

MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING – October 23, 2023

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

Superintendent Costello led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Secretary, Thomas F. Telesz called the roll.

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

President Caffrey – The chair wishes to announce the Board held an Executive Session prior to the Regular Board Meeting of October 23, 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 August 28, 2023 and dispense with the reading of those minutes.

Motion by Ms. Thomas seconded by Mr. Evans to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of August 28, 2023.

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

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr Costello addressed the threats that our district and neighboring districts have been receiving over the past few weeks. Regardless of how many threats we receive, we will take everyone seriously, treat it as credible, act appropriately, and follow our emergency plans. If the nature of the event allows us to remain in school, we will most certainly do so. We are working with local authorities, State Police and FBI. Each threat was a little different and required different responses, including dismissal and lock out.

Dr. Costello reviewed the District's Pathway to the Future which includes the Financial, Academic, and Facility Pathways.

He stated that our fund balance was once expected to have an \$8 million deficit is now able to fund unexpected expenses like repairs or the need to hire additional teachers.

The Commonwealth projected a dip in enrollment but in fact, our enrollment has grown by 10% last year from 7,500 students to about 8,500. Dr. Costello is thankful that we have been able accommodate the growth, but it is something we must monitor moving forward.

We have monthly facility meetings and are utilizing a workflow and accountability management system to monitor work requests.

Our capital projects are made possible by our capital fund. These projects include Solomon Complex roof replacement, lighting improvements in nearly every building, and athletic complex phase I, II, III. Future and current projects include HVAC improvements, more lighting improvements, upgraded flooring, painting, athletic complex phase IV, new administration building and district wide paving project.

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Because of the board's resilience to stay financially disciplined, we did not need to raise taxes in 4 years or borrow for the previously mentioned projects.

Dr. Costello stated we that must be able to provide an equitable education for our diverse student population.

He shared that the number of students in class are acceptable in most cases. We are monitoring a few classes and may need to adjust. We were able to add and additional elementary teachers so keep classes near 20 in most cases.

Dr. Costello reviewed how the state's Future Ready Index tracks graduation rates. Students who are retained and special education students who bank their diplomas count as students who did not graduate. In plain numbers, last year, we had 532 seniors, 12 did not earn a diploma. 96.5% of the senior class graduated in 2023.

In 2016, the state signed into law the Basic Education Formula (BEF). "Pennsylvania has built a system of state education funding where the kids who need the most get the least..." "Considering our student are 81% economically disadvantaged, you can imagine our students could use a little extra help." Our district was one of six districts that sued the Commonwealth and won on February 7, 2023. Commonwealth Court ruled that "Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional and must be reformed. "At the time the lawsuit was filed, we were \$32 million underfunded annually Actually, it may be as much as \$89 million underfunded. In March, Governor Shapiro stated the "remedy was for us to get around the table and come up with a solution that ensures every child has access to a thorough and efficient education." Starting in June, the Basic Education Funding Commission are meeting with constituents. Dr. Costello has participated in 2 of these hearings. The commission is made up of six Republican lawmakers and six Democratic lawmakers. There job is to come up with a plan that identifies what each school district needs. Our district is the 7th most underfunded district in the commonwealth.

Dr. Costello review some ways we could put that additional funding to good use including funding art, expanding our GAR 6th grade pilot program. The pilot program after one year in existence has shown remarkable growth.

Dr. Costello then thanked the board for the assistance in achieving great things.

Next month, he will have updates on the improvements we made with our new reading programs and he'll have updates on our STEM, CAPAA, and Business programs. "It's not complicated: when we follow our pathways, students can achieve great things."

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

Dr. Costello read the following report in Mr. Mike Krzywicki's absence.

Admin Building:

Continued to address work requests
Prepared boiler for heating season

Dan Flood Elementary:

Continued to address work requests
Competed concrete curbs and sidewalks
Continued lawn maintenance
Continued to address plumbing repairs

Dodson Elementary:

Continued to address work requests

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E.L. Meyers Building:

Continues to perform building security checks while building is unoccupied
Continued lawn maintenance

GAR Middle School:

Continued to address work requests
Commenced lighting replacement in areas not included in previous ESCO project
(Basement, Stair Tower, Auditorium)
Continued to address plumbing repairs

Heights Murray Elementary:

Continued to address work requests
Continued lawn maintenance
Completed replacement of concrete curbs, sidewalks & asphalt paving
Continued to address plumbing repairs

Kistler Elementary:

Continued to address work requests
Continued lawn maintenance
Continued to address plumbing repairs/Performed water quality testing of drinking fountains

Mackin Elementary:

Continued to address work requests
Continued lawn maintenance
Continued to address plumbing repairs

Solomon Complex:

Continued to address work requests
Continued lawn maintenance/painted goal posts
Completed replacement of concrete curbs, sidewalks & asphalt paving
Continued to address plumbing repairs

Athletic Fields:

Completed installation of dugouts, backstop, fence and placement of topsoil.

W-B High School:

Continued to address work requests
Continued to address remaining punch list/warranty items

General:

Continued annual testing & inspection of fire alarm systems
Line striping & mowing of grass athletic fields will be suspended, as maintenance staff prepares for leaf & snow removal.
During the last 60 days, we have completed approximately **247** work requests. Our maintenance staff is currently addressing approximately **191** new work orders, most of which were submitted over the past month. The current number of unassigned work requests is **12**. The majority of those work requests are related to issues that need to be further investigated.

Ms. Thomas inquired about who is taking care of plumbing issues. **Dr. Costello** shared that we have an outside agency taking care of plumbing, we posted the position and have been unable to fill it.

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COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

Ms. Deanna Hairston, parent, shared her concerns about the junior high football team coaches. Her concerns included lack of communication and favoritism. She stated that she felt many players, including her son, were not being given a fair chance at their positions. She also pointed out that we have no Coaches' Code of Conduct.

Mr. Alex Hairston, parent, shared his concerns about the junior high school team coaches. His concerns include nepotism and favoritism. He stated that he felt many players, including his son are not being given a fair chance at their position. He also shared that he fears that his son will be retaliated against because of him speaking at the meeting. He is disappointed in what he feels is a lack of response by the district.

Dawn Raggi, custodian, shared that the custodial, maintenance, and housekeepers have been bargaining for three years. She would like to see this group receive a five year extension like some of the other groups. She mentioned that the staff dwindled from 89 to 40, but the work load remains the same. She stated that they need more staff in order to keep up with demands. She asked the board for help to facilitate discussions.

Dr. Costello shared that a proposal was sent on October 3rd.

Aitor Delapera & Bob McCullagh, Kooth, presented on Kooth, a mental health app implemented in the district. Kooth is no cost to students or the district. Kooth offers self-guided mental health activities and access to PA licensed mental health professionals in a chat based format.

Phil Walsh, maintenance employee, shared that we have custodial and maintenance staff that have gone seven years. He would like to see this group get a 2-2.5% cost of living increase like Social Security. He stated that the teachers increase cost the district \$690,000 a year. This group's increase will cost \$46,500. He mentioned that some employees come in as early as 4:30 in the morning to complete the work that should have been finished the night before. He feels the group is under appreciated mentioning that despite their fears, they worked during COVID.

Sara, Woolard, parent, thanked Dr. Costello for his presentation about the recent threats. She was pleased to hear that the FBI is involved with each threat. She felt the lock out was an appropriate approach. She encouraged the administration to think out of the box. While she understands the District cannot share all the details, she would like to see a little more communication with parents concerning the threats.

LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT #18

Ms. Thomas – The next meeting will be Wednesday, the 25th.

WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

Mr. Faust – The CTC have been working on Perkinson Innovation Modernization Grant to fund an additional 40 welding students. SMART will place these welders into apprenticeship. The CTC added an auto mechanics instructor.

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CURRICULUM/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Evans 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 the agreement between Phoenix Center for Rehabilitation and Pediatrics and the Wilkes-Barre Area School District for Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech Therapy/Dysphagia Services for the 2023-2024 school year. **“Exhibit A”**
2. That approval be given to ratify the agreement by and between Luzerne County Head Start, Inc. (the Purchaser) and the Wilkes-Barre Area School District (the District) whereby the Purchaser agrees to purchase meals from the District during the 2023- 2024 school year. **“Exhibit B”**
3. That approval be given to the Settlement Agreement and Release between the District and the parents/legal guardians of the student T.S.
4. That approval be given ratify the Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Maxim Healthcare Staffing, 2211 Quarry Drive, Suite E-60, Reading, PA 19609 to provide health care services for students as per IEP at rates listed on Attachment A for the 2023-2024 school year. This agreement will have an automatic yearly renewal with base rates increased by 3%. **“Exhibit C”**
5. That approval be given to enter into an agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18, 368 Tioga Avenue, Kingston PA for Partial Hospitalization Therapeutic Services for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$18.74 per hour or \$112.44 per day if Medical Assistance or private insurance lapse or the student is absent. **“Exhibit D”**
6. That approval be given to enter into the Young Scholars Program agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Wilkes University allowing eligible student to earn college credit at a rate of \$50.00 per credit hour. **“Exhibit E”**

Motion to accept Mr. Evans, Seconded by Ms. Harris

*** Ayes: Atherton, 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 August 2023. **“Exhibit F”**
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	Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects	Admin. Building	Capital Reserve	726-09- 2023	\$ 5,265.75
A2.2	Myco Mechanical	Field House	Capital Projects	App 13 HVAC	\$ 11,600.00
A2.3	Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects	GAR Re-Roof	Capital Reserve	725-09- 2023	\$ 2,262.50
A2.4	Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects	GAR Re-Roof	Capital Reserve	725-10- 2023	\$ 800.00
A2.5	Detwiler Roofing, LLC	GAR Re-Roof	Capital Reserve	App 004	\$ 158,745.00
A2.6	The Brewer-Garrett Company	GAR/Kistler ESCO	Capital Reserve	App 2	\$ 554,996.00
A2.7	The Brewer-Garrett Company	GAR/Kistler ESCO	Capital Reserve	App 4	\$ 504,135.00
A2.8	Apollo Group, Inc.	High School	Capital Projects	App 63	\$ 204.67
A2.9	Everon Electrical Contractors, Inc	High School	Capital Projects	App 40	\$ 7,601.14
A2.10	Everon Electrical Contractors, Inc	High School	Capital Projects	App 41	\$ 22,500.00
A2.11	Green Valley	High School	Capital Projects	App 23	\$ 16,036.57
A2.12	Green Valley	High School	Capital Projects	APP 24	\$ 16,036.57

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A2.13	Apollo Group, Inc.	Paving Project	Capital Projects	App 1	\$122.80
A2.14	Stell Enterprises, Inc	Paving Project	Capital Projects	App 01	\$ 912,969.00
A2.15	McClure Company	Solomon Plains ESCO	Capital Reserve	App 3	\$ 970,312.96
A2.16	McClure Company	Solomon Plains ESCO	Capital Reserve	App 4	\$ 794,613.92
A2.17	Apollo Group, Inc.	Stadium Project	Capital Projects	App 19	\$ 8,444.12

3. That approval be given to ratify the following Capital Project Checks:

Vendor	Check #	Amount
Commonwealth of PA Clean Water Fund	1042	\$700.00
Luzerne Conservation District	1043	\$2,800.00
Luzern County Clean Water Fund	1044	\$500.00
Luzerne Conservation District	1045	\$200.00

4. That ratification be given to the Repository Tax Sales by Elite Revenue Solutions, as agent for the Luzerne County Tax Claim Bureau as follows:

Property Address	Parcel No.	Proposed Bid
83 Nicholson St, Wilkes-Barre Twp., PA	69-19SE2-005-005-000	\$1,800.00
.15 acre property of unapproved land, Wilkes-Barre, PA	73-19NW1-005-020-000	\$500.00
284 Blackman Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA	73-19NE4-032-019-000	\$3,000.00
157 Waller Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA	73-19NW2-018-031-000	\$3,600.00
42 W Hollenback Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA	73-H10NW1-006-012-000	\$3,100.00
352 Blackman Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA	73-19NE4-009-011-000	\$40,000.00
73-1-709-3-D1-4	73-H10NW4-004-11A-000	\$500.00

5. That approval be given to the following budget transfers:

	Debit	Credit
10 E 2200 300	\$170,424.27	
10 E 2600 700		\$170,424.27

6. That approval be given to purchase the equipment (Chromebooks and charging carts, etc.) leased from HP at a cost of \$37,870.00. **“Exhibit G”**
7. That approval be given to authorize the Superintendent to sign the following Pennsylvania Department of Transportation forms related to the Highway Occupancy Permit.
- a. M-945RC (3-23)
 - b. M-950IA (4-19)
 - c. M-950 IC (10-18)

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B. FEDERAL

That in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal Fund AP Checks #2991 to #3045; Federal Fund Wire Transfers #202300171 to #202300259 which were drawn for payment since the last regular Board meeting of the Board of Education held on August 28, 2023.

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C. GENERAL FUND/FOOD SERVICE

That in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following General Fund Checks #61195 to #61514 and General Fund Wire Transfers #202312170 to #202312188 and General Fund Wire Transfers #202312189 to #202312204 and Food Service Checks #3866 to #3881 which were drawn for payment since the last regular Board meeting of the Board of Education held on August 28, 2023 be approved.

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D. GENERAL FUND

That checks #61515 to #61619 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.

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E. CONTRACTED SERVICES

1. That approval be given to Change Order #14 for Keystone Sports Construction in the amount of \$29,665.53. The Change Order consists of the following:

Brennan Electric COR No. B – Install Fiber to Electrical Bldg	\$6,025.70
Brennan Electric COR No. C – Change Feeder F9 to large size	\$818.40
Brennan Electric COR No. D – Temp 800 AMP Service	\$4,329.79
Brennan Electric COR No. E – Install Temp Service for Sports Complex	\$18,491.64

2. That approval be given to Change Order #4 for Keystone Sports Construction in the amount of \$43,936.35. The Change Order consists of the following:

Undercut remaining soft area in the field	
7,703 SF x 24" = 570 C.Y. 570 units @ \$71.00	\$40,470.00
Geo-Grid (S.F.) 7,703 units @ \$0.45	\$3,466.35

3. That approval be given to Change Order #15 for Keystone Sports Construction in the amount of -\$176,874.39. The Change Order consists of the following:

Topsoil Credit from Phase 1 from Phase 3	-\$182,000.00
Asphalt Index Adjustment	\$5,125.61

4. That approval be given to enter into a contract with Conrad Siegel Actuaries, 501 Corporate Circle, P.O. Box 5900, Harrisburg, PA to ensure the District is in compliance with the Sections 6055 and 6056, Employer Reporting Mandate under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) for calendar year 2023 at a fee of \$8,600. **“Exhibit H”**
5. That approval be given to enter into a royalty agreement between the Ohiopyle Print Inc., 410 Dinnerbell Rd. Ohiopyle, PA 15470 to grant OP non-exclusive right and a license to use the school marks for marketing, manufacturing, and distribution of apparel and accessories (“products”) sold to retailers and consumers. Payments will be made to the school based on 7% of the next sales invoiced to OP’s customers each quarter.
6. That approval be given to the addendum to the existing Standing Stone Consulting, Inc. agreement to absorb the district’s current greeting staff at a rate of \$14.85 per hour.
7. That approval be given to engage the services of BerkOne to manage the processing, printing, and mailing of the “Homestead/Farmstead Act-1 Application” as required by the taxpayer Relief Act 1 of Special Section 1 of 2006. The cost of these services is .4326 per application, plus postage.
8. That approval be given to ratify the appointment of Martin Flaherty, Controller, as Trustee and Frank Castano, Director of Human Resources, as Alternate Trustee to the Northeast Pennsylvania School Districts Health Trust for the 2023-2024 school year.
9. That approval be given to renew the Warehouse Lease Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and George Sincavage beginning August 1, 2023 to July 30, 2024 at a monthly rate of \$2,535.00.

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10. That approval be given to Burke Land Surveying to provide surveying services of the property known as 58 South Grant Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA at a cost of \$1,500.00.
11. That approval be given to Change Order #22 for Everon Electrical Contractors Inc. in the amount of -\$155.96.

Motion by Ms. Harris, seconded by Mr. Evans

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

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

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

The Athletic Committee respectfully submits the following report and recommendation:

1. That approval be given to contribute \$7,500.00 to the Township of Plains for the use of the following athletic fields: Hilldale Baseball Field, Fields at the Plains Municipal Park including the baseball field in the Pit and Tennis Courts.

Motion by Mr. Atherton, seconded by Dr. Susek

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

Mr. Atherton recognized Ms. Christa Galella and Mr. Corry Hanson for spearheading our first football alumni night. He hopes we build on this new tradition. He also brought to the attention the new athletic fields and fields house and all the activities going on at our facilities.

SAFETY & SECURITY COMMITTEE

No report

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No report

Building Maintenance

Mr. Faust shared that the committee met at GAR and reviewed current and future renovations.

FACILITIES TRANSITION

Attorney Wendolowski

Grant Street Property – survey completed, close shortly
Meyers – continues to move forward, zoning agenda on November
Empire Street Property – status quo

STUDENT WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Ms. Thomas – Next meeting is Wednesday at 12:30. Mr. Breese and President Caffrey will be taking the reigns.

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POLICY COMMITTEE

No Report

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

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 the “Parent Teacher Conferences” agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Wilkes-Barre Area Education Association be approved. **“EXHIBIT”**
2. That the “Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Coordinator” agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and the Wilkes-Barre Area Education Association be approved. **“EXHIBIT”**

B. Act 93

1. That That the following professional employees be appointed to the following positions at a rate of \$40.00 per hour. ARP ESSER assignments will be based on student participation and grant program funding available. ARP ESSER tutoring hours not to exceed grant program funding.

ARP ESSER After School Program Session 1 SRO

James Sheridan

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C. Professionals

1. That the retirement of **Cecilia Baltusavich** be accepted effective 9/27/2023.
2. That **Tonia Barrouk's** request for a sabbatical for the 2023-2024 school year be approved.
3. That **Joelle Milz** be appointed a temporary professional employee as an ESL Teacher effective September 5, 2023.
4. That **Shelby Ohotnicky** be appointed a temporary professional employee as a School Psychologist.
5. That **Armandria Mullen** be appointed an elementary Long-Term Substitute Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year effective September 5, 2023.
6. That **Hannah Gildea** be appointed a Business, Computer, and Information Technology Long-Term Substitute Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year effective September 6, 2023.
7. That **Edward Rosengrant** be appointed a Business, Computer, and Information Technology Long-Term Substitute Teacher for the 1st Semester of the 2023-2024 school year effective September 5, 2023.
8. That **Samantha White** be appointed a Special Education Long-Term Substitute Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year effective October 10, 2023.
9. That **Cheryl Jaworski** be appointed a Math Long-Term Substitute Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year effective October 10, 2023.
10. ~~That **Ariah Saeed** be appointed a Computer Science Long-Term Substitute Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year effective _____.~~ **TABLED**
11. That **Kristen Reap** be appointed an Elementary Long-Term Substitute Teacher for 106 school days effective October 16, 2023.
12. That the following professional employees be appointed as the ESL Parent Outreach Facilitator at Heights Elementary School at a rate of \$35.00 per hour. These positions are grant funded in accordance with the Title III, Language Instruction for English Learners Federal Grant Program.

Erika Hanson

Amy Wargo-Secor

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13. That the following professional employees be appointed to the following positions at a rate of \$35.00 per hour. RAISE, A-TSI, and ARP ESSER assignments will be based on student participation and grant program funding available. RAISE, A-TSI, and ARP ESSER tutoring hours not to exceed grant program funding.

RAISE After School Program Session 1

Stephanie Brewster	Ginger Walsh	Crystal Kane
Mary Claire Corcoran	Mary Tranguch	Veronica Tobin
Beth Weber	Amy Degnan Blasco	Kathie Miles
Amy Umphred	Melanie Costantino	Amanda Scott
MaryJo Youngblood	Kelly Pryor	Margaret McGrath
Donna Brenner	Carol Hiscox	Karen Vought
Kristen Barber	Anne Goffredo	Dana Hine
Erin McGavin	Jennifer Hunter	Kaycee Mercadante
Amy Sullivan	Rita Gubbiotti	Susan Domiano
Cynthia Craig	Rick Collins	Molly McAndrew
Heather Engle	Susan Schwab	Maureen Sovan Carey
Christine Hayward	Lauren Letteer	Lisa Giovannini
Melissa Watkins	Kelley Campas	John Gosciewski
Keryn Bevan	Brittany Scarnulis	Megan Toney
Heather Fritz	Marissa Bradshaw	Charla Potsko
Susan Ferretti	Christina Nordmark	Paul Shymanski
Heather Johnson	Joseph Rodzinak	Erin Moran
Marianne Aboutanos	Diane McFarlane	Glenn Zimmerman
Michael Day	Joelle DeLuca	Marianne Kapuschinsky
Mitchell Marcks	Michael Ward	

A-TSI After School Program Session 1

Arthur Mitchell	Christina Grendzinski	Joanne Kelly
Courtney O'Meara	Marianne Turosky	

ARP ESSER After School Program Session 1

Brenda Labatch-Cavalari	Elaine Dunn	Jamie Andrews
Kimberly Hayes	Christopher Buzinkai	Amy Wargo-Secor
Tanya Martin Kirkutis	Jennifer Thomas	Tammy Levandowski

14. 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, 2023:

Bachelors' +15

Brittany Hess
Matthew Kuhl

Bachelors' +30

Rick Collins

Bachelors' +39

Kathleen Prisk

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Veronica Tobin

Masters'

Jessica DeAngelo

Masters' +9

Sara Gravine
Jared Carlo

Masters' +18

Rachel Hedgcock
Mary Grace Walkowiak
Dominique Nardone
Carolyn Kaminski
Mara Vitali

Masters' +27

Thomas Leighton
Samantha Walton

Masters' +36

Kristen Hudack
Christina Kluger
Stephanie Marino
Jamie Kramer

Masters' +45

Amy Sod
Maryann Rizzo
Kelly Jackson
Corey Hanson
Amanda Brooks

Masters' +54

Emily Bell
Brooke Joyce
Maura Mattick
Lori Ohrin
Megan Petrylak
Richard Simon
Jenny Wilczak
Brenda Cavalari

Doctorate

Kelley Campas

D. Secretaries & Teachers' Associates

1. The Board agrees to waive **Michelle Conahan's** three month written notification as stated in the WBA Secretaries & Associates Educational Support Personnel Association agreement. The Board further agrees to accept Michelle's retirement effective October 9, 2023.
2. The Board agrees to waive **Janice Dimirco's** three month written notification as stated in the WBA Secretaries & Associates Educational Support Personnel Association agreement. The Board further agrees to accept Janice's retirement effective September 29, 2023.
3. That the resignation of **Barbara Shemanski** be accepted effective August 28, 2023.
4. That the retirement of **Melana Khalife** be accepted effective January 2, 2024.
5. That the resignation of **Matthew Coulter** be accepted effective September 15, 2023.
6. That the resignation of **Mary Coulter** be accepted effective September 5, 2023.
7. That the resignation of **Kristin Masiello** be accepted effective September 29, 2023.

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8. That **Phyllis Brown's** request for an unpaid leave from September 5, 2023 through January 26, 2024 through be accepted.
9. That **Maureen Metzler's** request for an unpaid leave from September 5, 2023 through January 1, 2024 be accepted.
10. That **Ashley Brooking** be appointed a Full Time Paraprofessional/PCA(s) 32.5 hours per week.
11. That **Melinda Gillow** be appointed a Full Time Paraprofessional/PCA(s) 32.5 hours per week.
12. That **Kevin Kaskey** be appointed a Full Time Paraprofessional/PCA(s) 32.5 hours per week.
13. That **Geizamar Santana** be appointed a Full Time Paraprofessional/PCA(s) 32.5 hours per week.
14. That **Sandra Namey** be appointed a Full Time Paraprofessional/PCA(s) 32.5 hours per week.
15. That **Jordyn Sovan** be appointed a Full Time Paraprofessional/PCA(s) 32.5 hours per week.
16. That **Maria Santana** be appointed ESSER Part Time Teacher's Associate (Paraprofessional/PCA) 20 hours per week with a position termination date at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
17. That **Miles Hayward** be appointed ESSER Part Time Teacher's Associate (Paraprofessional/PCA) 20 hours per week with a position termination date at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
18. That **Jean Checefsky** be appointed ESSER Part Time Teacher's Associate (Paraprofessional/PCA) 20 hours per week with a position termination date at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
19. That **Antonette Wachira** be appointed ESSER Part Time Teacher's Associate (Paraprofessional/PCA) 20 hours per week with a position termination date at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.
20. That **Trisha Kennedy** be appointed ESSER Part Time Teacher's Associate (Paraprofessional/PCA) 20 hours per week with a position termination date at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

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21. That the following employees be appointed to the following positions at their current hourly rate. RAISE, A-TSI, and ARP ESSER assignments will be based on student participation and grant program funding available. RAISE, A-TSI, and ARP ESSER tutoring hours not to exceed grant program funding.

RAISE After School Program Session 1 AIDE

Blake Meredith	Karen Taylor	Ashley Brooking
Sharon Pascucci	Yolanda Harris	Beth Christian
Michelle Cook	Marie Pistack	

A-TSI After School Program Session 1 AIDE

Janet Jones

ARP ESSER After School Program Session 1 AIDE

Maria Aguila

E. Custodians, Maintenance and Housekeepers

1. That the resignation of **Susanna Luton** as of July 28, 2023.
2. That **David Oldziejewski's** request for an unpaid leave on October 13, 2023 be accepted.
3. That **Fidelina Santos Gonzalez** be appointed a Substitute Custodian.

F. Crossing Guard

1. That the resignation of **Erica Wash** be accepted.
2. That the resignation of **Konwlorh Gilford** be accepted.
3. That **Rosa del Carmen Sala** be appointed a Full Time Crossing Guard.
4. That **Gloria Moore** be appointed a Full Time Crossing Guard.
5. That **Imoni Nicholson** be appointed a Full Time Crossing Guard.
6. That **Keisha Thomas** be appointed a Full Time Crossing Guard.
7. That **Kareem Jones** be appointed a Substitute Crossing Guard.
8. That **Scott Muso** be appointed a Substitute Crossing Guard.

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9. That **Clara Perez** be appointed a Substitute Crossing Guard.

G. Security Greeters

1. That the resignation of **Jack Morgan** be accepted effective June 9, 2023.
2. That the resignation of **Ross Wayman** be accepted effective June 9, 2023.

H. Extra-Curricular Salary Schedule-6

1. That **Jennifer Welgosh** be appointed a Head Teacher of ~~Guidance Counselors~~ effective September 5, 2023.
2. That **Michael Caprari** be appointed a Head Teacher effective September 5, 2023.

I. Athletics

1. That the resignation of **Joel Espinoza** as Girls Volleyball Varsity Assistant be accepted.
2. That the resignation of **Isabella Weidow** as Swim Varsity Assistant be accepted.
3. 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.

Boys Basketball Varsity Associate Head Coach (1/2 pay)	Tyseane Whitt
Boys Wrestling Varsity Assistant Coach	John Hooper
Girls Wrestling Varsity Assistant Coach	Catherine Hoskins
Boys Wrestling Junior High Assistant Coach	Morgan Luton
Swimming Varsity Assistant Coach	Kelly Eagleton
Volunteer CO-ED Volleyball Junior High Coach	Denny Mizhquir
Volunteer Boys Wrestling Coach	Vincent Mercadante
Volunteer Junior High Wolfpack Cheerleader Advisor	Clairmaine Curtis

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

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

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RESOLUTION #1

WHEREAS, Dr. Patrick J. Kerrigan, D.O. served as the District Physician from 1990 through 2020.

WHEREAS, through his numerous awards and accomplishments, he has made an invaluable impact on our schools and the overall community.

WHEREAS, The Wilkes-Barre Area would like to publicly recognize DR. Kerrigan's commitment and dedication to the District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wilkes-Barre Area School District expresses gratitude and appreciation for Dr. Kerrigan's distinguished service.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Thomas thanked individuals for the donation of a baby grand piano.

Communications from Solicitor

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Susek, seconded by Mr. Faust.

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

Meeting adjourned 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Telesz
Board Secretary