

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – May 22, 2023

Board President Joseph A. Caffrey called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Superintendent Costello led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Secretary, Thomas F. Telesz called the roll.

8 Members Present: Atherton, Breese, Faust, Harris, 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 22, 2023. 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 18, 2023 and dispense with the reading of those minutes.

Motion by Ms. Thomas seconded by Mr. Atherton to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of April 18, 2023.

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

STUDENT HONORS

Mr. Caffrey explained that before we move to the Superintendent's report, the board would like to highlight some of our students' achievements.

Dr. Costello joked that the group came to see his budget presentation. He then asked the members of our FBLA to stand and be recognized.

2nd Place Network Design
*****National Qualifiers*****
Casey Morgan
Brandon Prevuznak

7th Place Public Service Announcement
Erin Akoutete
Sayuri Fuentes
Tina Pearl Nghotambo

5th Place Future Business Leader
Logan Farrell

8th Place Supply Chain Management
Amir Samadian

5th Place Networking Infrastructures
Shane Cesare

9th Place Network Design
Tyler Benjamin
Connor Chapple
Connor Kelly

6th Place Marketing
Joe Meager
Gavin Nichols
Ashley Shorts (going to MIT.)

10th Place Data Analysis
Farida Kafaba
Ayele Kouevi
Tahiya Tahsim

Ms. Amanda Mendoza, one of the FBLA Advisor thanked the Board and the Administration's continued support of FBLA. She shared that next year we will have the largest chapter in the state.

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Ms. Harris - Arianna Cruz, 12th grade CAPAA art student, received a national award from Scholastic Arts. Her piece, titled "Friday Kahlo Parody" was first selected for a regional gold key. It was displayed at the Everhart Museum in Scranton this March. The recognition allowed her to move on to the national competition where she won a silver medal. She is invited to attend the national award ceremony in New York City this June to receive her award. Her photo is available online and is currently displayed in the main hallway of the high school. **Mr. Caffrey** added that tomorrow night there is **an art exhibit at 6:00** before the spring concert.

Dr. Breese - For the second year in a row, one of the WBASD CAPAA art students has won the Fine Arts Fiesta Poster Contest! Amber Jones, a 12th grade student earned first place designing a poster to fit this year's theme "Fiesta Together". Her design was chosen over hundreds of entries from all over Luzerne County and will be used for all of the Fiesta media. Additionally, Genessys Cabrera, 9th grade CAPAA, took second place honors with Angelina Verdetto (12th), Tiffani Teeter (9th), and Geraldyn Lantigue-Rojas (12th) received Honorable Mentions.

Mr. Faust – Multiple awards at our Wilkes-Barre CTC on behalf of Wilkes Barre Area students. As a graduate of the WBACTC, Mr. Faust could not be more proud of these students and their accomplishments. A few participated in Fields USA and a few ranked. Edward Martin Memorial Scholar Athlete Award went to Ian Bednar with law enforcement. The Head Start Award went to Jacie Roebuck who did compete in culinary arts down in Hershey. A really good award went in Jacob Shinal in welding and that comes with a scholarship to Lackawanna College School of Petroleum and Natural Gas. That's a joint scholarship with Williams Company as well. That is a great win for young Jacob. Austin Perrins in Marketing Outstanding Class Award, Dante Trout in Masonry Outstanding Class Award, Khalil Petty in Masonry Outstanding Class Award and Khalil also competed in Skills USA. We had Brian Ashton in Carpentry, Alex Krushnowski in Computer Information Technology, Rachel Reyes in Cosmetology, Jacie Roebuck in Culinary Arts, Jimmena Quintero in Culinary Arts, Raysean Parker in Diversified Cooperation Education. Last but not least, we have Laci Halchak, who was Outstanding Student Runner Up, Principals Award, National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, Outstanding Class Award, Student Ambassador Award, Varsity Cheerleader Member, Firefighter Certificate and OSHA. She will be attending King's College. We wish all these students well.

Ms. Thomas – Seven WBA Middle School students competed in the Chamber of Commerce Civics Bee on April 29th with great success. Nagge Fleming, a GAR student, is a top three finalist and will complete at the state level Civics Bee. The group of students that participated worked very hard after school under the guidance of Social Studies teacher, Ms. Ulichney. Participants included, Nagge Flemming (GAR), Ayse Arvas (GAR), Carlos Longinos (GAR), Sawyer Scaramestro (GAR), Miguel Valle (GAR), and Gabriel Dates (Solomon),

Mr. Atherton – We have a dynamic duo on the tennis courts. Robert Ashford and Michael Hamel earned the bronze medal at the PIAA District 2 Doubles Tennis tournament held at Kirby Park on May 18th. Also Michael Hamel was a silver medalist in District II singles. We are building tennis courts and hope to build off their success.

Rev. Walker shared how much he enjoys the Fine Arts Fiesta time of year when our students' work gets showcased. Before he moved on to our current students' successes he share that two former students who are now film makers who put on an art exhibit at the Fine Arts Fiesta. The exhibit was

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related to their film, A Walk With Frank which highlights a Vietnam Veteran's journey through PTSD and his struggle through life and curriculum he started. "It's very, very cool that these gentlemen come back in town and share their art with their local community." Today, he would like to honor Wilkes Barre Area Spanish Department. Roughly 34% of the 209 participants won a total 70 national medals in the 2023 in National Spanish exam. Valarie Delacruz Doran & Jennifer Rivas Tejada had perfect scores in the Level I Bilingual exam. Overall, collectively of the 70 participants scored 5 gold, 12 silver, 13 bronze and 40 honorable mention medals.

Mr. Caffrey – Acknowledged Ms. Joelle DeLuca and one of our students, Makayla Kazoun who was asked to sing the National Anthem for the Police Department Law Enforcement Memorial Week. Mr. Caffrey received an email from Pat Ruston that read, "On behalf of the Wilkes-Barre City Police Department Law Enforcement Memorial Week Committee, I would like to express my thanks to the Wilkes-Barre Area School District for allowing Makayla Kazoun to sing the National Anthem at our Memorial Service on May 19th. Her rendition of the National Anthem was awesome and added so much to our program. Everyone commented on what a great job she did."

Mr. Caffrey – "It is so good to hear these stories and there are a lot of good things happening in our district."

Atty. Wendolowski brought to everyone's attention to the Water Lilies display in the hallway outside the auditorium. The Water Lilies were painted by our life skills and autistic support students. "I think our district stands out head and shoulders above everyone else in Northeastern Pennsylvania in how we deal with our special education students. We enrich their lives. We have teachers that love them, who have a special place in heaven because how they deal with their students."

Dr. Costello – The board is welcome to join us on Thursday May 25th at 2 pm in the Heritage room. The Nutrition Group is going to be celebrating some of our students from the class of 2023 that worked with them this year. These students will receive \$2,700 worth of scholarships towards college or a vocational trade. We would like to recognize Eniyah Cruz, Eternity Aiken, Elisandro Frias, Shondell Hinton, KaNiya Howard, Yameiri Rosario, & Mayby Suero. **Ms. Ann Waskevich** introduced herself and Ms. Rose Mantione. Both are food service directors with Nutrition Group. She shared that this year, they had the please of partnering with Dave Joyce and Diane McFarlane with the Diversified Occupations Coop Program. Our students worked right alongside the Nutrition staff. They gained so many skills and training while tackling their academic load. Their trainings and certifications will help them jump right into the work force. "The are exemplary students."

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Costello – One of my most favorite times of the year, I get to read this letter to the board. I would ask that you accept this letter from Mr. Watkins. "Dear Dr. Costello: As of the above date, the following students of the twelfth grade at Wilkes-Barre Area High School successfully completed the work prescribed in the Course of Study of the Wilkes-Barre Area Schools. The principals and faculty recommend that they be granted Certificates of Graduation at the proper time, providing their conduct and work remain satisfactory. Subject to the above provisions, the list is complete and final." It will have 277 boys and 299 girls with a total of 576 students.

Motion to accept Ms. Harris, seconded by Dr. Susek

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

Dr. Costello presented the budget/finance and facilities report for the 2023-2024 school year. He stated that his presentation would be on our website and he would share a copy with the press. He shared that the budget is \$159,571,346. He shared that this year's budget is higher, but it also includes about \$14 million of ESSER funds. He also explained 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. The majority of the revenue is spent on instructional services. Dr. Costello shared some history of the budget stating that in 2017 it was projected an \$8 million deficit. Since then our fund balance has continually grown and we expect that to continue. We are stable financially and staying within our means. We have 10 projects in progress at about \$50 million from our capital reserve fund. We did not need to borrow. Over the next 5 years all our buildings will be remodeled. This is the 4th consecutive year that have not raised taxes.

Mr. Atherton thanked Dr. Costello and Mr. Telesz for keeping the board grounded.

Ms. Harris shared her appreciation of the district including the younger students in activities at the high school.

Dr. Costello shared that as long as we continue as a group, we will have more of these conversations.

Mr. Caffrey thanked Rev. Shawn Walker.

Rev. Walker shared it is a team effort.

APOLLO REPORT/FACILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

New High School (Plains):

Traffic signals at Abbott Street will not be activated until review of the additional traffic study.

The Building Shell Contractor has continued to complete remaining punch list items. The Sitework Contractor has continued their remaining punch list items.

The Landscaping Contractor has completed their remaining punch list items and continued warranty items.

New Stadium Project:

Phase 1: The stadium contractor has continued their remaining punch list items.

Phase 2: All fieldhouse contractors are substantially complete. A few punch list items remain for Panzitta and Myco. Final punch list review is underway. Remaining metal lettering on top of the canopy was installed. Final building cleaning will be done next week.

Phase 3: Site work is underway.

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

Only Mr. Sam Troy signed in, but he was not in attendance at this time.

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LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT #18

Ms. Thomas: The next meeting will be held this Wednesday at 6:30 at the IU building

WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

Ms. Harris: The CTC meeting was held this past Monday; we passed the budget. All the districts will see a decrease in their member contributions. CTC is also benefiting from a stable budget.

CURRICULUM/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

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

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 approval be given to **ratify that that the qualifying WBAHS FBLA members may attend the National Conference** in Atlanta, GA from June 26, 2023 to June 30, 2023. There will be 2 students and 1 teacher attending this conference at an approximate cost of \$3,242.00.
2. That approval be given to the Settlement Agreement and Release between the District and the parents/legal guardians of the student J.K.
3. That approval be given to enter into an Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Greater Wyoming Valley Area YMCA, 40 West Northampton Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA for a Power Scholars Academy Summer Program to provide educational services for up to 240 Kdg. to 4th grade students currently residing in the District. The program will be held Height Murray Elementary School beginning June 26, 2023 through August 4, 2023. **"Exhibit A"**
4. That approval be given to submit the Flexible Instructional Day application to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 school years.
5. That approval be given to enter into an agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Specialized Education of Pennsylvania, Inc. (SESI) at the Graham Academy to provide educational services beginning August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024 at the following daily rates: \$267.00 (regular school year); \$173.00 (extended school year). Other services provided are OT, PT and Speech and Language Therapies at \$138.00 per one (1) hour session; 1:1 Aide \$188.00 per day. Additional services listed are provided at hourly rates are outlined in the agreement. **"Exhibit B"**
6. That approval be given to enter into an agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and John McElwee to provide BSBA VB Consultation Services beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 at a rate of \$125 per hour not to exceed \$12,500 for the year. **"Exhibit C"**

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7. That approval be given to enter into an agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and New Story, 1150 Wyoming Avenue, Wyoming, PA for the 2023 Extended School Year program at a daily rate between \$274 and \$510 dependent upon the acuity level. **“Exhibit D”**

8. That approval be given to enter into an agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Programs of Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf at the Scranton School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children for the 2023 Extended School Year for students The program runs from July 10, 2023 to July 27, 2023. The cost of the program is \$1,800.00 per student. **“Exhibit E”**

9. That the approval be given to purchase 17 hours of Academic Specialist hours from Varsity Tutors at a cost of \$81.00 per hour totaling \$1,377.00.

Motion to accept Ms. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Susek

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

BUDGET FINANCE/MATERIALS & SUPPLIES/CONTRACTED SERVICES COMMITTEE

Rev. Walker presented the following report and recommendations for the Boards’ Approval.

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 2023. **“Exhibit F”**

2. Capital Projects – That approval be given to the payments listed below.

A2.1	Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects	GAR MS Partial Re-Roof	Capital Reserve	Inv. No. 725-05-2023	\$ 603.75
A2.2	Keystone Sports Construction	Baseball Fields/ Tennis Courts	Capital Reserve	Inv. No. 2195	\$ 969,662.20
A2.3	Keystone Sports Construction	Additional Athletic Fields	Capital Projects	Inv. No. 2179	\$ 1,286,809.45
A2.4	Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects	Fieldhouse/ Ticket Booths	Capital Reserve	Inv. No. 716-50-2023	\$ 1, 397.22
A2.5	Apollo Group, Inc.	New Stadium Project	Capital Reserve	App. No. 16	\$ 7,283.11
A2.6	Times Leader	Paving Project	Capital Reserve	562023	\$396.91

B. FEDERAL

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That in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal Fund AP Checks #2876 to #2907; Federal Fund Wire Transfers #202200675 to #202200688 which were drawn for payment since the last regular Board meeting of the Board of Education held on April 18, 2023.

C. GENERAL FUND/FOOD SERVICE

That in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following General Fund Checks #60466 to #60537 and General Fund Wire Transfers #202212101 to #202212114 and Food Service Checks #3832 to #3842 which were drawn for payment since the last regular Board meeting of the Board of Education held on April 18, 2023 be approved.

D. GENERAL FUND

That checks #60538 to #60728 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 accept the 2023-2024 Budget Proposal, as presented by The Nutrition Group, 580 Wendel Road, Suite 100, Irwin, PA in respect to Food Service Management Services for the 2023-2024 school year. The 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.
2. That approval be given to renew the agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and IntegraONE for Lightspeed Filter Software beginning July 23, 2023 through July 22, 2024 at a cost of \$ 42,700.00.
3. That approval be given to renew the agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Raptor Technologies, LLC for Raptor Visitor Management at an annual cost of \$6,875.00.
4. That approval be given to renew the following Skyward licenses for a period of one year beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Student Management Annual	\$ 25,368.00
Educator Gradebook	\$ 8,666.00
Food Service	\$ 8,454.00
Health Records	\$ 5,287.00
Graduation Requirements	\$ 2,538.00
Family & Student Access	\$ 2,113.00
LMS/One Roster API	\$ 1,967.00
IEP Writer	\$ 869.00

5. That approval be given to add the Skyward Transparent Database Encryption extension to the Skyward Suites at the following cost:

Installation – One Time Install Fee	\$ 1,650.00
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Project Management	\$ 330.00
TDE Software	\$ 2,220.00

6. That approval be given to add an endorsement to include the new field house, ticket booth, stadium field/track/bleachers/lights and fence located at 2021 Wolfpack Way to the Utica Property/Liability package policy with an additional premium of \$ 1,345.00.

7. That approval be given to the High School Project Change Order #8 for Green Valley Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of \$ 128,292.50. The Change Order consists of the following:

Lawn Maintenance for 2023 Season	\$ 98,437.50
Lawn Fertilization Program for 2023 Season	\$ 29,855.00

8. That approval be given to the High School Project Change Order #25 for Stell Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$ 5,262.50. The Change Order consists of the following:

December Snow Removal	\$ 2,932.50
January Snow Removal	\$ 835.00
February Snow Removal	\$ 1,495.00

9. That approval be given to the GAR Roof Project Change Order #001 for Detwiler Roofing LLC in the amount of \$ 9,773.81. The Change Order consists of the following:

Demo RTU Cabinet ASI #2	\$ 9,773.81
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10. That approval be given to the GAR Roof Project Change Order #002 for Detwiler Roofing LLC in the amount of \$ 17,707.21. The Change Order consists of the following:

Demo of Loose Limestone & Install new hatch channel and laminators wall panel with base trims	\$ 17,707.21
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11. That approval be given to the High School Project Change Order #11 for Scranton Sheet Metal, Inc. in the amount of \$ 36,709.00. The Change Order consists of the following:

HVAC Filter Replacement	\$ 36,709.00
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12. That approval be given to Change Order #CO2 for Keystone Sports Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$ 153,165.54. The Change Order consists of the following:

Additional Concrete Curb	\$ 53,116.00
Revised Ambulance Access & Fencing	\$ 34,260.74
Gardco Valmont fixtures & pole assemblies with photocell dusk to dawn control	\$ 63,369.60
PVC conduit for camera mounted on Musco Pole at Soccer Fields	\$ 2,419.20

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13. That approval be given to amend the agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Cintas Fire Protection to provide Fire Protection Services to include the following:

Quantity	Service Description	Frequency	Cost
1	Clean Agent Suppression Inspection	Semi-annual	\$ 400.00
1	New K Class (Kitchen)	One Time	\$ 453.99

14. That approval be given to enter into an agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Johnson Controls Fire Protection LC to provide Fire Protection Services for one-year effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. **“Exhibit G”**

15. That approval be given to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18, 368 Tioga Avenue, Kingston, PA to provide programs and services as listed. **“Exhibit H”**

Ms. Harris asked if E.7. would occur annually. **Dr. Costello** would like it to occur annually, but it will need to be discussed with the union. **Mr. Harris** would like to see it done internally. If not, **Dr. Costello** stated we would have to bid it out.

Motion to accept Rev Walker, seconded by Dr. Susek

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

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

Mr. Atherton announced that there would be an Athletic committee meeting on Thursday at 3:00.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Faust shared that he has heard some complaints about the conditions of the buildings. The Committee will be touring these buildings. Many of the complaints are already addressed and awarded and the work is yet to be started. His recommendation is for employees to put a work order in. That's how we track everything. He is excited the Solomon, GAR, and Kistler will be started followed by the rest of the building.

Ms. Thomas shared she is getting many complaints about the substandard condition of the buildings, cleanliness, potholes. “It's not getting any better, it's getting worse.” **Dr. Costello** shared that we have a paving project out for bid right now. That will be voted on at the June meeting. He encourages staff to submit work orders to address cleanliness. **Ms. Thomas** also asked about hiring a plumber. **Dr. Costello** shared that at this time there are no applicants, but we are continuing to look. He did not have a starting salary on hand, but shared that we are negotiating for a higher starting salary.

Dr. Costello's hope is that once the buildings are renovated, people will take ownership and have a sense of pride. It will take some time.

Mr. Atherton shared his frustration with the outside conditions or the buildings. “Custodians and principals have to be on top of that. That's what the public sees.”

FACILITIES TRANSITION

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Ms. Thomas asked for an update on the Meyers property. **Atty. Wendolowski** stated that the court hearing to approve the sale of Meyers is scheduled for June 12th at 1:00 PM at the Court House. She then asked for an update on Empire Street. **Atty. Wendolowski** explained the buyers are performing phase 2 and we do not have a report on that yet. **Ms. Thomas** shared her pride that since 2013, we have all but two are sold and back on tax rolls.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Dr. Susek presented the following report and recommendation for the Board's Approval.

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 the receipt of PDE required clearances, certifications, and any applicable pre-employment drug test.

A. Agreement

1. That approval be given to the Affiliated Site Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Western Kentucky University. **"EXHIBIT I"**

B. Professionals

1. That the Retirement Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Employee #51834 be approved.
2. That the retirement of **Ceceilia Baltusavich** be rescinded.
3. That the retirement of **Judy Hislop** be accepted effective the last day of the 2023-2024 School Year.
4. That **Jessica Sivick's** request for a sabbatical for the 2023-2024 school year be approved.
5. That **Heather Flaherty's** request for a sabbatical for the 2023-2024 school year be approved.
6. That a maximum of 55 hours of psychologist testing during the summer be approved at a rate of \$35 per hour.
7. That board meeting live streaming services be paid at a rate of \$35 per hour.
8. That **Jacquelyn Miles** be appointed a temporary professional employee as an Elementary Teacher.
9. That _____ be appointed a temporary professional employee as an Elementary Teacher. **Tabled**

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10. That _____ be appointed a temporary professional employee as an Elementary Teacher. **Tabled**

11. 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
Michael Capari
Maureen Dolan
Lorrie Gardner

Erika Jacobs
Kristin Laiuvara
Leslie Parry

Mary Jo Petlock
Keli Shanahan
Jennifer Yuhas

Elementary Math

Donna Brenner
Melanie Costantino
Michelle Krzywicki

Jill Pesotski-Timek
Kevin Sickle
Amy Sullivan

Elementary Science

Ashley Altavilla
Yvonne Corcoran
Cynthia Thomas

Janelle Rothenbecker
Carissa Wargo

Elementary ELA

Amanda Carannante
Susan Domiano
Rachel George

Lisa Giovannini
Colleen Livingston
Megan Peters

Amy Sod
Melissa Watkins
Beth Weber

Elementary Social Studies

Tania Artmont
Georgette Biscotto

David Hagenbaugh
Kristin Harris

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Middle School Math

Kristy Coltrane
Amanda Costello
Michael Ostrum
Edward Rosengrant
Lindsay Tasker Barker
Holly Volch

Middle School ELA

Nichole Gordon
Amy Pascale
Maureen Sovan

Middle School Reading

Maureen McLaughlin
Leah Zelinka

Middle School Science

Brenda Banaszek
Colleen Franchi
Maria Hillard
Sherri Yelen

Secondary Math

Katherine Genovese
Marianne Kapuschinsky
Christina Nordmark

Secondary English

Danielle Castanaro
Karen Gayton
Laura McCabe
Kevin Welles

Secondary Science

Meredith Falchek
Jared Meehan
Keith Moules
Melissa Sindaco

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Special Ed ELA

Kristen Pstrak
Sarah Edwards

Business Academy

Michael Day
Mitchell Marcks

Federal Programs Document Revision

Michael Caprari
Lorrie Gardner
Erika Hanson
Brenda Labatch-Cavalari
Kristin Laiuvara
Mary Jo Petlock
Edward Rosengrant
Keli Shanahan

C. Secretaries & Teachers' Associates

1. That ESSER Part Time Teacher's Associates hired through the 2022-2023 school year be extended through the 2023-2024 school year
2. That the retirement of **Barbara Watlock** be accepted effective June 9, 2023.
3. That **Sandy Casterlin's** request for unpaid leave from May 15, 2023 through June 2, 2023 be approved.
4. That **Mary Ruth Burke's** request for unpaid leave on May 19, 2023 be approved.
5. That **Jean White's** request for unpaid leave from March 25, 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 school year be accepted.
6. That **Mayra Martinez's** request for unpaid leave on May 11, 2023 be approved.

D. Custodians, Maintenance and Housekeepers

1. That **Marc Krebs** be appointed Head Custodian.
2. That **Saul Wilkins** be appointed a Grade I Custodian.

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3. That **Sarah Hufford** be appointed an ESSER Funded Custodian with a position termination date of August 31, 2024.
4. That **Amanda Ferrer** be appointed a Housekeeper.
5. That **Anna Hannon** be appointed a Housekeeper.
6. That **LaMar Radcliffe** be appointed a Housekeeper.
7. That **Dave Oldziejewski's** request for unpaid leave on April 21, 2023 be approved.

E. Crossing Guards

1. That **Rodney Gibbon** be appointed a Substitute Crossing Guard.
2. That **Sanai Canada** be appointed a Substitute Crossing Guard.
3. That _____ be appointed a Substitute Crossing Guard. **Tabled**

F. Athletics

1. That the resignation of **Mary Mushock-Namey** be accepted
2. 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.

Girls Basketball Varsity Head Coach	Dale Rapson
Golf Varsity Head Coach	Tabled
Wolfpack Cheerleader Associate Advisor (Spirit/Traditional)	Abigail Schaal
Volunteer Junior High Wolfpack Cheerleader Advisor	Tabled
Volunteer Football Assistant Coach	Michael Jones
Volunteer Football Assistant Coach	Robert Osmanski

Motion to accept Dr. Susek, seconded by Ms. Thomas

8 Ayes: Atherton, Breese (Abstain from D. 1.), Faust (Nay D.1. and F.2.), Harris (Nay B. 2. And F.2. line 1), Susek, Thomas, Walker (Nay F. 2. Line 1), 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, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$159,571,346.

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 2023-2024 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 to accept Rev Walker, seconded by Ms. Thomas

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

Ms. Thomas thanked our educators for helping to balance the budget.

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – May 22, 2023**

RESOLUTION #2

WHEREAS, the Wilkes-Barre Area Career & Technical Center has submitted its 2023-2024 Operating & Budget to the Wilkes-Barre Area School District Board of Directors for review and approval.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wilkes-Barre Area Career & Technical Center shall operate for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, in accordance with the Operating Budget (Budget) presents by the Center's Joint Operating Committee.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Budget anticipates total expenditures of \$11,466,472 of which the Wilkes-Barre Area School District's contribution is estimated at \$2,831,411 for operations, an decrease of \$127,877 from the district's contributions for the year 2022-2023. The Wilkes-Barre Area District's contributions for the debt service budget is estimated at \$227,452 an increase of \$152,380.

Motion to accept Mr. Atherton, seconded by Dr. Susek

7 Ayes: Atherton, Breese, Faust, Harris, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

1 Nay: Thomas

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – May 22, 2023

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Thomas gave a shout out to a crossing guard who protected a child from being hit by a car during a police chase. Her name is Amy Magda. She then thanked all of our crossing guards who put themselves in harm's way to protect our students. The entire board and administration thank Amy.

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Susek, seconded by Ms. Harris.

Meeting adjourned 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Telesz
Board Secretary