

January 20, 2026

A regular voting meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 in the high school cafeteria.

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by President Roberts followed, by the pledge of allegiance, mission statement and audio/vision statement.

Roll Call:

Members Present:	Mrs. Rhonda Barnes	Ms. Teresa Funk
	Mr. Eric Bird	Mrs. Kelly Jones
	Mr. John Campbell, Sr.	Mrs. Pamela Kilgore
	Ms. Frances Clark	Mrs. Amy Roberts
	Mrs. Jennifer Ewing	

Non-Voting Member Present: Mrs. Alisa King, Superintendent

Present: Mr. Robert Mihelcic, Assistant to the Superintendent
Mrs. Emily DiNardo, Business Manager
Mrs. Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary
Mr. Ira Weiss, Solicitor (via Zoom video conference)

Executive Session: The Board met in executive session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss personnel items. No action was taken.

President Welcomes Visitors: Mrs. Roberts extended a welcome to the public and stated the following, “In accordance with Washington School District Policy No. 005 entitled “Public Participation at Meetings”, this public participation session shall not exceed 20 minutes. Any individual resident may make comments not to exceed three minutes. Any resident who wishes to address the Board should have submitted to the President of the Board or to the Board’s Secretary a written statement including their name and address, the name of the group the speaker is representing, if any, and the general nature of the topic and comments to be made. Any resident who has not submitted a written request shall have the right to speak, time permitting by raising his or her hand so that they may be recognized.

-Fern Sibert, 486 Addison Street, distributed flyers encouraging the community to come together to clean up litter to help showcase the City of Washington during the upcoming NFL Draft, which is being held in Pittsburgh, PA this year.

Recognitions

School Director Appreciation

The district took a moment to recognize and express their sincere appreciation to our School Board members for their dedicated service. Our Board plays a vital role in guiding the vision, policies, and priorities that support student success and strengthen our schools. We are grateful for their leadership, their countless hours of volunteer work, and their unwavering commitment to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive. Thank you for your continued service to our students, staff, families, and community.

Special Presentation

Andreas Dometakis from HHSDR Architects/Engineers, Inc. gave updates on the field house project, the high school construction project, change orders and an upcoming walk through.

Questions on the Agenda: The Board reviewed the agenda.

Agenda: Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: Mrs. Kilgore moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the minutes of the December 1, 2025 reorganization meeting and regular voting meeting be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Kilgore seconded that the November 30, 2025 and December 31, 2025 Treasurer's Reports be accepted as information, said report showing the following book balances:

	<u>November 30, 2025</u>	<u>December 31, 2025</u>
General Fund	\$ 380,545.19	\$ 863,332.68
Payroll Account	\$ 50,632.08	\$ 25,741.95
Cafeteria Account	\$ 8,032.93	\$ 192,573.67
WHS Athletic Account	\$ 15,759.50	\$ 19,347.37
WHS Activities Account	\$ 85,758.94	\$ 88,940.71
WPS Activities Account	\$ 21,048.41	\$ 21,025.32
WSD PSDLAF-Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 2,651,978.22	\$ 4,587,589.19
WSD-PSDLAF-Expendable Benefit Trust	\$ 12,295.73	\$ 17,843.75

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the Board approve the following:

- Recommend **Amber Thomas** as a special education teacher, bachelor's degree, step 1, \$48,885 in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, retroactive to December 1, 2025.
- Intermittent Family Medical Leave for **Employee #1204**, retroactive to December 5, 2025. *(Per the Family and Medical Leave Act and District Policy No. 410, eligible employees are entitled to take up to 60 unpaid days during a 12-month period for the specific type of FMLA leave requested by this employee.)*
- Intermittent Family Medical Leave for **Employee #1258**, retroactive to January 5, 2026. *(Per the Family and Medical Leave Act and District Policy No. 410, eligible employees are entitled to take up to 60 unpaid days during a 12-month period for the specific type of FMLA leave requested by this employee.)*
- Addition of **Sharon Thistlethwaite** to the list of WSD Retired Emergency substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year. *(Pending receipt of required clearances.)*
- Addition of **Joshua Wise** to the list of WSD Emergency substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Conference request, in accordance with the policy of the District as follows:

a. **Camilla Justice**

-Making a Difference: Educational Practices that Work

February 25-27, 2026 – Hershey, PA
Estimated cost – \$1,030

Motion carried unanimously.

Athletics: Mr. Campbell moved and Ms. Clark seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appoint **Mike Bosnic** as the Fall 2026-2027 Football Head Coach (Step 13+, \$12,627). The head coach for football may appoint 4 paid varsity assistant coaches, 1 paid junior high head coach, 3 paid junior high assistant coaches, 1 paid equipment manager and unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Barnes moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appoint **Joe Blickenderfer** as the Fall 2026-2027 Girls Soccer Head Coach (Step 1-3, \$5,662). The head coach for soccer may appoint 1 paid varsity assistant coach and unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Jones seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appoint **Jessica Ott** as the Fall 2026-2027 Cross Country Head Coach (Step 13+, \$5,579). The head coach for cross country may appoint 1 paid junior high head coach (payment formula per business office) and unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Clark moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appoint **Teresa Booker** as the Fall 2026-2027 Girls Volleyball Head Coach (Step 13+, \$5,579). The head coach for volleyball may appoint 1 paid varsity assistant coach and unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Kilgore moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appoint **Antoinette Dirda** as the Fall 2026-2027 Girls Tennis Head Coach (Step 1-3, \$4,449). The head coach for girls' tennis may appoint unlimited volunteer coaches. If student participation increases, the district will add additional coaches and/or event workers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Funk moved and Mrs. Kilgore seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Appointment of the following 2026 Spring Assistant and Volunteer Coaches:

<u>Track</u>		
Rich Barnes	Varsity Assistant Coach	\$6,314
Isaiah Robinson	Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,656

Derek Hull	Jr High Track Assistant Coach	\$5,067
Malik Mitchell	Jr High Track Assistant Coach	\$4,656
Susie Koehler	Jr High Track Assistant Coach	\$6,314

Baseball

Anthony Belcastro	Assistant Coach	\$6,314
Jarrold West	Middle School Head Coach	\$3,974
Shawn Hughes	High School Volunteer Coach	
George Walz	High School Volunteer Coach	
Eric Bird	Middle School Volunteer Coach	

Softball

Brandon Pape	Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,656
Kayla Kraeer	Volunteer Coach	

Girls MS Basketball

Greg Papson	Volunteer Coach	
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Motion carried, Mrs. Barnes abstained from voting on Rich Barnes and Mr. Bird abstained from voting on himself. All other coaches passed unanimously.

Board Policy: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Kilgore seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Review of Policy #544 – Parent and Family Engagement. *(In accordance with State regulations, this policy is to be reviewed annually.)*

-First reading, pursuant to Washington School District Policy No. 001, of the following policies:

Policy #004 – Meetings
Policy #501 – Admission of Beginners
Policy #707 – Purchases Subject to Bid

-Second reading and adoption, pursuant to Washington School District Policy No. 001, of the following policy:

Policy #608 – Pest Management

Motion carried unanimously.

Contracts, Agreements and Grants: Mrs. Barnes moved and Mrs. Kilgore seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Engagement Agreement with Weiss Burkardt Kramer LLC to continue representing Washington School District as Solicitor at an hourly rate of \$175 per hour for attorneys and \$125 per hour for paralegals and law clerks, with a retainer fee of \$500 per month.

-Academic Affiliation Agreement between Washington School District and Washington & Jefferson College for the District to provide clinical education to W&J College students enrolled in its Nursing degree program.

-Transportation Service Agreement between Washington School District and First Student, Inc. for the transportation of special needs students, retroactive to November 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.

-Three-year agreement renewal with Hudl for athletic event streaming, scouting reports, and other related software. The renewal will include an upgrade to the current package to include two (2) portable cameras that can be used at athletic events not held at the athletic field or in the gymnasiums. The total contract is \$52,214.63 and the new renewal dates will be:

Year 1 (Prorated):	December 2, 2025 to August 14, 2026	\$12,214.63
Year 2:	August 14, 2026 to August 14, 2027	\$20,000.00
Year 3:	August 14, 2027 to August 14, 2028	\$20,000.00

-Contract to engage Momentum ECM to implement Laserfiche electronic document storage in the District. The total quote of \$14,600.00 includes professional services at \$9,000, which includes the necessary workflow design and support to migrate to Laserfiche. The remaining balance of \$5,600 is the yearly Laserfiche user licensing fees. The services will be implemented July 1, 2026.

Motion carried unanimously.

Business and Finance: Mr. Bird moved and Mrs. Jones seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Addition of George Martiskoas to the list of GG&C drivers for the 2025-2026 school year.

-Change Order WC-2, #4602 for installation of exterior and interior doors at the junior/senior high school as outlined by AB Specialties, Inc. in the amount of \$206,150.

-Change Order #GC-6, #4602 to furnish and install all labor and materials necessary to relocate the dryer vent in Room 150 as outlined by Mariani & Richards, Inc., in the amount of \$7,020.

-Change Order #GC-7, #4602 to furnish and install all labor and materials necessary to add two (2) new rooftop LEP light fixtures at the upper roof of the junior/senior high school as outlined by Mariani & Richards, Inc., in the amount of \$14,175

Motion carried unanimously.

School Calendar: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Jones seconded that the Board approve the following:

-The Washington School District 2026-2027 School Calendar.

Motion carried unanimously.

Course Curriculum Guide: Mrs. Barnes moved and Ms. Clark seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Washington High School's Course Curriculum Guide for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Act 1 Resolution: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Kilgore seconded that the Board approve the following:

- Adopt the Act 1 Resolution indicating that Washington School District will not raise its tax rate for the 2026-2027 school year more than the allowable index. (*Uploaded on OneDrive*)

Motion carried unanimously.

Bond for East Washington Borough Tax Collector: Mrs. Kilgore moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the Board approve the following:

- That the bond for Dawn Petrosky as Real Estate Tax Collector for East Washington Borough be set as based upon Section 5511.4 of the Local Tax Collection Law, 72 P.S. Section 5114, at 30% of the amount of the taxes to be charged and the duplicates to be delivered to them in one year with the premium for the entire bond posted by Dawn Petrosky to be paid pro rata by the School District and the Borough. The total taxes are estimated at \$1,657,915.31 based on the 2026 assessed value of \$109,941,400 and millage rate of 15.080000. The recommended total bond amount is \$632,000.

Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of East Washington Borough Deputy Tax Collector: Mrs. Kilgore moved and Ms. Funk seconded that the Board approve the following:

- To approve the appointment of Carol Schilinski as Deputy Tax Collector by Dawn Petrosky, Real Estate Tax Collector for the Borough of East Washington. The Deputy Tax Collector's compensation is to be part of the compensation paid to Dawn Petrosky, as Dawn Petrosky and Carol Schilinski shall agree, subject to the posting of the surety bond in accordance with Section 5511.22 of the Local Tax Collection Law, 72 P.S. Section 5511.22.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ratification and Payment of Bills: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mr. Bird seconded that the Board approve the following:

- Ratification and payment of bills in the amount of \$4,644,661.85.

Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Nomination of Intermediate Unit 1 Board Members for Election – Mrs. Jones is interested in being nominated to stand for election to the Intermediate Unit 1 Board of Directors. The Board took the following action:

- Mrs. Kilgore moved and Mr. Campbell seconded to approve the nomination of Kelly Jones to stand for election or appointment to the Intermediate Unit 1 Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of Section 910-A and 911-A of The Public School Code of 1949, as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report: Mrs. King stated that bus monitor positions are now fully staffed, reported on a \$2,000 grant that was received by Joy Cumer and Jessica Gardner to be used in the junior/senior

high school's PAES Lab, and discussed the Director of Facilities/Maintenance position. Mrs. King emails weekly reports to board members.

Solicitor's Report: Attorney Weiss had no report.

Special Representative Reports

-Western Area Career & Technology Center – Mrs. Kilgore attended her first meeting in December. They were provided dinner prepared by the Center's culinary students and she was introduced to other members of their Board. They voted in a new president and vice president, reviewed a potential candidate for a paraprofessional position and discussed changing the voting requirement for high-expenditure items. These types of items were normally approved by a majority vote of member districts, but they are recommending it be changed to items passing by a unanimous vote of member districts.

-PSBA – Ms. Clark informed board members to visit the PSBA website for great information on educational issues throughout PA. She spoke about a cell phone ban, the state budget address and new school board information.

-Parking Authority – Mr. Bird stated that they have not had a meeting.

-Updates from Activities, Education and Policy Committee Representatives:

Activities Committee (Mrs. Roberts) – The committee met on January 8th and discussed the Fall head coaches, the coach evaluation process, the Hudl agreement, expanding inclusive sports/activities, tracking sporting stats, season passes for students, the marching band, athletic budgets, field house updates and the new weight room equipment.

Education Committee (Mrs. Kilgore) – The committee met on January 15th and discussed the Multiple Tier System of Support (MTSS), collaboration with W&J College to support the District's English language learners, TSI improvements and staff survey results.

Policy Committee (Mrs. Ewing) – The committee met on January 7th and reviewed the policies that were presented to the Board for approval at tonight's meeting. They are also working on updating several other policies.

Information

A. February Board Meeting – TUESDAY, February 17, 2026 at 6:30 pm

B. February Committee Meetings

Policy Committee – Wednesday February 4th at 5:30 pm via Zoom

Activities Committee – Thursday, February 12th at 4:00 pm

Education Committee – Thursday, February 19th at 4:00 pm

C. Presidents' Day NO SCHOOL – Monday, February 16, 2026

D. Ethics "Statement of Financial Interests" Forms – Forms were mailed to your home addresses. Please complete and return to Lisa Coffield before the end of February.

E. Kennywood Picnic Day – Washington School District's 2026 Kennywood Picnic Day is Saturday, June 13, 2026

Adjournment: Moved by Mrs. Ewing and seconded by Mrs. Kilgore that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously. 7:43 pm

/s/ Lisa Coffield
Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary