BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT
AGENDA MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2026

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 7:06 PM by President LeeAnn S. Guido.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Guido asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent: Mrs. Jean Schager and Mr. Timothy J. Vinkovich

Quorum present

Others Present: Dr. Shannon L. Wagner, Superintendent, Mrs. Jennifer S. Callahan, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary and Dr. Autumn Turk, Director of Curriculum and Development

Student Representatives Present: Ryan Rusiewicz and Josh Pruitt

Announce Executive Sessions

January 13, 2026 – Immediately following meeting - Personnel Agenda
January 20, 2026 – 7:00 PM - Personnel Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Reorganization and Regular Meetings – December 2, 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

None

Mrs. Guido explained the rules for public comment. She stated that "Comments from Public" are intended to be comments and not open dialogue. She explained that at the beginning of the meeting, members of the public can comment only on agenda items listed. It is an opportunity to provide an opinion or information so that the Board members have that information prior to voting on an item. At the end of the meeting, members of the public may comment on any subject they choose. She explained that Board policy permits limiting public comment to a few minutes. She added that questions asked during either public comment period may not be answered as information is not always immediately available.

Reports of Administration and Standing Committees

SUPERINTENDENT - DR. WAGNER

Student/Staff Recognition and Reports

Dr. Wagner stated that Ms. Lenart requested an opportunity to speak to Board members to express appreciation as she has decided to accept a position with another organization.

Ms. Lenart thanked the Board and stated that it has been a pleasure and joy to work at Burrell for 25 years. She was not looking to leave the District, but has made the difficult decision to finish her career elsewhere. She thanked the Board for their support over the years. She stated that Burrell has an excellent staff. She thanked Dr. Wagner for her leadership.

The Board thanked Ms. Lenart for her service and recognized her compassion and passion for what she does.

Dr. Wagner stated Ms. Lenart will be missed and she has done an exceptional job.

School Director Recognition

Accept Resignation of Jean Schager as School Board Director, At Large effective December 31, 2025

Dr. Wagner stated Mrs. Schager resigned effective December 31. She thanked Mrs. Schager for her 4 years of service. She intended to be here at the meeting, but circumstances arose and she was not able to attend. She stated that Mrs. Schager will be missed.

Dr. Wagner stated the Board posted the vacancy publicly on our website on December 23. She announced that she received several candidates who are interested in the position. She stated that we have 7 candidates and explained the requirements for candidates.

Dr. Wagner stated that the law requires the appointment must be done during a public meeting. The Board will interview candidates on January 20 during the meeting. She explained all deliberations and discussions regarding selection of candidates must be done in public.

Dr. Wagner added that she is thankful to have so much interest in this seat and looks forward to the process.

Mr. Deiseroth asked about the Board member term end date.

Dr. Wagner explained that it is a 2-year term based on the time of the leave and the next election.

Appoint _____ as School Board Director, At Large to serve remainder of term through first Monday in December 2027

Dr. Wagner stated a new member will be appointed next week.

Approval of Revision to 2025-2026 School Calendar

Dr. Wagner stated the District used a traditional snow day on December 2 and the teachers worked a planning and collaboration day, so we will need to use April 20 to make up that day for students. The new calendar reflects this change.

Approval of Affiliation Agreement with Carlow University, College of Education & Social Work for period of 5 years

Dr. Wagner stated that this agreement allows us to have student teachers from Carlow University which is always helpful to have extra hands on staff.

Mrs. Beveridge asked if we ever had a Carlow student before.

Dr. Wagner stated we have. The current agreement expired.

Approval of High School HVAC Improvements Project Change Order GC-1 for Arcon Contracting, Inc. in amount of $22,341 for install of fence around chiller pad and $6,798 for alternate to add privacy slats

Dr. Wagner explained the change order. She stated that we will have a chiller outside of door 17 to the right at the High School. It currently does not have a fence scheduled to be installed around it. The change is to install that fence and take care of the landscaping around that area. The alternate is for the privacy slats and to change the fence posts. She stated it is recommended by the architects.

Mr. Kaczor asked what is the reasoning for the recommendation for the higher posts.

Dr. Wagner explained that we do not have bollards, so the larger posts will assist with that protection.

Mr. Deiseroth asked why the architects did not have this in the original drawing.

Dr. Wagner stated she believes it was an oversight on their part but we do need it.

Mrs. Guido asked why the privacy slats are needed.

Mr. Kaczor stated he believes the change is an unnecessary expense.

Mr. Deiseroth asked if the fence around equipment in the back of the High School has privacy slats.

Dr. Wagner stated it appears to be lawn fabric used around the fencing to provide the privacy.

Student Representative Ryan Rusiewicz stated it will probably look better if the professionals do it.

Mrs. Guido asked if it needs to be approved this month or if it could wait so that more investigation may be done. She also suggested that we approach the architects and ask them to assume the costs from their fee since it was their mistake.

Mrs. Watson asked if there is a policy on change orders or if they are handled as they come up.

Dr. Wagner stated they are addressed as they come up. She agrees it was a missed item by the architects. She stated she will talk with the architects for additional information and the Board can decide next week if they want to proceed or table the item.

Bon Air Elementary Additions and Alterations Project Update Information

Dr. Wagner provided information regarding the Bon Air Elementary Construction Project. A new timeline has been provided. The last time the project bids came in, the cost was significantly over our expected budget, so we asked the architects to review the project and decrease the scope to try to reduce the overall cost.

Dr. Wagner stated the new preliminary cost estimate is $10,093,000, which is closer to the original budget.

The project will still take approximately 1 year. We are planning to receive bids on February 10. The Board could award bids on February 17 or in March.

Dr. Wagner reviewed the drawing showing the addition of the kitchen on the side of the cafeteria since the old kitchen is not able to support the number of students appropriately. It will also allow additional seating within the cafeteria to help with the crowding.

Mrs. Guido asked how far we got last time.

Mrs. Callahan stated that we received bids and they were nearly $4 million over budget. At that time, the Board authorized Administration to work with architects to reduce the scope of work to try to reduce overall costs.

Mrs. Key asked how many seats the new plan will have in the cafeteria because it is currently crowded.

Dr. Wagner explained that the largest lunch is approximately 230 students. Next year, if kindergarten projections are correct than the largest lunch will be approximately 200 students. The new plan will accommodate these numbers.

Dr. Wagner stated as a reminder that this project is linked to an additional bond issue for the financing that will be needed if the Board decides to move forward.

OTHER ADMINISTRATION - DR. TURK / DR. EGNOR

Approval of RISE Services Agreement with Westmoreland County Community College for Spring 2026 academic semester

Dr. Turk explained that the Board approved this agreement for the fall semester, but this program does agreements by semester. This agreement will get our student currently attending the program through the spring semester. It is designed for special education students. It is a more independent version than St. Anthony's that we have sent students and is slightly less in cost than St. Anthony's.

Approval of Agreement with Westmoreland Intermediate Unit for Use of Funds IDEA-B 611 for 2025-2026 school year

Dr. Turk explained the agreement and exhibits. The agreement basically states that the obligation is on the school district not Intermediate Unit. We will receive $350,916.65 for 2025-2026. Dr. Egnor will clarify more next week. It is to supplement cost.

Mrs. Callahan added that we budgeted for this revenue and related expenditures as we have received the funds annually for many years We use the funds to cover the cost of several Personal Care Assistant positions for Special Education students and for one of our Speech Language Teachers and for a portion of some of our Life Skills Teacher positions.

Mrs. Watson asked about money we get for special education from the state and how this is related.

Mrs. Callahan explained that the Special Education subsidy funds come from the state and the IDEA funds are Federal funds that come through the IU. They are not related. You can see the funds budgeted in separate revenue line items.

General discussion ensued about special education staffing and the WIU use of IDEA funds agreement.

Mrs. Watson asked how many IU's there are in the state.

Mrs. Beveridge stated there are 29.

Mrs. Watson stated she thinks it seems strange that the IDEA funding goes through the IU if they are not providing services.

Permission for Chris Stewart, Chris Harkins and Brandy Grieff to chaperone Varsity Girls Wrestling on overnight trip for Tournament, January 16 – January 17, 2026 at Sharpsville High School, Sharpsville, PA

Dr. Turk explained the request.

PERSONNEL: Approval of Personnel Log dated January 20, 2026

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

Mr. Kaczor stated the next meeting is on Thursday.

Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Report - Mr. Deiseroth

Mr. Deiseroth stated there has not been a meeting since October.

PSBA Liaison Report - Mrs. Watson

Mrs. Watson stated there is nothing to report.

BUSINESS - MRS. CALLAHAN

Approval of budgetary transfers

Mrs. Callahan stated there are no budgetary transfers.

Budget 2026-2027 - Tentative Timeline Review

Mrs. Callahan provided the Timeline and stated the process started in November. She stated this month she will ask for the approval of the Act 1 Index Resolution. She stated that most of the budget preparation work is done in January and February. In March, she will be working on compiling and bringing something to the Board as a starting point for us to go through in detail at the Budget Workshop Meeting, which is a public meeting that is tentatively set for March 31. In May, the Board must adopt a proposed budget per PA School Code and then the final budget in June.

Approval of Resolution Limiting Tax Increase to Adjusted Index for fiscal year 2026-2027

Mrs. Callahan stated as previously discussed, Act 1 limits the amount the school district can raise taxes. As part of the budget process, the District must either adopt a "not to exceed" resolution or submit a preliminary budget. Burrell School District's Adjusted Index is set at 4.6% which equates to 5.6 mills. She stated she recommends that the Board agree to stay within that limit for 2026-2027 by approving the Resolution.

Approval of request to close the BHS Light student activity account

Mrs. Callahan stated she received a request from Mrs. Federer to close the BHS Light account due to inactivity. The request includes intended transfer of the remaining funds to the Bucco Buddies account and Spanish Club account.

Student Representative Ryan Rusiewicz stated that Mr. Leghart runs the Spanish club not Mrs. Federer.

Mrs. Guido suggested that the funds go to a similar organization.

Student Representative Ryan Rusiewicz stated he believes the Spanish club is about learning about the culture and that Light was about equality for different backgrounds so it appears to be similar goals.

Mrs. Callahan stated she will discuss with Mrs. Federer and report back to the Board next week.

Approval of W.L. Roenigk student transportation driver list update

Mrs. Callahan stated that the Board is required to approve all bus drivers and W.L. Roenigk has added some additional drivers to their organization. Since these drivers could transport our students, approval is needed.

Communications

None

Requests for Use of Buildings

Mrs. Callahan presented the building use requests as prepared and recommended by Mr. Ferra, Director of Athletics and Building Operations.

Mrs. Guido asked if cheerleading has been figured out in regards to space and mats.

Dr. Wagner stated yes, they have space to practice and received 2 additional mats.

Payment of Bills

Additions to Agenda (Agenda Meeting only)

None

Comments from Public

None

Adjournment at 7:46 PM

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

JCallahan

Jennifer S. Callahan
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

JSC/mls

BURRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 20, 2026

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 7:31 PM by President LeeAnn S. Guido.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Guido asked all present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent: Mrs. Jean Schager

Quorum present

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

Student Representatives Present: Ryan Rusiewicz and Josh Pruitt

Announce Executive Sessions

January 13, 2026 – Immediately following meeting - Personnel Agenda
January 20, 2026 – 7:00 PM - Personnel Agenda and Real Estate

Approval of Minutes

Reorganization and Regular Meetings – December 2, 2025

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

Approval of Monthly Financial Reports:

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

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

Comments from Public - Agenda Items Only

Mrs. Guido explained that this is the time to comment on items listed on the agenda. This gives members of the pubic the opportunity to provide comments now so that the Board has heard them before Board discussion and voting occurs.

Paul Olijar, Resident

- *Item 8a-9 – questioned the land parcel referenced*

Mrs. Guido asked Dr. Wagner to respond.

Dr. Wagner stated it is a parcel that is part of the Stewart Elementary school property. The application will hopefully improve the opportunity to have the area become a property that will benefit the District and the community.

Reports of Administration and Standing Committees

SUPERINTENDENT - DR. WAGNER

Student/Staff Recognition and Reports

Dr. Wagner reported:

- Jacob Hartung, Junior at Burrell High School, and son of one of our teachers earned Eagle Scout Rank; He led youth and adult volunteers to replace the Nature Trail Guide sign at Burrell Lake Park, constructed a new larger sign and performed trail maintenance and repairs to the footbridge. She commended him for using his skills and leadership to give back to the community.
- Girls Soccer Team recognized for historic 2025 season; reached WPIAL and PIAA finals; Received Shining Stars Award - program created by Westmoreland Sports Network and Smail Kia in Greensburg with a $500 donation; Finished with 15-8-2 record making first ever appearance in PIAA state final

School Director Recognition

Dr. Wagner stated that being on the school board is truly a labor of love. Each January we recognize our Board members for their service for the advancement of public education in our community. Dr. Wagner recognized each Board member and provided a token of appreciation.

Dr. Wagner stated that we have a fabulous Board. The Board members put kids first while keeping our community in their lens as well. She stated she appreciates each and every Board member.

Accept Resignation of Jean Schager as School Board Director, At Large effective December 31, 2025

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

Board members expressed that they are sorry to see Mrs. Schager leave the Board.

Appoint _____ as School Board Director, At Large to serve remainder of term through first Monday in December 2027

Dr. Wagner explained the process for appointing a Board member. The vacancy was advertised on the District website in December and letters of interest were received. The law requires that the Board deliberate in public so our Board will go through a process to be transparent and thorough. Each candidate submitted answers to

questions and will now be asked 3 additional questions so that the Board can make a selection. She added that there were 7 people who expressed interest, but 2 of them withdrew their application.

Mrs. Guido stated we are going to draw names to determine who goes first for each question.

Dr. Wagner asked Dr. Turk to keep a 2-minute timer for each candidate's response.

Mrs. Guido stated that she appreciates that there are 5 people here and interested in the position. It is tough. There are a lot of hours and difficult decisions to make but it is rewarding to serve the community.

Board members interviewed the following candidates:
Christina Bowman, Sherry DeMao, Tamara Girardi, Robert Harris and Paul Olijar

Each member answered the following questions:
1. What motivated you to apply for this school board position?
2. How do you prepare for making decisions on complex or unfamiliar topics?
3. What do you see as the most significant challenges currently facing our District?

Mrs. Guido stated that the candidates provided excellent answers and that it is going to be difficult to make a choice. Regardless of the decision she hopes they all continue to be involved in some way with the District whether running for future election, participation on committees, or with the Burrell Education Foundation.

Mrs. Beveridge commented that we have excellent candidates.

Mrs. Guido called for nominations.

Mr. Vinkovich nominated Mr. Harris.

Mrs. Guido nominated Mrs. Girardi.

There were no further nominations.

Mrs. Guido called for a motion to close nominations.

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

Solicitor Lee Price stated it takes 5 votes to appoint a replacement Board member.

Mrs. Guido stated that candidates should be prepared for time commitment and this includes meetings, negotiations, trainings, and budget meetings.

Mrs. Key stated that this is an impossible decision because all 5 candidates are excellent.

Mrs. Guido requested a Roll Call. She stated Board members must vote for either Mr. Harris or Mrs. Girardi by stating the name when called on.

VOTE – ROLL CALL: Mr. Kaczor, Mr. Deiseroth, Mrs. Key, Mr. Vinkovich, Ms. Shank, Mrs. Beveridge voted for Mr. Harris

Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Guido voted for Mrs. Girardi

Mrs. Guido welcomed Mr. Harris to the school board. She stated that he can join us at the table but he is not permitted to vote yet but can offer opinions.

Mrs. Key stated she was in this position several years ago and was not selected but she did not give up. One of the reasons she chose Mr. Harris is because he has been at several Board meetings and has participated on committees. She told other candidates, please do not give up.

Mrs. Girardi thanked the Board for the opportunity and stated it was an interesting experience. She appreciates the transparency and congratulated Mr. Harris.

Approval of Revision to 2025-2026 School Calendar (Attachment 1-6)

Dr. Wagner explained the revision to the calendar due to a snow day, so we will have school on April 20.

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

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Beveridge asked if this change affects the band trip.

Dr. Wagner stated it will be an excused absence.

Mrs. Beveridge stated that several of the students attend vo-tech and to make sure the school is notified.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Affiliation Agreement with Carlow University, College of Education & Social Work for period of 5 years

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

Approval of High School HVAC Improvements Project Change Order GC-1 for Arcon Contracting, Inc. in amount of $22,341 for install of fence around chiller pad and $6,798 for alternate to add privacy slats

Dr. Wagner stated that she discussed the concern with the architect of not including the fence in the original specifications. She explained it is not required by code so it was not added. They are recommending it with the alternate. They stated they will split the cost with the District if the District moves forward.

Dr. Wagner stated that she is recommending that we approve the change order with the posts and privacy slats. She stated it is an unfortunate change order but the Architect has agreed to pay $15,000 of the cost and the school district the balance of $14,139.

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich Seconded by: Mrs. Key

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Kaczor stated it shows some integrity that the architects stepped up and are sharing the cost.

Mrs. Guido and Mrs. Watson thanked Dr. Wagner for asking.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Bon Air Elementary Additions and Alterations Project Update Information

Dr. Wagner stated that last week we discussed the project. The bids are out and due February 10. The revised project includes a smaller project with the addition of just the kitchen and the HVAC upgrades.

Approval of Authorization for Administration to file Subdivision & Site Development Application with City of Lower Burrell for Burrell School District Tax Parcel 17-03-15-0-382

Dr. Wagner stated this is an application to the city to enhance the property for development as a taxable property that will benefit the District and community.

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

OTHER ADMINISTRATION - DR. TURK / DR. EGNOR

Approval of RISE Services Agreement with Westmoreland County Community College for Spring 2026 academic semester

Dr. Egnor stated that he requested annual agreements going forward.

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

Approval of Agreement with Westmoreland Intermediate Unit for Use of Funds IDEA-B 611 for 2025-2026 school year (Attachment 1- 7)

Dr. Egnor explained the discrepancy on amounts in exhibit. The IU does not impose a fee. The report shows a difference in the amount allocated because the amount has not yet been updated by the state since the state budget was approved.

Mrs. Callahan stated that last week the Board had some questions about these funds so she is clarifying information. The US Department of Education allocates IDEA-B funds to states. Pennsylvania distributes these funds to IUs to school districts using a formula to determine amount per district. The IU's pass the funds (flow through) to local school districts based on child counts and enrollment.

Mrs. Callahan added that the exhibit 2 provided by WIU is misleading. Burrell School District is allocated $350,916.65 for 2025-2026 and the $934.27 amount listed is only shown because the actual allocation was finalized when the state budget passed but the EGrants system has not yet been updated to reflect that amount. The IU does NOT keep any of the funding and/or provide services.

MOTION: Motion by: Mr. Vinkovich Seconded by: Mrs. Key

DISCUSSION:
Mrs. Watson asked if the state takes a portion of the funds.

Dr. Egnor responded no.

VOTE: Roll Call: All in Favor MOTION CARRIED

Permission for Chris Stewart, Chris Harkins and Brandy Grieff to chaperone Varsity Girls Wrestling on overnight trip for Tournament, January 16 – January 17, 2026 at Sharpsville High School, Sharpsville, PA

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

Mrs. Key stated she is very excited about the girls wrestling team and how well they are doing.

Permission for Renee Ruggeri to chaperone Gymnastic Club on overnight trip for PA Classic High School State Championship, February 20 – February 21, 2026 at Huntingdon High School, Huntingdon, PA

Dr. Egnor stated that these requests were received after the Agenda meeting and are time sensitive so they were added to the agenda for consideration.

MOTION: Motion by: Mrs. Key Seconded by: Mr. Deiseroth

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Guido asked if this trip is school sponsored.

Dr. Egnor stated they are not a school sport so they are not funded by the District. They raise funds or fund it themself.

Ms. Shank asked if we have other clubs beside this and hockey and bowling.

Dr. Wagner stated hockey uses the name only and is not a club.

VOTE: Roll Call: MOTION CARRIED

Permission for Kala Williams to chaperone 2 students on overnight trip for PMEA Region Choir, February 19-21, 2026 at Mohawk High School and Scottish Rite Cathedral, New Castle, PA

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

Approval of Agreement with Wesley Family Services for placement of a special education student in Child and Adolescent Partial Hospital Program

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

PERSONNEL: Approval of Personnel Log dated January 20, 2026 (Attached)

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

Dr. Wagner stated that Mrs. Deanna Lott is here and recognized her for her appointment as Assistant Principal.

Mrs. Guido stated that she observed Mrs. Lott's commitment since the time she was hired as a substitute teacher. She stated she appreciates her commitment and looking forward to see where her passion can help lead our District.

Mrs. Key stated she thinks Mrs. Lott will bring so much to the position based on her background.

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

Mr. Kaczor reported:

- December Reorganization Meeting
- Last week they approved hiring a paraprofessional to help with the Culinary Program – Mr. Barbiaux

Mrs. Guido congratulated him on becoming Chairperson of the JOC. She stated she appreciates the Board members participating on the CTC JOC Board because it is an additional time commitment.

Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Report - Mr. Deiseroth

Mr. Deiseroth stated the next meeting is scheduled for next week.

PSBA Liaison Report - Mrs. Watson

Mrs. Watson reported:

- Tuesday February 3, Governor will present his State budget proposal
- February 6, PSBA will host a member webinar regarding the budget proposal and she will try to attend

Mrs. Callahan stated she will participate in the PASBO webcast on the budget presentation and will report information.

BUSINESS - MRS. CALLAHAN

Approval of budgetary transfers

Mrs. Callahan stated there are no budgetary transfers.

Budget 2026-2027 - Tentative Timeline Review

Mrs. Callahan stated that she provided the Timeline that shows the budget process that began in November and will go through June. It includes our annual budget workshop meeting, which is a public Board meeting that is currently set for March 31, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

Mrs. Guido stated she recommends that people attend.

Approval of Resolution Limiting Tax Increase to Adjusted Index for fiscal year 2026-2027 (Attachment 1-8)

Mrs. Callahan explained that Act 1 limits the amount the school district can raise taxes. The District's Adjusted Index is set at 4.6% which equates to 5.6 mills. The resolution that is being recommended is for the Board to agree not to raise taxes above that limit for 2026-2027.

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

Mr. Kaczor added that just because the index is 4.6%, it does not mean we will go up 4.6%. He suggested people attend the budget workshop meeting so that they can see the actual information rather than seeing what may be incorrect information on Facebook.

Approval of request to close the BHS Light student activity account

Mrs. Callahan stated she received a request from Mrs. Federer to close the account due to inactivity. The request includes the intended transfer of remaining funds to the Bucco Buddies account and Spanish Club account.

Mrs. Callahan stated that last week members questioned the recommended distribution of funds to split between Spanish Club and Bucco Buddies. She stated that Mrs. Federer explained that Light was to bring awareness of different groups of people and different events and cultures around the world so she felt that these 2 groups specifically relate to that idea.

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

Approval of W.L. Roenigk student transportation driver list update

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

Communications

None

Requests for Use of Buildings (Attachment 1- 9)

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

Payment of Bills (Attachment 1-10)

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

Additions to Agenda (Agenda Meeting only)

Comments from Public

None

Dr. Wagner stated that Mr. Ferra informed her that there are 6 gymnasts in the club.

Mrs. Guido commented that she believes that some feedback has indicated that better communication is important. She believes we may need information coming from the Board to go out on Facebook. She stated that we have tried to do this by posting things like short budget and finance information on Burrell Buzz. But maybe we need to come up with a way to post a summary of what was discussed and decided at the meeting and put it out on Facebook. No plans are in place yet, but it is something that should be looked into.

Mr. Kaczor stated there are programs that exist that if you post to the Burrell site it could link to specific Facebook pages like the Lower Burrell neighborhood watch site. He uses one for his business for posting to Facebook and Instagram and it could have free versions.

General discussion ensued about getting information out to the community.

Mr. Harris stated he would be open to discussing that. He thinks that it needs to be done with fidelity and carefulness. He suggested if it is a Facebook page, the comments could be disabled.

Solicitor Lee Price stated that the Board would need to decide if it is an open forum.

Mrs. Guido stated she thinks it should be more about sharing information.

Mrs. Watson stated she sees it as not really a Facebook page for the Board, but a platform to communicate information to the public rather than an open forum.

Student Representative Ryan Rusiewicz asked if it could be a District website that people can use to communicate.

General discussion ensued about various platforms and methods for communication.

Mr. Harris suggested it is important to meet people where they are is important rather than having them go elsewhere.

Mrs. Key stated she does not see communication as a Board member weakness. It seems that people do not take the initiative to get on the sites where we have taken the time to develop and post the information. She stated we may need to change where that information is located but does not see it as a weakness. We have always been transparent.

Mrs. Watson stated she likes that people can come to the meetings to get the information and see the process in person. She mentioned that this is the current way of people talking online and on social media rather than putting "skin in the game". She cares about the process and believes the public has a platform already in place at our meetings.

Ms. Shank stated she did not see the unified bocce schedule on the website. She asked Administration to please make sure that it gets added.

Ms. Shank announced that next weekend is the Middle School musical *Once on This Island, Jr.* on January 30, 31 and February 1, 2026. She stated the Middle School auditorium usually sells out.

Ms. Shank announced that the High School musical is at the end of March and it is *Spamalot*.

Adjournment at 8:47 PM

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

JCallahan

Jennifer S. Callahan
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

JSC/mls