

WILSON BOROUGH, PA
February 5, 2024

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An Executive Session of the Wilson Area School District Board of Directors was held in the William P. Tollinger Administration Building, 2040 Washington Blvd., Easton, PA 18042 on the above date for personnel and student issues.

The session was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Mrs. Judith Herbstreith, President, with the following members present: Ms. Janis Krieger, Mr. Johnathan Jones, Mrs. Holly Waugh, Mrs. Maggie Hall, Mr. Jeffrey Breidinger, Sr., Mrs. Linda Baskwell, and Mrs. Molly Sunderlin. Absent: Mrs. Allyson Palinkas. Also present: Mr. Doug Wagner, Superintendent, and Ms. Stephanie Arnold, Business Manager/Secretary.

REGULAR MEETING:

The regular meeting of the Wilson Area School District Board of Directors was held in the William P. Tollinger Administration Building, 2040 Washington Blvd., Easton, PA 18042 on the above date.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mrs. Judith Herbstreith, President, with the following members present: Ms. Janis Krieger, Mr. Johnathan Jones, Mrs. Holly Waugh, Mrs. Maggie Hall, Mr. Jeffrey Breidinger, Sr., Mrs. Linda Baskwell, and Mrs. Molly Sunderlin. Absent: Mrs. Allyson Palinkas. Also present: Mr. Doug Wagner, Superintendent; Ms. Stephanie Arnold, Business Manager/Secretary; Mr. Don Spry, Solicitor; Mr. John Martuscelli, High School Principal; Mr. Christopher Albi, High School Assistant Principal; Mr. Michael Chromey, Intermediate School Principal; Ms. Jennifer Burd, Intermediate School Assistant Principal; Ms. Katie Pietrouchie, Avona Elementary Principal; Mr. Kevin Steidle, Williams Township Elementary Principal; Mr. Ian Beitler, Wilson Borough Elementary Principal; Mrs. Amy Austin, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Mrs. Laura Samson, Director of Student Services; Mr. Garry Musselman, Technology Coordinator; Ms. Tessa Fredericks, Student Representative and Mr. Jeffrey Breidinger, Jr., Athletic Director.

There were no communications to be read.

The Board reviewed the agenda.

Ms. Fredericks reported the following on Student Affairs:

- Student Council along with Wilson Buddies will be holding an Inclusion Easter Egg Hunt on March 17th at Bushkill Park Roller Rink.
- The winter sports season is coming to an end.
- Senior Night for Girls' Basketball will be held on February 6th.

The Superintendent presented his report.

Mrs. Herbstreith reported the following on Legislative Issues:

- State of Education Report by PSBA:
 - Key Findings
 - Biggest Challenges
 - Two-thirds (66%) of school districts reported student mental health needs as one of their challenges, making it the biggest challenge again this year.
 - Mental Health
 - On average, nearly half of students (46.4%) were estimated to have some mental health need according to school leaders.
 - Budget Pressure
 - Mandatory charter school tuition payments were the top source of budget pressure for the fifth consecutive year.
 - Staffing Shortages
 - Nearly 90% of school districts reported experiencing a shortage of substitute teachers while a significant percentage of districts also reported shortages in instructional aides, special education staff and drivers.

Ms. Krieger reported the following on the Community College:

- Their annual meeting was held on Thursday, February 1st. The four strategic pillars were reviewed.
- NCC is adding male and female wrestling in 2024.
- Zen Zones will be opening for mental health.
- Over 600 graduates participated in Winter Graduation. Graduates ranged in age from 15–73.

There was no report presented on Career Institute of Technology. Mrs. Baskwell reported the following in the Intermediate Unit:

- A report was sent to all Board Members prior to the meeting.
- Colonial Café 71 was opened. Colonial Café 71 is a full-service coffee shop operated by students that promotes independence and supports skill building for future employment opportunities. Wilson students are being bused once a week to work in the café.

There was no report presented on Wilson Area Education Association. There was no report presented on Curriculum and Federal Grants including Title II Program. There was no report presented on Student Services. Garry reported the following on Technology:

- Last week the VPS Battery Backup Project was completed. The battery backup will keep the phones, cameras, and intercom system up and running for at least two hours if the power goes out.

There was no report presented on Facilities Operations. There was no report presented on Athletics. Ms. Sunderlin reported the following on Excellence in Education:

- Their next meeting will be held on February 20th at 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Kreiger reported the following on Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation:

- Currently reorganizing and focusing on building board membership.
- Looking to collaborate with the LINCS when they have their mixers/events.
- The scholarship applications were released.

Mr. Breidinger, Sr. reported the following on LINCS:

- There are currently 123 households using the food pantry of which 17 are new.
- Their next monthly meeting will be held on February 6th.
- 115 Warrior Bags are being distributed to students weekly.
- The Summer Playground is organized. This year the playground will contain a teaching garden.
- A Family and Student Coalition Mixer will be held on February 21st at the Intermediate School from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- There will be a Community Action Plan meeting on March 20th from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. at the Easton Campus of St. Luke's.

Mr. Jones reported the following on WASD Ally Team:

- The newsletter has been distributed.
- Currently on track to achieve their goal.
- Mapping where our students and families go so we can support them.
- Artifact surveys are going out.
- Allyship April is coming up.
- Their next meeting will be held on March 21st at 3:30 p.m.

There was no public to be heard.

Moved by Krieger, seconded by Jones, and carried by voice vote to approve the following:

- Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 4, 2023.
- Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2023.
- Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 8, 2024.
- Treasurer’s Report, as attached, be accepted and filed for audit
- January 2024 Investment Schedule, as listed and attached; be accepted and filed for audit
- Regular bills in the amount of \$ 911,937.03
- Cafeteria bills in the amount of \$ 115,876.18
- Capital Projects \$ 0.00
- Retiree bills in the amount of \$ 0.00
- Capital Reserve \$ 76,406.11

Result of vote: Aye 8; Nay 0; Absent 1.

Moved by Sunderlin, seconded by Jones and carried by voice vote that the Board approve the following:

Finance

- Wilson Area High School and Wilson Area Intermediate School – Quarterly Activity Reports
- Accept and approve the vendor(s) for fuel oil for the 2024-2025 school year as to be recommended by the Northampton/Monroe/Pike County Joint Purchasing Board and to be approved by the Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 Board of Directors at the February 2024 regularly scheduled meeting
- Use of ESSER Set-Aside Funds for After-School Programs
 - Wilson Intermediate School – additional \$2,519.55
 - Wilson Borough Elementary School - \$5,163.44
 - Avona Elementary School - \$6,087.35
 - Wilson Area High School - \$3,461.40

Result of vote: Aye 8; Nay 0; Absent 1.

Moved by Krieger, seconded by Hall, and carried by voice vote that the Board approve the following:

- Retirement with Appreciation
 - Jodi Guro – Wilson Area High School – English Teacher – effective end of 2023-2024 school year
 - John Polefka – Wilson Area Intermediate School – Special Education Teacher – effective end of 2023-2024 school year
 - Jamie Perruso – Wilson Area High School – Full-time Custodian – effective July 5, 2024
 - Tara Buskirk – Williams Township Elementary School – 2nd Grade Teacher – effective end of 2023-2024 school year

Result of vote: Aye 8; Nay 0; Absent 1.

Moved by Baskwell, seconded by Sunderlin, and carried by voice vote that the Board approve the following:

- Appointments
 - Amia Cryan – Williams Township Elementary School – Part-Time Custodian - \$21.21/hr – effective February 6, 2024
 - Britney Camilletti – Assistant Track and Field Coach – stipend \$4,424.00 – effective beginning of 2023-2024 season
 - Sean Tunney – Assistant Track and Field Coach – stipend \$4,424.00 – effective beginning of 2023-2024 season
 - Erin Anagnost – Head Girls' Soccer Coach – stipend \$6,528.00 – effective beginning of 2024-2025 season
 - Nicholas Levinski – Assistant Football Coach – stipend \$5,920.00 – effective beginning of 2024-2025 season
 - Richard Yetter – Assistant Football Coach – stipend \$5,920.00 – effective beginning of 2024-2025 season

- Michael Long – Assistant Football Coach – stipend \$5,920.00 – effective beginning of 2024-2025 season
- James Klass – Assistant Football Coach – stipend \$5,920.00 – effective beginning of 2024-2025 season
- Arden Miller – Head Golf Coach – stipend \$2,838.00 – effective beginning of 2024-2025 season
- Jason Buckman – Volunteer Baseball Coach – effective beginning of 2023-2024 season
- David King – Volunteer Baseball Coach – Effective beginning of 2023-2024 season
- Jason Buckman – Volunteer Football Coach – effective beginning of 2024-2025 season
- Substitutes
 - Melody Bastian – Bus Driver – pending receipt of licensure
 - Nicole Haney – WASD Certified PK-12 Teacher, Instructional Aide, and Clerical Aide
 - Daniel Sienkiewicz – WASD Certified PK-12 Teacher and Instructional Aide
 - Ilham Elmouak – WASD Certified PK-12 Teacher
 - Rachel Wilson – WASD Certified PK-12 Teacher and Instructional Aide – pending receipt of Act 168 Disclosure Form

Result of vote: Aye 8; Nay 0; Absent 1.

Moved by Krieger, seconded by Sunderlin, and carried by voice vote that the Board approve the following:

- Home-School Student – Permission to Participate
 - Nolan Lutz – Track
 - Ilah Lutz – Track

- Wilson Area High School – Request to Waive Policy #5118.4 – Enrollment: Non-Resident Students
 - Student #240046
 - Student #240047
- Wilson Area Intermediate School – 8th Grade Enrichment Class – Trip to Gettysburg National Military Park – May 24, 2024 – No cost to District
- Wilson Area High School – PMEA District Region V State Chorus – Hans Kuder to Dover Area High School and Messiah University – March 8 and 9, 2024 – Transportation costs only
- Proposed Buildings and Grounds Meeting – March 4, 2024, 6:15 pm – Administration Building
- Cancellation of Finance Committee Meetings – March 4, 2024 and May 6, 2024
- Proposed Excellence in Education Meeting – May 6, 2024, 6:15 p.m. – Administration Building

Result of vote: Aye 8; Nay 0; Absent 1.

Next Regular School Board Meeting – March 4, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – Administration Building

Moved by Waugh, seconded by Jones, and carried by voice vote that the Board approve the meeting be adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Result of vote: Aye 8; Nay 0; Absent 1.

STEPHANIE L. ARNOLD
Secretary