

WYOMING VALLEY WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR DECEMBER BOARD MINUTES
DECEMBER 17, 2025
In Person and Zoom

The Regular December 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 7:17 pm by President Kamus. The following Board Members answered present to roll call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Bellio, Nicholson, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus. Mr. McGinley 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 an executive session was held prior to this meeting to discuss the teachers' contract, bussing contract, and personnel items.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD – Emily Bolan

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

I wanted to take a moment to wish each and every one of you a safe, happy, and joyful holiday season. This is a special time of year to reflect, celebrate, and spend meaningful time with family and friends. As we approach the close of the year, I am incredibly proud of how our district continues to finish strong, united in purpose, and focused on what matters most, our students. As we look ahead, I am excited for our entire Wyoming Valley West team to return after the break, rejuvenated and ready to continue on the outstanding path we are on together. The momentum across our district is real, and it is driven by the dedication, passion, and teamwork of our students, staff, families, and community. Our high school students continue to do an exceptional job each week in the Salvadori Skyscrapers STEAM Program. During a recent session, students explored the properties of materials commonly used in construction, learning to distinguish between natural and synthetic materials and gaining an understanding of how material characteristics and availability influence architectural design decisions. Students then toured the school building to observe real-world applications of these materials and analyze how they impact both structural integrity and design. Students examined key technological innovations that made skyscraper construction possible, identifying advancements that transformed modern architecture. To further reinforce engineering concepts, students designed, built, and tested fixed-pulley systems and compared them to movable pulleys, discussing the advantages and practical uses of each. Through these engaging, hands-on experiences, students continue to strengthen their understanding of materials, science, engineering, and architectural design. The STEAM initiative has had an incredible impact, and I am thrilled to announce that we will be launching a Middle School 12-week STEAM session in January, completely grant funded. This new session will focus on bridges and hands on learning, continuing to spark curiosity and creativity among our students. The success of this program has been so impressive that I have asked Salvadori to come before the Board of Directors at a future meeting to share the program's outcomes and successes. I also want to take a moment to highlight the exceptional level of academics taking place across Wyoming Valley West. The academic rigor within our district is truly top notch, and I would proudly put the quality of our instruction and the opportunities we provide our students up against any district. What happens in our classrooms each and every day cannot be matched, and that is a direct credit to our outstanding students and the dedicated staff who support them. Our teachers constantly deliver high quality, engaging instruction and go above and beyond to meet the needs of every learner, ensuring that our students are challenged, supported, and prepared for success. We are fortunate to have an incredible student body and the excellence we see academically is the result of a true partnership between our students and the exceptional educators who serve them. Winter sports are now in full swing, and it has been exciting to see

our students engaged in activities that they are passionate about. Athletics provide valuable lessons in teamwork, perseverance, and school pride, and I encourage our community to come out and support our student athletes whenever possible. Student and staff safety remains a top priority, and I am pleased to share that we are continuing to evaluate and enhance our safety procedures across the district. I am ecstatic to inform the community that we have secured a grant that will fully fund new radios to ensure efficient communication among key stakeholders in the event of an emergency, at no cost to the district. We will continue to explore and pursue grant opportunities that allow us to strengthen safety and security while being fiscally responsible. Over the past weeks, I had the pleasure of attending our Holiday Concerts, and I cannot say enough about how outstanding they were. The talent, effort, and pride displayed by our students was truly remarkable. These performances were a wonderful reminder of just how gifted and dedicated our students are and how fortunate we are to have such strong music programs. As we enter this holiday season, I want to reiterate my sincere gratitude to our students, staff, family, and the entire Wyoming Valley West community. You are the heart of this district, and you are what makes Wyoming Valley West such a special place. Thank you for your continued support, partnership, and belief in our schools. I wish you all a safe, peaceful and joyful holiday season, and I look forward to all that we will continue to accomplish together in the new year. We are and will continue to be a destination district. Thank you and as always Go Spartans!

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 Cussatt, seconded by Wilson, that the Board of School Directors approve the minutes of The Regular **November 12, 2025** Board Meeting; Special Meeting for General Purposes, **November 25, 2025**; and the Reorganization Meeting, **December 3, 2025**.

Voice vote. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Kamus, *Building and Grounds*, met with Dr. Suppon, Mr. Bellio, Mr. Kachurak, the engineers, SitelogIQ, and Mr. Cordes. We are working on the closing documents for SitelogIQ. They are close to finishing; a little bit of work is left in this room. The feasibility study was out, and the quotes received were opened. Dr. Suppon will invite one of the companies to interview and potentially engage with this contractor at our January meeting.

Mr. Kamus asked Mr. Cordes to check on the property at the West Side Drive In.

GENERAL RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by Wilson, 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:
 - ❖ Ronald Glycenfer
2. Approved **Letter of Agreement** between Wyoming Valley West School District and The Luzerne Intermediate Unit #18 to provide **Title I Services** at **Wilkes Barre Academy** from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028.

3. Approved **Letter of Agreement** between Wyoming Valley West School District and The Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit #19 to provide **Title I Services** at **Triboro Christian Academy** from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.
4. Approved **2025-2026 Interdistrict Agreement** between Wyoming Valley West School District and Wilkes Barre Area School District for **Title I Services** for academically eligible students who reside within Wyoming Valley West School District boundaries but attend **St. Nicholas/St. Mary's School**.
5. Approved **2025-2026 Interdistrict Agreement** between Wyoming Valley West School District and Wilkes Barre Area School District for **Title I Services** for academically eligible students who reside within Wyoming Valley West School District boundaries but attend **Al Noor Islamic Academy**.
6. Approved **2025-2026 Interdistrict Agreement** between Wyoming Valley West School District and Wyoming Area School District for **Title I Services** for academically eligible students who reside within Wyoming Valley West School District boundaries but attend **Wyoming Area Catholic**.
7. Appointed the following Board Members to represent Wyoming Valley West on the **West Side CTC Joint Operating Committee**:
 Term to Expire 2026 – Nicholas Wilson
 Term to Expire 2027 – Janet Cussatt
 Term to Expire 2028 – Joshua Bellio
 Alternates: (1) John Perfetto (2) Mark Kobusky
8. Appointed **2026 PSBA Pride & Promise Contact, Alternate, and Regional Representative**:
 Pride & Promise Contact - Brian Dubaskas
 Alternate - Nicholas Wilson
 PSBA Liaison - John Perfetto
9. Appointed Mark Kobusky **Plymouth Public Library** Representative; Alternate – John Perfetto.
10. Appointed John Nicholson **Hoyt Public Library** Representative.
11. Set **January Work Session/School Board Meeting** date, **January 14, 2026** at 7:00 p.m.
12. Approved **Resolution** that the Wyoming Valley West School District will not raise 2026-2027 taxes above its Act 1 index of 5.1%.
13. Approved **Dual Diagnosis Agreement** between the Luzerne Intermediate Unit and Wyoming Valley West School District for Dual Diagnosis Therapeutic Services for the 2025-2026 school year; \$155.00/day; specified student.
14. Approved **Independent Contractor Agreement** between Wyoming Valley West School District and John Rosick for utility-worker training services, effective immediately.
15. Approved Agreement with the **Municipality of Kingston** for two School Resource Officers (SROs), effective January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029.
16. Approved Agreement with **Plymouth Borough** for two School Resource Officers (SROs), effective January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029.
17. Approved Agreement Extension with **Larksville Borough** for a School Resource Officer (SRO), effective January 1, 2026 – February 28, 2026.
18. Accepted the resignation of **Tim McGinley**, Wyoming Valley West School Board Director, effective January 1, 2026.
19. Approved Statement of Work from **CyberRisk Services**; \$140.00/hr., effective immediately.
20. Approved purchase of **Safety and Security Radios** from **FirstNet**, \$111,834.72. (Price includes radios, belt clips, and 3-year subscription; 100% Grant Funded)

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

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

1. Approved **excused absences** November 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025.
2. Accepted the following **resignations**:
 - ❖ **Alexis Walski** – Cleaner, State St., effective August 15, 2025.
 - ❖ **Dorothy Rasmus** – Clerk, Third Ave., effective January 2, 2026.
3. Appointed the following **new hires; \$16.00/hour**:
 - ❖ **Jessica Luton** – Emotional Support Aide, Middle School, effective November 17, 2025.
 - ❖ **Vanessa Luton** – Learning Support Aide, Middle School, effective December 2, 2025.
 - ❖ **Monica Miller** – Computer Aide, State Street, effective December 2, 2025.
 - ❖ **Eskarlette Rivas** – General Duty Aide, Dana Street, effective December 15, 2025.
4. Approved **Professional Contract Status (Tenure)** to the following Teacher:
 - ❖ Rebecca White
5. Medical Leave **Emp. #238476**, effective December 2, 2025; returning December 12, 2025.
6. Childbearing Leave, **Emp. #412628**, effective January 21, 2026; returning TBD.
7. Approved the following **transfer of positions**:
 - ❖ **Lourdes Torres** – from cleaner Middle School to Matron/Middle School, effective December 11, 2025. (full-time position)
 - ❖ **Christopher Hogan** – from Utility to Custodian/Third Ave., effective December 11, 2025.
8. Approved the following **Co-Curricular** position for 2025/2026 school year:
All School Musical Technical Directors – Brian Stiles; Dennis Lee
9. Approved Sabbatical Leave, **Emp. #151646**, effective December 2, 2025, returning the first day of the 2026/2027 school year.
10. Accepted resignation, with regret, **Danielle Shannon**, Kindergarten Teacher, Dana Street, effective January 30, 2026.
11. Approved the following termination, **Emp. #148674**, effective December 11, 2025.
12. Appointed, **Laura Olexy**, Language Arts Teacher Grade 7, Middle School, effective immediately, \$46,500.

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

FINANCE RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Cussatt, 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, Bellio, Nicholson, McGinley, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Wilson, is happy to see the renewal of the SRO agreements with our municipalities and boroughs. We are adding a second SRO to the high school, although our incidents this year have been on the decline. A tribute to our administrators and the new policy implemented. It was well overdue to have another officer in the high school based on the size and amount of students. They are there to protect our students.

Mr. Kobusky, agreed with Mr. Wilson about the high school. He said Mr. Perfetto also serves on the Library Board in Plymouth and he is loved. Mr. Kobusky would be happy to serve on the Contracts and Personnel Committee.


President Kamus, stated the Work Session/Regular January Meeting will be Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion Carried.

Adjourned: 7:32 p.m.


Jennifer Bullock, Board Secretary