

**A.W. BEATTIE CAREER CENTER
JOINT OPERATING COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2026**

The A.W. Beattie Career Center (AWBCC) Joint Operating Committee held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2026. Larry Vasko, President, called the meeting to order at 6:14 PM and roll call was taken.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

AVONWORTH

Adam Livingston
Jessie Opalko (virtual)

NORTH HILLS

Dee Spade
Rachael Rennebeck

DEER LAKES

Jeremy Love

NORTHGATE

Dr. Melissa Bilski
Wendi Lee

FOX CHAPEL

Ron Frank
Amy Cooper

PINE RICHLAND

Melissa Vecchi (virtual)

HAMPTON

Denise Balason
Larry Vasko

SHALER

Robert Cessar
Jim Tunstall

NORTH ALLEGHENY

Libby Blackburn
Elizabeth Warner

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Eric Heasley
Heather Brown
Thea Holzworth
Joe Miller
Maureen Golden
Bill Steiner
Lynne Cherry

Executive Director
Assistant Director/Principal
Assistant Director for Curriculum and Grants/Associate Principal
Technology Director
Business Manager
Supervisor of Building & Grounds
Solicitor – Weiss Burkhardt Kramer, LLC

MEETING MINUTES of March 26, 2026

Upon motion by Jim Tunstall, seconded by Ron Frank, the March 26, 2026 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT VASKO'S REPORT

1. Mr. Vasko apologized for missing the March meeting. He stated that it was a great spring at Beattie with the Open House being well attended.

SUPERINTENDENT MANNARINO'S REPORT

1. Dr. Mannarino shared that the superintendents met on Wednesday, and they had conversations about the budget and enrollment. They also discussed shifting the window for enrollment a few weeks sooner as it will make the process smoother for all.
2. He thanked Mrs. Holzworth for all her hard work at the meeting that was held with district staff to explain the admissions/enrollment process for AWBCC. The meeting was a positive experience for all, and her hard work was appreciated by all.

SOLICITOR TURNBULL'S REPORT

1. Solicitor Turnbull shared that #8 under the Personnel section contains a Separation of Release which includes a reframing of disciplinary action, and the release was accepted. This will conclude the employee's employment at AWBCC.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ERIC HEASLEY'S REPORT

1. The following items were discussed prior to the Committee of the Whole report:
 - Dr. Darren Vitpil and Chris Cowger, the SMART instructors and Sarah Patterson, SMART student, were introduced by Mr. Heasley.
 - Dr. Vitpil and Mr. Cowger shared a PowerPoint presentation with the JOC with information that highlighted the SMART program.
 - First, they shared the healthcare leaders that have shared their expertise with the students. Jon Kolb and Jacob Mateer from Adventures in Training with a Purpose shared about their non-profit organization created to confront health and movement related issues in vulnerable populations who no longer have the benefit of paid rehab. Dr. Marco Alcala, MD from the Orthopedic Wellness Center, shared his experience in Sports Medicine, Nonsurgical Orthopedist, and Concussion Specialist. Dr. Alcala has experience as a Team Physician for the Pirates, Avonworth High School, and the Pittsburgh Riverhounds. Ryan Elsass, PTA, CSCS from Ace Performance Pgh, shared about his personal training business which serves as a bridge for the recently rehabbed to get back into exercise in a safe and efficient manner.
 - They also shared about the SMART field trip to Duquesne University where they had a campus tour, lunch in the dining hall, and spent an hour and a half in the graduate student cadaver lab.
 - Sarah Patterson, a senior from North Allegheny and current SMART student, shared about her experience as a SMART student. She talked about why she chose AWBCC, her time as a gymnast, her experience in SMART and being ahead of her peers due to all that she has learned during her time in class. She shared that she will attend Quinnipiac University and continue her study of Physical Therapy.
 - They also shared what former graduates are currently doing along with a special interview with Riley Issac, an alumni who graduated from Slippery Rock University.
 - The presentation ended with Dr. Vitpil and Mr. Cowger thanking the JOC for all their support over the years.
2. The following items were discussed during the Executive Director's report:
 - Mrs. Brown shared that Wednesday, April 29th is CTE Signing Night at PNC Park prior to the Pirates Game. This event has occurred the past couple of years and includes many of the area CTEs. The following students will be signing for AWBCC.
 - Riley Ebaugh (Northgate – Advertising Design) will be signing with Carlow University.
 - Preston Cochran (Hampton Township – Emergency Response Technology) will be signing with the United States Air Force.

- Dustun Corfield (Shaler Area – HVAC) will be signing with J.A. Sauer Heating and Cooling.
 - Lou Stevens (North Hills – Automotive Collision Technology) will be signing with Wright Automotive.
- Mr. Heasley shared that three staff members will be leaving for the upcoming school year and he wished them well in their upcoming endeavors:
 - Robert Scott (School Police Officer)
 - Samantha Singer (Pastry Arts Assistant)
 - Casey Siar (Veterinary Sciences Instructional Assistant)
- The sewer pipe issues have been placed on hold. The company who was going to camera the pipes has decided to work with residential customers. The new company will camera the pipes on our staff in-service day of May 19th.
- Mr. Heasley shared that one of our ERT alumni, Ben Scariot, who works as a 911 dispatcher, was recently recognized for saving a 7-month-old baby who was not breathing and in cardiac arrest. Ben, along with EMT and paramedics were recognized for their coordinating, life-saving response that was critical in saving this young baby's life. As one of the telecommunicators, Ben answered the call, assessed the situation, and ensured that help was on the way. Mr. Tunstall shared that Ben is an excellent 911 dispatcher, and he is now also a certified 911 trainer.
- The Career Center has received their Supplemental Equipment Grant from PDE in the amount of \$219,000. These grants have a significant impact on our programs without having to use money in our budget.
- In the next month, policy updates will occur so you can look for them on future agendas.
- The CBC students will soon begin building a 10 X 20 shed that will be used for storage. A permit will be needed from McCandless. Many of the supplies being used to build the shed are from donations from CBC program alumni who work in the field.
- This year, we were able to purchase rock salt from McCandless Township using our new pick-up truck. The rock salt cost \$1,800.00. This is a savings over past years.
- On the May agenda, you will see ideas to refresh our administration hallways, vape sensors, and weapons sensors.
- On the Board tables you can find the 26 – 27 Operating Budget for May approval. The increase in the budget is impactful but not huge. Mr. Vasko shared that the numbers are reasonable, especially with the cost of inflation. Also on the Board table is a copy of the draft of Administrative Guidelines for the Administrative Support Staff, Technology Support, and Publics Relations/Outreach Coordinator. This will be on the May agenda for approval.

ORGANIZATION & CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

1. To approve 4 FCCLA students and 2 advisors/chaperones participating in the National FCCLA contest in Washington, DC at an estimated cost of \$12,185.00. Operating Budget \$ 4,765.00, FCCLA Account \$7,420.00. (The included transportation cost is an estimate. North Allegheny and Seneca Valley will split any transportation costs if their students attend.)
2. To approve 25 SkillsUSA student members and two (2) advisors attending an activity trip to Cedar Point on May 21, 2026. No cost to the Operating Budget.

Upon recommendation of the Organization & Curriculum Committee, Libby Blackburn motioned, and Dee Spade seconded that items 1 and 2 be approved. It was approved as a consent agenda with a voice vote of 16 - 0.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

1. To accept the resignation of Samantha Singer, Pastry Arts Baker/Assistant effective June 3, 2026.
2. To accept the resignation of Casey Siar, Veterinary Science Instructional Assistant effective the close of business May 15, 2026.

3. To accept the retirement of School Police Officer, Robert Scott, effective the close of business June 18, 2026.
4. To approve the following individuals for part-time, summer custodial /maintenance employment at the following rates, no benefits. Maximum hours of 35 hrs./per week:
 - Cam Galloway \$17.75/hr. (June 4 – August 15, 2025 as needed)
 - Noah Pare \$17.75/hr. (June 4 – August 15, 2025 as needed)
5. To ratify the second PA Learning Centers Retention Bonuses payable in the amount of \$195 to each of the following individuals through payroll guidelines: (There was a second distribution of funding.)
 - Krista Charlton • Lauryn Jones
 - Annabelle Dischner • Barbara Waldron
 - Abigail Armstrong • Karen Wiecezorek
 - Sarah Gluvna • Sara Zaki
6. To approve the required notification of May 1st to Mrs. Golden confirming that she will be retained for the 2026 – 2027 school year (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027) as outlined in her Business Manager Agreement.
7. To approve an FMLA medical leave for Employee #49 effective June 1, 2026 for approximately twelve (12) weeks per physician's statement.
8. To approve the Acknowledgement of Separation and Release for Employee #358, per the solicitor's recommendation. (Copy on JOC table.)

Upon recommendation of the Organization & Curriculum Committee, Libby Blackburn motioned, and Dee Spade seconded that items 1 through 8 be approved. It was approved as a consent agenda with a voice vote of 16 - 0.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	AWBCC Operating Fund	3/31/26	\$ 1,233,516.36
	AWBCC Capital Reserve Fund	3/31/26	\$
	Alfred W. Beattie Memorial Fund	3/31/26	\$
	Conroy D. Guyer Fox Chapel Charitable Trust	3/31/26	\$
2. BUDGET REPORT	AWBCC Operating Budget	3/31/26	\$
3. CASH REPORTS	AWBCC Operating Fund	3/31/26	\$ 1,352,590.72
	PLGIT & PSDLAF	3/31/26	\$ 2,162,583.01
	AWBCC Certificate of Deposit	3/31/26	\$ 557,190.59
	AWBCC Money Market Fund	3/31/26	\$ 428,647.91
	AWBCC Capital Reserve Fund	3/31/26	\$ 209,281.07
	Alfred W. Beattie Memorial Fund	3/31/26	\$ 216,933.71
	Conroy D. Guyer Fox Chapel Charitable Trust	3/31/26	\$ 585.54
	AWBCC Student Activity Accounts	3/31/26	\$ 32,226.74

4. To recommend that the A.W. Beattie Career Center 2026 – 2027 Operating Budget in the amount of \$12,473,936.00 be submitted to the full eighty-one (81) district board members for approval at their May board meetings. (Budget was emailed and printed copy will be on the Board table.)

5. To approve the following as the authorized depositories for the 2026 – 2027 school year:

Depository: First National Bank, McCandless Twp., Pittsburgh, PA

Investment: PLGIT (PA Local Government Investment Trust)
PSDLAF (PA School District Liquid Asset Fund)

6. To approve the following purchases utilizing the 2025 – 2026 PDE Supplemental Equipment Grant: (The Career Center received \$288,227.16)

A. HVAC:

- 1 TU-210G Hydronic Heating Unit with Gas Boiler \$30,947.00
- 1 TU-601 Multi Head Mini Split Heat Pump Training Unit with R32 Refrigerant \$28,604.00

Purchases through Technical Training Labs of Ellicottville, NY.
Sole Source Letters on File.

B. Auto Collision Technology:

- 1 Rotary SP012 2 Post Vehicle Lift with Truck Adapters and disposal of old lift through Don Parkers Sales of Pittsburgh, PA. COSTARS #151669/008-E23-1154 \$14,350.00
- 1 G520 API Manual Gun Cleaning System through Auto Body Products, Inc. Butler, PA \$ 6,690.42

C. Early Childhood Education:

- 1 Treehouse Fun Slide Playset through Discount Play Supply \$ 3,632.95 + shipping

D. Culinary Arts:

- 1 Beverage Air 48" Low Profile Refrigerator Undercounter through Webstraunt Store of Lancaster, PA \$ 4,713.00 + shipping
- 1 – Narvon Summit 3 Well Beverage Machine with set up through Webstraunt Store of Lancaster, PA \$ 3,619.94 + shipping
- 1 - Gasland 60" 10 Burner Stove/No Oven with Castors through Curran Taylor Inc. of Canonsburg (with shipping & install) \$ 9,691.95

E. Robotics Engineering:

- 1 – AC/DC Training System RAH11226-C/8219584 LX Education \$ 15,132.26
 - 1 – MecLab Package RAH11226-D \$ 13,142.31
 - 1 – Universal Robots UR7e System \$ 54,392.00
- Purchases through Educational Solutions Enterprises of Effort, PA.
Sole Source Letters on File.

— 1 LJ Create Learning Bundle \$ 5,702.00

F. Automotive Technology:

- Snap-ON Zeus Plus 3 yr Data Scan System with 100 User System EDU S/K Pro \$ 17,231.25 + \$265.00 shipping
- 2 Triton Gen 3 Scan Tools (\$5,830.50) with Data Plan with shipping. \$ 11,683.68 + \$22.68 shipping
Purchases through Snap-ON Industrial of Crystal Lake, IL on Sole Source Letter.

Upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, Libby Blackburn motioned, and Dee Spade seconded that items 1 through 6 be approved. It was approved as a consent agenda with a voice vote of 16 - 0.

The following Finance Information Items were reviewed:

1. Remaining 2026 – 2027 Budget Schedule:

April, 2026 Joint Operating Committee members recommendation to accept the budget and present to the full Board (81 district members) for approval.

May, 2026 Full Board approval – As per the Articles of Agreement: “The budget shall be adopted, by joint meeting or mail ballot by two-thirds of the Member School Districts and by the affirmative vote of a majority of all the members of the full Board during the month of May. Said budget shall be subject to final approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.”

- 2. The 2026 – 2027 A.W. Beattie Career Center Operating Budget includes debt service in the amount of \$1,387,450.00.
- 3. Kiddie Tech Early Learning Center
 - A. Report on March 2026 Revenue, Expenditures and Enrollment.
 - B. Report on Revenue and Expenditures, year-to-date.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

- 1. To approve the acceptance of two (2) Lincoln Model 1740 Welding Helmets and 25 lbs. of Mig .025 wire in exchange for a 44-year-old obsolete Lincoln Mig welder through Barnacle KGJ, Inc. of Aliquippa, PA.
- 2. To approve the purchase of CBC Shed Projects in the amount of \$1,000.00 each by staff members:
 - A. Mr. Scott Scariot
 - B. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Lingsch

Upon recommendation of the Building and Grounds Committee, Libby Blackburn motioned, and Dee Spade seconded that items 1 and 2 be approved. It was approved as a consent agenda with a voice vote of 16 - 0.

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

No Action Items

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

No Action Items

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

No Action Items

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. May 2026 - Election of JOC Treasurer, Term effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
2. 2026 – 2027 PSBA Voting Delegate – Must attend PSBA Conference October 18 – 20, 2026. This will be an action item on the May Agenda.
 - Mr. Heasley shared that 26 – 27 Voting will now take place on Saturday, November 7 at 9 am at Cumberland Valley High School. The voting delegate will not have to attend the conference, but they must attend this meeting in person to vote.
3. Executive Director's 2025 – 2026 Evaluation Rubric.
 - Mr. Frank asked all JOC members to please fill out the evaluation promptly and it is due by May 1. Please refer to Mr. Frank if you have any questions. He will compile all the information without using any names and meet with Mr. Heasley to discuss.

Mr. Frank also took time to discuss a resolution that was written by the Fox Chapel School Board. The resolution will be widely distributed and is urging for periodic reassessment of property taxes. This is due to the unfair burden on taxpayers and schools and would make it equitable and fair for all. With communities changing and especially with RIDC park businesses moving and Giant Eagle headquarters moving to Cranberry something must change. Solicitor Turnbull shared more about this and stated that gentle encouragement can help. Melissa Bilski asked if this has ever been done before and the answer is not that they are aware. She then asked we they want to be on board with this, how can they show their support. Amy Cooper, Fox Chapel JOC member, shared that an editable version can be sent to everyone. Dr. Mannarino shared that Dr. Reljac has sent an editable version to each district superintendent. Amy Cooper also shared that there are many concerns about property taxes and that districts are not serving their students well if they are taking on too much with the taxes.

NEXT MEETING

May 21, 2026 - A. W. Beattie Career Center – Arlene J. Bender Conference Center

5:00 p.m. Dinner

6:15 p.m. Joint Operating Committee Meeting

The regular JOC meeting adjourned at 6:46 P.M. Ron Frank motioned, and Libby Blackburn seconded.


Libby Blackburn, Board Secretary


AnnMarie Wasielewski, Board Recording Secretary