

SUPERINTENDENT'S LETTER

Informing
Volume 46, Number 2

Wyoming Valley West School District

Interpreting
August 12, 2026

REGULAR AUGUST BOARD MEETING – August 12, 2026

Approved revised **Policy 716**, Integrated Pest Management. (Second Reading)

Approved **Real Estate Property Tax Exemption** through the Pennsylvania State Veterans' Commission to the following:

- ❖ Joyce M Barber
- ❖ Justin Cancel
- ❖ John A Dinoski
- ❖ Asa B Emel
- ❖ Horst D Prapoelenis
- ❖ David Williams

Requested Boroughs and/or their Educational Service Agencies or equivalent agencies to place school **crossing guards** at locations for the 2026/2027 school year; school district to pay 60% of the borough's hourly rate paid to each crossing guard, for up to 3 hours per day while school is in session.

Approved the positions of **Head School Physician** (Dr. Almeky), **School Physician** (Dr. Mangino), and **School Dentist** (Dr. Hughes) and establish salaries, hours, and rates for the 2026/2027 fiscal year.

Approved Agreement between Wyoming Valley West School District and **Luzerne County Juvenile Probation Department** for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Approved proposal from **Barry Isett & Associates, Inc.** for environmental services.

Approved **School Health Services Regulations and Procedure Handbook**.

Approved Affiliation Agreement between **Robert Morris University** and Wyoming Valley West School District.

Approved Resolution authorizing submission of a **Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant Application**.

Approved Resolution requesting a **Public School Facility Improvement Grant** for the renovation of the Third Avenue Educational Center.

Awarded **bids** which were received and opened on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. for the following:

❖ **Paper and General Supplies**

Accepted an \$8,000 donation from **Vertical Bridge**.

Approved the High School, Middle School, and Elementary **Student Handbooks** for the 2026/2027 school year.

Approved and reviewed the **2026/20267 High School A-TSI Plan** (Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Plan).

Approved and reviewed the **2026/2027 Dana Street Elementary Center Title I TSI Plan** (Targeted Support and Improvement Plan).

Approved and reviewed the **2026/2027 Middle School A-TSI Plan** (Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Plan).

Approved **Land Lease Agreement** between Wyoming Valley West School District and Northeast Pennsylvania SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, pending solicitor approval.

Approved **Settlement Agreement** #33334-25-26-KE.

Approved **Settlement Agreement** #29589-23-24 AF.

Approved **Wyoming Valley West School District Facilities Usage Form**, effective August 13, 2026.

Approved **Wyoming Valley West High School STEM Endorsement Program**.

Approved **Agreement for Consulting Services** between Wyoming Valley West School District and Deborah Troy. (as needed basis)

Accepted donation of new clothing for Wyoming Valley West Elementary Students from the **Forty Fort United Methodist Church**.

Approved **excused absences** June 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026.

Accepted the following **resignations**:

- ❖ **Angelica Rosario**, Cleaner, State Street, effective June 2, 2026.
- ❖ **Shawn Temarantz**, Emotional Support Classroom Aide, State Street, effective June 30, 2026.
- ❖ **Arianna Remish**, Emotional Support Classroom Aide, High School, effective July 22, 2026.
- ❖ **Autumn Gaylord**, PCA, Chester Street, effective August 22, 2026.

Rescinded the following appointment, **Ashley Hernandez**, Nurse Assistant, effective TBD, \$160/day.

Appointed the following **new hires**; \$16.50/hour:

- ❖ **Donna Wynn**, Autistic Support Classroom Aide, State Street, effective September 2, 2026.
- ❖ **Hilari Shehwen**, Autistic Support Classroom Aide, State Street, effective September 2, 2026.
- ❖ **Jordan Hodle**, Emotional Support Classroom Aide, Middle School, effective September 2, 2026.
- ❖ **Ashley Parr**, General Duty Aide, State Street, effective August 24, 2026.
- ❖ **Kelsey Cunningham**, Computer Aide, Dana Street, effective September 2, 2026.

Accepted resignation, with regret, **Anthony Dicton**, Director of Transportation/Director of Safety & Security, effective TBD.

Approved Sabbatical Leave, **Emp. #598283**, effective the 2026/2027 school year.

Approved Child Rearing Leave, **Emp. #412628**, effective the 2026/2027 school year.

Approved Medical Leave, **Emp. #325323**, effective the 2026/2027 school year.

Approved to adjust the salary column placement, **Emp. #483884**, from B+18, Step 1 to B+18, Step 2, consistent with Article 26 of the CBA.

Appointed the following **Mentors** for 2026/2027: (High School)

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Angela Fanielli	Suzanne Aboutanos-Fellerman
Kaitlyn Finnerty	Lauren Jaimes
Margaret Jockel	Christina Cawthorn

Appointed the following recommended **2026 Fall Coaches**:

<u>SPORT/POSITION</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
<u>GIRLS TENNIS</u>	
VARSITY 9-12 Laura Thompson	\$3071
<u>GIRLS VOLLEYBALL</u>	
VARSITY 9-12 Ashley Temarantz	\$4765
ASSISTANT 9-12 Damion Pick	\$3071
MIDDLE SCHOOL COED Kristen Kaminski	\$3071
<u>FIELD HOCKEY</u>	
VARSITY 10-12 Lois Krause	\$4451
ASSISTANT 10-12 Callie Edwards	\$3099
ASSISTANT 7-9 Olivia Gayoski	\$3099
ASSISTANT 7-9 Irelynd Sullivan	\$3099

CROSS COUNTRY (BOYS & GIRLS)

VARSITY 10-12 Elizabeth Kane	\$3099
ASSISTANT 7-9 Mallory Urbanski	\$2149
ASSISTANT 7-9 Jacob Weston	\$2149

SOCCER

BOYS VARSITY 9-12 Gerry Kasuda	\$3857
BOYS ASSISTANT VARSITY 9-12 Augustine Gomez	\$2157
ASSISTANT (BOYS) 7-9 Antonio Sosa	\$2157
GIRLS VARSITY 9-12 Stephanie Gover	\$3857
GIRLS ASSISTANT VARSITY 9-12 Kennedy Josefowicz	\$2157
ASSISTANT (GIRLS) 7-9 Olivia Riviello	\$2157

GOLF

VARSITY 9-12 Nick Kuscavage	\$3070
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FOOTBALL

VARSITY 10-12 Brydon Rukstalis	\$9524
ASSISTANT 10-12 Paul Patara	\$4903
ASSISTANT 10-12 Jack Baranski	\$4903
ASSISTANT 10-12 John Karazia	\$4903
ASSISTANT 10-12 Bill Halenda	\$4903
ASSISTANT 9 (HEAD) Matt Yekel	\$4295
ASSISTANT 9 PJ Cwalina	\$3813
ASSISTANT 7-8 Dillon Ryman	\$3813
ASSISTANT 7-8 Marques Cooley	\$3813

WEIGHT LIFTING

9-12 Brydon Rukstalis	\$8150
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CHEERLEADER

VARSITY 10-12 Julia Jonelunas	\$3579
JR. VARSITY 9-12 Avery Zdancewicz	\$2617
JR. HIGH 7-9 Abby Schaal	\$2045

ESPORTS

FALL COACH Robert Perrin	\$3135
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Appointed the following **Mentors** for 2026/2027: (Middle School)

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Margaret Barilla	Erica Drako
Thomas Federici	Lennae Thompson-Pellam
Ashley Gregorowicz	Kristen Stuffick
William McClure IV	Lynn Shymanski
Jenna Vallo	Donna Maxwell

(TABLED)

Appointed **Matthew Stitzer**, Director of Safety and Security, effective TBD, \$75,000.

Pending receipt of all state mandated clearances, human resource paperwork, and proper certification.

Appointed **Kirsten Rosentel**, long-term substitute, effective August 31, 2026. Pending receipt of all state mandated clearances, human resource paperwork, and proper certification.

Appointed **Maeve McAvoy**, long-term substitute, effective August 31, 2026. Pending receipt of all state mandated clearances, human resource paperwork, and proper certification.

Appointed **Kiara Serrano**, Autistic Support Teacher, Middle School, effective August 31, 2026, \$53,556. Pending receipt of all state mandated clearances, human resource paperwork, and proper certification.

Appointed **Arielle Thompson**, Autistic Support Teacher, Dana Street, effective August 31, 2026, \$60,530. Pending receipt of all state mandated clearances, human resource paperwork, and proper certification.

(TABLED) ~~Appoint William McClure IV, Math Teacher, 6th Grade Middle School, effective August 31, 2026, \$73,908. Pending receipt of all state mandated clearances, human resource paperwork, and proper certification.~~

Accepted and approved the following as presented: **Bills for Payment, Finance Manager's Reports, and Treasurer's Report.**

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

September Work Session - Wednesday, September 2, 2026 - 7:00 PM

Regular September Meeting - Wednesday, September 9, 2026 - 7:00 PM