

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
October 4, 2018

Board President Joseph A. Caffrey called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Superintendent Brian J. Costello led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Board Secretary Thomas F. Telesz called the roll.

8 MEMBERS PRESENT: Evans, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

1 MEMBER ABSENT: Galella

President Caffrey stated:

- The chair wishes to announce that the Board held an Executive Session prior to the Committee Meeting of October 4, 2018 and prior to the Regular Board Meeting of October 4, 2018.
- THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RELATED SOLELY TO MATTERS OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, LABOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND/OR THREATENED OR ACTUAL LITIGATION.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Costello noted that the G.A.R./Meyers football game is sold out with 3,000 tickets being sold. Dr. Costello stated that the District will do everything possible to accommodate those fans in attendance and noted that the game will be played at Wilkes-Barre Memorial Stadium. Dr. Costello informed those in attendance that Service Electric will be broadcasting the game which will make it possible for those who were not able to purchase tickets to view the game.

At this time Dr. Costello introduced Dr. Rochelle Koury, Director of Administration and Pupil Services.

Dr. Koury, on behalf of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District, presented the Excellence In Education Award to Mr. Bill Jones, President and CEO of the United Way in recognition of the outstanding services and programs that are made available to the students of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District through the dedication of the United Way.

Apollo Report:

Mr. Mike Krzywicki, Apollo Project Manager, presented information in regard to the status of WBASD current projects.

Thomas F. Telesz, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, presented the Treasurer's Report ending August 31, 2018.

**WILKES-BARE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
CASH ACCOUNT BALANCES
MONTH ENDING AUGUST 31, 2018**

GENERAL FUND

	\$
1 GENERAL FUND CHECKING - FNCB	(1,478,897.91)
2 GENERAL FUND CASH CONCENTRATION - FNCB	18,045,661.97
3 FEDERAL PROGRAMS - FNCB	451,241.63
4 FEDERAL PROGRAMS CHAPTER 1 -FNCB	

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		1,221,812.98
5	FNB BANK	446,695.92
6	FNB BANK	74,434.75
7	JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT	1,705,170.22
8	PNC BANK	387,052.52
9	LPL FINANCIAL	829,658.76
10	EARNED INCOME TAX ACCOUNT-FNCB	16,479.02
11	COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENT #1	11,890.25
12	REAL ESTATE TAX ACCOUNT - FNCB	-
13	LANDMARK CD	468,422.65
14	PLGIT EIT	835,465.07
15	ATHLETIC FUND-FNB BANK	166,037.21
16	PAYROLL CHECKING-FNCB	1,449,030.17
17	PAYROLL CLEARING -FNCB	-
	TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$24,630,155.21

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS

		\$
18	2016 CAPITAL PROJECTS CASH CONCENTRATION-FNCB	13,248,719.80
19	PNC BANK INVESTMENT	4,162,649.99
20	PLGIT CASH RESERVE	1,000,478.37
	TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS	\$18,411,848.16

FIDUCIARY FUNDS - TRUST AND AGENCY

TRUST FUNDS:

		\$
21	WHOLE LIFE GROUP TRUST-CITIZENS BANK	155,529.24
22	COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENTS WHOLE LIFE	341,619.57

AGENCY FUNDS:

23	ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY FUND-Landmark BANK	129,567.01
24	SECONDARY ACTIVITY FUND-Landmark BANK	329,507.53

TOTAL FIDUCIARY - TRUST AND AGENCY FUNDS **\$956,223.35**

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PROPRIETARY FUND - FOOD SERVICE

25	FOOD SERVICE CHECKING ACCOUNT-Landmark Bank	\$ 2,855,444.23
	TOTAL PROPRIETARY FUND - FOOD SERVICE	\$2,855,444.23

DEBT SERVICE FUND

26	COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENTS DEBT SERVICE	\$ 9,517.28
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$9,517.28

Ms. Thomas moved, seconded by Ms. Patla, to adopt the Treasurer's Report ending August 31, 2018.
The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Evans, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

Unfinished Business

Ms. Thomas noted that a recent newspaper article indicated that it was a miscommunication in regard to the District being asked to pay a \$50.00 fee to use the tennis courts at Kirby Park. Ms. Thomas stated it was not a miscommunication and stated that the WBASD was asked to pay a \$50.00 fee for the use of the tennis courts at Kirby Park.

Communications from Citizens

1. Richard Holidick
2. Ruth Borland
3. Kim Borland
4. Tracey Hughes
5. John Suchoski
6. Michael Horvath

The above listed Citizens addressed the Board in regard to the following:

1. Citizens who address the Board are treated disrespectfully. SOS is not an advisory to the Board.
2. The Board needs to take their errors seriously.
3. Citizens are being taxed out of their homes.
4. Eighteen States prohibit schools from being built on a contaminated site. The new consolidated High School is being built on a contaminated site. The Board is playing Russian roulette with students health and the tax payers money.
5. Why isn't the Board building on a site that does not have any contamination issues?
6. Do not take chances with the health of students. The proposed building site for new High School is contaminated and arsenic is present on the site.
7. Has the District obtained zoning approval for the Pagnotti site?
8. There are less problems with students who attend neighborhood schools.
9. The District needs to get priorities straight and consider the lack of libraries in the schools.
10. The Pagnotti site is inferior to Meyers site when you take into consideration geological issues, transportation concerns, sociological issues and cost to finance at Pagnotti site. The District is building at the Pagnotti site to spite those Citizens who challenge the Board.
11. Will the booklet in regard to the Public Hearing information be on the website and also available to Citizens who wish to have a hard copy?
12. The site of the new High school is not going to help disadvantaged students and students will miss out on activities due to lack of transportation to attend events.
13. Why has the Board resisted getting a second opinion in regard to Meyers site? What is the Board afraid of?

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14. The Community is not entirely behind you on the decision as it relates to the consolidated High School.
15. Is there coal ash on the Pagnotti site?
16. Building management has been a problem in the past and will it continue to be a problem at the consolidated High School?
17. What is the status of the Valley Crest tax deferment?
18. Additional seating should be added to Wilkes-Barre Memorial Stadium for G.A.R./Meyers final football game.
19. Why were tickets sold only during the day at certain hours making it inconvenient for people who work to buy tickets?
20. Dress down day fundraiser requested and consideration for a donation to be taken at the G.A.R./Meyers football game for a former graduate who has suffered severe burns in a home accident and consideration for a donations to be taken at the remainder of District High School Football games.

Superintendent, Dr. Brian Costello, Board President Joseph Caffrey, Board Member, Mr. Quinn, Attorney Wendolowski and Mike Krzywicki, Apollo Project Manager responded to questions/statements presented by the Citizens who addressed the Board.

LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT

No report

WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

Mr. Quinn noted the next meeting of the Wilkes-Barre Career and Technical Center will be held on October 15, 2018.

There was no **CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT**

BUDGET FINANCE /MATERIAL SUPPLIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Rev. Walker presented the following report and recommendations for the Board's approval:

A. ADMINISTRATIVE

Apollo Group, Inc.	GAR Exterior Façade	Capital Project	AGI-15052-WBASP PR#17	\$67.60
Apollo Group, Inc.	New High School Plains Site	Capital Projects	App. No. 18	\$69,200.42
Borton Lawson	New High School Plains Site	Capital Projects	2017-3091-001-000012	\$56,709.03
TGL Engineering, Inc.	New High School Plains Site	Capital Projects	Invoice #10	\$23,000.00
WKL Architecture	New High School Plains Site	Capital Projects	Invoice #11	\$72,447.81
Geo-Science Engineering & Testing	New High School Plains Site	Capital Projects	Invoice #016848	\$59,557.16
Geo-Science Engineering & Testing	New High School Plains Site	Capital Projects	Invoice #016966	\$5,000.00

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2. That approval be given to an agreement between Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Wilkes-Barre Township to convey to Wilkes-Barre Township all rights, title and interest in and to the property located at 20 Casey Avenue, Wilkes-Barre Township, PA.

B. FEDERAL

That, in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal AP Checks #1766-1769 and Federal Wire transfer #201800199 and Chapter I AP checks #1973-1984 and Chapter I Wire Transfers #201800190-#201800198 were drawn for payment since the last regular board meeting of the Board of Education held on September 20, 2018 be approved.

- C.** That payment be approved for the following General Fund Wire Transfers #201810950 to #201810967 and General Fund checks, #50091-#50126 and Food Service Checks #3197-3203 which were drawn for payment since the regular board meeting of the Board of Education held on September 20, 2018.

- D.** That the checks listed on the following pages #50127 to #50222 which have been inspected be approved and that orders be drawn for the respective amounts set down opposite the names of persons or firms.

Ms. Thomas noted that mileage reimbursement submitted by some employees is extremely high and suggests that the mileage submitted be reviewed and verified before approved for reimbursement.

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

8 Ayes: Evans, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

1 Nay: Patla – A

There was no **ATHLETIC COMMITTEE REPORT**

SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Evans noted the Safe and Sound Schools presentation by Michelle Gay will be held on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at Solomon/Plains.

There was no **CONTRACTED SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

There was no **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

There was no **BUILDING MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

There was no **POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT**

PATHWAY/NEW CONSTRUCTION/TRANSITION REPORT

Ms. Thomas presented the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of School District Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District, in accordance with the consolidation of sports, as approved in the May 22nd 2018 Board meeting;

THEREFORE BEIT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District hereby presents the new Team Name/Mascot as The Wolf Pack and the new school colors as Black and Carolina Blue, beginning in the 2019-2020 school year.

Wilkes-Barre, PA
October 4, 2018

Ms. Thomas moved, seconded by Rev. Walker to adopt the Resolution. The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Evans, Geiger, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

1 Nay: Patla

Personnel Committee Report

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

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

A. Act 93

1. That **Michael Sulcoski** be compensated via Title I funding for additional summer curriculum work at a rate of \$35.00 per hour for 140 hours.
2. That **Tashara Sheperis** be placed at Master's, step 10.
3. That **Martin Flaherty** be placed at Bachelor's, step 15.

B. Professionals

1. That **Mary Tranguch's** request for sabbatical leave for the second semester of the 2018-19 school year be approved.
2. That **Jenna Searfoss's** request for her sabbatical leave be amended to begin September 21, 2018 through the end of the 2018-19 school year be approved.
3. That **Amanda Butch** be appointed an Elementary Education Long Term Substitute Teacher effective September 21, 2018 through the end of the 2018-19 school year.
4. The following members of the professional staff, having made claim for an incentive raise under the WBAEA Agreement and having produced official transcripts listing the graduate credits earned, be granted the following effective September 5, 2017:

Bachelor's +15
Sara Gravine

Master's +9
Cherine Bankus

Master's +27
Maria Wujcik

Master's Equivalency
Jill Casarella

Master's +18
Lesley Gunn

Master's +54
Tanya Kirkutis
Daniel Volpetti

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5. The following members of the professional staff, having made claim for an incentive raise under the WBAEA Agreement and having produced official transcripts listing the graduate credits earned, be granted the following effective the first day of the second semester of the 2017/18 school year:

Master's +54

Leslie Parry

6. The following members of the professional staff, having made claim for an incentive raise under the WBAEA Agreement and having produced official transcripts listing the graduate credits earned, be granted the following effective September 4, 2018:

Bachelor's +15

Jill Hall

Bachelor's +39

James Butterwick

Master's Equivalency

Samantha Kishbach

Master's

Corey Brenner

Master's +9

Michael Namey

Michael Shimko

Megan Petrylak

Samantha Jenkins

Master's +18

Nicole Karkut

Amanda Carannante

Master's +27

Colleen Yanora

Joshua Wasielewski

Master's +45

Brittany Scarnulis

Master's +54

Gerard McGroarty

Diane McFarlane

C. Secretaries & Teachers' Associates

1. That **Monet Jones** be appointed a part time 20 hour per week Paraprofessional/PCA.
2. That **Naomi Arzola-Morales** be appointed a part time 20 hour per week Paraprofessional/PCA.
3. That _____ be appointed a 12.5 hour per week Kindergarten Teachers' Associate. ~~TABLED~~
4. That _____ be appointed a 15 hour per week Cafeteria Teachers' Associate. ~~TABLED~~
5. That _____ be appointed a 15 hour per week Cafeteria Teachers' Associate. ~~TABLED~~

D. Crossing Guard

1. That the voluntary resignation of **Maria Faria** be accepted with regret effective September 17, 2018.
2. That the voluntary resignation of **Andrea McDade** be accepted with regret effective September 17, 2018.
3. That the voluntary resignation of **Dawn Griffin** be accepted with regret effective October 1, 2018.
4. That **Anthony Miles** be appointed a Permanent Crossing Guard effective October 1, 2018.
5. That **Michele Kosisky** be appointed a Permanent Crossing Guard effective October 1, 2018.

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6. That **Anthony Gober** be appointed a Permanent Crossing Guard effective October 1, 2018.
7. That **Walter Geiger** be appointed a Substitute Crossing Guard.
8. That **James Wilson** be appointed a Substitute Crossing Guard.

E. Security Greeters

1. That **David Iskra** be appointed a Substitute Security Greeter.
2. That _____ be appointed a Substitute Security Greeter.
TABLED

F. Custodians and Housekeepers

1. That the resignation of **David Bubblo** as be accepted with regret effective September 21, 2018.
2. That **Charlie Fritz's** request for unpaid leave from October 9, 2018 through October 12, 2018 be approved.
3. That **Zachary Wojtash** be appointed a Substitute Custodian.
4. That **Amanda Tulanowski** be appointed a Substitute Custodian.
5. That **Robert Marcincavage** be appointed a Substitute Custodian.

G. Athletics

1. That the resignation of **Keith Ferenchick** as Coughlin's Boys' Basketball Varsity Assistant Coach be accepted with regret.
2. 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	Swimming	Varsity Head Coach	TABLED
GAR	Boys Basketball	Varsity Assistant Coach	TABLED
Meyers	Wrestling	Varsity Assistant Coach	Kyle Paul
Meyers	Wrestling	Jr. High Head Coach	Joshua Wasielewski
Meyers	Wrestling	Jr. High Assistant Coach (1/2 pay)	Anthony Eck
Meyers	Wrestling	Jr. High Assistant Coach (1/2 pay)	TABLED

Dr. Susek moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:
8 Ayes: Evans, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

Rev. Walker presented Resolution No. 1

RESOLUTION

**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
WILKES-BARRE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**ADOPTING A MAXIMUM PROJECT COST AND A MAXIMUM BUILDING CONSTRUCTION COST FOR
PROJECTS INVOLVING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HIGH SCHOOL AND AUTHORIZING OTHER
ACTION IN CONNECTION THEREWITH**

WHEREAS, the Public School Code of 1949, as amended and supplemented, including those made by Act 34, approved June 27, 1973 (the "School Code"), requires, among other things, that a public hearing be held on all new construction and substantial additions to existing school buildings; and

WHEREAS, the Wilkes-Barre Area School District (the "School District") has resolved to undertake the construction of a new high school (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors of the School District proposes to adopt a maximum project cost and maximum building construction cost for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors of the School District intends to conduct a public hearing to inform the residents of the School District with respect to the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board of School Directors of the School District hereby adopts a maximum project cost of \$137,318,879 and a maximum building construction cost of \$103,652,234 in connection with the Project.
2. The Board of School Directors of the School District hereby authorizes and directs a public hearing to be held in accordance with the requirements of Act 34 of the School Code on October 29, 2018, to provide information to the residents of the School District with respect to the Project. The Secretary of the School District is hereby authorized and directed to advertise the Notice of Public Hearing insubstantially the form set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, in accordance with the requirements of Act 34 and Public School Code of 1949, as amended. Such public hearing shall be published not less than 20 days prior to the date of the public hearing stated above.
3. The Board of School Directors of the School District authorizes and approves the preparation of a description of the Project (the "Booklet") in accordance with resolutions of the Board and upon approval by the Solicitor and Superintendent, the Board of School Directors of the School District hereby directs the Secretary of the School District to make copies of the Booklet available to residents no later than 20 days prior to the date of the public hearing stated above, and on each business day thereafter between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. at the School District Administration Office, 730 South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, 18711. The Board of School Directors of the School District further authorizes the use and distribution of the Booklet as required by the School Code.
4. The Board of School Directors of the School District hereby authorizes and directs the proper officer of the School District to submit to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (the "Department") a certified copy of this Resolution, together with a copy of the minutes or transcript of the aforementioned public hearing, a proof of publication of the notice thereof and a complete description of the Project, all as required by the School Code, as well as any other documents required by the Department in connection therewith.

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5. The Board of School Directors of the School District hereby authorizes and directs its (i) administrative staff; (ii) Bond Counsel; (iii) Solicitor – Raymond P. Wendolowski, Esquire; (iv) Architect; (v) Underwriter; and (vi) Financial Advisor; to do and perform or cause to be done and performed on behalf of the School District any and all acts and things as may be necessary in connection with the Project in order to carry out the purposes of the School Code and this Resolution.

6. The proper officers of the School District are hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all papers and to do and cause to be done any and all acts and things necessary or proper for the execution or carrying out of this Resolution.

7. All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent herewith are hereby rescinded, canceled, and annulled.

8. The Board of School Directors of the School District hereby approves, ratifies, and confirms all action taken in connection with the Project.

EXHIBIT A:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Board of School Directors of the WILKES-BARRE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania (the "School District"), at 6:00 p.m., prevailing time, October 29, 2018, in the Cafeteria at the Leo E. Solomon - Plains Memorial Junior High School, 43 Abbott Street, Plains Township, Pennsylvania.

The purpose of the hearing is to inform the residents of the School District and to review all relevant matters relating to the proposed plan for the construction of a new high school.

A description of the Project will be presented and will be available for review and consideration by residents of the School District in booklet form no later than October 9, 2018, and on each regular business day thereafter between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. at the School District Administration Office, 730 South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, 18711.

The Board of School Directors of the School District by resolution duly adopted has authorized a "maximum project cost" of \$ 137,318,879 and a "maximum building construction cost" of \$103,652,234 in connection with the Project. This public hearing is being held pursuant to requirements of the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949, approved March 10, 1949, as amended and supplemented, including amendments made pursuant to Act 34 of the Session of 1973 of the General Assembly.

A resident of the School District wishing agenda time for the purpose of discussing the proposed Project should submit a written request to the School District no later than 4:00 P.M. on October 26, 2018. Such request should be submitted to the undersigned, and include the name and address of the person submitting the request and a statement of the topic to be presented. Agenda time shall be limited to three (3) minutes. A resident of the School District may submit written testimony regarding the Project no later than 4:00 P.M. on October 26, 2018. Such written testimony should be submitted to the undersigned and include the name and address of the person submitting the testimony. Testimony from those who do not receive agenda time will be received from the floor at the hearing. Such testimony shall be limited to three (3) minutes.

Written comments regarding the Project will be received by the secretary of the Board of School Directors until 4:00 P.M., November 29, 2018.

Thomas F. Telesz, Secretary
Wilkes-Barre Area School District
730 South Main Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711

Rev. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to adopt the Resolution. The vote was as follows:
8 Ayes: Evans, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

New Business

Dr. Costello noted that the coaching positions for Fall 2019-2020 school year will be posted and applications will begin on October 12, 2018 for both internal and external interested applicants. Dr. Costello further noted that the Board would prefer to make selections in order to have those coaches in place by November or December of 2018.

Ms. Thomas stated that she has visited most of the schools within the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and she recognizes that they are doing more for less and she appreciates and recognizes their hard work and dedication.

Report of the Solicitor

Dr. Susek moved, seconded by Ms. Patla, to approve the addendum to the Independent Contractor Agreement between Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Olive Branch BP, trading or doing business as Building Blocks Afterschool Enrichment Program to renew the Agreement for a period of five years beginning the date of signing the Agreement. The vote was as follows:

8 Ayes: Evans, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

Dr. Susek moved to adjourn.

President Caffrey adjourned the Meeting at 8:15 PM