

**West Greene School District
1367 Hargus Creek Road
Waynesburg, PA 15370**

The West Greene School District Board of Education held their **regular meeting** on **Thursday, March 25, 2021**, at the West Greene Junior-Senior High School, 1352 Hargus Creek Road, Waynesburg, PA at 7:25 PM.

AS A MATTER OF RECORD

- Charlie Rupert with Cypher & Cypher presented the 2019-2020 Audit to the Board of School Directors.
- Haley Bissett, Life Skills Teacher, gave a presentation on the Life Skills Classroom.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chad Scott, President and led the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL

- P	Jan Berdine – A	Joe Coss
	Ryan Crouse – A	
	Daniele Frye – P (Via Video)	
Hildreth – P	Marie Gillispie – A	Michael
Jane Kent – P (Via Video)	Rob Inmon – P	Mary
	Chad Scott – P	

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Inmon, to approve the agenda.
VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

- March 25, 2021 Personnel and Negotiations

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Inmon, to approve the **February 25, 2021**, regular meeting minutes.
VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

- **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Inmon, to approve the **March 11, 2021**, Personnel, Educational Planning, Building & Sites, Policy and Transportation Committee meeting minutes.
VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

PRESENT BOARD ACTION TAKEN AT THE MARCH 11, 2021 COMMITTEE MEETING AS A MATTER OF RECORD:

- **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Frye, to approve Hannah Reed as a substitute teacher (emergency certified) for the 2020-2021 school year, pending satisfactory results from a pre-employment drug test, all other appropriate paperwork is on file.

VOTE: 7 YEA; 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 2 ABSENT (Berdine, Kent)
CARRIED.

MOTION

- **MOTION BY** Crouse, **SECOND BY** Gillispie, to approve the first reading of Policy No. 251 Homeless Students.

VOTE: 5 YEA; 2 NAY (Coss, Scott); 0 ABSTAIN; 2 ABSENT (Berdine, Kent)

MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS

Brian Jackson, Superintendent

Mr. Jackson reported that the CTC is still under negotiation with their teaching staff and it seems to be moving along well. Iron Works/Contura potentially donated property to the CTC for all of the County schools to consider and it is no longer in play. Tomorrow there will be a meeting with Andrew Vanatta and he will present a few different options to look at. The idea is to find a location to do CDL and heavy equipment training. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Gaydos met with the Intermediate Unit 1 regarding the summer program for students who may have fallen behind due to COVID-19 closures and as a result of virtual learning. Transportation may be an issue for the students but this can be revisited.

Jessica Bissett, Business Manager

The February accounts have been reconciled. She continues to work on the 2021-2022 budget, the transportation RFP and checked the 2019-2020 transportation subsidy.

Eric Gaydos, Academic Director

The homeless audit was completed without any findings. He thanked Lorie Hildreth, Donna Dire and Laura Walters. Mr. Sakai, Mrs. Cowden and Mr. Gaydos have been meeting with secondary departments to review the schedule and course sequences for next year. The meetings have been very productive and have had some honest discussions about the direction of the departments. The goal of these meetings is to be able to finalize the master schedule and have students scheduled before the district migrates to our new SIS, Focus Schools. He and Mr. Jackson had the opportunity to visit and plan a summer learning program in partnership with Intermediate Unit 1. This program's curriculum has been written to target instructional learning lost due to the pandemic. The program will run 3 days per week for 4 weeks beginning on June 14, and ending on July 9. All of the district's expenses for this program will be covered under ESSER II funding. Data Wise Training is scheduled for March 31, 2021. Without having a more structured approach to data analysis, deficiencies will be faced that have been faced year after year. Utilizing the Data Wise Improvement Process will add consistency and make connections to the improvement work that has already been completed. This process is an eight-step model for instructional improvement involving three phases: prepare, inquire, and act. According to Thomas (2019), having established analysis protocols along with the enforcement of clear procedural and relationship norms will provide an environment that will foster productive data-driven teams. Moving forward, there will be a need to first understand what assessment resources and data points are available to the team. Creating a data inventory will help the district to develop and guide thinking about answers to data-derived questioning (Boudett et al., 2013, p. 26). "The real breakthrough in increasing student achievement is to transform information into knowledge" (Thomas, 2019). The need is to understand what is trying to be done with the numbers, or else it's just useless data. Also, data teams will need to have scheduled time to meet to effectively analyze and synthesize the data. "Data analyses are most effective when they are performed with other teachers who share the same standards and assessments, and who can discuss concretely and specifically, based on student results, what is working and what is not working to increase student learning in their context" (Thomas, 2019). Ideally, instructional improvement will occur that will lead to increased student academic achievement and growth.

Jared Edgreen, School Police Officer

Siemens technicians were in the building this month programming the security system on a schedule and loading new firmware. They also worked on diagnosing a couple faulty communication devices within the system. They will be back on site tomorrow to finish that maintenance. Mr. Edgreen received more in depth training of the system and will have administrative capabilities with regard to daily operation, adding/deleting users, and general maintenance of the system. He worked on researching and writing policy for school police. Earlier this month he received some guidance from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's School Safety and Security Committee highly recommending that each school district create policy regarding operations of their School Police Departments. Policy should include Police Use of Force, Police Operations, Search and Seizure, and general guidelines regarding police and student interactions. He worked with the current security (guard) contractor reviewing proposals for next school year. I also met with Mr. Simms and Mr. Jackson with regard to these proposals and reviewed what the next few years might look like. Those proposals will be presented next month for the Board's review. CCI finished work in his office installing two Dell Monitors for him to utilize viewing the new camera system. This setup allows him to have full view coverage of buildings while working in his office. This month's fire drill was completed on March 10, and a rear bus evacuation drill was completed on March 23, with no issues.

Scott Sakai, Junior-Senior High School Principal

There have been several virtual college visits, college fairs, and military visits available to the students. As scholarships continue to arrive, Mrs. Cowden posts them to the Google Classroom. Senior scholarship mock interviews are taking place this week and next to prepare students for the scholarship interviews for the Opportunity Scholarship and Thelma Hoge Scholarship in April. Scheduling presentations are now completed in the Junior-Senior High School. Technology, Agriculture, Band/Chorus, Physical Education, and Consumer Science teachers presented their programs to the 8th grade. The 9th grade was provided with informative videos and information on the Greene County Career and Technology Programs. The CTC visits have been scheduled for March 31, and April 7, to aid students in scheduling selections. The SAT School Day for West Greene will be held on April 13. Students are now able to sign up in the main office or via email with Mrs. Cowden. Twenty five students have signed up so far and others are still able to register. Mrs. Wright and Mr. Snyder and students have been working diligently in the Ag room and in the greenhouse. Mrs. Wright and students have planted over 400 baskets and are working on bedding flowers and vegetables. The Floral Design course has the opportunity to design and decorate Valley View Farm for a 360 Video tour they are having completed at the beginning of May. Six students are moving on in the FFA Public Speaking contest to compete in the Area contest scheduled for March 31. Mr. Snyder and students are finishing the shed that sits outside of the greenhouse. Mr. Snyder is in the process of setting up an in house Ag Mechanics Career Development event on April 9th. Ag Mechanics students are working on various independent projects and have made their first sale from a project created on the CNC Plasma Table. Senior Ag students are preparing for their NOCTI exams. FFA members will be participating in a State Leadership Conference, virtually on April 7 and 8, at school. The 2021-2022 FFA Officer Applications have been submitted and will be holding interviews in April. The Ag students are working on putting together state Career and Leadership Development Teams that will compete in the Virtual PA FFA Contests throughout the month of May. FFA Members are preparing for summer Supervised Agricultural Experiences. Mr. Snyder and Mrs. Wright and students have planned the annual FFA banquet at the Valley View Farm on May 7. Prom ballots were electronically sent out to high school students yesterday. Prom is scheduled for May 1. Mr. Rychtarsky and the Video Club are looking for a few good students who have a knack or an

interest in working with cameras, computers, audio and video production equipment. Students will have the opportunity to help livestream West Greene school events.

Don Painter, Elementary Principal

English Language Arts PSSAs will be administered to students in grades 3-6 during the mornings of April 20 and April 22. Math PSSAs will be administered on April 29. Science PSSAs for 4th graders only will be administered on May 4 and 5. Information will be sent home to families in the next week or two. Sign ups for Kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year are currently on-going. To date, 29 students signed up to register for Kindergarten. We encourage anyone who has a child that will be 5 years old prior to September 1, to contact the Elementary Office as soon as possible to make a registration appointment for April 26 or 27. Additionally, applications for Pre-K enrollment at West Greene are also being accepted for 3 and 4 year old students. Title I monitoring will be completed virtually on March 26.

Bob Ward, Director of Educational and Informational Technology

All Board members have access to Board Docs in order to review policies. However, they do not have access to view “draft” versions of the policies.

Jim Elsenheimer, Director of Food Service

The cafeteria’s second health inspection was completed yesterday and all went well. In preparation for the Summer Food Program, Mr. Elsenheimer asked if anyone knew of summer camps taking place. Permissions are extended through September 2021 for the drop off sites.

John McDermitt, Director of Facilities

The ball fields are being prepared for games. The football field and practice fields are being fertilized and the practice field may be re-seeded so it is ready for fall.

Bill Simms, Athletic Director

A product purchased last year called in-field conditioner was applied to the ball fields and it changed the texture of the field. He stated that the fields are really nice and he thanked the custodial crew for the tremendous job that they have done. The Varsity Girls’ Basketball season came to an end with a fourth straight defeat in the Class A WPIAL Championship game. A sell-out crowd at the new Peters Township High School arena provided an atmosphere that was amazing for the girls. Of the girls four losses, two were to teams that made the 5A and 3A State Championship game, and another was to Rochester who lost in the state semi-finals. Mr. Watson, the staff and the team should be extremely proud of their accomplishments. This graduating class finished with an 86-13 record, a 55-game section win streak, and a 40-game at home winning streak. This class went all four years without losing a home game. Waynesburg University has been out on several occasions to use West Greene’s track, jumping pit, and throwing area. There seems to be no glitches for this process, going forward. The PIAA made some recommendations for outdoor mask policies, and spectator guidelines. These changes were incorporated into West Greene’s plan, and conveyed to the appropriate coaching staffs. Maintenance has been instructed where to place lines and markings to assist us in the guidelines. Little League purchased some signs and they are on display near our markings. 7 & 8 Grade Girls’ Basketball is underway. Mr. Vallano has 11 girls on the roster. Baseball, Softball, and Track are underway. Baseball has about 21 boys, softball has 20 girls on the roster, and track has 13 boys and girls combined on their roster. Baseball and Softball have both held and traveled to scrimmages, and track opens next Tuesday at Charleroi. Tomorrow’s baseball game has been canceled, but softball opens with Laurel Highlands. Softball also has a home game on Saturday at the park. The township supervisors have the concession trailer and restroom trailer in place, and ready for public use.

WGEA Representative, Sheri Garlick

Prom planning is going very well to make sure the event is as safe and enjoyable as possible for the students. Hargus Creek Designs (Business and Entrepreneurship Technology 1 & 2) have taken full control of the store, website and social media. They will also have students featured and interviewed on SLB radio, in collaboration with real world scholars and remake learning, on April 10. Once that happens, they will be sharing a link to the recording. On March 24, several of the integrated science students (9th grade) participated in a Book Exhibit. During the exhibit, students displayed and explained books they had constructed about the cell cycle. These students were given the opportunity to share their books with other teachers in the building, including Mr. Jones, Mr. Armstrong and Mrs. Hildreth. The books were designed based on content students explored including digital cell animations, personally observing onion cells through a microscope, and reviewing content reading. It was an exciting day seeing the students talk content with other professionals in the building. The chemistry students are finishing up their current chapter and starting their Chapter Engineering Challenge of designing, building and playing board/card games focused on the chemistry content that has been covered during this chapter. These games should be ready to play by April 8. The Forensic students have covered the different types of trace evidence and to test their understanding of how to analyze this type of evidence, they will be exploring a crime scene constructed within our school. They will be collecting

hair, pollen, soil, fibre/textile, shoe impressions and ballistic evidence from the crime scene. After collection, they will analyze the evidence in the lab using the techniques they have studied, and conclude what each piece of evidence is telling them about the scene. This process is time consuming.

HEARING OF CITIZENS - No response.

PERSONNEL

1. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to approve the following individual as a substitute support worker in the respective area for the 2020-2021 school year, pending receipt of a physical examination, Act 168 Release form and satisfactory results from a pre-employment drug test, clearances are on file:

Ashley Hopkins, 206 Fairview Road, Wind Ridge, PA 15380 (Instructional Aide)

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

2. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Inmon, to approve the Administrator Professional Development Request of Jared Edgreen to attend the Safety Care Instructor Recertification Conference on July 23, 2021, at State College, PA at a cost of \$669.88.

VOTE: ALL AYES
CARRIED.

MOTION

3. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Scott, to ratify the approval of the Teacher Professional Development Request of Jeanine Wilcox to attend the virtual Bureau of Education and Research/Next Generation Science Standards Conference on March 8 and 9, 2021, at a cost of \$739.00.

VOTE: 5 YEA; 1 NAY (Coss); 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED.

4. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Coss, to approve the Partial Hospitalization Program Services Agreement between West Greene School District and the Intermediate Unit 1 for the 2020-2021 school year to ensure that students assigned to the Partial Hospitalization Program receive a free and appropriate public education.

VOTE: ALL AYES
CARRIED.

MOTION

5. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Coss, to approve Andrews and Price LLC, as the school solicitor for the 2021-2022 school year at a monthly retainer fee of \$1,000.00 with hourly rates as follows:

\$125 per hour for attorney fees
\$ 75 per hour for paralegal fees

VOTE: ALL AYES
CARRIED.

MOTION

6. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Kent, to approve Cornerstone Care Inc. as school dentist for the 2021-2022 school year at a cost of \$7.50 per dental examination.

VOTE: ALL AYES
CARRIED.

MOTION

7. **MOTION BY** Kent, **SECOND BY** Coss, to approve Cornerstone Care Inc. as school physician for the 2021-2022 school year at a cost of \$7,500.00.

VOTE: ALL AYES
CARRIED.

MOTION

8. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Coss, to accept the retirement of Laura Walters, Special Education Supervisor, effective August 27, 2021, with regret.

Discussion: Mr. Hildreth thanked Ms. Walters for her 36 years of service to the West Greene School District. Replacing her will be a nearly impossible feat and is with great regret.

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

1. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Scott, to approve the West Greene 2021-2022 School Calendar.

VOTE: ALL AYES
CARRIED.

MOTION

2. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Kent, to approve the following field trip requests:

Karlie Wright	April or May	Local Area Farms	\$260.00 } Budgeted
		Livestock Judging	

April or May	Aleppo Farm Land Evaluation	\$260.00 } Budgeted
04-12-21	Valley View Farm Waynesburg, PA	\$130.00 } Budgeted
05-03-21	Valley View Farm Waynesburg, PA	\$130.00 } Budgeted
05-05-21	Valley View Farm Waynesburg, PA	\$130.00 } Budgeted

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

3. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to approve the following field trip request:

Principal's Account	Eric Armstrong Pittsburgh Zoo and	04-21-21 \$850.00 }
} Science Club	Kurt Jones Aquarium	\$841.34
	Jeanine Wilcox \$300.00 }	Paid by Students

VOTE: 5 YEA; 1 NAY (Scott); 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED.

BUILDING & SITES

1. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, that the Spring Prom be held at Lakeview in Morgantown, WV on May 1, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

VOTE: 5 YEA; 1 NAY (Kent); 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED.

ATHLETICS

1. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Kent, to approve EMS Southwest Inc. for ambulance coverage for the 2021-2022 school year at a cost of \$135.00 per hour for Basic Life Support and \$145 per hour for Advanced Life Support Ambulance.

VOTE: 5 YEA; 0 NAY; 1 ABSTAIN (Frye); 3 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED.

2. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Coss, to approve Dillon Shields as an unpaid volunteer Assistant Varsity Boys' Baseball Coach for the 2020-2021 sports season, pending clearances.

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

POLICY

1. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Kent, to approve the second reading of the following policy:

Policy No. 251- Homeless Students

VOTE: 5 YEA; 1 NAY (Coss); 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED.

2. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Coss, to approve the first reading of the following policies:

Policy No. 701 - Facilities Planning

Policy No. 702 - Gifts, Grants, Donations

Policy No. 703 - Sanitary Management

Policy No. 704 - Maintenance

Policy No. 705 - Safety

Policy No. 706 - Property Records

Policy No. 708 - Lending of Equipment and Books (*new*)

Policy No. 709 - Building Security

Policy No. 710 - Use of Facilities by Staff

Policy No. 716 - Integrated Pest Management

Policy No. 717 - Cellular Telephones (*new*)

Policy No. 718 - Service Animals in Schools (*new*)

VOTE: 5 YEA; 1 NAY (Scott); 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED.

TECHNOLOGY

1. **MOTION BY** Inmon, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to ratify the approval of the five (5) year RWAN Agreement between the West Greene School District and the Intermediate Unit 1, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026.

VOTE: 5 YEA; 1 NAY (Coss); 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED.

BUDGET

1. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Inmon, that the following invoices be approved as submitted:

General Fund Paid List - \$28,701.18

General Fund Unpaid List - \$192,793.66

Cafeteria Fund Unpaid List - \$9,786.43

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**VOTE: 5 YEA; 1 NAY (Coss); 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED.**

2. **MOTION BY**Coss, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, that the following payrolls be approved as submitted:

February 26, 2021 - \$233,350.95

March 12, 2021 - \$240,603.57

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

3. **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Kent, to approve Cypher & Cypher to provide auditing services for a three (3) year period for the following fiscal years:

● 2021-2022 - \$12,295

● 2022-2023 - \$12,650

● 2023-2024 - \$12,995

**VOTE: ALL AYES
CARRIED.**

MOTION

- 4.

MOTION BY Hildreth, **SECOND BY**

Coss, to approve the Resolution Calling for Charter School Funding Reform.

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

5. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Inmon, that the following invoices, received after March 18, 2021, be approved as submitted:

General Fund unpaid list - \$16,841.55

General Fund paid list - \$3,002.14

**VOTE: 5 YEA; 1 NAY (Coss); 0 ABSTAIN; 3 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED.**

HEARING OF CITIZENS - No response.

ADJOURNMENT

- **MOTION BY** Coss, **SECOND BY** Kent, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM, enter into executive session and not return to the meeting.

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

Board President

Board Secretary