

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – May 6, 2024

Board President Joseph Caffrey called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Superintendent Costello led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Secretary Thomas F. Telesz called the roll.

8 Members Present: Atherton, Breese, Evans, Faust, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

President Caffrey – The chair wishes to announce the Board held an Executive Session prior to the Regular Board Meeting of May 6, 2024. The subjects discussed in the Executive Session related solely to matters of employee relations, labor negotiations, and/or threatened or actual litigation.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Regular Board meetings on April 4, 2024 and dispense with the reading of those minutes.

Motion by **Ms. Thomas** seconded by **Dr. Susek** to approve the **Regular Meeting minutes of April 4, 2024.**

The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Costello – At this time, I would like to present the letter submitted to the District on behalf of Mr. Rob Watkins, Principal of Wilkes-Barre Area High School. The letter states the following: Wilkes-Barre Area High School Senior Class as 587 students – 299 Boys and 288 Girls. These students have met the requirements of the State of Pennsylvania and the Wilkes-Barre Area School District for high school graduation. They are hereby recommended for diplomas to be awarded on June 7, 2024 provided their academic performance, attendance and conduct are satisfactory for the remainder of the school year.

Dr. Costello presented the budget/finance and facilities report for the 2024-2025 school year. He explained the budget amount and how the District receives the revenue to fund the proposed budget. Dr. Costello then explained the breakdown of the revenue and what the expenditures consist of, such as the instructional services, support services, facilities and debt services. Most of the revenue is spent on instructional services. He reviewed the district's construction projects, including existing buildings, renovations, and new athletics fields.

Dr. Costello presented a plan for lower class sizes to implement remediation. GAR is ranked 5th in the state in overall growth. STEM Academy is ranked by US New & World #132 Nationwide, #3 in the state and #1 in NEPA. He reminded the community that we continue to be underfunded by the state and with proper funding we could implement the strategies used in STEM and the Learning Academy district wide.

Not only will there be no tax increase for the 5th consecutive year. In fact, for the first time, the district plans to provide property tax relief by adding an additional \$433,480.00 to the State's

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Property Tax Reduction Allocation. This additional tax relief will be distributed through the Homestead Exemption.

A copy of his presentation will be available on the website.

DISTRICT ENGINEER REPORT

Mr. Krzywicki presented the following report:

Admin Building:

- Continued to address work requests
- Performed pothole patching

Dan Flood Elementary:

- Continued to address work requests
- Continued to address plumbing repairs
- Completed investigation of fire alarm communication issue

Dodson Elementary:

- Continued to address plumbing repairs
- Completed repairs to steam piping
- Performed pothole patching

E.L. Meyers Building:

- Completed security checks and lawn maintenance

GAR Middle School:

- Continued replacement of ceiling grid & tile on 1st Floor
- Continued to address work requests
- Continued to address plumbing repairs

Heights Murray Elementary:

- Completed replacement of broken toilet partition doors
- Continued to address work requests
- Continued to address plumbing repairs
- Commenced investigation of breaker trips for cooler/freezer

Kistler Elementary:

- Continued to address work requests
- Continued to address plumbing repairs
- Performed pothole patching

Mackin Elementary:

- Continued to address work requests
- Continued to address plumbing repairs
- Completed repairs to sprinkler piping

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Solomon Complex:

- Continued to address work requests
- Continued to address plumbing repairs
- Commenced replacement of ice machine in fieldhouse
- Commenced investigation of fire alarm communication issue

W-B High School:

- Completed installation of water bottle filler in educational corridor
- Continued to address work requests
- Continued filter change & coil cleaning of HVAC units

General:

- Commenced pre-construction planning for ESCO scope of work at GAR, Solomon, Kistler, Dan Flood, & Heights Elementary
- Completed pre-construction meeting for new baseball field & tennis courts
- Continued annual testing & inspection of emergency lighting
- Completed annual maintenance of emergency generators
- Commenced lawn maintenance

During the last month, we have completed approximately 84 work requests. Our maintenance staff is currently addressing approximately 89 new work orders. The current number of unassigned work requests is 15. Those work requests are related to issues that require further investigation or cannot be addressed until summer break.

Dr. Costello shared that because most of our building will be under construction, summer programs like Power Scholars will be held at the high school.

Mr. Krzwyicki shared that all the sidewalks and curbs will be replaced at Kistler Elementary School. Heights Elementary's basketball court and playground will be paved.

Dr. Costello stated there will be inconveniences over the summer, but the finished products will be worth it.

Ms. Thomas inquired about refrigeration during power outages during construction. Dr. Costello explained that we would move the food to another location and, if need be, rent a refrigeration trailer.

Mr. Krzywicki explained that he is working with the Technology Department to ensure that their department is powered during GAR's shutdown.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Thomas – LIU's field day will be held at our stadium on Thursday, May 16th. Our 9th grade Business Academy Students placed 2nd out of 40 schools at the Tech Bridge High School Business Competition.

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Mr. Breese – The Wilkes-Barre Area Drama Club took home the Times Leader Best of the Best award for the 3rd consecutive year. Thirty CAPAA students displayed art work at the Wyoming Valley Art League Circle Center.

Ms. Harris, for the third consecutive year, the Wilkes-Barre Area won the Penn State Trig Star Competition. Our students placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

Mr. Evans – A number of our FBLA members qualified to attend the national competition in Orlando, FL.

Mr. Caffrey, Tavia McClennon will sing the National Anthem at the Wilkes-Barre Police Law Enforcement Memorial Program. This is the third year in a row that one of our students has sung at the ceremony.

Mr. Caffrey shared that he attended the high school Cardboard Regatta for the first time and was amazed by the engineering by our students to construct cardboard boats that float. He also shared that Unified Track Meet. The unified Track and Field team is regarded the same as all other interscholastic sports teams at the high school. For example, Unified Sports student-athletes are eligible to earn varsity letters, and the team is included in pep rallies and post-season awards ceremonies.

Mr. Breese shared what a nice event the multicultural day was a few weeks ago at GAR.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

No citizens comments

LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT #18

Ms. Thomas – The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 22nd.

WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

Mr. Faust – Graduation is scheduled for May 22nd. The next meeting will be May 16th.

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CURRICULUM/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

TO: The President and Members of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board

The Curriculum/Administration Committee respectfully submits the following report and recommendations:

1. That the 2023-2024 school calendar be adopted.

September 3, 2024	Act 80/Professional Development/Staff Preparation Day
September 4, 2024	Act 80/Professional Development/Staff Preparation Day
September 5, 2024.....	Student First Day –School Opens
October 14, 2024.....	Columbus Day
November 11, 2024	Veteran's Day
November 18-22, 2024.....	American Education Week
November 28–December 2, 2024.....	Thanksgiving Vacation
December 4–17, 2024	Keystone State Exams Wave 1
December 24, 2024 - January 1, 2025	Christmas Vacation
January 2, 2025.....	School Re-Opens
January 20, 2025.....	Martin Luther King Day
January 29, 2025.....	Second Semester Begins
February 10, 2025	Act 80/Professional Development
February 17, 2025	Presidents Day
April 17 – April 21, 2025	Easter Vacation
April 22 - May 9, 2025.....	PSSA Testing
May 12 - 23, 2025.....	Keystone Exams
May 26, 2025.....	Memorial Day
June 6, 2025.....	Last Student Day
June 6, 2025.....	Graduation
June 9, 2025.....	Act 80/Professional Development
June 10, 2025.....	Act 80/Professional Development/Clerical, Evaluation, Planning
June 11, 2025.....	Clerical, Evaluation, Planning

*All dates listed that school is not in session are potential make-up days.

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2. That approval be given to the WBAHS FBLA to attend the National Conference in Orlando, FL, from June 27th through July 3rd. There will be 4 students and 1 teacher attending this conference at an approximate cost of \$8,994.95.
3. That approval be given to enter into an agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and John McElwee to provide an Internal Coach for PAI Support Classes and BCBA VB Consultation Services beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 at a rate of \$125 per hour not to exceed \$12,500 for the year.
4. That approval be given to amend the cost of WBAHS FBLA to attend the State Conference in Hershey, approved on February 5, 2024, from approximately \$26,158.00 to \$36,742.00.
5. That approval be given to enter into Power Scholars Academy Summer Program School Agreement with the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Greater Wyoming Valley Area YMCA beginning June 24, 2024 through August 1, 2024. **“Exhibit A”**

Motion by **Ms. Thomas** seconded by **Dr. Susek**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

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BUDGET FINANCE/MATERIALS & SUPPLIES/CONTRACTED SERVICES COMMITTEE

TO: The President and Members of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board

**The Budget Finance/Materials & Supplies/Contracted Services Committee
respectfully submits the following reports and recommendations:**

A. ADMINISTRATIVE

1. That approval be given to the Treasurer's Reports for March 2024. **"Exhibit B"**
2. Capital Projects – That approval be given to the payments listed below.

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Invoice No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A2.1	Apollo Group, Inc.	Stadium Project	Capital Projects	App 24	\$ 272.44
A2.2	McClure Company	Solomon Plains ESCO	Capital Reserve	APP 9	\$ 62,084.51
A2.3	The Brewer-Garrett Company	GAR/Kistler ESCO	Capital Reserve	APP 10A	\$ 125,295.00
A2.4	The Brewer-Garrett Company	GAR/Kistler ESCO	Federal	APP 8B	\$ 392,497.00

3. That approval be given to accept the "Single Audit Report" for the year ended June 30, 2023 as prepared by Rainey & Rainey, Certified Public Accounts.

B. FEDERAL

That in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal Fund AP Checks #3007, #3244 to #3280; Federal Fund Wire Transfers #202300445 to #202300457 which were drawn for payment since the last regular Board meeting of the Board of Education held on April 4, 2024.

C. GENERAL FUND/FOOD SERVICE

That in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following General Fund Checks #62647 to #62692 and General Fund Wire Transfers #202300402 to #202300404 and General Fund Wire Transfers #202312308 to #202312326 and Food Service Checks #3947 to #3960 which were drawn for payment since the last regular Board meeting of the Board of Education held on April 4, 2024 be approved.

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D. GENERAL FUND

That checks #62693 to #62857 listed on the following pages, which have been inspected, be approved and that order be drawn for the respective amounts set down opposite the names of persons or firms.

E. CONTRACTED SERVICES

1. That approval be given to award the contract to Green Valley Landscaping, Inc. for the lawn maintenance at the high school effective immediately through October 2025 at the costs listed below.

Lawn mowing, per cutting	\$2,700.00
Lawn fertilizer, per application	\$5,950.00
Mulching planting beds & tree circles, once per year	\$2,778.00
Weed removal from planting beds & tree circles, once per month	\$1,700.00
Weed-whacking Slope "A," once per year	\$3,400.00

2. That approval be given to award the contract to Ironton Global. for telephone service for a period of 5 years, effective July 1, 2024, at a monthly rate of \$12,536 plus taxes and fees and to purchase the existing 630 telephone sets and an additional 310 sets at a total cost of \$35,405.75.
3. That approval be given to enter into an agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and SMG (Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza), 255 Highland Park Blvd., Wilkes-Barre, PA for the Wilkes-Barre Area High School graduation ceremony being held on June 7, 2024. **"Exhibit C"**
4. That approval be given to accept the proposal from Matt Kester Productions LLC to provide the audio package, rigging package, and power distribution for graduation on June 7, 2024, at a cost of \$5,500.00.
5. That approval be given to accept the 2024-25 Budget Proposal, as presented by The Nutrition Group, 580 Wendel Road, Suite 100, Irwin, PA in respect to Food Service Management Services for the 2024-25 school year. This proposal incorporates the continuation of the CEP program. A copy of the Budget proposal 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.
6. That approval be given to renew our All Access Package membership with the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, Inc. for the 2024-25 school year at an annual cost of \$17,766.40.

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7. That approval be given to renew the agreement between Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Skyward, Inc., July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The annual cost is \$59,783.00.

Student Management Annual License Fee	\$26,383.00
Educator Gradebook Annual License Fee	\$9,013.00
Food Service Annual License Fee	\$8,792.00
Health Records Annual License Fee	\$5,498.00
Graduation Requirements Annual License Fee	\$2,640.00
Family & Student Access Annual License Fee	\$2,198.00
LMS/One Roster API Annual License Fee	\$2,046.00
IEP Writer Annual License Fee	\$904.00
Maintenance Renewal – OpenEdge Transparent Data Encryption	\$2,309.00

8. That authorization be given to the Business Administrator to enter into an agreement for an electricity service provider agreement beginning on July 1, 2025 based on the recommendation of Provident Energy.

Motion by **Mr. Breese** seconded by **Ms. Harris**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

No report

SAFETY & SECURITY COMMITTEE

No report

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No report

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BUILDING MAINTENANCE

TO: The President and Members of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board.

The Building Maintenance Committee respectfully makes the following report and recommendation:

1. That approval be given to accept the proposal from Benell, Inc. to install a three bay sink and handwash sink at the former Dodson Elementary School at a cost of \$10,742.00.
 - Disconnect and remove existing sink
 - Furnish and install 3 bay sink with faucets
 - Furnish and install handwash sink and faucet
 - Necessary pipes and fittings, including a combination of copper and PVC DWV.
2. That approval be given to accept Vector Security's proposal to replace the fire panel at Dan Flood Elementary School at a cost of \$8,600.00.
 - Replace panel enclosure, annunciator, monitoring modules, phone line modules, batteries, and power supply
 - Program and test the full system required by code
3. That approval be given to accept the proposal from Mechanical Service Company to rebuild the generator's injection pump and injectors at GAR Memorial Middle School at a cost of \$5,000.00.
4. That approval be given to accept the proposal for CM Eichenlaub Co. to perform the annual mandated full safety inspection of the bleacher system in the GAR Memorial Middle School as follows:

Level 1 ground only visual inspection of all backstops	\$1,250.00
Level 2 Air/Lift athletic inspection	\$1,200.00
Provide 2-man scissor lift and floor protection	\$1,200.00

5. That approval be given to accept the proposal for CM Eichenlaub Co. to perform the annual mandated full safety inspection of the bleacher system in the Solomon Elementary School as follows:

Level 1 ground only visual inspection of all backstops	\$1,250.00
Level 2 Air/Lift athletic inspection	\$1,200.00
Provide 2-man scissor lift and floor protection	\$1,200.00

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6. That approval be given to accept the proposal for CM Eichenlaub Co. to perform the annual mandated full safety inspection of the bleacher system in the Wilkes-Barre Area High School as follows:

Level 1 ground only visual inspection of all backstops	\$1,250.00
Level 2 Air/Lift athletic inspection	\$1,200.00
Provide 2-man scissor lift and floor protection	\$1,200.00

Motion by **Mr. Faust** seconded by **Ms. Harris**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

Mr. Faust shared that the committee recently held a meeting at the Solomon Complex. He implored the community to please clean up after their pets. Children play there. We want to be community hubs, but our properties must be treated with respect.

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FACILITIES TRANSITION

TO: The President and Members of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board

The Facilities Transition Committee respectfully submits the following report and recommendations:

- 1.** That approval be given to ratify the April 18, 2024 sale and settlement statement of the property at 341 Carey Ave, Wilkes-Barre, PA. **“Exhibit D”**

Motion by **Ms. Thomas** seconded by **Dr. Susek**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

STUDENT WELLNESS COMMITTEE

No report

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POLICY COMMITTEE

TO: The President and Members of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board. The Policy Committee respectfully makes the following report and recommendation:

1. That the following policies be revised:
 - 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students – Attachment - Children of Nonresident Employees “Exhibit E”
 - 249 Bullying/Cyberbullying “Exhibit F”

Motion by **Ms. Harris** seconded by **Ms. Thomas**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

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PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Attorney Wendolowski explained that there was a typographical error on item A 3 of the personnel report and needed a motion to amend. The year should be 2021 not 2024.

Motion to amend by **Ms. Thomas** seconded by **Ms. Harris**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

TO: The President and Members of the Wilkes-Barre Area School Board

The Personnel Committee respectfully submits the following report and recommendations.

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

A. Agreement

1. That approval be given to the Administrators Act 93 Agreement, between the Board of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the members of Act 93 effective July 1, 2024.
2. That approval be given to the Confidential Secretary Agreement, between the Board of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Confidential Secretaries effective July 1, 2024.
3. That approval be given to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and The Wilkes-Barre Area Custodial/Maintenance Support Personnel Association effective July 1, ~~2024~~ 2021 through June 30, 2028.
4. That approval be given to the Affiliated Site Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Luzerne County Community College. "EXHIBIT"
5. That approval be given to the Settlement Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Employee #53018.

B. Professionals

1. That **Joann Mieczynski's** request for a sabbatical for the 2024-2025 school year be approved.
2. That **Matthew Monaghan** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Social Studies Teacher effective the first day of the 2024-2025 school year.

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3. That **Evan Musto** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a Social Studies Teacher effective the first day of the 2024-2025 school year.
4. That **Arly Flores-Cantoran** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a School Psychologist effective the first day of the 2024-2025 school year.(Pending certification)
5. That the following professional employees be appointed to positions on Curriculum Development/Revision Committees at a rate of \$35 per hour, not to exceed predetermined hours based on funding available.

Primary ELA

Sandy Atherton	Mary Gallis	Kristin Laiuvara
Susan Augello	Lorrie Gardner	Melissa Matello
Michael Caprari	Erica Jacobs	Mary Jo Petlock
Melanie Costantino		

Primary Math/Science

Sandy Atherton	Mary Gallis	Kelly Pryor
Susan Augello	Lorrie Gardner	Jennifer Yuhas
Maureen Dolan	Kristin Laiuvara	Laura Zawatsky
Dionne Fischer	Mary Jo Petlock	

Intermediate Math/Science

Amanda Bowman	Yvonne Corcoran	Courtney Griffiths
David Hagenbaugh	Janelle Rothenbecker	Cynthia Thomas
Cassandra Walkowiak		

Intermediate ELA/Social Studies

Amanda Carannante	Susan Domiano	Lorraine Farrell
Rachel George	Lisa Giovannini	Megan Peters
Beth Weber		

Middle School Reading

Sarah Edwards	Amy Pascale	Kimberley Pasonick
Megan Sweeney	Elizabeth Witczak	Leah Zenlinka

Middle School English

Mandy Costello	Jay Williams
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Middle School Math

Katlyn Beidler
Lindsay Tasker Barker

Amanda Costello
Colleen Franchi

Maria Hillard

Middle School Science

Brenda Banaszek
Deborah McNichol
Heather Engle

Beth Bilski
Jacquelyn Miles

Brittany Hess
Sherri Yelen

Middle School CS Discovery

Jamie Kramer

Michael Ostrum

Secondary English

Karen Gayton
Heather Johnson

Danielle Kishbaugh-Niemkiewicz
Tara Komorek

Secondary Math

Katherine Genovese
Christina Nordmark

Marianne Kapuschinsky
MaryAnn Rizzo

Matthew Mill
Brittany Scarnulis

Secondary Science

Meredith Falchek
Tamara Rogowski

Michael Komorek
Melissa Sindaco

Jared Meehan

Business Academy

Renee Pizzella

Michael Day

Mitchell Marcks

ESL

Keryn Bevan
Mark Cardone
John Gosiewski

Erica Hanson
Kelly Jackson
David Lewis

Lisa McCabe
Sara Zydallas

Federal Programs Document Revision

Sandy Atherton
Michael Caprari
Denis DeMellier

Lorrie Gardner
Melinda Heffron
Todd Jones

Kristen Laiuvara
Diane McFarlane
Megan Peters

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Meredith Falchek

Brenda Labatch-Cavalari

Mary Jo Petlock

C. Secretaries & Teachers' Associates

1. The Board agrees to waive **Michele Yelland's** three month written notification as stated in the WBA Secretaries & Associates Educational Support Personnel Association agreement. The Board further agrees to accept Michele's retirement effective the last day of the 2023-2024 school year.
2. The Board agrees to waive **Doris Williams'** three month written notification as stated in the WBA Secretaries & Associates Educational Support Personnel Association agreement. The Board further agrees to accept Doris' retirement effective the last day of the 2023-2024 school year.
3. The Board agrees to waive **Patricia Kondracki's** three month written notification as stated in the WBA Secretaries & Associates Educational Support Personnel Association agreement. The Board further agrees to accept Patricia's retirement effective the last day of the 2023-2024 school year..
4. That the resignation of **Derrick West** be accepted effective March 4, 2024.
5. That **Teresa Torres'** request for unpaid leave for Sept 3, 2024 through January 2, 2025 be accepted.

D. Custodians, Maintenance and Housekeepers

1. That **Yun Chen's** request for unpaid leave for April 11, 2024 be accepted.
2. That **Dave Oldziejewski's** request for unpaid leave for March 11, 2024 and April 8, 2024 be accepted.
3. That **John Spurga's** request for unpaid leave for April 11, 2024 be accepted.
4. That **Brenda Kowalczyk** request for unpaid leave from May 2, 2024 through May 6, 2024 be accepted.
5. That **Amanda Ferrer** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.
6. That **Stacy Bates** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.
7. That **Taja Carter** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.
8. That **Kenyai Dickers** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.
9. That **Linda McClay** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.

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10. That **Leroy Newman** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.
11. That Mackenzie **Dubranski** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.
12. That **Christine Thomas** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.
13. That **John Spurga** be appointed a Grade I Custodian effective July 1, 2024.

A. Crossing Guard

1. That **Shana Green** be appointed a Full Time Crossing Guard.
2. That **Ross Wayman** be appointed a Full Time Crossing Guard.

B. Athletics

1. The following appointments are made for the sports 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.

Wolfpack Cheerleader Advisor (Spirit/Traditional)

Jaqueline Rocha

Field Hockey Junior High Assistant Coach

Kelsey Drozda

Motion by **Mr. Faust** seconded by **Ms. Harris**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

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RESOLUTION #1

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District, in accordance with the law, prepared the following budget, of the amount of funds that will be required by the School District in its several departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$171,932,581.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District hereby presents the expenditures as hereinafter set forth during the fiscal year 2024-2025 and levies a tax of 18.4332 mills per dollar (\$18.43 per thousand dollars) of assessed valuation on real estate; re-enacts and/or continues in force the Resolution of June 29, 1981, providing for the levy, assessment and collection of the following taxes: (a) one (1) per centum on transfers of title of real estate; (b) a local services tax (formerly occupational privilege tax) of ten (10) dollars; (c) the earned income tax (wage tax) of one (1%) per cent; (d) the mercantile tax at the rate and under the terms and provisions set forth in the Resolution previously adopted; re-enacts and/or continues in force the Resolution of June 30, 1986 providing for the levy, assessment and collection of the business privilege tax at a rate of one and one-half (1 ½) mills; re-enacts and/or continues in force the Resolution of June 26, 1987 providing for the levy, assessment and collection of a per capita tax of ten (10) dollars.

Motion by **Mr. Breese** seconded by **Ms. Thomas**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

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RESOLUTION #2

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wilkes-Barre Area School District of Luzerne County hereby requests a Public School Facility Improvement grant of \$5,000,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for the replacement of windows in 3 school buildings, to include Heights Murray Elementary School, Dr. Kistler Elementary School and G.A.R. Memorial Middle School.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate Dr. Brian J. Costello, Superintendent, and Thomas F. Telesz, Business Manager, as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the request grant.

Motion by **Mr. Evans** seconded by **Ms. Thomas**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

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NEW BUSINESS

Mr Faust – The Wrestling Club is hosting a clinic with Beau Bartlett for Wilkes-Barre Area wrestlers this Sunday. Our new wrestling mat will be unveiled at the clinic.

Communications from Solicitor

Attorney Wendolowski commended Dr. Costello and Mr. Telesz for their work both financially and educationally.

Motion to adjourn Motion by **Dr. Susek** seconded by **Ms. Thomas**

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Breese, Evans, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Caffrey

Meeting adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Telesz
Board Secretary