BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES
August 12, 2025

Call to Order

The Burrell School District Board of Directors Agenda Meeting was held in the High School Board Room and was called to order at 7:04 PM by President Rick Kaczor.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Kaczor asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mrs. Gretchen V. Beveridge, Mr. Timothy J. Vinkovich, Ms. Tricia Shank, Mrs. Nikki Watson, Mrs. LeeAnn S. Guido, Mrs. Pam Key, Mr. Tom Deiseroth, Mrs. Jean Schager and Mr. Rick Kaczor

Board Members Absent: None

Quorum present

Others Present: Dr. Shannon L. Wagner, Superintendent, Mrs. Jennifer S. Callahan, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary and Dr. Gregory Egnor, Director of Student Services

Student Representatives Present: None

Announce Executive Sessions

August 12, 2025 – 6:45 PM and Immediately following meeting - Personnel Agenda
August 19, 2025 – 7:00 PM - Personnel Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Agenda Meeting – June 17, 2025; Regular Meeting – June 24, 2025; Special Board Meeting – July 15, 2025

Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

a. Treasurer's Report
b. General Fund Report
c. Capital Reports
d. Food Service Reports
e. Student Activity Reports

Comments from Public - Agenda Items Only

Paul Olijar, Resident

- *Thanked Dr. Wagner for providing him information regarding Bon Air and the improvements needed*
- *Suggested 5 lunch sessions at Bon Air to avoid adding on to the kitchen and cafeteria*
- *Suggested half a grade with another grade*

Dr. Wagner stated if we run all 5 grade levels in separate lunches, it basically lasts all day and kids would be eating too early and too late. We combined grade levels which requires larger space to accommodate that.

The kitchen is also an issue because staff needs to be able to prep food and store food supplies. She explained that we need 2 serving lines to get the students through the line quicker to allow enough time to eat.

Dr. Wagner explained that with scheduling classes, it is impossible to split grade levels due to other time constraints.

Mrs. Guido stated she tries to stay away from social media, but noticed that Mr. Olijar tries to defend the School Board by stating factual information he learned by coming to meetings. She stated that she appreciates that.

General discussion ensued about social media.

Mrs. Watson added her thanks to Mr. Olijar for communicating to the public.

Reports of Administration and Standing Committees

SUPERINTENDENT - DR. WAGNER

Student/Staff Recognition and Reports

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Lower Burrell Police Department

Dr. Wagner stated this is a Pennsylvania Department of Education requirement for safe schools every 2 years. It is a "canned" MOA that includes all of the requirements of the police department and school district. She reviewed a few items within the agreement.

Mr. Kaczor asked if it changed financially.

Dr. Wagner stated there is nothing financial in this agreement.

Permission to enroll 2 nonresident students tuition-free through October 31, 2025 pending contracted purchase of home, in accordance with Board Policy 202 regarding future residents

Mrs. Guido asked if the family doesn't end up moving into the District, are they removed from enrollment.

Dr. Wagner responded yes or they pay tuition.

Mrs. Watson asked if it is followed up on.

Dr. Wagner responded yes, Dr. Egnor's department follows up on these items.

Permission to enroll 1 nonresident student tuition-free through October 31, 2025 pending contracted purchase of home, in accordance with Board Policy 202 regarding future residents

Award the following bids for the Bon Air Elementary School Additions and Alterations Construction Project using Capital Project Funds for Contracts 1-4 and Food Service Fund for Contract 5 – Food Service Equipment:

Contract No 1 – General Construction to _____ **$**_____
Contract No 2 – HVAC Construction to _____ **$**_____
Contract No 3 – Plumbing Construction to _____ **$**_____
Contract No 4 – Electrical Construction to _____ **$**_____
Contract No 5 – Food Service Equipment to _____ **$**_____

Dr. Wagner stated items 5 and 6 are the same as last month. These are the items that were tabled in July.

Award the following contracts for Professional Services for the Bon Air Elementary School Additions and Alterations Construction Project:

Commissioning Testing & Balancing to WAE Balancing Inc. $_____
Construction Materials & Inspection Services to Hillis-Carnes Engineering Associates, Inc. $_____

Award the following bids for High School HVAC Improvements Construction Project:

Contract No 1 – General Construction to _____ $_____
Contract No 2 – HVAC Construction to _____ $_____
Contract No 3 – Electrical Construction to _____ $_____

Dr. Wagner stated bids were opened today. She stated we do not have the official tabulation, but provided general information. She stated we expected the project to come in around $7,084,000 and it came in about $1 million over budget.

Mrs. Guido stated that the Bon Air project also came in over budget.

Dr. Wagner stated yes, it was about $3 million over budget.

Mrs. Callahan confirmed that with all of the projects, we are about $4.8 million over the original estimates that the Architects provided.

Mrs. Guido mentioned we need to go back to the drawing board since we don't have the extra $5 million.

Mrs. Callahan commented the original estimate that totaled $20 million also included soft costs which are estimates; plus, we are earning some good interest on the bond proceeds and because we did a Bank Qualified issue, we can keep the interest. That does give us some wiggle room if we are slightly over budget.

Award the following contract for Professional Services for High School HVAC Improvements Construction Project:

Commissioning Testing & Balancing to Pitchford Diversified Inc. $_____

OTHER ADMINISTRATION - DR. TURK / DR. EGNOR

Approval of Discipline Guidelines for Burrell High School, Huston Middle School and Bon Air Elementary School for 2025-2026 school year

Dr. Egnor stated that the Administrators revised the guidelines to provide to the Board for the beginning of the school year.

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich Seconded by: Mr. Deiseroth

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Kaczor asked about "enrollment in school" and if that applies to homeschool students.

Dr. Egnor responded yes, they register.

Mr. Kaczor asked about attendance monitoring of students that are virtual.

Dr. Egnor stated we keep a close eye on the performance of our students.

Mr. Kaczor asked about cyber students.

Dr. Egnor stated the cyber school monitors the attendance but if there is an attendance issue, the District is required to deal with truancy per the law.

General discussion ensued about the cyber school law and how it does not seem appropriate.

Mrs. Watson commented that the extracurricular participation items within the guidelines seem new. It will require a lot of enforcement. She asked if that will fall on coaches and sponsors. It appears to be a new section.

Dr. Egnor stated it is not new. It articulates what we have been doing.

Dr. Roland stated athletes have always been following this, but we added student activities.

Mrs. Watson stated she does not know that she agrees with this part of discipline. It states that if students are late to school they cannot participate in an activity. She believes sports are specifically regulated by PIAA so why are we adding to their requirements.

Mrs. Schager stated it indicates that is for an "unexcused" tardy, so it is not a parent excuse.

Mrs. Watson stated it says unexcused, so she questioned if it counts parent notices.

Dr. Roland responded that medical appointments are all excused. She stated that this is our layer of getting the kids to be here at school on time. Tardies were pretty extensive.

Mr. Kaczor provided an example and asked about it.

Mrs. Guido stated that when her son was sent with a parent note as sick, it was excused.

General discussion ensued about the language and the intent and if it changed.

Dr. Wagner stated that since Covid, we have a more relaxed community. The students are not going to be able to be held accountable in order to change behavior.

Mrs. Beveridge asked why are the students late.

General discussion ensued about transportation and parking.

Mrs. Watson asked for clarity and help understanding the guidelines. She asked if Administration is asking coaches to check the attendance before practice.

Dr. Wagner stated it is a change for the student activities such as band.

Dr. Egnor stated a tardy without an excuse is considered an illegal absence. He stated that up to 10 parent excused absences are considered legally absent.

Mrs. Guido asked about the Alternative Learning Center which seems like In School Suspension.

Dr. Roland stated that Alternative Learning Center (ALC) is a way to use our prevention specialist to beef up the work he is doing with students. She stated ALC reduces the amount

of time a student is out of school for suspension. The largest number of students were suspended due to vaping. ALC takes antiquated in school suspension and adds another layer. The student will have to work through student handbook, understand their infraction, who it impacted, reflect on it and then look at some social stories, such as videos or reading and work with the Prevention Specialist, Mr. Kaczanowicz and make a "to do" list to do work that matters. They must be working the whole time for the accountability piece. At the end, they will need to go back and reflect again. Mr. Kaczanowicz is adding a parent piece where he will share reflections with the parents to try to get some additional support.

Mr. Kaczor asked if they miss class during this.

Dr. Roland stated yes, they stay in the ALC rather than being at home or on out of school suspension. They will also make sure students are doing academic work as well.

Dr. Roland stated the most we had suspended at one time was 11 so there will be small numbers of students in the ALC at a time.

Mrs. Watson asked why don't we just call it In School Suspension.

Dr. Roland stated it suggests you are sitting in a room and could sleep, but in this they are learning and having to go through the reflection piece.

Dr. Egnor stated this is for them to learn how their behavior has impacted themselves and others and to learn from their mistake.

Mrs. Key asked how do you monitor the success of the reflection process. The kids getting it and learning from it is most important.

Dr. Roland stated she is hopeful that recidivism will go down monthly, per semester, etc.

Dr. Egnor added that he has centralized the Reflect & Returns process so data is much more available.

Dr. Wagner stated part of our Title IV federal funding supports our Behavior Specialist role so she works with Dr. Egnor with the MTSS team providing support throughout the District. Reflect & Returns are looked at.

Dr. Roland stated that we have, for the most part, a community of families who are responsive when we call.

Mrs. Watson agrees with the R&R and sometimes students go through the motions. It seems we are replacing the discussion with the teacher.

Dr. Wagner stated it is not replacing it, it is after that has occurred.

General discussion ensued about R&R process and the Behavior Specialist.

Mrs. Guido stated she hopes the Board has realistic expectations because real data takes several years. We may not see drastic changes next August. She thinks ALC is great and that it is about reflection and ownership. She thinks it is good to have another person involved not just the teacher they were having an issue with. Her experience is that students hate In School Suspension. She loves that we are doing this.

Mr. Kaczor stated he doesn't see anything in guidelines about hall pass issue. Are we accepting that some people need to go to the restroom more than others.

Dr. Roland stated that it is not in here.

General discussion ensued about hall passes.

Mrs. Guido asked if we are prepared to use the open gate this year.

Dr. Roland stated yes, that is what we are working on.

Ms. Shank stated the guidelines indicate that the library is open all day but questioned how it is possible when we decreased a librarian this year.

Dr. Wagner stated there is always an adult in there.

Mr. Kaczor stated he would prefer to have this in June to be able to think about it between weeks. There were so many changes.

Mrs. Guido asked why is it necessary to vote this week.

Dr. Wagner responded that we have an issue that parents don't all follow up and complete required forms each year. They are required to help with documentation. Ms. Speer has worked with Skyward to require families to read through things prior to students seeing their schedule and teacher information. The timeline is because we need time to be able to prep and have the items available on Tuesday, August 19 for parents, which is what we told parents.

Mrs. Guido stated she understands what Mr. Kaczor is saying, but there is no time for Administration to do it in June. They need time to reflect on what was done in the prior school year.

Mrs. Watson disagrees and feels we need longer time for this because any changes are not really being considered.

Dr. Wagner stated it is a committee that reviews it.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with SPHS Behavioral Health for Drug & Alcohol Case Management/Assessment Services for 2025-2026 school year

Dr. Egnor explained the agreement and the support that is able to be provided in the school setting.

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with SPHS Behavioral Health for substance abuse services for 2025-2026 school year

Dr. Egnor explained the program.

Mrs. Guido asked if it is funded by Burrell.

Dr. Egnor responded none of it is funded by the District.

Approval of Letter of Agreement with SPHS Behavioral Health for services for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027

Approval of Agreement with Wesley Family Services for Partial Hospitalization Program for 2025-2026 school year

Dr. Egnor stated this is a program at Deer Lakes. We do not place students there, but families use the service as a medical placement so it allows for their education to be uninterrupted.

Mrs. Guido asked if this is new and that the District pays a portion.

Dr. Egnor stated only if we agree to it. If a family goes to the program and insurance is not covered, they approach the school district and ask if we will cover the medical portion. We can say no. It does not mean we cover it for every student. They have to provide a letter of notice about what is covered and what is not.

Mrs. Guido asked if this has always been in the contract, because the language says District "shall" pay.

Dr. Wagner stated it is the same language as prior year.

Dr. Egnor started he will bring it up with them to see if they are willing to change the language.

Approval of Letter of Agreement with Westmoreland Casemanagement & Supports, Inc for Student Assistance Program for 2025-2026 school year

Dr. Egnor stated the county designated WCSI as a provider of liaison.

Approval of Agreement with Westmoreland Casemanagement & Supports, Inc. regarding confidentiality with related service providers for period July 16, 2025 through July 15, 2027

Mrs. Guido asked if either of the Westmoreland Casemanagement & Supports items cost anything.

Dr. Egnor stated there is no cost to the District.

Approval of Enrollment Contract with The University School for special education services for 2025-2026 school year

Approval of Agreement with Family Counseling Center of Armstrong County for partial hospitalization services for 2025-2026 school year

Dr. Egnor stated this is a partial program located in Leechburg and we need a yearly agreement in place in case a student needs services.

Approval of Enrollment Agreement with The Watson Institute for The Watson Institute Social Center for Academic Achievement program (WISCA-Sharpsburg) for 2025-2026 school year
Permission to discard obsolete library books

District Leadership and Development Information

Dr. Turk and Dr. Wagner will provide information next week.

PERSONNEL: Approval of Personnel Log dated August 12, 2025 (Attached)

MOTION:	Motion by: Mrs. Guido	Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Northern Westmoreland Career & Technology Center Report - Mr. Kaczor/Mr. Vinkovich

Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Report - Mr. Deiseroth

PSBA Liaison Report - Mrs. Watson

Mrs. Watson stated there is no state budget yet.

Mrs. Watson confirmed that all Board members receive PSBA emails daily.

Mrs. Watson stated she will forward the summary when information is important.

BUSINESS - MRS. CALLAHAN

Approval of bus routes for 2025-2026 school year

Mrs. Callahan stated that the Board is asked to approve the bus routes and driver lists each school year. It was prepared by Dr. Croushore and his Secretary who work with W.L. Roenigk on transportation.

Mrs. Beveridge mentioned Bus 9 was late every day last year and her son was marked absent or late.

Mrs. Callahan stated she will mention the issue to Dr. Croushore.

Mrs. Beveridge asked were we able to combine runs/decrease costs.

Mrs. Callahan stated not that she is aware of.

Dr. Wagner stated she can get a summary for the Board.

Approval of W.L Roenigk, Inc. bus and van drivers list for 2025-2026 school year

Ratification of Natural Gas Agreement with United Energy Trading, LLC for natural gas supply for period September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2028

Mrs. Callahan stated that several years ago the Board appointed Keytex as our natural gas supplier.

Mrs. Callahan stated this agreement is for a portion of our natural gas supply.

Approval of request to establish student activity account – Future CEO Class - Marketplace Businesses that Give Back

Communications

Requests for Use of Buildings

Payment of Bills

Additions to Agenda (Agenda Meeting only)

Mr. Deiseroth stated a woman wants to use the Bon Air parking lot for a flea market on September 14 and October 12.

Dr. Wagner stated if he provides the contact, the District will get in touch with her.

Comments from Public

None

Adjournment at 8:28 PM

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich	Seconded by: Mrs. Key
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

JSCallahan

Jennifer S. Callahan
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

JSC/mls

BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2025

Call to Order

The Burrell School District Board of Directors Board Meeting was held in the High School Board Room and was called to order at 7:35 PM by President Rick Kaczor.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Kaczor asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mr. Timothy J. Vinkovich, Ms. Tricia Shank, Mrs. Nikki Watson, Mrs. LeeAnn S. Guido, Mrs. Pam Key, Mr. Tom Deiseroth, Mrs. Jean Schager and Mr. Rick Kaczor

Board Members Absent: Mrs. Gretchen V. Beveridge

Quorum present

Others Present: Dr. Shannon L. Wagner, Superintendent, Mrs. Jennifer S. Callahan, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, Dr. Gregory Egnor, Director of Student Services and Dr. Autumn Turk, Director of Curriculum and Development and Solicitor Lee Price

Student Representatives Present: None

Announce Executive Sessions

August 12, 2025 – 6:45 PM and Immediately following meeting - Personnel Agenda
August 19, 2025 – 7:00 PM - Personnel Agenda and Collective Bargaining

Approval of Minutes

Agenda Meeting – June 17, 2025; Regular Meeting – June 24, 2025; Special Board Meeting – July 15, 2025

MOTION:	Motion by: Mrs. Key	Seconded by: Mrs. Guido
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

a. **Treasurer's Report (Attachment 8-1)**
b. **General Fund Report (Attachment 8-2)**
c. **Capital Reports (Attachment 8-3)**
d. **Food Service Reports (Attachment 8-4)**
e. **Student Activity Reports (Attachment 8-5)**

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich	Seconded by: Mr. Deiseroth
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Comments from Public - Agenda Items Only

Mr. Kaczor thanked the public for showing up to the meeting and stated that Board members appreciate it.

Reports of Administration and Standing Committees

SUPERINTENDENT - DR. WAGNER

Student/Staff Recognition and Reports

Dr. Wagner reported:

- Tom McCracken manager of bus garage for W.L. Roenigk, Inc.
  - Serves Burrell, New Kensington Arnold School District, Leechburg Area School District
  - Garage Stars honored Tom for his 45 years of work with W.L. Roenigk, Inc.
  - Recognized his good hard work for our District
- PSBA honor roll recognition
  - Pam Key for 10 years of service
  - Gretchen Beveridge for 10 years of service

Dr. Wagner thanked members for their work on the school board.

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Lower Burrell Police Department

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth Seconded by: Mrs. Key
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Permission to enroll 2 nonresident students tuition-free through October 31, 2025 pending contracted purchase of home, in accordance with Board Policy 202 regarding future residents

Dr. Wagner stated that this item is being removed as the opportunity for the family to buy a home fell through.

Permission to enroll 1 nonresident student tuition-free through October 31, 2025 pending contracted purchase of home, in accordance with Board Policy 202 regarding future residents

MOTION: Motion by: Ms. Shank Seconded by: Mrs. Key

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Guido stated that it seems like a long time.

Mrs. Callahan explained we use the date October 31, 2025 as listed in Board policy to allow time for the closing process to occur.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Award the following bids for the Bon Air Elementary School Additions and Alterations Construction Project using Capital Project Funds for Contracts 1-4 and Food Service Fund for Contract 5 – Food Service Equipment:

Contract No 1 – General Construction to _____ $_____
Contract No 2 – HVAC Construction to _____ $_____
Contract No 3 – Plumbing Construction to _____ $_____
Contract No 4 – Electrical Construction to _____ $_____
Contract No 5 – Food Service Equipment to _____ $_____

Dr. Wagner stated that after reviewing the bid amounts and that the costs were well above estimates, her recommendation is to reject and rebid an adjusted project. She is hopeful that we can make a smaller scale project work for our students.

MOTION TO REJECT AND REBID ADJUSTED BON AIR ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS PROJECT:

MOTION: Motion by: Mrs. Guido Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Award the following contracts for Professional Services for the Bon Air Elementary School Additions and Alterations Construction Project:

Commissioning Testing & Balancing to WAE Balancing Inc. $_____
Construction Materials & Inspection Services to Hillis-Carnes Engineering Associates, Inc. $_____

Dr. Wagner explained this item goes with the Bon Air project, so it is not needed at this time since the project was not awarded.

Award the following bids for High School HVAC Improvements Construction Project:

Contract No 1 – General Construction to Arcon Contracting Inc.	**$513,000**
Contract No 2 – HVAC Construction Renick Brothers Mechanical Contractors	**$6,324,300**
Contract No 3 – Electrical Construction to Sargent Electrical Company	**$1,131,615**

Dr. Wagner explained that last week we had a bid opening. We have the recommended project awards after reviewing details with architects.

Dr. Wagner state the architects are here for you to discuss and ask questions.

MOTION: Motion by: Ms. Shank Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Guido asked for the total.

Mrs. Callahan replied $7,968,915.

Mrs. Guido asked how far over budget.

Mrs. Callahan explained that the construction contracts budget was approximately $880,000 less than amount recommended for awarding tonight for the High School HVAC project. However, the Commissioning Testing and Balancing services approved is about $70,000 less than budgeted so at this point the project is about $800,000 over budget.

Mrs. Callahan stated that we have asked the architects to develop a smaller scale plan for the Bon Air Additions and Renovation Project so we are hopeful that it will be much less than originally budgeted and will offset the overall construction budget.

Dr. Wagner added that these estimates were done over a year ago and a lot has changed since then.

Mrs. Guido asked about which alternates are being recommended.

Mrs. Callahan directed members to the summary provided by the architects which shows the alternates being selected that are included in the total contract awards being recommended.

Dr. Wagner reminded Board members that this does not include any updates to the pool areas.

Mrs. Key asked what the increase is due to and did the materials cost increase in the last year.

Mr. Dometakis, HHSDR Architect, stated what we are seeing cost-wise is that contractors are busy and they have to account for tariffs. Also, in renovation projects they are taking a "chance" with estimates so they also account for that. He thinks that right now the first estimate was in March and a lot has happened since then. Equipment costs are up and contractors are very busy which decreases competition. He stated that these are the types of prices we are getting everywhere with bids and projects, not just at Burrell.

Ms. Shank stated she is worried about the timeline and asked how it is impacted.

Mr. Dometakis responded it is not an impact, most of the time they will work after hours unless we allow them in certain areas.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Award the following contract for Professional Services for High School HVAC Improvements Construction Project:

Commissioning Testing & Balancing to Pitchford Diversified Inc. $133,000

Dr. Wagner explained that this is needed for the construction project.

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth Seconded by: Ms. Shank

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Schager asked if the information is in documents for review.

Mrs. Callahan explained there is a summary of pricing obtained showing that this vendor is the lower price.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Acceptance of Proposal with Allegheny Global Environmental, Inc. to provide asbestos inspection of Stewart Elementary School

Dr. Wagner explained that she reviewed all prior District asbestos testing. This will help test areas that we do not have results for. She thinks it is important to have this for when we make decisions about what to do with the building. This way, we will have and be able to use the information as we see fit.

MOTION: Motion by: Ms. Shank Seconded by: Mrs. Guido

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Schager asked are there other companies that do this.

Dr. Wagner responded that there are, but that we believe it is a competitive price and that they are only testing certain areas.

Mrs. Guido asked if this information plus what we have will represent the entire building.

Dr. Wagner responded yes, that is correct. Some of the older reports are not clear so this will help with that information. It all matters with anyone who wants to do any kind of renovation or demolition of the buildings so it is important to have.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Burrell Education Association regarding Bon Air Elementary School Cafeteria Duty

Dr. Wagner explained this MOA is to have lunch and recess monitors at Bon Air using teachers who are able to do this based on their schedule. This is an agreement with BEA that they request be in writing.

MOTION: Motion by: Mrs. Key Seconded by: Ms. Shank
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

OTHER ADMINISTRATION - DR. TURK / DR. EGNOR

APPROVED AT AGENDA MEETING 8/12/2025: Discipline Guidelines for Burrell High School, Huston Middle School and Bon Air Elementary School for 2025-2026 school year

Dr. Egnor stated this item was approved last week.

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with SPHS Behavioral Health for Drug & Alcohol Case Management/Assessment Services for 2025-2026 school year

MOTION: Motion by: Mrs. Guido Seconded by: Mrs. Key
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with SPHS Behavioral Health for substance abuse services for 2025-2026 school year

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth Seconded by: Mrs. Schager
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Letter of Agreement with SPHS Behavioral Health for services for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth Seconded by: Mrs. Guido
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Agreement with Wesley Family Services for Partial Hospitalization Program for 2025-2026 school year provided article 4 word "shall" changed to "may pay"

Dr. Egnor explained that last week it was discussed to make a change to agreement wording but they have not yet officially approved the change regarding changing "shall pay" to "may pay."

Solicitor Lee Price suggested the Board could change the motion to include the change.

MOTION:	Motion by: Mrs. Schager	Seconded by: Mrs. Key
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Mrs. Guido thanked Dr. Egnor for following up.

Approval of Letter of Agreement with Westmoreland Casemanagement & Supports, Inc for Student Assistance Program for 2025-2026 school year

MOTION:	Motion by: Ms. Shank	Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Agreement with Westmoreland Casemanagement and Supports, Inc. regarding confidentiality with related service providers for period July 16, 2025 through July 15, 2027

MOTION:	Motion by: Ms. Shank	Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Enrollment Contract with The University School for special education services for 2025-2026 school year

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth	Seconded by: Mrs. Guido
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Agreement with Family Counseling Center of Armstrong County for partial hospitalization services for 2025-2026 school year

MOTION:	Motion by: Mrs. Key	Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Enrollment Agreement with The Watson Institute for The Watson Institute Social Center for Academic Achievement program (WISCA-Sharpsburg) for 2025-2026 school year

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich	Seconded by: Mrs. Guido
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Permission to discard obsolete library books

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth	Seconded by: Mrs. Schager
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

District Leadership and Development Information

Dr. Turk presented information regarding the training and growth over the last year to grow our leaders including:

- Comprehensive plan focus areas 2023-2026
  - Culture, trust, communication, systems and operations
- Networking opportunities that have all been funded by grants
  - AASA Learning Grant and Networking – National Conference
    - Received Learning Lighthouse Demonstration System Award
  - Remake Learning
  - Harvard Project Zero
  - Pitt Re-Imagine High School Cohort Grant & Implementation
  - WIU LEAD Road trip
  - Pennsylvania Department of Education SAS Conference and Pennsylvania Department of Education Learner Centered Collaborative
- Reviewed what we get from participation
  - Transformation Leadership Practices, Innovative Instructional Strategies, Advancing Innovative & Personalized Education, Collaborative Leadership and Systems Thinking and Continuous Improvement and Innovation Cycles
- For 2025-2026 Leadership Networking, Training & Growth Opportunities:
  - Dare to Lead Admin Book Study
  - Comprehensive Planning Task Force
  - AASA Ed Leader Promise Grant & Networking
  - Remake Learning
  - Pitt Re-Imagine High School
  - WIU LEAD Road trip
  - Pennsylvania Department of Education SAS Conference and Pennsylvania Department of Education Learner Centered Collaborative

Mrs. Schager asked with all of this have you noticed any changes with students.

Dr. Turk stated we tend to focus attention on kids. If all the focus is on the kids, then no one is focusing on the teachers and principals, so this work and training is to focus on that and then to see things coming back into the classroom.

- High School Examples: Ron Zanella and Darcy Holtzman and what they are doing with Career Exploration and working with Businesses, Reimagine High School
- Middle School Example: Studios that are being implemented; Elementary is difficult because we must focus on foundation which is reading and math

Dr. Turk stated a lot of it is District or school level culture work which transcends all of the grade levels. It can be overwhelming.

Ms. Shank asked when you attend conferences, do you find that university educators are present as well because there seems to be a disconnect with what they are teaching to those studying education to teach.

Dr. Turk stated that some universities are doing it well and some are not. She recognized that Pitt Greensburg and St. Vincent College do programs with education students. Pitt reimagine has university representation. National Conferences have university representation. She stated that Point Park has been a good partner. Slippery Rock seems to be doing a good job shifting things.

Mrs. Watson asked who suggested the *Dare to Lead* book.

Dr. Wagner stated she did because it came from her executive coach provided by the Westmoreland County grant for superintendents. Her executive coach is Dr. Randy Poe from Kentucky. She explained that they spend time talking about our system and culture and he provides advice and information back to help grow her leadership. The book was suggested by him. She provided examples of leadership team meetings and some of the things they are doing led by Dr. Turk.

Dr. Wagner stated she has extra books if any Board member would like to read it as well.

General discussion ensued about the book author, Brene Brown.

Mrs. Watson questioned what actually gets implemented from these events. It sometimes seems too much. She is sensitive to it since she does not have a background in academia and is critical of the organizations involved in this stuff. She is interested in how things are actually being implemented. She suspects that some of the things they are doing are some of the things they are talking about. Public education is a multi-billion dollar industry and people have access to educators so she thinks it may be infiltrated. She is trying to be sensitive but also articulate some of her concerns and questions. She wants to communicate that things like this pop up her antenna. She thinks it is a little too much for what we are really getting out of it.

Mrs. Watson stated she has criticism about the Amplify program after having it for a year. She can communicate her very grave concerns with it at a later time.

Mrs. Guido stated she thinks that this is about things we are taking on and implementing. This is more about excitement about our jobs and passion and big ideas are possibilities. We have seen it a few times during some of the presentations such as Ron Zanella and Darcy Holtzman's idea and Brooke Miller's program. Only a few of us on the Board are in education and this type of stuff is not happening everywhere. Teachers get excited because principals and leaders in the District are open to out-of-the-box ideas and then the kids get excited.

Mrs. Watson responded she agrees but also stated she is critical of top down things. She stated it can be bottom up. She is just trying to connect the dots of the extended value and wants to try to "call out the bs."

Mr. Kaczor stated its time to move on from this item.

PERSONNEL: Approval of Personnel Log dated August 19, 2025 (Attached)

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich Seconded by: Mr. Deiseroth

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Watson asked what is AASA.

Dr. Turk stated it is the American Association of School Administrators.

Mrs. Watson stated that she can see all AASA conferences run together in October in various locations of Colorado, Washington DC and Arizona. She asked what the District relationship is with AASA.

Dr. Turk responded that a local cohort of districts are grant funded by Grable. They provide grant funding for these conferences. They want Western PA representation, so they fund our attendance.

Dr. Turk explained each of the conferences. She explained that it is recommended to attend all 3 and it is part of the grant funding they give us.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor except Mrs. Watson voted NO on conference #1 #2 and #3

MOTION CARRIED

Northern Westmoreland Career & Technology Center Report - Mr. Kaczor/Mr. Vinkovich

Mr. Kaczor reported:

- Hired a new Aspiring Education teacher who will start for the school year

General discussion ensued about the CTC teacher contract and steps.

Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Report - Mr. Deiseroth

Mr. Deiseroth reported:

- Hired various positions, accepted resignations
- Might have to vote on RAN revenue anticipation note due to no state budget and no funding
- IU is curtailing ESL due to the decline in demand for services from districts
- WIU Board officer election held: President - Dallas Leonard, Penn Trafford; Vice President - Jennifer Bretz, Hempfield; Secretary - Dr. Catherine Fike, Southmoreland; Treasurer - Tammy Good, WIU

PSBA Liaison Report - Mrs. Watson

Mrs. Watson reported:

- Budget not passed; Watched video about it; Fighting is about Transportation

Mrs. Watson recommended contacting local legislators because they can advocate for things.

BUSINESS - MRS. CALLAHAN

Approval of bus routes for 2025-2026 school year

Mrs. Callahan stated there are 3 documents relating to transportation for Board review. The bus routes are for both our schools and the "out of District placements" for 2025-2026 for the private and special schools that we have to transport students. She indicated that Dr. Croushore, who oversees transportation, prepared a summary of some the transportation changes over the past 5-8 years. While his report talks about all of the buses/vans we have eliminated or combined, all of those changes were accounted for in our budgets to this point so it is not an additional savings. We did have a decrease of about 2.2% in the PRIOR budget for 2024-2025 which was mostly due to combining runs.

Mrs. Callahan stated Dr. Croushore is here to provide additional information and/or answer questions.

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich Seconded by: Mr. Deiseroth
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Approval of W.L Roenigk, Inc. bus and van drivers list for 2025-2026 school year

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Ratification of Natural Gas Agreement with United Energy Trading, LLC for natural gas supply for period September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2028

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth	Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Approval of request to establish student activity account – Future CEO Class - Marketplace Businesses that Give Back

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich	Seconded by: Mr. Deiseroth
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Communications

Requests for Use of Buildings (Attachment 8-6)

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth	Seconded by: Mrs. Key
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Payment of Bills (Attachment 8-7)

MOTION:	Motion by: Mr. Deiseroth	Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

Additions to Agenda (Agenda Meeting only)

Comments from Public

Paul Olijar, Resident

- *Questioned District's financial position and the impact of the state not passing a budget yet*

Mrs. Callahan replied that it is a difficulty for our District's General Fund. She explained that as discussed during the several months of budget discussion, the Fund Balance remaining at a certain level is important for these kinds of situations. She also stated that because there is not a state budget, we are not receiving state subsidies which account for a large portion of District revenue. Real Estate tax revenue has just started to come in so it is helping to provide cash flow needed to continue operations. But overall, it does put a strain on the District since the legislation has not yet passed the state budget that was technically due by June 30.

Justin Koscianski, Resident

- *Architects stated contractors are busy and not a lot of bids were received – asked about the time period of bidding*
- *Questioned if only one bid is received - is there an extension time you can do*
- *Asked if he can review the bid docs*
- *Asked if there was any consideration for modular as a cost savings*

Mrs. Callahan explained the District has legal requirement to advertise bids for 3 weeks and then they are received and opened after that so the typical time period is about a month. She also stated that most bid specifications include language that gives the District 60 days to award bids at the prices provided.

Solicitor Lee Price also talked about the process for bidding and mentioned that architects also put bids on the specific contract sites so that many contractors are aware.

Mrs. Callahan stated that when bids are advertised, anyone can follow the instructions to get a copy of the bids specs.

Solicitor Lee Price added that any member of the public can come and look at them by appointment.

Dr. Wagner stated we are not moving forward with additional classrooms so there is no use for modular rooms. We are not really doing a cafeteria addition. We have asked architects to develop a plan with just a smaller addition to the kitchen to assist with food preparation and storage.

Mike Pish, Resident

- *Congratulated the Board member who questioned items*
- *Suggested Board members could go to the conferences to see what it is all about; Indicated he was on City Council of Lower Burrell previously and went along to some conferences*
- *Indicated he spoke at Stewart School hearing and could see some of renovations needing done*
- *Asked Board to protect senior citizens and stated the tax base is not there because we are a bedroom community; Suggested cutting a little bit here and there because tax bill bites you in rear*
- *Suggested Board should have kept Stewart School open for one more year until receiving bids instead of cramming the students into other buildings*
- *Suggested asbestos should be tested every 5/10 years with kids in the building*
- *Suggested if someone wants to buy the building, let them deal with the asbestos*
- *Suggested firing the Architect and starting over again since the estimates were not accurate*
- *Stated the District needs to do the projects the right way*

Dr. Wagner replied we are required to have a AHERA management plan for asbestos that is encapsulated so it is appropriate to be around. It is required every 3 years and was done. We are not duplicating testing. Dr. Wagner stated she reviewed the records since 1984/1985 and because some of the reports are not clear, more testing is needed. As it stands, it is encapsulated and is fine. If we tear down walls and do things, that is a problem.

Dr. Wagner stated that the comment about cramming kids into other buildings is not accurate. We have decreasing enrollment so students fit within our buildings for classroom purposes. The only issue is the kitchen space and having the proper equipment to prepare and serve food.

Mrs. Callahan stated the budget decreased by $145,000 which is about 1 mill of taxes by closing Stewart this year and not waiting a year for bids.

Mrs. Guido stated that it is about finding a balance. You said the tax bill is tough but also said do it right. You can't have it both ways. We have a finite amount of money and we have to make renovating meet the needs and stay within confines of the budget. There will be some discomfort and some growing pains. You are making a lot of assumptions in your comments and recommendations. There are timelines, discussion, meetings, bidding and laws to follow so we had to have estimates to make decisions at that time.

Mr. Kaczor thanked the public for comments.

Mrs. Guido asked that we look into painting the press box because it does not look good to our guests.

Dr. Wagner stated we will take a look at it.

Adjournment at 8:52 PM

MOTION:	Motion by: Mrs. Schager	Seconded by: Mr. Vinkovich
VOTE:	Roll Call: All in Favor	MOTION CARRIED

JSCallahan

Jennifer S. Callahan
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

JSC/mls