

**WYOMING VALLEY WEST SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR APRIL BOARD MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2026
In Person and Zoom**

The Regular April 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 7:22 p.m. by President Kamus. The following Board Members answered present to roll call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Bellio, Nicholson, Levesque, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus. 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 multiple vendor contracts.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD – Brianna O’Kane

Mr. Novrocki thanked the Reading Committee and introduced the English Department Chairperson, Mr. Sharkus, who gave a brief synopsis of the new Reading Series recommended for approval tonight.

ICS gave a brief feasibility update.

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

Good evening, Spartans. As we approach the start of the fourth quarter this Friday, it is truly remarkable to reflect on just how much we have accomplished together so far this school year. From significant security upgrades across our buildings to an unprecedented number of grant-funded projects, we continue to move our district forward in meaningful and responsible ways. Our commitment to providing safe, innovative, and supportive learning environments remains stronger than ever. At the same time, our students continue to excel both in the classroom and in competition. Whether it is academic achievements or athletic success, our Spartans consistently represent our district with pride, determination, and excellence. Their accomplishments are a direct reflection of the hard work of our staff, the support of our families, and the resilience of our students. We are also actively pursuing millions of additional dollars in grant funding to ensure we remain fiscally responsible while still meeting the growing needs of our district. By leveraging alternative funding sources, we are able to enhance opportunities for our students without placing additional burden on our taxpayers. This work is ongoing, strategic, and essential to our long-term success. One exciting example of this effort is our partnership with Larksville as we pursue a highly competitive grant to build a state-of-the-art playground at State Street. This project is designed with inclusion at its core, featuring sensory elements and full wheelchair accessibility so that all our young Spartans, regardless of the ability, can learn, play, and grow together. We are incredibly proud of this collaboration and hopeful for what it will bring to our community if awarded. We also recently hosted our Title I Parent and Family Engagement STEAM event at the middle school, and it was a tremendous success. It was truly exciting to see students, families, staff, and community members all together, engaged, learning and enjoying themselves. Events like this highlight the power of collaboration and the importance of bringing all stakeholders together to support our students in meaningful and memorable ways. You may also notice a number of policies listed on the upcoming board agenda. I want to emphasize that these are all first reading stage. Policies require two readings before they become official, with the second reading anticipated in May. The majority of these policies come directly from our legal team at PSBA and many are mandated updates or minor language adjustments to ensure compliance and clarity. We will continue to keep the community informed throughout this process. As we move into the spring season, I strongly encourage everyone to come out and support our student athletes. Our teams are competing with pride, sportsmanship,

and true Spartan spirit. Their dedication is inspiring and your support makes a meaningful difference. This week, we also have the privilege of hosting Arthur Stanley Tucker in our district. I had the opportunity to watch him engage with our students at Chester Street and State Street and it was truly special. His energy, connection with the children, and the ability to inspire were nothing short of incredible. Our students were fully engaged and having an absolute blast. We are hopeful to bring him back next year again. Tomorrow, we will host our Unified Track event, and I could not be more excited. Unified Track is a Special Olympics style sport designed to promote social inclusion by pairing athletes of similar abilities, regardless of whether they have disabilities, on the same team. It creates an environment where all participants can compete, learn, and build meaningful relationships. I wish all of our athletes the very best of luck, and I know they will represent our district with excellence. Finally, I want to remind our entire community that this Friday we are encouraging everyone to wear Spartan Strong gear or any Spartan WVW clothing in honor of the two students we tragically lost in a fire. They will always be remembered as Spartans, and in times like this we are reminded that Spartans always stick together. This is an opportunity for us to stand united, show our support, and honor their memory as one community. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we have accomplished so much-and there is still so much more ahead. We are and will continue to be a destination district 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.

Amy Carrozza, Forty Fort, stated there is a packed agenda tonight and it is super exciting. She appreciated the ICS study and hopes it will be on the website. She is happy to see the bleachers project and that we will soon have a visitors side. She questioned item #51, the affiliation agreement between the University of Scranton and Wyoming Valley West School District if it was for dual enrollment.

Mr. Novrocki stated the agreement is for student teaching and student observers. When we partner with a university or college they send agreements to us.

MINUTES APPROVED

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Cussatt, that the Board of School Directors approve the minutes of the Regular **March 11, 2026** Board Meeting.

Voice vote. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rick Kamus, Contracts & Personnel, had a teacher negotiation meeting on March 23rd. Is it going well. The next meeting is April 13th. Also starting the Act 93 contract, first meeting is tomorrow at the district office. *Building and Grounds*, had a meeting April 1st. A lot is on the agenda tonight. Apollo has helped out a lot and Dave Cordes has been extremely busy this month.

Nick Wilson, Finance, the Finance Committee opened a new account for the sponsorships for Daktronics. Any sponsorships received will be deposited in the account for the new scoreboards. We deposited \$10,000 so far and the district currently has four anchor sponsorships. As the money comes in, we will deposit it in the account. We transferred \$1 million to the capital projects account.

If approved, finance item #2, the investment schedule from Fidelity Bank to invest \$15 million into treasuries on a staggered scale schedule, it will receive an additional \$123,000 in interest income. We have to continue to spend wisely and make good investments. Rob and his finance team are working on the budget which will be proposed next month. We need to continue to watch every dollar and spend wisely.

Dr. Suppon, we just found out we were awarded \$30,000 in grants from Geisinger for STEM based initiatives. The grant will equip all elementary schools with wireless headphones that will block out outside noise so kids can concentrate on literacy. Also looking at getting the vibrating book packs for tactile movement with the story, they can put their hands on it and feel it while they read.

Mark Kobusky, Education/Policy, thanked Mr. Novrocki and everyone for all their hard work with the policies. They are on the agenda for the first reading tonight.

Mr. Kamus spoke about changes to committee updates and presenting them to the public during Work Sessions.

GENERAL RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

1. Adopted revised **Policy 005**, Organization. (First Reading)
2. Adopted revised **Policy 006**, Meetings. (First Reading)
3. Adopted revised **Policy 102**, Academic Standards. (First Reading)
4. Adopted revised **Policy 103**, Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Students. (First Reading)
5. Adopted revised **Policy 103.1**, Nondiscrimination - Qualified Students with Disabilities. (First Reading)
6. Adopted revised **Policy 104**, Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff. (First Reading)
7. Adopted revised **Policy 105.2**, Exemption From Instruction. (First Reading)
8. Adopted revised **Policy 113.1**, Discipline of Students With Disabilities. (First Reading)
9. Adopted revised **Policy 113.2**, Behavior Support. (First Reading)
10. Adopted revised **Policy 122**, Extracurricular Activities. (First Reading)
11. Adopted revised **Policy 123**, Interscholastic Athletics. (First Reading)
12. Adopted revised **Policy 140**, Charter Schools. (First Reading)
13. Adopted revised **Policy 146.1**, Trauma-Informed Approach. (First Reading)
14. Adopted revised **Policy 202**, Eligibility of Nonresident Students. (First Reading)
15. Adopted revised **Policy 204**, Attendance. (First Reading)
16. Adopted revised **Policy 209.2**, Diabetes Management. (First Reading)
17. Adopted revised **Policy 218**, Student Discipline. (First Reading)
18. Adopted revised **Policy 218.1**, Weapons. (First Reading)
19. Adopted revised **Policy 218.2**, Terroristic Threats. (First Reading)
20. Adopted revised **Policy 221**, Dress and Grooming. (First Reading)
21. Adopted revised **Policy 222**, Tobacco and Vaping Products. (First Reading)
22. Adopted revised **Policy 227**, Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia. (First Reading)
23. Adopted revised **Policy 234**, Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students. (First Reading)
24. Adopted revised **Policy 236.1**, Threat Assessment. (First Reading)
25. Adopted revised **Policy 247**, Hazing. (First Reading)
26. Adopted revised **Policy 249**, Bullying/Cyberbullying. (First Reading)
27. Adopted revised **Policy 254**, Educational Opportunity for Military Children. (First Reading)
28. Adopted revised **Policy 308**, Employment Contract/Board Resolution. (First Reading)
29. Adopted revised **Policy 317**, Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures. (First Reading)
30. Adopted revised **Policy 317.1**, Educator Misconduct. (First Reading)
31. Adopted revised **Policy 320**, Freedom of Speech by Employees. (First Reading)
32. Adopted revised **Policy 325**, Dress and Grooming. (First Reading)

33. Adopted revised **Policy 332**, Working Periods. (First Reading)
34. Adopted revised **Policy 336**, Personal Necessity Leave. (First Reading)
35. Adopted revised **Policy 339**, Uncompensated Leave. (First Reading)
36. Adopted revised **Policy 351**, Controlled Substance Abuse. (First Reading)
37. Adopted revised **Policy 610**, Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation. (First Reading)
38. Adopted revised **Policy 611**, Purchases Budgeted. (First Reading)
39. Adopted revised **Policy 619**, District Audit. (First Reading)
40. Adopted revised **Policy 626**, Federal Fiscal Compliance. (First Reading)
41. Adopted revised **Policy 626.1**, Travel Reimbursement - Federal Programs. (First Reading)
42. Adopted revised **Policy 718**, Service Animals in Schools. (First Reading)
43. Adopted revised **Policy 805**, Emergency Preparedness and Response. (First Reading)
44. Adopted revised **Policy 805.1**, Relations With Law Enforcement Agencies. (First Reading)
45. Adopted revised **Policy 805.2**, School Security Personnel. (First Reading)
46. Adopted revised **Policy 810**, Transportation. (First Reading)
47. Adopted revised **Policy 816**, District Social Media. (First Reading)
48. Adopted revised **Policy 827**, Conflict of Interest. (First Reading)
49. Approved **Real Estate Property Tax Exemption** through the Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission to the following:
 - ❖ Josephine C Jones
 - ❖ Ronald Kelly
 - ❖ Leslie Torres
 - ❖ David J Williams
50. Approved the following **2025/2026 calendar changes**:
 - ❖ Friday, February 9, 2026 – **Full School Day** (Act 80 Day cancelled)
 - ❖ Friday, May 29, 2026 – **Act 80 Day** (rescheduled from February 9, 2026)
51. Approved Affiliation Agreement between **The University of Scranton** and Wyoming Valley West School District.
52. Adopted Reading Series, **Into Reading from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt**, Block Grant Funded, pending solicitor approval.
53. Awarded bid to **AT&H Contracting** to complete the Wellness Center Roof Replacement Project, \$178,500.
54. Authorized advertisement for **bids** to be received and opened at the District Office on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.
 - ❖ Art Supplies (2026-2027)
55. Approved Agreement between **WVW Transport, Inc.** and Wyoming Valley West School District for **pupil bus transportation**, effective July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2031.
56. Approved Agreement between **WVW Transport, Inc.** and Wyoming Valley West School District for **pupil van transportation**, including extended school year (ESY), effective July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2031.
57. Approved the **School Calendar** for the **2026/2027** school year.
58. Approved **Settlement Agreement** pursuant to File 2367-25-26.
59. Approved **Settlement Agreement** pursuant to File 32539-25-26-KE.
60. Approved **Bleachers Project (Visitor Side)** at the Stadium:
 - a. Emergency demolition/removal, Bluestone Environmental, \$76,235.00
 - b. Concrete pad for bleachers, Elite Concrete and Excavation, \$24,495.00
 - c. Purchase of bleachers, Belson Outdoors (COSTARS), \$62,346.94
61. Approved Invoice #10050 to **Mark J. Sobeck Roofing Consulting, Inc.** for roof consulting services performed at Wyoming Valley West School District, \$13,870.

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Bellio, Nicholson, Levesque, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

1. Approved **excused absences** March 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026.
2. Approved additions to substitute teacher list: **Olivia Gayoski, Daniel Pape, Morgan McAndrew**
3. Approved **Settlement Agreement** pursuant to Emp. #757466.
4. Appoint the following **Mentors** for 2025/2026:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Mentor</u>	
Marti Calpin	Jessica Preiman	<i>(Dana Street)</i>
Andrew Faul	Pam Oliveira	<i>(Middle School)</i>
Marylillian Stepanski	Jessica DePhillips	<i>(Middle School Guidance)</i>
5. Accepted the following **resignations**:
 - ❖ **Harlequin Mendez**, Classroom Aide, Third Ave., effective March 11, 2026.
 - ❖ **Vanessa Luton**, Learning Support Classroom Aide, Middle School, effective March 6, 2026.
 - ❖ **Faythe Chapman**, Autistic Support Classroom Aide, State Street, effective March 25, 2026.
 - ❖ **Sarah Hirthler**, Autistic Support Classroom Aide, State Street, effective March 20, 2026.
 - ❖ **Samantha Bobowicz**, Classroom Aide, Third Ave., effective March 27, 2026.
 - ❖ **Laura Haines**, Personal Care Aide, Middle School, effective March 9, 2026.
6. Appointed the following **new hires**; \$16.00/hour:
 - ❖ **Sharon Shea**, Learning Support Classroom Aide, Middle School, effective March 23, 2026.
 - ❖ **Shawn Temarantz**, Autistic Support Classroom Aide, State Street, effective March 20, 2026.
 - ❖ **Amy Hodle**, Computer Aide, State Street, effective March 23, 2026.
 - ❖ **Erin Egan**, Cleaner, Middle School, effective March 23, 2026.
 - ❖ **Sarah Kriso**, Learning Support Classroom Aide, Dana Street, effective March 23, 2026.
 - ❖ **Louise Newman**, Autistic Support Classroom Aide, State Street, effective March 30, 2026.
7. Rescinded appointment, **Ian Jones**, District Wide Maintenance, \$17.50/hour, effective March 30, 2026.
8. Accepted resignation, with regret, due retirement, **Brenda Glynn**, Title I Reading Teacher, State Street, effective the last day of the 2025/2026 school year.
9. Accepted resignation, with regret, **Sarah Lispi**, Kindergarten Teacher, Third Ave., effective the last day of the 2025/2026 school year.
10. Accepted resignation, with regret, **Samantha Kozokas**, Emotional Support Teacher, High School, effective April 3, 2026.

11. Approved **Compensation** to professional staff members:
 - ❖ 18 Credits Beyond Bachelor’s Degree
 - ❖ 24 Credits Beyond Bachelor’s Degree
 - ❖ Master’s/Master’s Equivalency
 - ❖ Beyond Master’s/Master’s Equivalency for courses approved by the Superintendent
12. Approved to adjust the salary column placement of **Emp. #633595** from M to M+12 consistent with Article 26 of the CBA, effective the original date of hire, with retroactive compensation as calculated by the Business Office.
13. Approved to adjust the salary column placement of **Emp. #787361** from M to M+12 consistent with Article 26 of the CBA, effective the original date of hire, with retroactive compensation as calculated by the Business Office.
14. Approved Medical Leave, **Emp. #142153**, effective April 10, 2026; returning TBD.
15. Approved Child-Bearing Leave, **Emp. # 713181**, effective April 30, 2026; returning TBD.

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Bellio, Nicholson, Levesque, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

FINANCE RECOMMENDED ACTION

Moved by Cussatt, seconded by Dubaskas, 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.**
2. Approved entering into **Investment Management Account Agency Agreement** with Fidelity Bank, to increase interest earned on monies currently deposited in the district checking account, by reinvesting them into US Treasuries.

Roll Call: Wilson, Dubaskas, Bellio, Nicholson, Levesque, Perfetto, Kobusky, Cussatt, and Kamus voting yes. **Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dubaskas, tomorrow is Unified Track at 2:00 at the high school.

Mr. Kobusky, tomorrow some high school students are coming to LCC on the LCTA bus to tour the trades building. He will be happy to meet and talk with them.

Mr. Perfetto, wanted to remind students and parents that tomorrow, April 9th, the Spartan Baseball Team will be hosting Pittston Area at our home field. It is a Veterans Appreciation Day.

President Kamus announced the next scheduled meetings, May Work Session, Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. and the Regular May Meeting, Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Middle School.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Cussatt, seconded by Bellio, that the Board of School Directors adjourn this meeting. **Motion Carried.**

Adjourned: 8:24 p.m.


Jennifer Bullock, Board Secretary