

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
March 9, 2015

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

Board Secretary Leonard B. Przywara called the roll.

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

1 MEMBER ABSENT: Katsock

President Elmy stated:

- The chair wishes to announce that the Board held an Executive Session prior to the Regular Board Meeting of March 9, 2015.
- THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RELATED SOLELY TO MATTERS OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, LABOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND/OR THREATENED OR ACTUAL LITIGATION.

Ms. Thomas moved, seconded by Rev. Walker, to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 11, 2015 and dispense with the reading of those minutes.

The vote was as follows:

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

Treasurer's Report:

Leonard B. Przywara, Board Secretary/Business Manager, presented the Treasurer's Report for the month ending December 31, 2014.

WILKES-BARRE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
CASH ACCOUNT BALANCES
FOR THE MONTH ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014

GENERAL FUNDS

GENERAL FUND CHECKING - FNCB	(\$328,313.35)
GENERAL FUND CASH CONCENTRATION - FNCB	\$26,846,814.13
FEDERAL PROGRAMS - FNCB	\$470,118.34
FEDERAL PROGRAMS CHAPTER 1 -FNCB	\$345,519.40
OMEGA BANK	\$2,928,046.35
OMEGA BANK	\$2,063,976.83
JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT	\$216,254.61
PNC BANK	\$1,000.00
PNC BANK INVESTMENT	\$8,729,908.60
LPL LINSKO PRIVATE LEDGER	\$828,527.28
EARNED INCOME TAX ACCOUNT-FNCB	\$22,301.91
COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENT #1	\$11,593.56
REAL ESTATE TAX ACCOUNT - FNCB	\$0.00
LANDMARK CD	\$459,462.34
PLGIT EIT	\$819,317.96
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$43,414,527.96

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
March 9, 2015

SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	
2003 CAPITAL PROJECTS CASH CONCENTRATION-FNCB	\$10,367.15
ATHLETIC FUND-OMEGA BANK	\$472,632.84
TOTAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	\$482,999.99
TRUST AND AGENCY FUNDS	
PAYROLL CHECKING-FNCB	\$3,310,087.95
PAYROLL CLEARING -FNCB	\$277.63
WHOLE LIFE GROUP TRUST-CITIZENS BANK	\$173,066.44
ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY FUND-OMEGA BANK	\$120,321.72
SECONDARY ACTIVITY FUND-OMEGA BANK	\$292,144.19
COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENTS #5	\$333,095.51
TOTAL TRUST AND AGENCY FUND	\$4,228,993.44
FOOD SERVICE FUND	
CHECKING ACCOUNT-OMEGA BANK	\$1,429,429.64
TOTAL FOOD SERVICE FUND	\$1,429,429.64
DEBT SERVICE FUND	
COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENTS #7	\$9,279.78
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$9,279.78

Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to accept the Treasurer's report ending December 31, 2014. The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

Unfinished Business

Mr. Caffrey informed the Board that a report was going to be presented by the Chairpersons of the Internal and External Task Force.

Mr. Patrick Patte, Chairperson of the Internal Task Force and Mr. John Kozerski, Chairperson of the External Task Force, addressed the Board and the Citizens in attendance at the Board Meeting of March 9, 2015 in regard to the information they are reviewing in regard to the Feasibility Study and the progress they have made thus far. Mr. Patte and Mr. Kozerski both expressed their gratitude for being afforded the possibility to participate in and provide their questions, concerns and ideas in regard to the process of building of new schools.

Communications from the Superintendent

Dr. Prevuznak congratulated the Meyers Speech and Debate Team on their success at their most recent tournament and expressed to the Board, that as in the past the Meyers Speech and Debate Team are having an outstanding year.

Dr. Prevuznak, Superintendent, read the following statement.

Several weeks ago I was charged by the Athletic Committee of this Board with the duty of researching what other districts were doing concerning inclement weather situations, and how the closings and early dismissals of their districts affected both activities and sports. I brought this issue to this committee as a concern of mine and upon soliciting the responses from other superintendent's, I discovered that every district in this county suspends all activities, practices, and events due to inclement weather.

This Board has promoted and placed student safety above everything else as its most important value. Tonight this Board will further demonstrate this value by making a motion for approval that it once again puts student safety at forefront of this district's concerns. The athletic committee has given me the discretion as superintendent, on days where this district is closed or if we dismiss early, to evaluate and decide if roads later in the day are safe for our athletes to practice in our facilities. I have only made special concessions for coaches to hold practices on these rare occasions, if I felt conditions were safe and if the circumstances warranted such an action. Let me reassure the stakeholders of this district. I take very seriously as this Board does, the safety of every child and employee in this district. It has been a long, hard, difficult winter and I get little sleep during the winter months. But let me reassure this Board and all our stakeholders that if it comes down to Academics or Athletics vs. Students safety, Academics and Athletics lose every time. In my 34 years as an employee of this district I have seen parents and guardians have to say goodbye to their children due to sickness and tragedy. It is a horrible, horrible thing to witness as an educator, the loss of one of our own kids. And if it takes a 3 hour delay that may inconvenience and anger a parent getting to work on time, or the rescheduling of a school day at the end of the school year when a vacation is planned, or the loss of practice time due to a school closing because of icy roads, so be it. I take every decision I make very seriously in this position but none more than those that affects the children of this district. I publically thank the Board for their support with the decisions that had to be made over the last few months regarding school closings, delays, and early dismissals, and I ask this Board to consider this very important motion that will voted on this evening.

Communications from Citizens

Tracey Hughes, 73 Spruce Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Ms. Hughes addressed the Board in regard to the three minute time limit allotted to Citizens to address the Board and also inquired about the metal detectors to be used in the Wilkes-Barre Area Scholl District schools.

President Elmy informed Ms. Hughes that in a situation where a Citizen requires additional time to address the Board and the Board recognizes that need, additional time will be granted.

Officer Lavan informed Ms. Hughes that the metal detectors will be manned by the security greeters who are already in place at all of the District buildings. Officer Lavan noted that the metal detectors will be used in a way as not to interfere with the start of a school day and the individuals to be screened by the metal detectors will be randomly selected.

Attorney Wendolowski informed Ms. Hughes that in no way will individuals be profiled or singled out as to the metal detector screening process.

LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT

Mr. Galella noted that there was no report at this time.

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 March 16, 2015. Mr. Quinn noted that the Day Care Center is moving forward at the Wilkes-Barre Career and Technical Center.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

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

1. That approval be given to the "Memorandum of Agreement, Regarding ELECT/Project MOM and Young Fatherhood Initiative", by and between the District and the Luzerne Intermediate Unit (LIU), whereby the LIU agrees to provide all services to eligible ELECT students as stipulated in their contract with PDE. The District's prorated share of the required matching program funds total \$5,530.91. This agreement will cover the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.
2. That approval be given to enter into an Agreement with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit to provide Therapeutic Staff Support Services to students from this District, for the 2014-2015 school year at a cost of \$30.00 per hour.
3. That approval be given to enter into a Contract with Bayada Home Health Care, Inc., 1864 North Township Blvd., Route 11, Pittston-By-Pass, Pittston, PA to provide "In School" Home Health Aide Services to District students, during the 2014-2015 school year at a cost of \$27.36 per hour. 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.
4. That approval be given to enter into an Agreement with Goodwill Industries of NEPA, Inc. to provide "day training services" to students from this District, for the 2014-2015 school year at a rate of \$8.11 per fifteen (15) minute unit of service.
5. That the "Special Education Procedure Manual" as developed by the Special Education Department be approved for implementation.

Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Ms. Evans, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

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:

Contractor	Project	Fund	Cert/Appli. Invoice #	Payment Due
Borton Lawson Architecture	District Feasibility Study	Capital Projects	07	\$9,034.94
Apollo Group, Inc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	06	\$7,794.73
A & E Group, JV	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	06	\$50,349.00
Borton Lawson Architecture	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	06	\$11,700.00
Leonard Engineering, Inc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	06	\$3,190.00
WKL Architecture	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	06	\$6,592.00
Environmental Abatement Assoc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	14-066-2	\$3,800.00
Environmental Abatement Assoc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	15-001-1	\$3,500.00
Ambech, Inc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	01	\$92,376.00
Leonard Engineering, Inc.	Mackin Renovation	Capital Projects	06	\$920.00

B. FEDERAL

That, in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal AP Checks #1387-1393 and Federal Wire transfer 201400597 & 201400598 from February 1, 2015 through February 28, 2015 and Chapter I AP checks #1354-1363 and Chapter I Wire Transfers 201400599-201400607 were drawn for payment since the last regular meeting of the Board of Education held on February 11, 2015 be approved.

C. That payment be approved for the following General Fund Wire Transfers #201410119-201410136 and General Fund checks, #38258-38389 and Food Service checks # 2556-2568 which were drawn for payment since the last regular meeting of the Board of Education held on February 11, 2105.

D. That the checks listed on the following pages #38390 to 38569 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 Mr. Galella, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Mr. Quinn, to grant Dr. Prevuznak, Superintendent the authority to determine delays or cancellations for the school day and also to cancel scheduled sporting events or sporting practices at his discretion, when he deems necessary due to an early dismissal or cancellation due to bad weather. The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

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 the contract revision, by and between the School District and Architects to include additional services for Educational Planning in respect to the renovation project of the former Mackin Elementary School. Preparation and submission of PlanCon forms and related information to the Pennsylvania Department of Education as part of the PlanCon process will be invoiced on an hourly rate basis for an estimated fee of \$35,000.00 plus reimbursable expenses.
2. That approval be given to extend the current Software as a Service (SaaS) contract with Skyward, Inc., 5233 Coye Drive, Stevens Point, Wisconsin for an additional three (3) calendar years, commencing July 1, 2015 with an annual guaranteed rate of \$6.99 per student.

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

8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

There was no **LEGISLATIVE /FEDERAL REPORT**

There was no **MATERIAL SUPPLIES REPORT**

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 the retirement of **Colleen K. Benson** be accepted with regret effective the last day of the 2014-15 school year.
2. That the retirement of **Albert J. Horoszy** be accepted with regret effective the last day of the 2014-15 school year.
3. The following members of the professional staff, having made claim for incentive raise under the WBAEA Agreement and having produced official transcripts listing the graduate credits earned, be granted the following effective March 10, 2015:

Bachelors +15

Brittany Scarnulis
Megan Sweeney
Angelo Marino
Andita Parker Lloyd
Vito Pasone

Bachelors +30

Stephanie Wallace

Masters +9

Leah Zelinka
Sarah Jackson
Brittany Kalinay

Masters +18

Richard Simon
Larissa Goldstein
Mollie Evans

Masters +27

Lisa Prevuznak

Masters +36

Geoffrey Bell
Melissa Sindaco

Masters +45

Jennifer Welgosh
Jeff Labatch
Yvonne Corcoran

B. Teachers' Associates

1. That **Rick Rostkowski** be appointed a 20 hour para-professional/PCA.
2. That **Tara Konycki** be appointed a 25 hour office aide.
3. That **Danielle Luetzen** be appointed a substitute teachers' associate.
4. That _____ be appointed a substitute teachers' associate. TABLED
5. The **Heather McDonough** request for unpaid leave beginning February 16, 2015 through April 13, 2015 be approved.
6. The **Donna Hooker** request for unpaid leave beginning February 10, 2015 through May 6, 2015 be approved.

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
March 9, 2015

C. Custodians

1. That **Andrew Yelland**, a substitute greeter, be appointed a substitute custodian, not to exceed 28 hours per week.
2. That **Mykel Dempsey** be appointed a substitute custodian.

D. Crossing Guards

1. That **Russell Evick** be appointed a substitute crossing guard.

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.

Coughlin	Football	Junior High Asst. Coach	James Costello
Coughlin	Track & Field	Varsity Assistant Coach	Jeffrey Krokos
Coughlin	Baseball	Jr High Volunteer Asst. Coach	Dwight Rhodes
Coughlin	Baseball	Jr High Volunteer Asst. Coach	Raymond Vitali
Meyers	Football	Varsity Head Coach	Jeffrey Labatch
Meyers	Softball	Volunteer Assistant Coach	Keryn Evanko
G.A.R.	Softball	Varsity Assistant Coach	Danielle Luetzen
G.A.R.	Baseball	Volunteer Assistant Coach	Timothy Zaccone

ADDENDUM

A. 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.

Coughlin	Boys' Volleyball	Varsity Assistant Coach	Justin Udzella
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Dr. Susek moved, seconded by Miss Thomas to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:
8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
March 9, 2015

Mr. Galella presented Resolution #1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the 2015-2016 proposed General Operating Budget of the **LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT** has been presented to the members of the Board of Education of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District for review; and,

WHEREAS, said budget calls for the total contribution of \$402,031.00 by withholding from member districts (this represents no change from the 2014-2015 budget); and

WHEREAS, Wilkes-Barre Area School District's share of the total contribution, by withholding, would be \$63,189.00 (a \$534.00 decrease over 2014-2015); and,

WHEREAS, actual 2012-2013 Weighted Average Daily Memberships (WADM's) are not yet available, but when available a new contribution calculation will be made; and,

WHEREAS, any recalculation of the contribution schedule is not expected to substantially modify each individual school district's share,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District grant approval to the 2015-2016 annual budget of the Luzerne Intermediate Unit.

Wilkes-Barre, PA
March 9, 2015

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

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
March 9, 2015

Mr. Evans presented Resolution # 2

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the recent death of **ANTHONY J. BARTOLETTI** has brought sorrow to his family, friends, and all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, he is the father of Gina Bartoletti, principal at Dodson Elementary, Wilkes-Barre Area School District School; and

WHEREAS, he was a member of the US Army Air Corps during World War II and with the U.S. Air Force as Lieutenant Navigator of B-25 Bombers in the South Pacific Theater and;

WHEREAS, his passing on February 27, 2015 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 sons, Rick and Joey, daughters, Gina and Toni Ann and to his entire family.

Wilkes-Barre, PA
March 9, 2015

Mr. Evans moved, to accept the Resolution by ACCLAMATION

There was no **New Business**

Communications from Solicitor

Attorney Wendolowski thanked Mr. Patte and Mr. Kozerski for their participation and the time that they as well as all Members of the Task Force have dedicated to the District in regard to the Feasibility Study.

Attorney Wendolowski requested the following motions.

Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Rev. Walker, to approve a settlement and release agreement in regard to student SA. The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

Mr. Galella moved, seconded by Mr. Evans, to allow the Law Firm of Fellerman and Ciarimboli to promote the "Prom Pledge Program" within the Wilkes-Barre Area School District. The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
March 9, 2015

Dr. Susek moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to prepare a contract to be reviewed by the Superintendent, Attorney Wendolowski and Leonard B. Przywara, Business Manager, in regard to the use of any and all of the District buildings that are being used as polling places. The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Caffrey, Evans, Galella, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Elmy

Board Secretary Report

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

April – 2015

Committee Meeting

Monday April 13, 2015 – 5:30 PM

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, April 13, 2015– 7:00 PM

Dr. Susek moved to adjourn the Meeting.

President Elmy adjourned the Meeting at 7:40 PM.