

Summary of Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
April 9, 2018

Board President Joseph A. Caffrey called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

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

Board Secretary Thomas F. Telesz called the roll.

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

President Caffrey stated:

- The chair wishes to announce that the Board held an Executive Session on March 19, 2018 and prior to the Committee Meeting of April 9, 2018 and prior to the Regular Board Meeting of April 9, 2018
- THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RELATED SOLELY TO MATTERS OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, LABOR NEGOTIATIONS, AND/OR THREATENED OR ACTUAL LITIGATION.

Ms. Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Evans, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting-General Purposes of January 29, 2018 and the Regular Board Meeting of March 5, 2018 and dispense with the reading of those minutes.

All In Favor: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

Thomas F. Telesz, Business Manager/Board Secretary, presented the Treasurer's Report of February, 2018.

Ms. Patla moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas, to adopt the Treasurer's Report of February, 2018.

The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

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

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Costello presented the following statement.

According to the previous NEA President Dennis Van Roekel – There is no better partnership that exists then the one among Parents, families, educators and communities—to assure that all students, k-12 have the support and resources they need to succeed in school and in life.

According to research, it is clear, consistent, and convincing Parent, family, and community involvement in education correlates with higher academic performance and school improvement.

Researchers cite this type of partnership parent-family community involvement as a key to in improving graduation rate, while creating more motivation among students. The evidence holds true for all students regardless of parent's education, family income, or background—and the research shows parent involvement affects academic achievement across all races.

Support systems in place among all stakeholders for our Academic & Social Service needs of our students is essential in closing the achievement gap. This is considered one of the characteristics common to high performing schools. So Tonight, I would like to thank the new faces for coming to the meeting and I look forward to strengthening our relationship for the overall success of our students.

Dr. Costello further noted he had the pleasure of meeting with the NAACP in regard to the community working together and is looking forward to future meetings.

Dr. Costello announced information in regard to the below listed events.

Project Raise – Had its last session Saturday at Heights and because it has been so successful we are looking to bring it back this summer for 2-3 days a week. We will also be looking in bringing this program to other elementary schools for the upcoming school year.

Graduation has been set for Friday June 15
The times to be followed are:

Meyers High School 9:30 am
Coughlin High School 11:00 am at the Kirby
GAR High School 1:00 pm

Communications from Citizens

1. George Brown
2. Deborah Pride
3. Richard Holidick
4. John Suchoski
5. Guerline Laurore
6. Kim Borland
7. Gabby Richards
8. Dave Wilson

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

1. The Board should consider having the Board Meetings in a location other than the Board Room of the WBASD in order to accommodate a larger crowd.
2. Appreciation expressed for all the help provided by WBASD employees in regard to the Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the South Wilkes-Barre Residents Association that was held at Kistler Elementary School.
3. District was not informed in regard to the pros and cons of the six sites initially considered and the Board rejected all six sites.
4. The Board paid for other sites to be evaluated and picked the worst site.
5. Who was responsible for turning down the land offer provided by Geisinger and why was the public not informed as to your decision?
6. Is the Plains site undermined and can the entire site be utilized?
7. Every student is entitled to receive a quality education.
8. Improve discipline practices and be cautious that minority students are not singled out and are treated equally in regard to matters of discipline.
9. The District needs to recruit and hire minority teachers.
10. The District needs to prepare students in regard to Career and College readiness.
11. The District needs to guarantee that all resources are available to all students.
12. The Board needs to address the concerns that the G.A.R. students will not benefit from the new consolidated school.
13. The District need to address and eliminate the feeling of G.A.R. students that they are not good enough.
14. All students need to feel that they are valuable.
15. The Board Room of the Administration Building is an unacceptable location for Board Meetings to be held. The meetings need to be held in the auditoriums of either G.A.R. or Meyers High Schools.
16. Issues of public concern in regard to excluding G.A.R. High School need to be addressed. A two school consolidation is a bad plan.
17. A single school is not the answer. Community involvement does not happen in a single school and school choice does not promote neighborhoods.
18. Meyers and G.A.R. High Schools are sustainable.
19. The Board does not listen to the public. People need to attend meetings to level the playing field.
20. Students need to be the #1 priority and the Districts plan is not a fair and equitable plan for all students.
21. The Board has made school choice an option because your consolidated plan is not equitable.
22. Property values and property taxes will decrease due to the District's consolidation plan.
23. The members of the internal and external task force recommended using the Meyers High School facility.
24. The Board needs to be accountable for the funds they have wasted.
25. The Community is concerned about the ranking of the WBASD.
26. If the Board does not reconsider their current plan, the Board will not be able to afford any plan.
27. Parents will begin to choose Charter and Cyber schools if the Board continues with their consolidation plan and the District will have to pay for Charter and Cyber schools.
28. The Board needs to find a three school solution.
29. If the Board continues with their plan to renovate G.A.R. High School and build a consolidated school in Plains, residents will begin to leave Wilkes-Barre.

Superintendent, Dr. Brian Costello, Board President Joseph Caffrey, Board Members, Ned Evans and John Quinn and Attorney Wendolowski responded to questions/statements presented by the Citizens who addressed the Board.

Unfinished Business

Ms. Thomas asked for an update regarding the WBASD owned properties that are for sale.

Attorney Wendolowski provided information and the current status as it relates to the sale of WBASD properties.

LUZERNE INTERMEDIATE UNIT

Mr. Galella stated the next meeting of the LIU will be held on April 28, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

WILKES-BARRE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER

Mr. Quinn stated that the next meeting of the Wilkes-Barre Area Career and Technical Center will be held on April 16, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

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

1. That the following 2017-2018 calendar be adopted.

**WILKES BARRE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

September 5, 2017 Act 80/Professional Development
September 6, 2017 Act 80/ Professional Development/Staff Preparation Day
September 7, 2017..... Student First Day –School Opens
October 9, 2017 Columbus Day
November 10, 2017 Veteran's Day
November 13-17, 2017 American Education Week
November 23-27, 2017 Thanksgiving Vacation
December 4-15, 2017 Keystone State Exams Wave 1
December 25 - January 1, 2018 Christmas Vacation
January 2, 2018 School Re-Opens
January 15, 2018 Martin Luther King Day
January 25, 2018 Second Semester Begins
February 19, 2018 Presidents Day
March 29-April 2, 2018 Easter Vacation
April 9-13, April 16-20, April 23-27, April 30 May 4, 2018 PSSA Testing
May 14-25, 2018 Keystone Exams
May 28, 2018 Memorial Day
June 15, 2018 Last Student Day
June 15, 2018..... Graduation
June 18, 2018 Act 80/Professional Development
June 22, 2018 Staff, Clerical, Evaluation, Planning, Last Teacher Day

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2. That the following 2018-2019 calendar be adopted.

**WILKES BARRE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
2018-2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

September 4, 2018.....Act 80/Professional Development
September 5, 2018..... Act 80/ Professional Development/Staff Preparation Day
September 6, 2018.....Student First Day –School Opens
October 8, 2018 Columbus Day
November 12, 2018.....Veteran's Day
November 13-16, 2018 American Education Week
November 22-26, 2018 Thanksgiving Vacation
December 3-14, 2018 Keystone State Exams Wave 1
December 24 - January 1, 2019.....Christmas Vacation
January 2, 2019.....School Re-Opens
January 21, 2019..... Martin Luther King Day
January 26, 2019..... Second Semester Begins
February 18, 2019Presidents Day
April 18-April 22, 2019.....Easter Vacation
April 1-5, April 8-12, April 29 - May 3, 2019PSSA Testing
May 13-24, 2019 Keystone Exams
May 27, 2019..... Memorial Day
June 6, 2019Last Student Day
June 6, 2019.....Graduation
June 12, 2019 Staff, Clerical, Evaluation, Planning, Last Teacher Day

*Potential snow make up days:

November 26, 2018

April 18, 2019

April 22, 2019

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3. That approval be given to establish Friday, June 15, 2018, as Graduation Day for the Wilkes-Barre Area School District at the following times:

Meyers High School	9:30 AM	Meyers High School
Coughlin High School	11:00 AM	F.M. Kirby Center
G.A.R. High School	1:00 PM	G.A.R. High School

4. That approval be granted to hold Secondary Summer School at G.A.R. High School beginning Monday, July 9, 2018 through Tuesday, August 7, 2018 from 7:45 AM to 2:00 PM.
5. That approval be given to the G.A.R. High School Marching Band to perform at the American Legion Post, 815, Wilkes-Barre Township, Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28, 2018 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 PM.
6. That permission be granted to the G.A.R. High School Marching Band to visit Baltimore, Maryland on May 6, 2018. The charter bus will leave at 6:00 AM and return at 5:00 PM. The trip is fully funded by the Band Parents Booster Club.

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

9 Ayes: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

BUDGET FINANCE / MATERIAL SUPPLIES COMMITTEE REPORT

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

A. ADMINISTRATIVE

1. That approval be given to the below listed payments:

Apollo Group, Inc.	GAR Exterior Facade	Capital Project	AGI-15052-WBASD – PR14	\$118.30
Brdaric Excavating, Inc.	GAR Exterior Facade	Capital Projects	7505	\$1,000.00
Apollo Group, Inc.	Kistler Pool Roof Replacement Proj.	Capital Projects	App. No. 5	\$490.10
Borton Lawson	Kistler Pool Roof Replacement Proj.	Capital Projects	2017-3091-004-0000005	\$100.00
Apollo Group, Inc.	Coughlin Auditorium & Shop Debris Removal	Capital Projects	AGI-17054-WBASD PR07	\$67.60
Apollo Group, Inc.	New High School Plains Site	Capital Projects	AGI-16045-WBASD PR13	\$8,271.30
Borton Lawson	New High School Design – Plains Site	Capital Projects	2017-3091-001-0000006	\$35,035.61
TGL Engineering, Inc.	New High School Design – Plains Site	Capital Projects	Inv. #4	\$27,000.00
WKL Architecture	New High School Design – Plains Site	Capital Projects	Inv. #5	\$72,400.00

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2. 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 Courtright Street Plains Township, PA	50-F10SE4-002-004-000	\$1.00

3. That approval be given to exonerate the following listed property owner from the payment of school property taxes. The Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission for Real Estate Tax Exemption has verified with the Department of Veterans Affairs that the property owner is totally and permanently disabled as a result of service connected causes incurred during a period of war or armed conflict.

Property Owner	Address	Effective Date
Thomas R. Wheeler	56 South Walnut Street Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702	January 23, 2018

4. That approval be given to establish a Capital Reserve Fund as authorized by P.L. 145, Act of April 30, 1943, Section 1431-36 (referred to as section 1432) of the Municipal Code. Capital Reserve Fund, Section 1432, information is reported on the Annual Financial Report (PDE-2057) and the General Fund Budget (PDE-2028) as fund 32. The monies in the capital reserve fund shall be kept separate and apart from any other fund, therefore authorization be given to the business administrator to open a bank account with one of the District's existing financial institutions.

B. FEDERAL

That, in accordance with the authority of the Board, the following Federal AP Checks #1728-1734 and Federal Wire transfer #201700625 and Chapter I AP checks #1875-1906 and Chapter I Wire Transfers #201700615-201700623 were drawn for payment since the last regular board meeting of the Board of Education held on March 12, 2018 be approved.

- C. That payment be approved for the following General Fund Wire Transfers #20171816 and #201710799 to #201710821 and General Fund checks, #48456-48510 and Food Service Checks #3101-3117 which were drawn for payment since the regular board meeting of the Board of Education held on March 12, 2018.
- D. That the checks listed on the following pages #48511 to #48664 which have been inspected be approved and that orders be drawn for the respective amounts set down opposite the names of persons or firms.

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

9 Ayes: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

1 Nay: Patla – A – (all payments in regard to New High School Design- Plains Site)

There was no **ATHLETIC COMMITTEE REPORT**

SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Evans noted the next Safety Security Committee Meeting will be held at a date to be announced in May.

CONTRACTED SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

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

1. That approval be given to accept Contract Amendment No. 1 between the Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Apollo Group, Inc.
2. That approval be given to accept the 2018-2019 Budget Proposal as presented by The Nutrition Group, 580 Wendel Road, Suite 100, Irwin, PA in respect to Food Service Management Services for the 2018-2019 school year. This proposal incorporates continuation of the CEP Program.
3. That approval be given to enter into a contract with IntegraOne for the PEPPM Mini-bid E-rate contract for the term 4-1-2018 to 9-30-2019 which may be extended through 9-30-2020 if the equipment has not been delivered or installed. Cost of the equipment is \$686,186.17 less E-rate funding.
4. That approval be given to enter into a 5-year Service Agreement with Penteledata for building to building wide area network at \$15,800 per month. E-rate reimbursement is approximately 90%.
5. That approval be given to accept the Governmental Cooperation Agreement between the County of Luzerne, Pennsylvania, Wilkes-Barre Area School District and Wilkes-Barre Township to terminate the "TIF" agreement dated November 6, 1998 for revitalizing the area known as the Highland Park Redevelopment Area.

Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Ms. Patla, to adopt the report. The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

There was no **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

BUILDING MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Thomas noted that the next Building Maintenance Committee Meeting will be held on April 23, 2018 at 9:00 AM in the Board Room of the Administration Building.

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

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

1. That the following policies be adopted:
 - 113 Special Education
 - 113.1 Discipline of Students With Disabilities
 - 113.2 Behavior Support
 - 113.3 Screening and Evaluations for Students With Disabilities
 - 113.4 Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information
 - 200 Enrollment of Students
 - 210 Medications
 - 216 Student Records

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

9 Ayes: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

There was no **PATHWAY/NEW CONSTRUCTION/TRANSITION REPORT**

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

- a. That the retirement of **Artur Manasyan** be accepted with regret effective April 16, 2018.

B. Professionals

- a. That the retirement of **Barry Trievel** be accepted with regret effective the last day of the 2017-18 school year.
- b. That the retirement of **Barry Snyder** be accepted with regret effective the last day of the 2017-18 school year.
- c. The Board agrees to waive **Judith Brominski's** return to service requirement in Article XIX, Section 3 of the WBAEA Agreement for the yearlong sabbatical leave previously approved. The board further accepts Judith's retirement with regret effective the last days of the 2017-18 school year.
- d. That **Dora Sims'** request for unpaid leave beginning April 12th for a period of 20 to 30 days be approved.

C. Custodians & Housekeepers

- 1. That the resignation of **Kaiden Hayward** be accepted with regret effective March 26, 2018.
- 2. That **Shannon Olson** be appointed a 25 hour per week housekeeper.
- 3. That **David Hess** be appointed a substitute custodian.
- 4. That **Vincent Breese** be appointed a substitute custodian.

D. Secretaries & Teachers' Associates

- a. That the retirement of **Elizabeth Quinn** be accepted with regret effective the last day of the 2017-18 school year.
- b. That the retirement of **Cynthia Gardner** be accepted with regret effective the last day of the 2017-18 school year.
- c. That **Elizabeth Sankey's** resignation be accepted with regret effective December 14, 2017.
- d. That **Stacey Krawczeniuk's** request for unpaid leave beginning March 20, 2018 through March 23, 2018 be approved.

E. Security/Greeters

1. That the resignation of **Todd Bynon** be accepted with regret effective March 30, 2018.

F. Crossing Guard

1. That **Michelle Collis** be appointed a substitute crossing guard.
2. That **Anthony Gober** be appointed a substitute crossing guard.
3. That **Curtis Caiby** be appointed a substitute crossing guard.

G. Athletics

1. That the resignation of **Scott Christian** as Coughlin's Baseball Junior High Head 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	Softball	Junior High Assistant Coach	Jack Robinson
Coughlin	Baseball	Acting Junior High Assistant Coach	Ciro Cinti
Coughlin	Baseball	Volunteer Assistant Coach	Scott Christian
GAR	Softball	Varsity Assistant Coach	Craig McCann
GAR	Softball	Junior High Head Coach	Lauren Stamm
GAR	Baseball	Varsity Assistant Coach	Sean Flecknoe
GAR	Baseball	Junior High Assistant Coach	Corey Moore
Meyers	Track & Field	Junior High Assistant Coach	Cornell Crawford

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

9 Ayes: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

Mr. Galella presented Resolution #1

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the recent death of **VINCENT A. WOJNAR** has brought sorrow to his family, friends, and all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, he retired from the Wilkes-Barre Area School District as a mathematics and computer science teacher at G.A.R. High School in 1993. He was a 2009 inductee of the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame and a member of the E.L. Meyers High School Sports Hall of Fame. He was also the co-founder of the Wyoming Valley Striders, serving in various positions from 1975 to 2018; and

WHEREAS, his passing on January 18, 2018 will leave an unfillable void in the lives of all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that his 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 his sons, Vince Wojnar Jr., and Dave; daughters, Diane and Linda; and to his entire family.

Wilkes-Barre, PA

April 9, 2018

Mr. Galella moved to accept the Resolution by Acclamation.

Mr. Quinn presented Resolution #2

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the recent death of **MICHAEL KURILLA JR.** has brought sorrow to his family, friends, and all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, he was a history teacher for the Wilkes-Barre Area School District at G.A.R. High School for thirty-five years and a past member of the Wyoming Valley West School Board; and

WHEREAS, his passing on December 27, 2017 will leave an unfillable void in the lives of all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that his 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 his wife, Marlene; sons, Michael, and Stephen; daughters, Karen and Lisa; and to his entire family.

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Mr. Quinn moved to accept the Resolution by Acclamation.

There was no **New Business**

Solicitors Report

Attorney Wendolowski requested the following motions:

Rev. Walker moved, seconded by Dr. Susek, to approve the Special Education Settlement Agreement and Release as it relates to Parent, KP and Student, FP. The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Quinn, Susek, Thomas, Walker, Caffrey

Rev. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. Patla, to approve the Settlement Agreement between the Wilkes-Barre Area Education Association and the Wilkes-Barre Area School District as it relates to the Association filed Grievances: #02-2015-2016, #03-2015-2016, #04-2015-2016, #05-2015-2016. The vote was as follows:

9 Ayes: Evans, Galella, Geiger, Patla, Susek, Walker, Caffrey

2 Nays: Quinn, Thomas

Dr. Susek moved to adjourn.

President Caffrey adjourned the Meeting at 8:04 PM