

WYOMING VALLEY WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR SEPTEMBER BOARD MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025
In Person and Zoom

The Regular September Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Wyoming Valley West School District was held at the Middle School and on Zoom on the above date. Meeting was called to order at 7:19 pm by President Kamus. The following Board Members answered present to roll call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus. Mr. Hardwick was absent. Superintendent Suppon, Finance Manager Kachurak, Attorney Messinger, and Board Secretary Bullock were present.

Moment of silence was followed by a salute to the flag.

President Kamus announced that an executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss the professional contract.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD – Emily Bolan

Mrs. Carey gave a brief presentation on the A-TSI (Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Plan) for the High School; Mr. Needle and Mr. Haile the TSI -Title I Plans (Targeted Support and Improvement Plan), for the Middle School and State Street.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. Suppon said it has been a wonderful start to the school year. The energy across our campus has been truly inspiring. This year is shaping up to be one filled with growth, learning, and strong connections. He thanked families and community members for continued support and partnership. Together we are creating an environment where every student can thrive and succeed.

We are closely monitoring the progress being made at the state level regarding the annual budget and are encouraged by recent discussions that an agreement might be reached in the near future. An important issue impacting public schools is the rising and unsustainable cost of cyber charter school tuition. Public schools are required to pay a fixed rate for each student who attends a cyber charter school, regardless of the actual cost of services provided. This money directly comes from the local taxpayer. Contact your local legislators and advocate for meaningful reform on how cyber charter schools are funded.

A fair and transparent funding structure is essential to ensure equity, accountability, and fiscal responsibility in public education. Together we can make a difference for our schools and our students. We are grateful for your continued support, and we will keep you informed as more details become available. Together, we remain focused on ensuring every student has the resources they need to thrive. We continue to show the world why we are and always will be a destination district. Go Spartans!

Motion made by Mr. McGinley seconded by Mr. Keating to Table Item #12 under Staff Recommended Action.

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes.

Motion Carried. Mr. Hardwick was absent.

STATEMENTS FROM INTERESTED CITIZENS

Citizens addressing the Board are asked to state their name and town of residence in accordance with Board Policy #903 (copy available). Statements are limited to three minutes.

(none)

MINUTES APPROVED

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Perfetto, that the Board of School Directors approve the minutes of the Regular **August 13, 2025** Board Meeting and Special Meeting for General Purposes **September 3, 2025**.

Voice vote. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Dubaskas, *Athletics*, interviews are scheduled Friday for the Boys' Head Basketball position.

Mr. Keating, *Contracts & Personnel/Finance*, thanked the principals for the presentation tonight and the Superintendent for the level of enthusiasm brought to the program.

Mr. McGinley, *Education/Policy*, thanked the principals for the presentation tonight. He congratulated Dr. Suppon and his staff, teachers, and support staff for a good opening of school last week.

Mr. Diction, *Safety and Security*, bus schedules and forms are online. A Remind was sent and posted on our website and Facebook so parents can update their contact information. The second SRO at Middle School is out around at Dana Street, Chester Street, Third Ave. and then Middle School. He commended Mr. DeRocco and his team at Dana Street, the Forty Fort mayor, head of DPW, police department, and code enforcement for their team effort with the new drop-off procedure. District security upgrades were done over the summer by Mr. Waskevich, Mr. Diction and Building and Grounds. They replaced outdated cameras, added more cameras in buildings, and added more updated entry control points for first responders, students, and staff. Metal detectors ran amazingly the first week of school for 6th-12th. Clear backpacks for all elementary students worked great the last two years.

President Kamus, *Building and Grounds*, also thanked Mr. DeRocco. He asked Mr. Diction to arrange for security at all future Board meetings.

The roofs at Dana and the Rectory should have another five years with maintenance. The roof replacement at the Wellness Center was put in the budget, approve at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Cordes, *Building and Grounds*, the high school elevator part should be in Friday. Repairs are scheduled over the Columbus Day weekend. The elevator company ordered the wrong part.

Mr. Kobusky would like to see the Rectory and the garage roofs also replaced.

Apollo will put out an RFP for the roofs.

GENERAL RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Dubaskas, that the Board of School Directors act on the following General Recommended Items:

1. Approved **Real Estate Property Tax Exemption** through the Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission to the following:
 - ❖ Anthony Cherkauskas
 - ❖ Thomas N Howel
2. Approved and reviewed the **2025-2026 High School A-TSI Plan** (Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Plan).
3. Approved and reviewed the **2025-2026 State Street Title I TSI Plan** (Targeted Support and Improvement Plan).
4. Approved and reviewed the **2025-2026 Middle School Title I TSI Plan** (Targeted Support and Improvement Plan).
5. Approved Professional Services Agreement between Wyoming Valley West School District and **Emit Learning LLC** for continuation of services during the 2025-2026 school year.

6. Approved Service Agreement between **The Gregory Center for Applied Behavior Analysis** and Wyoming Valley West School District for continuation of services during the 2025/2026 school year.
7. Approved Partnership Agreement between **Keystone/Red Rock Job Corps** and Wyoming Valley West School District effective July 1, 2025 through July 30, 2026.
8. Approved Memorandum of Understanding between **Luzerne & Wyoming Counties Foster Grandparent Program** and Wyoming Valley West School District for Foster Grandparents at Third Avenue School, effective July 1, 2025 through July 1, 2028.
9. Approved Agreement with **Sunbelt Staffing, LLC** and Wyoming Valley West School District for continuation of services for the 2025/2026 school year.
10. Approved Intergovernmental Agreement between the Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 and Wyoming Valley West School District for the **2025-26 Idea Allocation** based on the December 1, 2024 Idea Child Count of 1,346.
11. Approved **Cyber Services Agreement** between Seneca Valley School District and Wyoming Valley West School District for the 2025/2026 through 2029/2030 school years.
12. Approved **Clinical Education Experience Agreement** between **Misericordia University** and Wyoming Valley West School District effective the 2025/2026 school year.
13. Approved **Agreement** between **Graham Academy** and Wyoming Valley West School District for the 2025/2026 school year.
14. Approved **Agreement** between **ProCare** and Wyoming Valley West School District for the 2025/2026 school year.
15. Approved September payment to **SitelogIQ** in the amount of \$181,000.40.
16. Approved updated **WVW Facilities Use Form** effective immediately.

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes.
Motion Carried. Mr. Hardwick was absent.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Perfetto, that the Board of School Directors act on the following Staff Recommended Items:

1. Approved **excused absences** August 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025.
2. Appointed the following **new hires**: (#2 bullet #2 failed *)
 - ❖ **Kiara Serrano** – Life Skills Aide/Dana Street, \$16.00/hr. effective September 4, 2025.
 - ❖ **Kelly Kobusky** – General Duty Aide/Rectory, \$16.00/hr. effective September 2, 2025.
 - ❖ **Faythe Seniuk** – Substitute Aide/State Street, \$13.50/hr. effective April 24, 2025.
 - ❖ **Alexis Saldana** – Autistic Support Aide/Third Ave., \$16.00/hr. effective September 4, 2025.
3. Accepted the following **resignations**:
 - ❖ **Robert Bowers** – Clerk/High School, last day August 19, 2025.
 - ❖ **Nerissa Lang** – Emotional Support Aide/State Street, last day June 13, 2025.
 - ❖ **Kathleen Kornish** – Autistic Support Aide/Chester Street, last day September 4, 2025
4. Approved the following **transfer of positions**:
 - ❖ **Susan Carey** – General Duty Aide/Attendance Office State Street to Clerk/High School, effective September 2, 2025.
 - ❖ **Melanie Price** – General Duty Aide/Attendance Office Middle School to Clerk/State Street, effective September 2, 2025.

5. Approved Medical Leave, **Emp. #325323**, effective December 2, 2025; returning TBD.
6. Appointed **Kristen Swetz**, Secretary, High School, effective October 15, 2025.
7. Appointed **Faith Court**, Guidance Secretary, Middle School, effective August 25, 2025.
8. Granted **diplomas** to high school students who completed the necessary requirements for graduation upon the recommendation of Tara Carey, High School Principal:
 - ❖ **Emma Janis**
 - ❖ **Tyrone Phanelson**
9. Approved contract for **Kim Hogan**, Director of Human Resources, effective August 25, 2025 through June 30, 2030.
10. Approved **Professional Contract Status (Tenure)** to the following Teachers:
 - ❖ Brianne Brady
 - ❖ Nina Gushka
 - ❖ Lauren Jaimes
 - ❖ Sarah McCracken
 - ❖ Vera Petrini
 - ❖ Molly Ramsey
 - ❖ Chloe Ruckle
 - ❖ Natalie Shultz
 - ❖ Edward Zawatski III
11. Appointed the following **Mentors** for 2025/2026:

<u>Teacher (State Street)</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Gelety, Laura	McCracken, Sarah
Harchar, Kristy (Nurse)	Kobylski, Eileen (Nurse)
Hart-Sanko, Emily	Sorick, Erika
Kobusky, Kirstyn	Hanadel, Jeff
Lasecki, Jamie	Hoban, Robyn
Storm, Hali	Krause, Lois
Vito, Elizabeth	Bly, Emily
Woychio, Emalee	Wine, Christine
<u>Teacher (Middle School)</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Nedimyer, Sara	Whalen, Sara
Pealer, Melissa	Brady, Brianne
Robinson, Melissa	Casey, Joe
<u>Teacher (High School)</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Hackett, Amistad	Orrson, James
Matenkoski, Sandra	Potter, Charles
Villafranca, Reyna	Munzing, Desiree
Perez, Meleny (LTS)	Evans, Kristen
Black, Jenna (LTS)	Cawthern, Christina
<u>Teacher (Elementary)</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Krisulevicz, Janelle (Chester)	Mooney, Maria
Malo, Ann (Third)	Zapoticky, Stephen
Smolley, Christina (Dana)	Kuzma, Tiffany
Sulitka, Lauren (Dana)	Bottaro, Mary Ann

(TABLED)12. Appoint _____, Dean of Students, High School, Act 93 Grant Funded, effective TBD, \$75,000.

Roll Call: Wilson (No - #2 bullet #2), Dubaskas, Keating (No - #2 bullet #2), McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky (abstain - #2 bullet #2; relative), Cussatt (No - #2 bullet #2), and Kamus (No - #2 bullet #2), voting yes. **#2 bullet #2-Failed** (*4 no; 3 yes; 1 abstain; 1 absent); **Motion Carried.** Mr. Hardwick was absent.

FINANCE RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Keating, that the Board of School Directors approve the following:

1. Accepted and approved the following as presented: **Bills for Payment, Finance Manager's Reports and Treasurer's Report.**

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Keating, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.** Mr. Hardwick was absent.

NEW BUSINESS

President Kamus announced the next scheduled meeting October Work Session/Regular October Meeting Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by McGinley, seconded by Wilson, that the Board of School Directors adjourn this meeting.

Motion Carried.

Adjourned: 7:54 p.m.



Jennifer Bullock, Board Secretary

A tape of this meeting will be maintained at the District Office until the minutes are accepted at the next scheduled Board Meeting.