent and himself(Attorney Wendolowski) met a few times to discuss the Security cameras and are in the process of preparing a proposal for the Board to determine where the funds can be allocated from to pay for Security cameras. Attorney Wendolowski stated that he hoped to have that report available to the Board for the February 10, 2014 Board Meeting.

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
January 13, 2014

Leonard Przywara, Business Manager/Board Secretary, noted that the Board has received a schedule of the tentative proposal in their packet.

Attorney Wendolowski noted that Mr. Saliko had addressed the Board in the Committee Meeting in regard to the Meyers stadium lighting bid results.

Attorney Wendolowski stated that the Board may wish to entertain the following motion:
Authorize the acceptance of the bid, either the cast iron bid conduit price of \$19,821.54 if that comes within the quote amount and if not \$18,486.15 which would be the PVC cost.

Mr. Galella motioned, seconded by Miss Katsock, to authorize the acceptance of the bid, either the cast iron bid conduit price of \$19,821.54 if that comes within the quote amount and if not \$18,486.15 which would be the PVC cost. The vote was as follows:

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

Attorney Wendolowski also addressed the Board in regard to entertaining a motion regarding a Settlement and Release Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and a student (identified by initials).

Rev. Walker motioned, seconded by Dr. Susek, to approve the Settlement and Release Agreement. The vote was as follows:

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

Board Secretary Report

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

February – 2014

Committee Meeting

Monday, February 10, 2014 – 5:30 PM

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, February 10, 2014 – 7:00 PM

Miss Katsock moved to adjourn the Meeting.

President Elmy adjourned the Meeting at 8:43 PM.