

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021**

Board President Joseph A. Caffrey called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Board Secretary Thomas F. Telesz called the roll

9 Members Present: Atherton, Evans, Harris, Patla, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

President Caffrey began the meeting:

- An informational meeting was held on January 26, 2021. Subject discussed related solely to the Stadium Project at the new High School, the transition of Dodson Elementary to Mackin Elementary and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and the monies the District would eventually receive with that program. There was an Executive Session from 12:12 p.m. to 12:27 p.m. to discuss Personnel matters.
- An Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Meeting of February 15, 2021. The subjects discussed in this meeting related solely to matters of employee relations, labor negotiations, and/or threatened or actual litigation.
- Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 11, 2021 and dispense with the reading of those minutes.

Ms. Thomas moved, seconded by Rev. Walker to adopt these minutes.

The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Atherton, Evans, Harris, Patla, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

Treasurer's Report:

Thomas F. Telesz, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, presented the Treasurer's Report ending November 30, 2020.

**WILKES-BARE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
CASH ACCOUNT BALANCES
MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2020**

GENERAL FUND

	\$	
1 GENERAL FUND CHECKING - FNCB	(337,997.41)	
2 GENERAL FUND CASH CONCENTRATION - FNCB		54,059,222.12
3 FEDERAL PROGRAMS - FNCB		2,108,288.81
4 FEDERAL PROGRAMS CHAPTER 1 -FNCB		5,868.74
5 FNB BANK		461,346.84
6 FNB BANK		76,895.62
7 JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT		1,754,087.15
8 PNC BANK		393,363.75
9 LPL FINANCIAL		833,113.85
10 EARNED INCOME TAX ACCOUNT-FNCB		8,613.18
11 COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENT #1		12,335.51
12 REAL ESTATE TAX ACCOUNT - FNCB		-
13 LANDMARK CD		481,861.99
14 PLGIT EIT		862,327.87
15 ATHLETIC FUND-FNB BANK		249,942.62

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

16	PAYROLL CHECKING-FNCB		1,889,323.92
17	PAYROLL CLEARING -FNCB		-

TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$	62,858,594.56
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CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS

18	2016 CAPITAL PROJECTS CASH CONCENTRATION-FNCB	\$	(19,780.04)
19	PNC BANK INVESTMENT		2,098,727.44
20	2019 BOND ISSUE		76,238,969.29
21	PLGIT CASH RESERVE		1,796,847.94
22	FNCB 2019 CAPITAL PROJECTS		5,947.05

TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS	\$	80,120,711.68
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FIDUCIARY FUNDS - TRUST AND AGENCY

TRUST FUNDS:

23	WHOLE LIFE GROUP TRUST-CITIZENS BANK	\$	55,422.85
24	COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENTS WHOLE LIFE		354,412.36
25	FNB BANK WHOLE LIFE		50,248.56

AGENCY FUNDS:

26	ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY FUND-Landmark BANK		151,163.55
27	SECONDARY ACTIVITY FUND-Landmark BANK		287,133.56

TOTAL FIDUCIARY - TRUST AND AGENCY FUNDS	\$	898,380.88
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PROPRIETARY FUND - FOOD SERVICE

28	FOOD SERVICE CHECKING ACCOUNT-Landmark Bank	\$	3,546,986.66
			-
	TOTAL PROPRIETARY FUND - FOOD SERVICE	\$	3,546,986.66

DEBT SERVICE FUND

29	COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENTS DEBT SERVICE	\$	9,873.68
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$	9,873.68

Mr. Evans moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas to adopt the Treasurer's Report ending November 30, 2020.

The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Atherton, Evans, Harris, Patla, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Good Afternoon. The District continues to follow PDE and DOH recommendations while we remain in full remote learning model. However, Luzerne County's positivity and incident rate are both trending in the right direction. Which is good news for our District. As of Friday, February 12, the positivity rate for county-wide transmission was at 8.5, which is below the substantial threshold of 10. Based on this information, we will continue to follow our plan to tentatively resume in-person instruction for K-12 students who elected to be in Option 1 for Monday, March 1, 2021. We understand how important it is to have in-person class resume. There were new CDC guidelines released on February 12 that really support what we have experienced this year when we were in-person. We know when we wear a mask, social distance and take the necessary precautions, as well as having the County transmission rate at an appropriate level, we can be very successful with in-person instruction.

I want to thank our staff, students for always wearing appropriate face coverings, social distancing and following our district guidelines. This allowed us and will continue to allow us to resume in-person instruction. I am optimistic about resuming on March 1 and can't wait to see everyone back.

APOLLO REPORT

Mr. Mike Krzywicki – District Maintenance Plan. Apollo has prepared bid documents for replacement of the switchgear at Heights Elementary. Advertisement for bids is scheduled to run on February 21, 28, and March 1. Work is to be performed over the summer of 2021 and will require a one-week electrical shutdown of the building. Elevator repairs at Heights Murray Elementary may not be performed until the electrical work is completed. The Contractor for the Kistler Elementary Roof Replacement Project has commenced mobilization in anticipation of starting the work prior to March 2021. Unfortunately, we have been in a weather pattern that has not allowed for that to happen. We will re-evaluate on March 1 and start some time in March. Apollo has continued preparation of a budget estimate for interior renovations to GAR which are limited to LED interior lighting, painting, and floor replacement in classroom and corridors as well as some additional items depending on the budget.

E.L. Meyers Monitoring Structure/Walkway/Tunnel: Apollo and TGL Engineering performed a monthly inspection on January 21 of the areas where settlement was previously observed. No major movement has been detected since the last inspection,

New High School: The Sitework Contractor has completed installation of storm sewers and enlargement of the detention pond along Maffett Street, continued placement of geo-grid and subbase at loop road, and commenced grading at practice field.

The Building Shell Contractor has continued installation of air/vapor barrier, steel lintels, masonry veneer, metal pan stairs, ladders, wood blocking, roof insulation, EPDM roofing, EIFS, spray foam insulation, door frames, painting, VCT flooring, sheet vinyl flooring, stage lighting, marker boards and casework, continued with masonry repairs, and commenced installation of wall panels, hollow metal doors, gym equipment, toilet partitions, terrazzo, elevators and pool gutter.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

The Drywall Contractors has continued installation of metal stud framing, gypsum wallboard, taping and spackling, and ceiling grid.

The Food Service Contractor has continued coordination of electrical and plumbing rough-ins for future installation of their equipment. As of today, they did mobilize and are on site starting to install some of their equipment.

The Plumbing Contractor has continued installation of water piping, sanitary and vent piping, storm water piping, gas piping, pipe hangers, pipe insulation, fire sealant and testing.

The Fire Protection Contractor has continued installation of sprinkler system piping and heads and completed flushing of water supply piping.

The HVAC Contractor has continued installation of roof curbs, rooftop units, duct hangers, ductwork, duct installation, flex duct, GRDs & fabrication of ductwork.

The Electrical Contractor has continued installation of conduit in masonry walls, MC cable, fire alarm cable, data cable, control wiring, electrical rough-in at metal stud walls, panel interiors, lighting fixtures and temporary lighting and commenced activation of permanent power.

The Aluminum & Glass Contractor has continued installation of aluminum windows and glass, aluminum doors and caulking.

The Landscaping Contractor has demobilized until spring.

All work is being performed under site-specific COVID-19 prevention guidelines and COVID-19 exposure control plan with daily temperature monitoring of all persons working on site.

The last round of soil sampling has been completed. The last round was at what we call the "practice field" and the adjacent area around it of approximately 4.5 acres. The testing was completed on January 20th and 21st. Everything detected including, arsenic, cadmium, and chromium are below residential statewide health standards. Additionally, no hexavalent chromium was detected. Based on the high school project alone, this concludes our soil testing. We have tested the entire site to sub-grade. The only area that has not been tested is the area for the proposed stadium. That will be under the stadium project if you move forward.

Rev Walker: Is there a difference or distinction between residential and corporate levels?

Mike Kryzwycki: Absolutely. The residential levels are much tighter and it varies from metal to metal.

Rev. Walker: Is it correct that we are under residential levels concerning all metals?

Mike Kryzwicki: That is correct. In this particular area, there is no remediation needed but we are putting a two-foot clean fill top over it because that was the original design.

Mr. Caffrey: Do you have a contingency update for the Board?

Mike Kryzwicki: Yes. To date we have expended \$2,681,575, which is approximately 41.78% of the budgeted contingency. For the remaining duration of the project, I anticipate

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

approximately \$400,000 for contingency use. Which would bring the total contingency at the end of the project to \$3,181,575 which is just below half of the contingency.

The new high school project is approximately 79% completed.

OLD BUSINESS – There was no Old Business

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

Atty. Wendolowski as was advertised in our notice for today's meeting, the Agenda was published on the School District website and members of the community were given the opportunity to submit questions and comments to the District by 2:00 p.m. this afternoon. We received comments from several citizens. Those comments were distributed to the Board and Administration.

Richard Holodick
Wilkes-Barre, PA

Good afternoon, and thank you for the due diligence in keeping students and teachers as safe as possible during this dreadful Pandemic. I now request due diligence to a pending major problem that potentially can cause fiscal havoc for the Wilkes Barre School District. My son Robert's children, ages 12 & 14, attend the Nanticoke School District. He received a letter from their principal who cited Act 85 of 2012 revised, a program that enables eligible students residing within the boundaries of low-achieving schools to apply for a scholarship to attend another public or nonpublic school. Robert is researching other school districts, including Wilkes Barre Area that may not be eligible because this school district scores even lower than Nanticoke. WBA had six hundred students flee to charter and cyber schools, the highest in the state so we know the fiscal impact. There are WBA students presently attending other districts by using a relative's address as their residence. There are parents checking out the cost to send their children to surrounding school districts, most in our poverty ridden district can't afford it, Act 85 could change that fact. Many parents can't take advantage of cyber schools because no one is home to supervise. It is a fact that many students in WBASD have been turned off with home schooling during the Pandemic, but not all and it's the not all we need to be concerned about, because the cyber schools have intensified their advertising. This district cannot afford to lose more students as the money follows the students. Act 85 of 2012 as revised, provides scholarships to not only other public schools but non-public schools, it can potentially bring the district to bankruptcy. A low achieving district is reason enough for parent to pull children from the district. But in WBA we add an isolated high school, built on a subsidence prone, toxic coal ash dump, that EPA discourages, and five other states forbid even nearby. Any board members believe that all this could impact the enrolment at the new high school? I hope so because immediate precautionary planning is needed. Yes, the new school is 70% complete, but there is a need to develop a what if plan based on Act 85 of 2012, as revised. There is an immediate need for an RFP for a long-range curriculum/facility master plan based on 4500 students in six aged facilities. It may be prudent to do what many progressive school districts do. West Shore School District conducted an anonymous survey of the community, including parents and employees.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

Concern number two is bussing 2000 students to a site with challenging traffic flow. If I am not mistaken students that leave to attend another school district will be bussed by the WBA district. I am concerned as I reflect when I was an assistant superintendent in a large metro district that bussed 12,000 students the process can be challenging and very costly. In addition to busing the 2000 we add lower grades and the new middle school at GAR and busing for sports. The WBA district is 124 square miles. This will impact the length of the school district's day, pick up time and the time the children arrive home. Another cause for students leaving the district.

Concern three is a quote by the superintendent that addressed the potential state funding increase of \$28.7 million for WBA, "Wolf's budget would provide resources to close the achievement gap and to better prepare our students for college and provide equal opportunity for all our students to succeed and support educational excellence." MONEY does not do this, in fact the money spent to date, nearing a hundred million, proves the opposite, close neighborhood schools, consolidation, extended busing, and middle schools as a partial example of adding to student failure. Most disturbing and inaccurate, "provide equal opportunity for all our students to succeed." Try telling that to the many economically disadvantaged parents, with at risk children, who's easy access to neighborhood schools will be gone.

Dr. Costello: As Richard talks about Act 85 that has been out since 2012 and is something we do every year for our students. It is posted on our website, all students are contacted just as every agency, and school district is required to do so by the State. As you can see on the Chart that includes all School District's in the State, you can see the trend for all district's and charter schools, they go down. We are the blue trend. We have seen a significant growth rate and more so since 2016. Which is most certainly an opposite trend of what is occurring in the State of Pennsylvania.

Additionally, it is safe to say we have been dealing with students coming into our District from other District's. For example to our CAPAA program. We have fielded phone calls from parents in other districts asking how can they enroll their students into the new high school by using affidavits, relatives addresses, etc. These are the facts and what we are seeing. We clearly are seeing an increase in our student counts since 2008.

Richard, as a self-proclaimed advocate for our District, it is unfortunate the misinformation you represent. The fact that you don't believe in an equitable educational system is astounding. Let me very clear on what I said – the proposed increase in funding by Gov. Wolf would absolutely provide an equal opportunity for **all our students** to succeed and support educational excellence. As long as I am here through my educational tenure, I promise I will continue to fight for an equitable educational system which is properly funded and provides all students with the necessary resources and support they need to achieve excellence.

Rev. Walker: The number of 600 students fleeing the District is inaccurate.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

Sam Troy
Wilkes-Barre, PA

As a taxpayer and a person who is interested in the future of local academia, I am appalled at the way this Board is conducting business. Why for instance is this meeting being held at the worst time of the day with, as far as I know very little publicity? Was a press release issued detailing the agenda? Other governing bodies such as Wilkes-Barre City and Luzerne County always indicate to the public what is on the agenda for forthcoming meetings and how the public could participate. Why does this board function more like a cabal, insulated from people's concerns and input?

I would like to know from Mr. Costello how many students have dropped out of school in favor of enrolling at charter schools or cyber schools since the pandemic hit? What is going to happen next year when that new school is supposedly ready for occupancy and very few students are left to fill its classrooms? Will this board majority who fell all over themselves to get the school built feel a little bit of remorse? Will they feel that a few hundred million dollars of precious taxpayer funds have been wasted? Probably not, because this board majority has shown a very cavalier attitude about spending taxpayer money over the past several years. I also want to reiterate my objections to public citizens being shut out of committee meetings entirely. I think it might behoove the board to at least appoint one citizen to each committee in order to increase transparency of the committees' actions. I am still advocating the establishment of a taxpayer relief fund which would be financed by a small contribution from each administrator and employee making more than \$80,000 per year. The taxpayers of this district are, as you probably know, being heavily burdened because of the economic disaster caused by the pandemic. It seems only right that we who have financed your positions for so long can get a minute fraction back from you.

To Dr. Costello: Are any academic achievement tests being administered to students at all levels since the onset of the pandemic?

Thank you.

Dr. Costello: Yes, the meeting was advertised and the Agenda was posted on the website much earlier than 5:00 p.m. scheduled time on Sunday.

We have received about a 1.92% increase in students attending cyber schools since the start of the pandemic. That small number actually costs about \$2 million for that percentage. That is why it is important to continue to fight for fair funding and charter school reform.

As far as academic achievement test, we are testing. If you mean state mandated tests, there was a waiver last year that allowed school districts to not provide that testing. So far this year there has not been a waiver issued. The students will be testing for the PSSA's and Keystone's.

Ms. Harris: Do you know the current enrollment of student enrolled in our own Cyber Academy?

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

Dr. Costello – About 150 students enrolled in our own Cyber School. If we didn't have that we most certainly would have had another significant amount of money going out.

Brian Kelly
Wilkes-Barre, PA

Good Afternoon, a good time to have a public board meeting through Zoom when people are at work.

Prior to the Pandemic, the residents of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District were at the poverty level, I believe 76%. We have lost lives, residents have been unemployed, those employed have had additional cost of daycare, and some business owners have shut down all together. Prior to the Pandemic, the state underfunded the District \$33 million a year. In the face of a seriously underfunded district, with the devastating fiscal burden caused by the Pandemic the Board enters a quarter of a billion-dollar project for a third of its students. The appraised value is **\$10,000 an acre**, the poverty ridden district paid \$55,000 an acre. The state recommends 35 acres the poverty ridden District buys a 78 acre toxic dump. Although they have a swimming pool, they are building a natatorium, adding insult to injury the poverty ridden taxpayers spend a million dollars to expand the pool by two lanes to qualify for competition and still don't qualify. They are building a football stadium even though the district has a stadium. The poverty ridden district is forced to pay nearly \$10 million to renovate an elementary school to house the Coughlin students when available space was in GAR and Meyers High Schools.

On the humorous but costly side was the plan to renovate not expand the shuttered school built for 500 elementary students and placed 800 high school students in the small school in a congested neighborhood. The plan was to consolidate Coughlin and Meyers, segregating GAR, the school with the most minorities, why then didn't the Board place the Coughlin students at Meyers, there was room with the addition of some modulars. Part of this plan where the district's second biggest problem is aged facilities was to lease a 90 year old building for 20 years. You just can't make this stuff up! But I shouldn't complain it's all making writing a book much easier.

Rev. Walker: The word segregation – I have talked about that word. When you use a word like that, you should be really serious that it rises to the level of its meaning. That did not. It was a decision based on financials. I didn't agree with that decision at that time. I thought we should either have three schools or three schools in one school. When the opportunity presented itself to do so, we did. Meyers and GAR are very close in their diversity numbers. Why would you pick one over the other? To suggest that it was a racial decision is absolutely absurd and offensive as an African American myself with African American kids.

The new school will provide for equitable education. Thank you for cowering Dr. Holodick's point about the funding coming from the State, if we were fortunate to get. That would actually provide for more equitable education so we could do things like we are doing and expand them as we want to around the arts program – CAPAA, our business program with subsequently a Business Academy, as well as, our STEM program, college prep program and along with our athletics. That funding will be critical in allowing us to achieve our goals.

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021**

In terms of being careful with our tax-payers money, we have actually turned the fiscal ship around over the last five years. I will stand by that 100 percent. We were in a position last year to take a financial hit ourselves in order to make sure the taxpayers and the people of this community suffering through a pandemic would not take that same financial hit. We are looking forward to doing so again this year.

There were no further comments from the public or the Board Members.

LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT #18

Ms. Thomas – The next meeting will be February 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

Mr. Quinn – The next meeting will be held via Zoom on March 15 at 5:30 p.m.

CURRICULUM ADMINISTRATION

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

1. That approval be given to make the following changes to the configuration of schools in the Wilkes-Barre Area School District:
 - Daniel J. Flood Elementary School currently serving K-6 students will, in the 2021-22 school year, serve students in grades K-5.
 - Heights Martin L. Murray Elementary School currently serving K-6 students will, in the 2021-22 school year, serve students in grades K-5.
 - Dr. David Kistler Elementary School currently serving K-6 students will, in the 2021-22 school year, serve students in grades K-5.
 - Leo E. Solomon-Plains Memorial Elementary School currently serving K-6 students will, in the 2021-22 school year, serve students in grades K-5.
 - Boyd Dodson Elementary School currently serving K-6 students will, in the 2021-22 school year, serve special education students in grades K-5.
 - Edward Mackin Elementary School will open in the 2021-22 school year and will serve students in grades K-5. Edward Mackin Elementary School will require a School Code Number.
 - G.A.R. Memorial JSHS currently serving 7-12 students will, in the 2021-22 school year, serve students in grades 6-8.
 - Leo E. Solomon-Plains Memorial JHS currently serving students in grades 7-8 will, in the 2021-22 school year, serve students in grades 6-8.
 - Wilkes-Barre Area High School, serving students in grades 9-12, will open in the 2021-22 school year and will require a new School Code Number.

Mr. Evans moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas to adopt this report.

The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Atherton, Evans, Harris, Patla, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

BUDGET FINANCE/MATERIALS & SUPPLIES/CONTRACTED SERVICES COMMITTEE
REPORT

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

A. Administrative

1. Capital Projects

That approval be given to the below listed payments:

A1.1	Apollo Group, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 41	\$59,839.50
A1.2	11400, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 4	\$43,200.00
A1.3	Benell, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 21	\$168,601.89
A1.4	Duggan & Marcon, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 12	\$214,807.50
A1.5	Everon Electrical Contractors, Inc	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 21	\$301,137.54
A1.6	Quandel Construction Group, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 21	\$1,142,971.55
A1.7	Quandel Construction Group, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 22	\$1,421,438.18
A1.8	Scranton Sheet Metal, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 20	\$819,160.20
A1.9	Borton Lawson Engineering, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	2017-3091-001-0000037	\$795.15
A1.10	TGL Engineering, Inc.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #34	\$10,695.00
A1.11	WKL Architecture	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #38	\$24,700.00
A1.12	WKL Architecture	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Inv. #AS3.10	\$2,627.00
A1.13	Linde Corporation	Ann Street Sewer Project	Capital Projects	App. No. 7	\$13,996.20
A1.14	Apollo Group, Inc.	Plains Stadium Complex	Capital Projects	App. No. 1	\$2,077.40
A1.15	Borton Lawson Architecture	Plains Stadium Complex Design	Capital Projects	BA19-4471-002-BLA0012	\$19,529.20

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

2. That approval be given to ratify the following Capital Project checks:

PA Dept of Environmental Protection	Plains Stadium Complex	Capital Projects	Check #399	\$7,350.00
Pennsylvania American Water Co.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Check #401	\$952.00
PPL Electric Utilities Corp.	New High School Project	Capital Projects	Check #402	\$2,705.13

3. The District is in receipt of the approval, by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Budget and Fiscal Management of PlanCon Part I: Interim Reporting Project No. 3885 – Change Order Nos: 2.02/.04.15, 2.03.05. **“Exhibit A”**
4. That ratification be given to the Repository Tax Sale by Northeast Revenue Service, LLC, as agent for the Luzerne County Tax Claim Bureau as follows:

Property Address	Parcel No.	Proposed Bid
171 Scott Street, W-B, PA	73-H10SW2-012-009-000	\$500.00

B. FEDERAL

That, in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal AP Checks #2151 to #2161 and December Federal Wire Transfers #202000453 to #202000461 which were drawn for payment since the last regular board meeting of the Board of Education held on January 11, 2021 be approved.

C. GENERAL FUND/FOOD SERVICE

That payment be approved for the General Fund Wire Transfers #202011568 to #202011588; and General Fund checks #55742 to #55798 and Food Service checks #3539 to #3550 which were drawn for payment since the last regular board meeting of the Board of Education held on January 11, 2021 be approved.

D. GENERAL FUND

That the checks #55799 to #55907 listed on the following pages, which have been inspected, be approved and that orders be drawn for the respective amounts set down opposite the names of persons or firms.

E. Contracted Services

1. That approval be given to extend the District's service agreement with Ironton Global Company to provide phone services to the district at a cost of \$10,690.23 per month. The agreement will be for a three-year period commencing on July 1, 2021.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

2. That approval be given to extend the District's current lease agreement that ends February 28, 2021, with Hewlett Packard for five (5) months at a fixed renewal rate of \$15,106.42 per month.
3. That approval be given to enter into a lease agreement with Hewlett Packard for Chromebooks at a yearly cost not to exceed \$237,494.50.
4. That approval be given to accept the following Co-Star bids from Stone Office Furniture for the new High School for Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment at a cost of \$1,381,384.87. The proposals are as follows:

Proposal #	Amount	Exhibit
21649	\$970,156.70	B
21675	\$104,673.45	C
21687	\$14,557.20	D
21706	\$24,598.08	E
21656A	\$267,399.44	F

5. That approval be given to accept the following Co-Star bid from Fitness Headquarters for the new High School for Fitness Equipment at a cost of \$182,904.65. **"Exhibit G"**
6. That approval be given to accept the following Co-Star bid from Torbik Safe & Lock, Inc. for the new High School for the Avigilon Access Control and Avigilon Fixed Mega-Pixel cameras at cost of \$559,150. **"Exhibit H"**
7. That approval be given to accept the "Certificate of Substantial Completion" in respect to the Ann Street Sewer Project with Linde Corporation with an established date of November 30, 2020.
8. To approve Change Order #006 for Duggan & Marcon, Inc. in the amount of \$10,055.94. The Change Order consists of the following:

Bulletin No. 58 – Add bulkheads @ gym ceilings	\$8,020.13
RFI No. 601 – Provide drywall partition @ Stair O	\$2,035.81

9. To approve Change Order #016 for Quandel Construction Group, Inc. in the amount of \$69,468.98. The Change Order consists of the following:

Bulletin 31.1 – Added steel for precast support, incl all clarifications	\$37,711.52
RFI No. 583 – Remove clips and weld ends on (4) tubes	\$4,788.58
Bulletin No. 54 – Revise (2) doors in pool area	\$1,787.73
Change countertops in Art Storage from P-lam to solid surface	\$4,348.30
Provide additional security boxes @ athletic lockers	\$13,537.54
RFI No. 601 – Delete CMU partition @ Stair O	(\$534.61)
RFI No. 600 – Revise (16) Door pulls @ main entrance	\$7,829.92

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

10. To approve Change Order #002 for Triangle Fire Protection, Inc. in the amount of \$1,364.52. The Change Order consists of the following:

Flush water service from fire hydrant tee to backflow preventer	\$1,364.52
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Rev. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas to adopt this report.

On the question:

Rev. Walker: Do the contracts we are entering into regarding E 1, 2, 3 represent increases, decreases or flat rates?

Mr. Telesz: E 1 is the phone service and represents a flat rate. Number 2 and 3 go together. Number E 2 is extending our Chromebook lease for the next few months. Number E 3 is entering into an agreement for the lease of Chromebooks for next year and the four years after that. There is a little bit of an increase due to the price of Chromebooks going up over the past few months.

Mr. Caffrey: Has the money been budgeted for the items in E-4, 5 and 6 relating to office furniture, etc for the new High School?

Mr. Telesz: Yes. The items in E-4, 5 and 6 relate to furniture, fixtures and equipment for the new high school. All these items are contained within our budget for the school.

Rev. Walker: Please explain Co-Stars to people that may not know what it is.

Mr. Telesz: Co-Stars is a State competitively bid program. The state goes out

The vote was as follows:

7 Ayes: Atherton, Evans, Harris, Patla, (A-4, B, C, D, E-1, 2, 3) Quinn, Schiowitz (A-4, B, C, D, E-1, 2, 3 & 7)), Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

2 Nays: Patla (A-1, 2, 3, E-4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10), Schiowitz (A-1, 2, 3, E-4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10)

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE REPORT – No Report

SAFETY/SECURITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Evans – The next meeting for Curriculum Committee and Safety/Security Committee will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT – No Report

BUILDING MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Atherton – We requested the principal's submit a report of everything happening in the buildings. The following is a brief summary of those reports: general repairs, cleaning, sanitizing and painting is occurring in all buildings. Thank you to all the Principal's and custodial/maintenance staff for the great progress in the building improvements.

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT – No Report

FACILITIES TRANSITION COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Thomas – We are in preliminary discussions with potential buyers/investors of the Meyers facility and property.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

STUDENT WELLNESS

Ms. Thomas – The next meeting will be held virtually and is scheduled for February 22, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

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

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

A. Agreements

1. That the Settlement Agreement and Waiver and Release of Claims between **Employee #50411** and the Wilkes-Barre Area School District be approved.

B. Act 93

1. That **Leah Zigmund** having made claim for an incentive raise under the Act 93 Agreement and having produced official transcripts listing the graduate credits earned, be granted the Doctorate effective the first day of the second semester.

C. Professionals

1. 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:

Bachelors' +30

Daniel Himlin

Thomas Leighton

Masters' +18

Samantha Kishbach

Masters' +54

Jennifer Roman

Megan Sweeney

Tracy Lynn Oram

Stevenson

Bachelors' +39

Kyle Paul

Meagan Sabbatini

Masters' +27

Diane Tona

Masters' Equivalency

Dominique Nardone

Karen Coyne

Michael Mitchell

Sara Woznock

Masters' +36

John Woloski III

Masters'

Ashleigh Soboleski

Masters' +45

Kristen Pstrak

Lauren Yanniello

Joanne Kelly

Glenn Zimmerman

Christina Grendzinski

Masters' + 9

Beth Gagliardi

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

D. Secretaries & Teachers' Associates

1. That the retirement of **Margaret Gallagher** be accepted effective the last day of the 2020-21 school year.
2. That **Jessica Miorelli's** request for unpaid leave beginning February 1, 2021 through March 15, 2021 be approved.
3. ~~That **Kim Holley's** request for unpaid leave for the second semester of the 2020-21 school year be approved.~~ **TABLED**

E. Custodians, Maintenance and Housekeepers

1. That **Amy Petrosky** be appointed a Grade IV Head Custodian.

F. Athletics

1. That the resignation of **Raphael Cooper** as the Boys' Tennis Varsity Head Coach be accepted.
2. That the resignation of **Joshua Wasielewski** as Track and Field/Cross Country be accepted.
3. 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.

Boys' Tennis	Varsity Head Coach	Joshua Wasielewski
Track & Field/Cross Country	Jr. High Assistant Coach	Paul Wiedlich
Boys' Lacrosse	Varsity Assistant Coach	TABLED

Ms. Harris moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas to adopt this report.

On the question:

Mr. Atherton: Is the Track and Field coach the only candidate or recommended candidate?

Dr. Costello: He was the only applicant for that position.

Mrs. Schiowitz: Is there a time-frame of when personnel will know their assignments in regard to the opening of the new high school and middle schools?

Dr. Costello: We will begin that scheduling in March and April to give everyone enough notice to prepare for the move.

The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Atherton, Evans, Harris, Patla, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

1 Nay: Thomas (A1)

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

Resolution #1 was presented by Ms. Thomas

RESOLUTION #1

WHEREAS, the 2021-2022 proposed General Operating Budget of the **LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT** has been presented to the members of the Board of Education of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District for review; and,

WHEREAS, said budget calls for the total contribution of \$202,031.00 by withholding from member districts (this represents A \$50,000.00 decrease from the 2020-2021 budget); and

WHEREAS, Wilkes-Barre Area School District's share of the total contribution, by withholding, would be \$31,294.00 (a \$9,069.00 decrease from 2020-2021); and,

WHEREAS, actual 2019-2020 Weighted Average Daily Memberships (WADM's) are not yet available, but when available a new contribution calculation will be made; and,

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District grant approval to the 2021-2022 annual budget of the Luzerne Intermediate Unit.

Wilkes-Barre, PA

Ms. Thomas moved seconded by Mrs. Schiowitz to approve this Resolution.

The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Atherton, Evans, Harris, Patla, Quinn, Schiowitz, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

SUMMARY OF MINUTES
Regular Board Meeting
February 15, 2021

Mr. Caffrey presented Resolution #2

RESOLUTION #2

WHEREAS, the recent death of **Patricia Joan Quinn** has brought sorrow to her family, friends, and all who knew her, and;

WHEREAS, she was the sister of John Quinn, member of the Board of Education. Patricia was a graduate of Wilkes-Barre Township High School. She was a member of St. Joseph's Monastery, the Donegal Society of Greater Wilkes-Barre and the Ladies Order of Hibernians. Patricia possessed an adventurous spirit and was an avid fan of her father's and brother's basketball teams; and cheered on her nieces and nephews while playing their favorite sports.

WHEREAS, her passing on January 28, 2021, will leave an unfillable void in the lives of all who knew and loved her.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that her death be recorded in the minutes of the Board of School Directors and that the Secretary be instructed to express the sympathy of the members of the Board to her daughter, Erin Astolfi Blank; her sister, Suzanne Quinn Cosgrove; brother, John and to her entire family.

New Business

Ms. Thomas: Is there a way to read to our students virtually during Dr. Seuss week?

Dr. Costello: Yes – that will be done.

Mrs. Schiowitz: I would like to applaud Beth Anne Owens-Harris for her innovative zen room that she has developed virtually for the students at Crestwood.

Ms. Harris: Thank you. It was designed specifically for Crestwood but it is open to the public.

Communications from Solicitor - No Report

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Thomas seconded by Ms. Patla

The meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m.