

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**July 29, 2021**

---

**Board President, Joseph A. Caffrey**, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Superintendent Costello** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Board Secretary, Thomas F. Telesz**, called the roll.

**6 Members Present:** Evans, Harris, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Caffrey

**3 Members Absent:** Atherton, Patla, Walker

**President Caffrey** began the meeting:

- An Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Board Meeting of July 29, 2021. The subjects discussed in Executive Session related solely to matter of employee relations, labor negotiations, and/or threatened or actual litigation.

**APOLLO REPORT**

**Mr. Mike Krzywicki – District Maintenance Plan** – There were two leaks reported at Kistler Elementary on July 20 they are not related to the new roof. District maintenance staff is addressing repairs to HVAC exhaust fans and existing roof drain piping, which are the sources of water infiltration.

The Switchgear replacement at Heights Elementary will be performed in August and will require a 10-day shutdown. The District will need to empty refrigerators/freezers and temporarily relocate fish tanks.

The roof leak reported at GAR was investigated after the last Board meeting. Apollo requested corrective action from the roof manufacturer, since the roof system is still under warranty. Repairs were made to address the leak. During the site visit the contractor inspected wind damage to the same area, which is not covered under warranty. A proposal was submitted to the District to make repairs that resulted from wind damage.

The lighting replacement at GAR has commenced. Apollo has obtained pricing for flooring replacement at GAR for consideration by the District.

Bid documents were issued for roof replace at the Solomon/Plains complex. Due to shortage of roof insulation, work cannot be started this year. One modular classroom unit at Solomon/Plains Elementary will be repaired and the other will be replaced over the winter break.

**New High School Project:** The Sitework Contractor has commenced PADOT improvements at Abbott Street intersection, continued widening of Cross Valley off-ramp, sidewalks, curbs, line striping and topsoil.

The Building Shell Contractor has completed EIFS, continued installation of painting, VCT flooring, sheet vinyl flooring, stage lighting, stage flooring, markerboards, casework, countertops, acoustical wall panels, hollow metal doors, wood doors, door hardware, toilet partitions, terrazzo ceramic tile, rubber stair treads, finish carpentry, handrails, lab casework, metal lockers,

bleachers, pool equipment, shower curtains, privacy curtains and commissioning.

The Drywall Contractors has completed installation of ceiling grid and tiles.

The Food Service Contractor has completed installation of kitchen equipment.

The Plumbing Contractor has completed installation of plumbing fixtures.

The HVAC Contractor has completed installation of duct sox, flex duct, GRD's, equipment startup, and continued balancing of HVAC equipment.

The Electrical Contractor has completed testing of fire alarm system and continued to install lighting fixtures and devices.

The Aluminum & Glass Contractor has completed installation of mirrors, aluminum windows and doors, glass & caulking.

The Landscaping Contractor has continued seeding and installation of plantings.

The projected final cost is within budget and substantial completion will be achieved prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

**Denise Thomas** – Is the Solomon Roof leaking? Is it possible to relocate the modulars from Dodson to Solomon?

**Mike Krzywicki** – There are areas that are worn, but I am not aware of any leaks. It wouldn't be cost effective to do transfer those modulars. They are not the correct size and would need extensive renovation.

**Beth Ann Harris** – Solomon modulars are they single or double modular? Would it be more economical to have all students grades 6 to 8 at GAR Middle School and make the entire Solomon/Plains complex a K to 5 school?

**Mike Krzywicki** – There are currently two modulars at Solomon. The one was split into 2 classrooms the other is one larger classroom. The larger classroom will be split and made into 2 classrooms.

**Brian Costello** – GAR Middle School would not be able to accommodate all of the students. At Solomon/Plains we host some LIU classrooms, Head Start and Building Blocks in order to keep that partnership we decided to add an additional modular.

We will be moving forward to replace modulars at Heights and Kistler over the next two years. We will be upgrading because they are at the age where they need to be replaced. The same is for the roofs. This Board has done a fabulous job where we have a capital budget. The Solomon Complex was built in 1997 and is at the time when a roof needs to be replaced.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Our Health and Safety Plan is on the Agenda for Board approval. Our main focus will always be the health and safety of our students, employees and community. We are a little over a month of the start of school. We have learned over the past year we can anticipate more clarification from the CDC, PA Dept. of Health and PDE additional recommendation or modifications of the current plan. As we are closer to the start of school we will drill down on our plan. As of right now the District will be five days a week with a virtual option for student wishing to take that plan. I would encourage everyone to contact your building principal to discuss what is best for your child. We will take every precaution and use every mitigation effort we have to insure a safe environment for everyone.

We are very close to completion of the new High School. It gives me great pleasure to announce the dates of the following activities. These dates will also be posted on our website.

### **OPEN HOUSE at Wilkes-Barre Area High School – 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

Monday, August 30	--	Seniors and their families.
Tuesday, August 31	--	Juniors and their families
Wednesday, September 1	--	Sophomores and their families
Thursday, September 2	--	Freshmen and their families

### **RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY/OPEN HOUSE**

August 26 will be the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Beginning at 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. the building will be open to the community for tours of the building.

### **WOLFPACK COMMUNITY DAY**

Friday, October 1, 2021 we will be hosting a Wolfpack Community Day from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. More information and details will be forthcoming.

### **OLD BUSINESS - No Report**

**Mrs. Schiowitz** – What is the status of the Kistler Pool? Is the new school pool filled?

**Dr. Costello** – The Kistler pool was operational during the swim season. Another leak appeared about a month after the season ended. The pool is now drained. The new High School will be utilized for swim meets and Kistler will be used for diving competitions. The pool at the new school is not scheduled to receive water until the end of August.

**Mrs. Harris** – Will the pool at the new High School be integrated as part of the physical education program?

**Dr. Costello** – Yes it will be part of the program if a student chooses. We will also provide life guard training to any student that is interested in becoming a certified life guard. We would then open up the pool to the public and utilize our students as Life Guards. We also plan on bringing our 5<sup>th</sup> grade elementary students to the pool as part of their physical education class.

**Mrs. Thomas** – Will we be offering swim lessons to the general public?

**Dr. Costello** – We are currently working with the YMCA to offer that to our fifth grade students at this time the lessons are not for the general public.

**Mrs. Harris** – Will there be an instrumental program in our elementary schools?

**Dr. Costello** – We will have an instrumental/orchestra program in our elementary schools. All schools will have concerts that will include choral, band and orchestra.

### **COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS**

#### **Sam Troy, Wilkes-Barre**

Voiced his opposition to the New High School. He also asked for a separate comment period for Agenda purposes only and questioned the Capital Project payments listed on the Agenda.

### **LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT #18**

**Ms. Thomas** – The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 11 at 4:00 p.m.

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

**Mr. Quinn** – The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 20.

### **CURRICULUM ADMINISTRATION**

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

1. That approval be given to the PA Department of Education ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan. **"Exhibit A"**
2. That approval be given to enter into a Transportation Agreement between Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and Wilkes-Barre Area School District to transport students from Camp Hill, PA to WPSD for the 2021-2022 school year. The cost for eachchild is \$800 per month or \$8,000 for 10 months. **"Exhibit B"**
3. That approval be given to enter into an Agreement between Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf for Off-Campus Interpreting Services for the 2021-2022 school year. The monthly rate is \$1,050 for a total of \$10,500 for 10 months. **"Exhibit C"**

**Mr. Evans moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas to adopt the Curriculum Administration Report.**

**The vote was as follows:**

**6 Ayes: Evans, Harris, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Caffrey**

**BUDGET FINANCE/MATERIALS & SUPPLIES/CONTRACTED SERVICES**

Ms. Thomas presented the following report and recommendations for the Board’s approval.

**A. Administrative**  
**1. Capital Projects**

A1.1	Apollo Group, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 45	\$64,320.34
A1.2	Benell	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 26	\$92,897.73
A1.3	Duggan & Marcon, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 17	\$128,340.00
A1.4	Everon Electrical Contractors, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 26	\$157,548.07
A1.5	Green Valley Landscaping, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 8	\$120,888.02
A1.6	Quandel Construction Group, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 27	\$1,159,529.48
A1.7	Scranton Sheet Metal, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 26	\$77,887.65
A1.8	Stell Enterprises, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 20	\$617,690.70
A1.9	Torbik Safe & Lock, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #14753	\$100,460.08
A1.10	Torbik Safe & Lock, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #14614	\$146,869.64
A1.11	Triangle Fire Protection, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 16	\$58,050.00
A1.12	Geo-Science Engineering & Testing	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #020107	\$12,500.00
A1.13	A & E Group	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #19-462-01	\$13,987.50
A1.14	Corbett, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #10994	\$7,015.68
A1.15	Rice’s Food Equipment & Consulting, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. 73667	\$6,290.90
A1.16	Visual Sound	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. 214534D1	\$11,792.27

A1.17	Detwiler Roofing, LLC	Kistler Roof Replacement	Capital Projects	App. No. 4	\$9,000.00
A1.18	Detwiler Roofing, LLC	Kistler Roof Replacement	Capital Projecs	App. No. 5	\$57,500
A1.19	Schaedler Yesco	GAR Lighting Project	Capital Projects	Inv. # S6213911.001	\$74,572.85
A1.20	Apollo Group, Inc.	Heights-Murray Switchgear	Capital Projects	AGI-21002-WBASD PR#4	\$376.46
A1.21	Brennan Electric, Inc.	Heights-Murray Switchgear	Capital Projects	App. No. 1	\$29,070.00
A1.22	Apollo Group, Inc.	Solomon/Plains Roof Project	Capital Projects	AGI-21028-WBASD-01	\$415.17
A1.23	Mark J. Sobeck Roof Consulting, Inc.	Solomon/Plains Roof Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #7243	\$9,338.00

2. That approval be given to ratify the following Capital Project checks:

Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Check #488	\$51.41
Pennsylvania American Water Co.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Check #498	\$1,089.76

3. That approval be given to ratify Check #56668 in the amount of \$1,181.25 for Mine Subsidence Insurance for the following properties: Administration Building, Meyers High School, GAR High School, Mackin Elementary, Dodson Elementary, Kistler Elementary, D.J. Flood Elementary, W. Carey St., Plains (ALC) and Heights-Murray Elementary.

4. 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 Address	Parcel No.	Proposed Bid
Bald Mountain Road, Bear Creek	04-H12-00A-06A-000	\$500.00
S. Sherman St. (Land & Garage)	73-I10NN1-011-009-000	\$1,000.00

**B. FEDERAL**

That, in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal AP Checks #2206 to #2269 and June Federal Wire Transfers #202000788 to #202000799 which were drawn for payment since the last regular board meeting of the Board of Education held on June 28, 2021 be approved.

**C. GENERAL FUND/FOOD SERVICE**

That payment be approved for the General Fund Wire Transfers #202011665 to #202011694; General Fund checks #56637 to #56685 and Food Service checks #3603 to #3618 which were drawn for payment since the last regular board meeting of the Board of Education held on June 28, 2021 be approved.

## D. GENERAL FUND

That the checks #56686 to #56712 listed on the following pages, which have been inspected, be approved and that orders be drawn for the respective amounts set down opposite the names of persons or firms.

## E. CONTRACTED SERVICES

1. To approve Change Order #007 for Duggan & Marcon, Inc. in the amount of \$25,000. The Change Order consists of the following:

Remove and replace ceiling tiles in 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor labs	\$25,000.00
--	-------------

2. To approve Change Order #015 for Everon Electrical Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$15,527.84. The Change Order consists of the following:

RFI No. 715 – Provide 2 relays	\$980.79
Provide additional lighting in STEM	\$7,757.10
Provide additional circuits for serving counters and heat lamps	\$4,000.00
RFI No. 712 – Provide lighting contactor for Café lighting	\$2,789.95

3. To approve Change Order #021 for Quandel Construction Group, Inc. in the amount of \$1,380.67. The Change Order consists of the following:

Paint door louvers	\$2,487.13
Provide 20 additional floor stops per Architect	\$1,004.14
Credit for unopened power supply units	(\$2,110.60)

4. To approve Change Order #016 for Stell Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$135,935.77. The Change Order consists of the following:

Repair broken rain leaders between classroom wings	\$4,613.00
Backfill mine void in slope along Cross Valley Exit per GeoScience	\$3,613.21
Construct cheek wall at Main Street Entrance ramp per Borton Lawson	\$4,671.00
Rock excavation at Cross Valley off ramp	\$2,560.00
Revise traffic control plan for Cross Valley off-ramp to expedite Phase 2	\$27,582.48
Remove & replace damage curb and walk in Area 6	\$5,400.00
Abbott Street PADOT modifications	\$87,496.08

5. That approval be given to enter into the Agreements for Participation in Child Nutrition Programs between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Alternative Learning Center/Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18 and The Milford E. Barnes Jr. School/CSC for the 2021-2022 school year. **“Exhibit D”**
6. That approval be given to enter into a three-year Service Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Ironton Global with a one time charge of \$1,520 and a monthly charge of \$1,140 beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. **“Exhibit E”**

## ADDENDUM

1. To approve Change Orders 1 through 5 for Schaedler Yesco regarding the GAR lighting project as listed below:

Change Order #1	Gym rewire for 120 vac New LED Lights	\$6,950.00
Change Order #2	Added Powerpacks & wall occupancy sensor replacements	\$8,793.00
Change Order #3	Emergency Lights in Corridors (Qty TBD)	\$237.00 ea Unit Price
Change Order #4	Supply and Install Library area lighting	\$12,596.00
Change Order #5	Supply and Install Kitchen lighting	\$6,502.00

**Ms. Thomas moved seconded by Mr. Evans to adopt the Budget Finance/Materials & Supplies/Contracted Services Report with the Addendum.**

**The vote was as follows:**

**6 Ayes: Evans, Harris, Quinn, Schiowitz (A.17 to A1.23; A3-4; B, C, D, E5-6),  
Thomas, Caffrey**

**1 Nay: Schiowitz (A1.1 to A1.16; A2; E1-2-3-4)**

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**Ms. Harris presented the following report and recommendations for the Board's approval.**

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

#### **A. Agreements**

1. That the agreement between Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Kansas State University be approved. **"Exhibit H"**

#### **B. Act 93**

1. That **Carl Gembitski** be appointed the Supervisor/School Police Officer effective August 2, 2021.

#### **C. Professionals**

1. Due to the planned implementation of a newly structured learning program as well as the availability of a funding source, teachers, nurses and guidance counselors will receive a \$5,000 stipend for full participation in the Summer Program. Stipend for partial participation will be prorated. All assignments will be based on student participation and funding available. Summer Programs hours not to exceed grant program funding.

**Wayne Waslasky**



**D. Custodians, Maintenance and Housekeepers**

1. That the resignation of **Shannon Olsen** be accepted effective July 26, 2021.
  2. That **Kevin Kasky's** request for unpaid leave from August 25, 2021 through August 31,2021 be approved.
  3. That **Charles Fritz's** request for unpaid leave beginning on July 29, 2021 be approved.
  4. That \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed a 25 hour per week Housekeeper. **TABLED**
- 

**E. Athletics**

1. 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.

Soccer Junior High Assistant Coach      **Logan Davison**

Boys Lacrosse Varsity Head Coach      **Jared Meehan**

**F. Extra-Curricular Salary Schedule-6**

1. The following appointments are made for the year and will be continued on a year to year 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.

Band Director      **Michael Pryor**

**Ms. Harris moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas to adopt the Personnel Committee Report.**

**The vote was as follows:**

**6 Ayes:      Evans, Harris, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Caffrey**

**New Business – None**

**Communication from Solicitor – No Report**

**Motion to adjourn by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Harris.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.**