

**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, December 8, 2022**, at the District Office Board Room, 1352 Hargus Creek Road, Suite D102, Waynesburg, PA at 6:14 PM.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dave Durbin, President, called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the flag.

**ROLL CALL**

Jan Berdine – P  
Daniele Frye – P  
Karen Reed – P

Ryan Crouse – P  
Marie Gillispie – P  
Chad Scott – P (arrived 6:21 PM)

Dave Durbin – P  
Michael Hildreth – P  
Vacant Seat

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- **MOTION BY** Berdine, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to approve the board agenda.  
**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC INTERVIEWS FOR VACANT BOARD SEAT**

- Randall C. Kennedy (Region 2)

**APPOINTMENT OF REGION 2 BOARD MEMBER**

- **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Crouse, to nominate Randall C. Kennedy to the vacant Region 2 Board seat.  
**VOTE: ALL AYES** **MOTION CARRIED.**
- **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Berdine, to close nominations.  
**VOTE: ALL AYES** **MOTION CARRIED.**
- **MOTION BY** Berdine, **SECOND BY** Gillispie, to appoint Randall C. Kennedy as a member of the West Greene School District Board of Directors, representing Region 2 (Aleppo, Jackson, Springhill, Freeport and Gilmore Townships). As this is an appointment, this individual could run for the seat at the next municipal election in 2023 to fulfill the remaining two years of the 4-year term which expires in December 2025.  
**VOTE: ALL AYES** **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH**

- Dave Durbin, President, administered the oath of office to the appointed Board member, Randall C. Kennedy. The “Oath of Office as School Director” form was presented to Mr. Kennedy to have notarized and returned to the District Office within 10 days.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS** - No response.

Chad Scott arrived at the meeting at 6:21 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Berdine, to approve the **November 17, 2022**, regular meeting minutes.  
**VOTE: ALL AYES** **MOTION CARRIED.**

**NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered into a brief executive session and returned to the regular meeting.

**REPORTS**

**Brian Jackson, Superintendent**

Mr. Jackson reported the Annual Christmas Buffet at the Greene County CTC December 9, 2022. Board members will receive a ticket for the buffet which starts at 11:00 AM. The CDL class for Greene County students ended last week. Several students are eligible to take the course in the second semester. The CTC does not have the funds to hold the class again this year. In order to hold a second CDL class, The CTC is asking the schools to fund their students selected for the course. The course is a little less than \$8,000 per student. West Greene has 3 students eligible. Mr. Jackson announced the NHS Induction

Ceremony will be held on December 19. The Greene County CTC has invited all Greene County School Board Members to visit the site that they have just acquired on Portal Road (down Route 218), at 6:00 PM. On December 15, 2022.

#### **Jessica Bissett, Business Manager**

The budget process for the 2023-2024 year has begun. The district received the certified assessment values for 2023 last week and the values are slightly higher than 2022.

#### **Eric M. Gaydos, Academic Director**

Mr. Gaydos reported that “Season’s Readings” was a wonderful success. It was a wonderful evening with the help of plenty of people including Mrs. Jessica Bissett, Mr. Don Painter, Miss Grace Pinto, Mrs. Sophie Haines, and Mr. Jim Elsenheimer. There were a lot of smiling faces and overall, parents seemed to be really pleased with the event from feedback that was received. Miss Morgan Vickless, Mrs. Michelle Burrie, Ms. Chastity Whitlatch, Miss Grace Pinto, Mrs. Sophie Haines, and Mr. Gaydos participated in a two-part training on Classwide Intervention Strategies. Classroom teachers participated in an intervention research project that enabled teachers to learn about the practice of Partner Reading with Paragraph Sharing. Overall, success was seen with utilizing the intervention strategy, and the next steps include identifying resources that meet the parameters of the strategy, specifically for lower level readers and then promoting the strategy to expand to other grade levels. He congratulated both Mrs. Karlie Wright and Mrs. Jeanine Wilcox for their performance in the PennWest Administrator’s Showcase as part of their Educational Administration program. Both ladies presented together and earned 1st place with their Focus Project Presentations. Mrs. Wright’s was on success rates of students on the Keystone Biology exam who participated in a Vo-Ag pathway, and Mrs. Wilcox demonstrated the success rates of students on the PSSA Science exam who participated in the 8th grade P20 research project. He congratulated Miss Grace Pinto on receiving a grant from the Greene County Community Foundation to support the district’s efforts in building a structured literacy program that will soon be a requirement of PDE. Miss Pinto will be piloting Foundations, which serves as a prevention program to help reduce reading and spelling failure. It is integral to a Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework, providing research-based instruction in Tier 1 as well as early intervention (Tier 2) for students at risk for reading difficulties. To support the implementation of an MTSS framework, progress monitoring is built into Foundations. This allows students requiring a more intensive program to be identified early before undergoing years of struggle. A special thank you to Mrs. Ullom for helping in the grant writing process. It was definitely a team effort.

#### **Jared Edgreen, Director of Security/School Police**

Contractors from CCI and Horizon Communications were in the building this week making much-needed upgrades to the cameras and public address system. These upgrades, in part, will allow for more cohesive communication in gyms and cafeterias during emergency situations. The contractors were also able to diagnose small issues with our current P.A. System to make communication more seamless. Also, a big thank you to Mr. Bob Ward for his help on the project and staying after hours to verify proper function. The “Red Ball Drill” has continued this month with the 11th grade. Once again students asked thoughtful questions regarding emergency situations and as a group, and as a group, were able to devise simple solutions to complex problems. Instruction for 7th and 8th grade will be completed later this month to wrap up the Junior-Senior High School. He will also be providing support for many after-school events and programs as this time of year is very busy.

#### **Scott Sakai, Junior-Senior High School Principal**

College and Career Readiness Night at West Greene Junior-Senior High School is scheduled for December 14. A reception and information session will begin at 5:00 PM in the High School Cafeteria. Representatives from P20, the Greene County CTC, and the Community Foundation of Greene County will be available to answer questions. At 6:00 pm Jonathan Warner, a student aid expert from PHEAA will be available to provide information and answer questions. Participants will learn how to apply for all types of financial aid, including completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is required to determine eligibility for most student aid programs such as the Pennsylvania State Grant, Federal Pell Grant, institutional awards, and federal student and parent loans. Participants will also be briefed on Pennsylvania-specific aid programs, as well as the importance of minimizing student loan debt and applying for grants and scholarships to help pay for education costs.

#### **Don Painter, Elementary Center Principal**

The elementary Christmas program is next Tuesday beginning at 6:00 PM. Tomorrow concludes the elementary book fair and Santa’s Shop. He thanked Mrs. Bohon, the WGEPO officers and many parent volunteers for their time and effort to make both of these events special for our children. Mrs. Hildreth’s business class thoughtfully used some of their profits to purchase 14 books at the elementary book fair to donate to the elementary for use in the book vending machine. He thanked Mrs. Hildreth and her students.

**Bob Ward, Director of Informational and Educational Technology**

A new chromebooks was received this week for use in the Junior-Senior High School. The devices will be distributed in the 9th and 10th grades, and the relevant systems collected will be cascaded back into circulation. Desktop systems are continuing to be distributed throughout the District with a big push planned to be completed over the break. Preparations are being made for server updates and patches to be applied over the next couple of weeks. The majority of these changes will be completed after hours and during the holiday leave so as not to disrupt daily operations. We have been experiencing some unusual anomalies within the wireless network and it is believed that these updates will fix the issue.

**John McDermitt, Director of Facilities**

Mr. McDermitt reported that he and Mrs. Bissett discussed future projects with a cooperative purchasing group called OMNIA Partners. He looks forward to them helping advantageous pricing in the future. The sewage plant is once again running at 100 percent. The crew just installed two new grinder motors and did some preventative maintenance on the aeration system last week. It seems to be running smoothly again. Work continues in the sensory room. The final piece has been received and he is still awaiting the hardware. Mr. McDermitt discussed the bidders for the roof restoration, using the Firestone System, and the lighting for the football field, both of which are items for consideration on the board agenda.

**Jim Elsenheimer, Food Services Director**

Meal service switched to the Community Eligibility Program late in September. Looking at the average daily meal counts, overall about 30 more breakfast meals per day and about 20 more lunches are being served. He thanked Teresa (Frenchie) Carroll and Brandy Jameson for their help preparing and serving food for the “Season’s Readings” event. Several adults commented on how much they enjoyed the Mac & Cheese which brought them back to the days when they were the students here. The cafeteria will be providing some different food choices at the upcoming Financial Aid night and the National Honor Society induction.

**Billy Simms, Athletic Director**

Mr. Simms reported that 7 & 8 boys basketball has 19 boys out, and are playing double headers. They are a little under .500, but have made noted improvement in several areas. Varsity Boys’ Basketball has approximately 14 boys out, and they have played three games. They are 1-2 with a nice win over Avella and they have a game at Frazier this evening. Varsity Girls’ Basketball is underway with new coaches, Austin Crouse and Zoie Smith. They have limited numbers (nine girls), and it has been decided against trying to play JV. They picked up their first win of the season Tuesday, and host Bentworth tomorrow. Varsity Rifle has great participation numbers, and are shooting nice practice scores. They will shoot several “virtual” matches here in December before getting into section play. The length of travel in our assigned exhibitions has made us try to go virtual with these meets. Cheerleading has very low numbers to start the winter season, but are showing up with what they have. He applauded their effort, and that of their two sponsors. Junior High wrestling has about seven wrestlers now that eliminations have been completed, and decisions to keep wrestlers up on varsity or move them down to Junior High have been made. The boys are working hard, and there is reason to think they will have a nice season. Varsity Wrestling has real good numbers, and are on the verge of filling all weight classes (aside from injury). Mr. Johnston and Mr. Whyte did a great job getting students out, and students recruited into the little league ranks. The wrestlers opened up at the Chartiers Houston tournament, placing 15th out of 32 teams, and had two 5th place medalists in Colin Whyte and Seth Burns. They dropped a tough dual meet last night to Fort Cherry, but it was a thrilling, back and forth match. The students who were permitted to attend the WPIAL Sportsmanship Summit had a great time. They got to hear several speakers and interact with other students from across the WPIAL. The keynote speaker was Roberto Clemente, Jr. Our student-athletes were able to get their picture taken with him. They were pretty excited.

**NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered into a brief executive session and returned to the regular meeting to discuss the roofing project.

**AMENDMENT TO AGENDA**

1. Remove from the agenda item #1 under Educational Planning.
2. Remove from the agenda item #4 under Athletics.
3. Add item under New Business - Athletics to approve an unpaid, volunteer Assistant Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach.

- **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Scott, to approve the revisions to the board agenda as stated.  
**VOTE: ALL AYES** **MOTION CARRIED.**

- **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Crouse, to open the voting portion of the board meeting.  
**VOTE: ALL AYES** **MOTION CARRIED.**



**POLICY**

1. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Scott, to approve the second reading of the following policy:  
Policy No. 328.1 Credit for Salary Placement

**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Policy No. 200 Enrollment of Students (New)  
Policy No. 201 Admission of Students (Old)  
Policy No. 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students  
Policy No. 203 Immunizations and Communicable Diseases  
Policy No. 203.1 HIV Infection  
Policy No. 205 Postgraduate Students  
Policy No. 206 Assignment Within District  
Policy No. 208 Withdrawal From School  
Policy No. 209 Health Examinations/Screenings  
Policy No. 209.1 Food Allergy Management  
Policy No. 209.2 Diabetes Management  
Policy No. 210 Medications  
Policy No. 210.1 Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers/Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**TRANSPORTATION**

1. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Crouse, to approve Misty Dane as a driver (Petermann) for the West Greene School District for the 2022-2023 school year, pending receipt of appropriate paperwork.

**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**BUDGET**

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

General Fund Paid List - \$4,005.31  
General Fund Unpaid List - \$83,583.68  
Capital Project Fund Unpaid List - \$84,779.88  
Cafeteria Fund Unpaid List - \$10,208.40

**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

November 18, 2022 - \$296,703.94  
December 2, 2022 - \$263,855.54

**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Hildreth, to transfer \$1,500.00 from the General Fund to the Athletic Fund Accounts to assist with paying for the third basketball officials.

**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **MOTION BY** Scott, **SECOND BY** Crouse, to approve MetLife as West Greene School District's Group Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance provider for employees through Baily Agency, effective January 1, 2023.

**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Scott, that the following invoices received after December 1, 2022, be approved as submitted.

General Fund Unpaid List - \$123,396.01  
Cafeteria Fund Unpaid List - \$7,510.70

**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**HEARING OF CITIZENS - No response.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

- **MOTION BY** Hildreth, **SECOND BY** Berdine, to adjourn the Board meeting at 8:16 PM.  
**VOTE: ALL AYES**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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Board President, Dave Durbin

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Board Secretary, Karen Reed