

**West Greene School District
1352 Hargus Creek Road
Waynesburg, PA 15370**

The West Greene School District Board of Education held their **regular meeting** on **Thursday, February 24, 2022**, at the District Office Board Room, 1352 Hargus Creek Road, Suite D102, Waynesburg, PA at 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Ryan Crouse, President called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Jan Berdine – P

Dave Durbin – P

Mary Jane Kent – P (Via Zoom at 6:08 PM)

Chrystal Berryman – P

Marie Gillispie – P

Karen Reed – P

Ryan Crouse – P

Michael Hildreth – P

Chad Scott – P

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to approve the agenda.

VOTE: ALL AYES (8-0 Kent not present online to vote)

MOTION CARRIED.

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

- February 10, 2022 Personnel

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to approve the **January 27, 2022**, regular meeting minutes.

VOTE: ALL AYES (8-0 Kent not present)

MOTION CARRIED.

- **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Durbin, to approve the **February 10, 2022**, Educational Planning, Building & Sites, Budget and Transportation committee meeting minutes.

VOTE: ALL AYES (8-0 Kent not present)

MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS

Eric Gaydos, Academic Director

West Greene students who elected to participate in College 101, a study skills/social-emotional learning course through Pierpont College, have been enrolled. This 12-week course is a 1-credit college course that may be transferable to other colleges and universities. Mr. Shamay and Mrs. Martinak will assist our students throughout the course. All tuition and expenses are covered through the Howard Clark's Opportunity Foundation. Mr. Gaydos had the opportunity to attend the PETE&C (PA Educational Technology Expo and Conference) at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA. He was able to network with several potential vendors and playtest their equipment and software. He discussed a host of sessions and ideas that he will focus on sharing/implementing at WGSD, including Modernizing Comprehensive Learning for All (Revolutionizing Teaching); Personalized Learning through the CKMFE Framework; the Fred Rogers Method; and the University of Virginia's School Transformation and Turnaround Framework. "If there is one consistent finding in the literature on school turnarounds, it is that significant improvement in low-performing schools requires data-driven decision making." West Greene will be piloting a gamification software for math and science fluency called, Legends of Learning. This software mimics the latest style of gaming that students are playing across all gaming platforms. The elementary faculty went through training last week and will be implementing it on a trial basis for the remainder of the school year. The professional development calendar has been filling up for August 2022. Mr. Ward, Mr. Sakai, and Mr. Gaydos had the opportunity to visit Trinity High School to review their eSports program during a Remake Learning meeting on February 16. After attending PETE&C, there has been some interest in bringing eSports to West Greene. West Greene hosted several school districts across southwestern Pennsylvania to see the district's Lu system in action in the elementary gymnasium. West Greene was one of the first school districts to incorporate this multi-sensory experience into the physical education curriculum; and the district is very fortunate to be able to showcase student experiences with other districts.

Jessica Bissett, Business Manager

Mrs. Bissett reported that the ARP ESSER (III) application has been completed and submitted with the help of Mr. Gaydos. The district was awarded the 2022 NRA grant for ammunition and rifle shooting coats, totaling \$2,700. Fox Charter Services

is interested in renegotiating a new Extra-Curricular Transportation contract since the new contract expires on June 30, 2022. With the help of Lorie Hildreth, the ACT 80 (Corrected School District Reports) have been completed and mailed to the appropriate schools. ACSHIC is scheduled to complete the Dependency Verification Audit on March 9, 2022. APTA reports (1094-C) have been submitted to the IRS for 2021. She continues to work on the 2022/23 budget. She provided an update to the Board on the proposed 2022-2023 Pennsylvania State Budget that includes a \$45,000 minimum teacher salary. She reminded the board members that their 2021 Statement of Financial Interests" is due.

Scott Sakai, Junior-Senior High School Principal

On January 26, eleven students were inducted into the National Honor Society at the annual induction ceremony. He congratulated Josh Archer, Alexis Berdine, Seth Burns, Ali Goodwin, Brian Jackson, Kasie Meek, Brooke Miller, Ella Scott, Kaden Shields, Parker Smith, and Trevor Triplett. He thanked Mr. Armstrong and the current National Honor Society members for organizing the event and Mr. Elsenheimer for providing refreshments following the ceremony. The Spelling Bee was held on February 9, in the auditorium. There were 50 participants in grades 4 - 8. He congratulated 3rd place winner - Lakota McElroy; 2nd place winner - Darren Knight; and 1st place winner - Katelyn Soles. College 101 started for interested students in grades 9-12. He thanked the Clark Foundation for their generous donation and years of support to West Greene. Mr. Snyder and 14 FFA students attended the National FFA Farm Machinery Show from February 17 - 20. West Greene placed 3rd in the Quiz Bowl. Third quarter progress reports were sent out to students on February 21. Third quarter progress reports were sent out to students on February 21. The second round of CTC 9th grade visits was on February 8, and students toured the programs that they are most interested in. Mrs. Wright and the West Greene Floral Design had an exciting Valentine's Day sale. February 21 - 25, is National FFA Week. Students from the Agriculture departments have provided educational opportunities, activities, and spirit week for students in grades K-12. Also, Community Night for the Agriculture Departments will be February 25. West Greene will be hosting another SAT Day on March 2.

Don Painter, Elementary Center Principal

The Elementary Center will again be participating in the seedlings for Schools Program through the PA Game Commission in cooperation with the Howard Nursery. All students will have the opportunity to take home at least 1 silky dogwood or 1 white pine seedling. The order should arrive in mid to late April. The West Greene Spelling Bee was held on February 9, in the High School auditorium. Ten students in each grade, 4th - 8th competed to be West Greene's best speller and earn a spot at the Western PA Scripps Spelling Bee. This year's Champion was 4th grader, Katelyn Soles. Earning second place was 8th grader, Darren Knight and our third-place finisher was 7th grader, Lakota McElroy. Mr. Polander, along with the help of several elementary and middle school teachers, did a great job of organizing and hosting the event. The elementary "Penny Wars" for the American Cancer Society wrapped up on February 18. This event has been a long-standing competition at the elementary school but has taken a 2-year break due to COVID. It was evident that many of the elementary students have been saving their pennies during the last two years. This year's competition raised over \$6,000 and set a new record for donations from our students. It never ceases to amaze me just how generous our students and community can be. Mr. Painter thanked Mr. Polander and all the West Greene students. The Fayette/Greene Chapter of Federal Programs Coordinators will host a Parent Training on March 16, at Lakeside Party Center. The training focus will be on how parents can assist their children when learning virtually. This event has also been on a break since the pandemic started so we are very excited about providing this opportunity to some of our parents who may want to attend. The training is free of charge to parents. The event will run from 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM and includes breakfast snacks and lunch.

Jared Edgreen, School Police Officer

At the beginning of the month, Mr. Edgreen gave a presentation to Mrs. Wilcox's class regarding an overview of "Ballistics." Her forensics class was starting a new unit and he was honored to be a guest speaker. He was able to share with them his knowledge of internal, external, and terminal ballistics, as well as the nomenclature and caliber of a cartridge. He continued to work on the grants by meeting with contractors, reviewing the scope of projects, and requesting updated proposals. It appears many materials will be delayed due to supply chain issues, and prices have certainly gone up since the grant was written. He had the opportunity to attend training regarding new requirements in "Pennsylvania's Police Use of Force" statute. This has been constantly changing through court precedent and legislative action, so he is staying proactive in the area of study. Siemens technicians were in the building this month replacing cameras to be covered by warranty. He had the opportunity to adjust a few cameras for better coverage and gained better insight on how to manage advanced settings. Mr.

McDermitt and he met with Mike Lynch and Aaron Hindman from Johnson (Fire) Controls regarding issues with our current system. With their help, they identified the issues plaguing the system and will work to remedy them soon.

Jim Elsenheimer, Director of Food Services

Meal counts are on the rise this past month in the Junior-Senior High School. Currently, we are feeding on average around 400 students/day for breakfast and 475-500 for lunch. Breakfast meal items are still a challenge as General Mills is struggling to get all of its production lines going. The purchasing bulk cereals and pre-cupping them for the kids is getting them options. The Smuckers "Uncrustable" peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are still in short supply so the cafeteria is still making old-school peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the kids. The local health department inspector visited the food services department last week and all went well. No issues to report.

John McDermitt, Director of Facilities

The Facilities Department has stayed busy with the Life Skills renovation. All flooring is installed. Protective paper was added to the flooring to protect it while other parts of the job were finished. The ceiling grid and tiles are about 90 percent complete. Casework arrives February 23, in two deliveries, with the second delivery on February 28. As soon as the casework is complete, plumbing can be finished. Mr. McDermitt finished his last six credits of continuing education for his sewage plant license. His next cycle will require 30 credit hours, and has two years to complete the process. The plant has been functioning well. Mike Lynch from Johnson controls spoke with Mr. McDermitt and Mr. Edgreen. There is a problem with the fire panel in the High School Gymnasium. He has been trying to obtain quotes from Johnson Controls since last summer. This new quote will be for a new fire panel, and three new pull stations installed at the proper height near the wrestling room area. Information, once obtained will be passed along to the board for discussion and hopefully approval to have it replaced. The District Office repair work has been moving quickly. The carpet was pulled up this week and should be reinstalled by Friday. Drywall, paint and patchwork should be done by Friday of this week as well. As of Monday or Tuesday next week, all furniture should be showing back up and put back together. Some of the items that will take a little time will be the hot water coil for the York unit above the roof and the 2' X 2' lights in the ceiling.

Bob Ward, Director of Educational and Informational Technology

Mr. Ward attended the PETE&C conference in Hershey. He had the opportunity to tour the vendor hall at length getting a chance to see and experience the new and upcoming technology and equipment. There were many "Concurrent Sessions" throughout the duration of the conference and he selected a Security Centric path, seeing the rise in cyber-attacks and malicious software flooding our networks. Throughout the sessions, he was presented with best practices and new ideas that ranged from good password management to phishing training and education. The information gained during the sessions and round tables was as eye-opening as informational. He thanked the School Board for the opportunity to attend. The District has kicked off another Security training campaign using the Knowbe4 Phishing Simulation and Training software. Employees in the District will watch a 15-minute training video to learn how to identify the tactics cybercriminals use to trick you and gain access; recognize some of the different types of cyber-attacks; and take action to protect yourself and your organization against attacks.

Billy Simms, Athletic Director

Baseball, Softball, and Track & Field are beginning to hold open gyms to prepare for the Spring sports season. Official practices will start on March 7. When The Locker Room went out of business, Luke Kiger made several trips to collect brand new items that were going to be discarded. He thanked Luke Kiger who brought them to the school, and we have been able to sort and parcel out various items to our little league baseball and softball teams. The Little League Officers were able to outfit at least two younger teams with matching pants, passed out several other pairs of pants for practice purposes, and issued helmets to any individual who wanted one. With these efforts, Luke has saved our kids hundreds and hundreds of dollars. The 7 & 8 Girls' Volleyball has a lot of girls on the roster, they are playing doubleheaders, and have been quite successful to date. The 8th-grade team suffered just their first loss on Tuesday against Carmichaels, and had several girls playing at a high level. The 7th-graders are improving every match and have lost just a few sets. Varsity Rifle did not qualify for the TEAM portion of the playoffs but had eight shooters compete in the individual portion of the WPIAL Championships. Alexis Berdine was the top shooter at the event, but did not get anyone qualified for the State tournament. Varsity Boys basketball finished 7-16 but qualified in third place in Section 2-A to qualify for the WPIAL playoffs. Their

season ended February 18, with a playoff loss on the road at Leechburg. They graduate three seniors but will return a nice core of underclassmen next season. Varsity Girls' Basketball finished the regular season 18-3 and won the section title for the sixth straight season. The girls were given the #2 seed in Class A, and they host Bishop Canevin this evening in the High School Gym. Anna Durbin eclipsed the 1,000 point plateau in a win over Mapletown, and the girls have extended their section and home-game win streaks. It was a good weekend for Pioneer wrestling. From the little league to the varsity wrestlers there were several individuals who turned in nice performances. At the Area 1 qualifier, Colt Bissett, Walker Hall, and Joel Rizor all won their 10U weight classes and moved on to their State tournament at the Petersen Events Center. At the Junior High PJW's, three wrestlers qualified for the State tournament in Johnstown. Noah Collins and Levi Yeater finished as runners-up, and Colin Whyte won his weight class' championship. There were no individual Section tournaments held this year, and wrestlers were entered into an "open" WPIAL tournament. At the AA WPIAL Championships held at Canon-McMillan, the varsity wrestlers placed two wrestlers on the podium, which qualified them for the PIAA Southwest Regional to be held at Peters Township on March 4 and 5. Johnny Lampe placed eighth at 189 lbs, and Seth Burns finished as WPIAL Runner Up at 113, after stunning the #1 seed in the semifinals.

HEARING OF CITIZENS - No response.

PERSONNEL

1. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Scott, to approve the Professional Development Request of Don Painter to attend the PA Association Federal Program Coordinators Annual Conference at Seven Springs Mountain Resort and Convention Center on April 3 - 6, 2022, at a cost of \$1,566.60.
VOTE: 8 YEA; 0 NAY; 1 ABSENT (KENT); 0 ABSTAIN **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Mary Jane Kent joined the meeting at 6:08 PM.*

2. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Durbin, to approve the following individuals a substitute teachers (emergency certified) for the 2021-2022 school year, pending satisfactory results from a pre-employment drug test, all other appropriate paperwork is on file:
 - o *Hannah Reed*, 113 Iron Rock Road, Waynesburg, PA 15370
 - o *Anissa Stephenson*, 196 Reeves Road, Sycamore, PA 15364**VOTE: 8 YEA; 0 NAY; 0 ABSENT; 1 ABSTAIN (REED)** **MOTION CARRIED.**
3. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Durbin, to approve the following individual as a substitute teacher (elementary certification) for the 2021-2022 school year, pending physical examination, clearances, receipt of the Act 168 Release form and satisfactory results from a pre-employment drug test, all other appropriate paperwork is on file:
 - o *Melissa Wood*, 785 North Liberty Street, Waynesburg, PA 15370**VOTE: ALL AYES** **MOTION CARRIED.**
4. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Berryman, to approve Bailey Gorby as a substitute cafeteria worker for the 2021-2022 school year, all appropriate paperwork is on file.
VOTE: ALL AYES **MOTION CARRIED.**
5. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to advertise for Athletic Trainer Services for the 2022-2023 school year.
VOTE: ALL AYES **MOTION CARRIED.**

ATHLETICS

1. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Berryman, to approve Kaytlynn Walls as an unpaid, volunteer Assistant 7 & 8 Grade Girls' Basketball Coach, pending clearances.
VOTE: ALL AYES **MOTION CARRIED.**

BUILDING & SITES

1. **MOTION BY** Kent, **SECOND BY** Scott, to approve the Use of Facilities Request of Allison Roberts for the Rogersville Baseball League to use the baseball/softball fields from April 1, 2022 through July 2, 2022, based on availability (Type A organization, no liability insurance, fee waived).
VOTE: ALL AYES **MOTION CARRIED.**

2. **MOTION BY** Berryman, **SECOND BY** Kent, to approve the Use of Facilities Request of Allison Roberts for the Rogersville Baseball League to use a gymnasium from April 1, 2022 through May 27, 2022, based on availability (Type A organization, no liability insurance, fee waived).

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

3. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Scott, **TO TABLE THE MOTION** to approve the "Settlement Agreement and Release" between West Greene School District and Eckles Architecture & Engineering Inc. with respect to "the Settlement Payment" due from Eckles in the amount of \$13,569.23.

***Discussion:** Russ Lucas stated that the agreement does resolve, with finality, any issues with Eckles with regard to the design portion of the facility. The Board discussed tabling the motion. It was further stated that it would be prudent to wait for the report from the insurance company regarding the incident in the board room, Suite D102.*

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

BUDGET

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

General Fund Paid List - \$27,869.12

General Fund Unpaid List - \$269,894.77

Cafeteria Fund Unpaid List - \$21,011.25

Capital Project Unpaid List - \$400.53

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

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

January 28, 2022 - \$276,535.28

February 11, 2022 - \$243,758.99

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

3. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Durbin, to approve the Intermediate Unit 1 2022-2023 General Operational Budget in the amount of \$2,236,974.00 with West Greene School District's estimated contribution being \$15,612.55 (\$363.69 less than 2021-2022).

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

4. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, that the following invoices received after February 17, 2022, be approved as submitted:

General Fund unpaid list - \$33,944.17

Capital Projects Fund unpaid list - \$41,008.62

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

1. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Scott, to approve the following field trip request:

Melissa Berry-Sakai	03-24-22	6th Grade	\$182.01} Budgeted
		Career Exploration	
		Greene County CTC	
		Waynesburg, PA	

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

2. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Berryman, to approve the following field trip requests:

Matthew Rycharsky	03-25-22	Cal U Leadership Conference	\$300.00} Not Budgeted
(Driver's Edu. Students)	04-28-22	Mock Traffic Hearings	
		Intermediate Unit 1	
		Coal Center, PA	

VOTE: 8 YEA; 1 NAY (SCOTT); 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN

MOTION CARRIED.

3. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Berdine, to **TABLE THE MOTION** to approve the following field trip requests:

Matthew Rycharsky	04-28-22	Waynesburg Central High School	\$300.00} Not Budgeted
(Video Production)	04-29-22	County Music Festival Concert	
		Performance Broadcast	

Discussion: This would cause the same teacher to be out for three days in a little over a month's time. He is also scheduled for two field trips at the same time. There is time to get clarification.

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

4. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Kent, to approve the following field trip request:

Zack Patton	03-11-22	Greene County Museum & Cornerstone Geological Society Waynesburg, PA	\$150.00} Not Budgeted
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VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

5. **MOTION BY** Berryman, **SECOND BY** Berdine, to approve the following field trip request:

Eric Armstrong	TBD Late	Lincoln Manufacturing	\$ 75.00} Budgeted
	February 2022	Tour and Interview Washington, PA	

Discussion: The late February date has not been defined.

VOTE: 8 YEA; 1 NAY (SCOTT); 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN

MOTION CARRIED.

6. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Kent, to approve the following field trip request:

Eric Armstrong	03-15-22	BotsIQ Preliminary Robert Morris University Moon Township, PA	\$150.00} Budgeted
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	04-29-22 & 04-30-22	BotsIQ Finals California University of PA California, PA	\$150.00} Budgeted
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VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

7. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Durbin, to approve the following field trip request:

Matt Snyder	03-11-22	Workshops on Maintaining & Managing Grazing Systems	\$325.00} Budgeted FFA
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VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

8. **MOTION BY** Berryman, **SECOND BY** Scott, to approve the following field trip request:

Michael Bruno	04-22-22	PMEA Elementary Sing Fest Penn Trafford High School	\$350.00} Budgeted
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VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

HEARING OF CITIZENS - No response.

ADJOURNMENT

- **MOTION BY** Kent, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to adjourn the Board meeting at 6:25 PM.

VOTE: ALL AYES

MOTION CARRIED.

Board President

Board Secretary