

**WESTERN BEAVER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 9, 2024, BOARD MEETING**

Motioned by Mr. Bertucci, seconded by Mr. Sosack to adjourn the September 11, 2024, school board meeting. Motion carried. Roll call unanimous.

**PRESENTATION:**

The Caucus/Regular School Board Meeting was held on October 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fairview Board Room. School Board Members present at roll call were Jonathan Bernard, Madeline Hanes, Brad Cochran, John Sosack, Michael Bertucci, Patrick McGeehan, Cody Boyde and John Metzler. Absent was Martin Gimbus. Also, present was Dr. Robert Postupac, Superintendent, and Al Steff, Solicitor.

**COMMENTS ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

Motioned by Mr. Cochran, seconded by Mr. Bertucci to adopt the October 9, 2024, consent agenda and related materials. Motion carried. Roll call unanimous.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motioned by Mr. Boyde, seconded by Mr. Sosack to approve all items under the consent agenda. Motion carried. Roll call unanimous.

**PERSONNEL:**

Approve the resignation of Ruth Long, cafeteria worker, effective September 27, 2024.

Approve FMLA for Western Beaver employee #376.

Approve FMLA for Western Beaver employee #433.

Approve the following teachers as COA teachers for the 2024-2025 school year:

Marc Rose - Social Studies  
Rebecca Galat - Science  
Dawn Schwarz - Math  
Andrea Capehart - Spanish  
Ron Thellman - French  
Rebecca Crogdale – English  
Erin Fredericks - Elementary

**STUDENTS/STAFF ACTIVITIES:**

Kathryn Morrow – Enrichment Students – International Diplomacy Simulation – BVIU – October 11, 2024.

Julie Schwertz – Transition Planning Students – Disability Mentoring Day – Sisterson, Pittsburgh, PA – October 16, 2024. Backup 3.2

Kathryn Morrow – Enrichment Students – USAF Reserve 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing – October 23, 2024.

Julie Schwertz – Transition Planning Students – Beaver Valley Mall Career Fair – October 24, 2024.

Kathryn Morrow – Enrichment Students – Mock Trial Bootcamp – Riverside High School – October 25, 2024.

Julie Schwertz – Transition Planning Students – Biztown, Bridgeville, PA – November 7, 2024.

Tina Sariochek/Christie LaPearle – Pre-Kindergarten – Cinemark Movie Theater, Monaca – November 22, 2024.

Kathryn Morrow – Enrichment Students – Drama Day – Beaver Falls High School – December 13, 2024.

Mark Mitchell – Bocce Students – Youth Summit – The Loft Conference Center – October 31, 2024.

**FINANCE:**

Approve payment of routine bills for the month of October as received and bills to be listed for review and ratification.

Approve the Cafeteria Report for the month of September.

Approve the Student Activity Report for the month of September.

**ATHLETICS/EXTRA-CURRICULAR:**

Approve the following coaches for winter sports:

**Varsity Boys Basketball**

Head Coach - Dave Kotuby

Asst. Coach Matt Gray

Volunteer Asst. - Lee Schwarz

**Varsity Girls Basketball**

Head Coach - Owen Clendaniel

Asst. Coach - Lauren York

**Middle School Boys Basketball**

Head Coach – DJ Squicquero

Approve the following musical supplementals:

Nicole Acon – Director/Producer  
Victoria Schilinski – Assistant Director/Pit Conductor  
Haylee Altman – Choreographer  
Cliff Baker – Set Construction

**USE OF FACILITIES:**

Haley Lantz/PTO – Fairview Boardroom – PTO Meeting – October 8, 2024.

WB Musical Boosters – High School Cafeteria – Musical Watch Party – October 11, 2024.

Dawn Schwarz/BAAD – High School Hallways – Haunted Hallways – October 19, 2024.

Brian Grubbs – High School Planetarium – STEM Program from The Center in Midland – October 30, 2024.

Haley Lantz/PTO – Fairview Cafeteria – Monster Mash Toy Bash – November 8, 2024.

Haley Lantz/PTO – Fairview Boardroom – PTO Meeting – November 12, 2024.

Haley Lantz/PTO – Fairview Boardroom – PTO Meeting – December 10, 2024.

Edie Chaffee- Fairview Cafeteria – Good News Club – every Thursday, October 24 – December 5, 2024.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:**

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:**

Approve to amend the following policies:

Policy 113.1 – Discipline of Students with Disabilities  
Policy 113.2 – Behavior Support  
Policy 202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students  
Policy 236.1 – Threat Assessment  
Policy 254 – Educational Opportunity for Military Children  
Policy 607 – Tuition Income  
Policy 709 – Building Security  
Policy 805.2 – School Security Personnel  
Policy 011 – Principles for Governance and Leadership

Approve Kathryn Morrow to attend the monthly Beaver County Consortium meetings for the 2024-2025 school year.

## **INFORMATION**

The School Board reviewed the following policies:

- Policy 000 – Board Policy Procedure
- Policy 001 – Name and Classification
- Policy 002 – Authority and Powers
- Policy 003 – Functions
- Policy 005 – Organization
- Policy 007 – Policy Manual Access

---

## **COMMENTS ON ACTION AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

Motioned by Mr. Bertucci, seconded by Mr. Cochran to adopt the October 9, 2024, action agenda and related materials. Motion carried. Roll call unanimous.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

WBEA Student of the Month Recognition –Ashlee Wolfe

## **SOLICITOR REPORT**

Solicitor Letter of Engagement

Mr. Bertucci Inquired about the monthly retainer for services. Mr. Steff responded the retainer is \$729.16 per month , with an additional charge of \$150 per month for extra services.

Mr. Bertucci asked if it would be beneficial to have a contract or approve another letter of agreement that has end dates included. Mr. Steff noted that attorneys typically do not operate under contracts.

Mrs. Hanes Suggested that the district should consider reviewing and approving a letter of agreement on an annual basis. Mr. Steff responded that school code only requires to approve a letter of agreement once , unless there are changes to the fee or retainer amounts.

## **PERSONNEL:**

Motioned by Mr. Bertucci, seconded by Mr. Boyde to approve the following personnel items. Motion carried. Roll call unanimous.

Approve to hire Halie Launder as a cafeteria substitute pending receipt, review and acceptance of all clearances.

Approve to hire Charley Dawson as a six-hour cafeteria worker.

Approve to hire Amanda Dobritz as a three-hour cafeteria worker.

Approve to hire Reeona Forrester as a three-hour cafeteria worker.

After several postings and advertisements of these vacancies and after interviews of all appropriately credentialed candidates, the following information is presented for Board approval:

In full compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Staffing Guidelines (CSPG 13-Emergency Permits), and the requirements of 22 Pa. Code §49.16 (Induction Plan), the Administration has obtained approval from PDE for emergency certification permits (Vacant Position with Educational Obligation to Pursue Certification-Type 01) for the following recommended applicants who have attained their degrees and are presently completing their student teaching and/or required internships. Under PDE regulations these applicants may be initially employed as substitutes pending completion of their programs and upon completion will qualify for emergency certification until attaining permanent certification as temporary professional employees.

The following are presented for Board approval:

Approve the hiring of Mia DeCaria as a long-term School Counseling substitute at Fairview Elementary at a rate of \$150.00 a day with a move to full-time Elementary School Guidance Counselor upon receipt of her certification.

Approve the hiring of Katie Wisniewski as a long-term Special Education substitute teacher at a rate of \$150.00 a day with a move to full-time Special Education Teacher upon receipt of her certification.

**STUDENTS/STAFF ACTIVITIES:**

**FINANCE:**

Motioned by Mrs. Boyde, seconded by Mr. Sosack to approve the following finance items. Motion carried. Roll call unanimous.

Approve the Contract of Service with PAeducator.net for an annual fee of \$675 per school year, prorated at \$510 for the 2024-2025 school year.

**ATHLETICS/EXTRA-CURRICULAR:**

**USE OF FACILITIES:**

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:**

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:**

**INFORMATION:**

Board Meeting – October 17, 2024, at 7:00 PM -Stadium Presentation. This will be an exploratory meeting. There will be no voting.

Staff Grant Acknowledgement – Thank you to the staff for going above and beyond. The district has now received several grants with more pending approval.

Reminders:

- October 12<sup>th</sup> – Senior Day, Football
- October 23<sup>rd</sup> – New Brighton Halloween Parade, Band Participation

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:** (3 minutes per person)

Hubert Kovalesky asked who would be responsible for making decisions regarding the solicitor's letter of agreement. Mr. Bertucci responded that the board would meet publicly to make those decisions.

Nick Girting – Expressed gratitude to Mr. Steff for his contributions to the district and acknowledged the school board's desire to review his agreement.

Cody Boyde – Asked about the District's plans to purchase benches for the new playground. Dr. Postupac mentioned that the Class of 1974 would like to donate benches.

Cody Boyde – Asked how the District could encourage more student involvement in the Mighty Might program. Mr. Brandon and Mrs. Altenhof suggested sending out flyers or possibly have a sign-up night at school.

**RECESS MEETING:**

Motioned by Mr. Bertucci, seconded by Mr. Cochran to approve to recess the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Motion carried. Roll call unanimous.

---

Brad Cochran, Secretary

---

Jonathan Bernard, President