

**Thursday, May 15, 2025
Regular Board Meeting
Minutes**

The West Mifflin Area School District Regular Board Meeting was held in the West Mifflin Area Middle School Cafeteria, 81 Commonwealth Avenue, West Mifflin, PA. Meeting began at 7:02 p.m.

1. OPENING EXERCISES

- A. Pledge to the Flag
- B. Roll Call

Members Present: Kevin Squires, Anthony DiCenzo, Judith Ahern, Matthew Blazeovich (on the phone), Mark Donahoe, Gina Englert, Joseph Gajdos, Janelle Kopay and Mark Yuhas

Officials Present: Jeffrey Soles, Jeffrey Solomon, Edward Wehrer, Mark Zidek and Russell Lucas

2. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Student Board Representative Report – No students today
- B. Budget Presentation – Edward Wehrer

3. ADDENDUM

None

4. HEARING OF CITIZENS

- A. Public Comment

In order to speak at this time, the following must be met:

- Must be a West Mifflin, Whitaker, or Duquesne Resident; current employee; or taxpayer
- Matter must have been discussed through the proper education channels
- Direct comments to the Board President and/or Superintendent
- Remarks limited to three (3) minutes per person
 - Jen Becher had questions/comments about the cell phone service at Clara Barton and the possible consolidation of schools.
 - Theresa Sekely had questions/comments about the tax appeal settlements, and the proposed budget for next year.
 - Chuck Krebs made comments about the proposed budget for next year.
 - Diane Stanesic had questions/comments about the proposed budget, and the settlement agreement with Advanced Home Health and Hospice.
 - Mark Yuhas made comments about the proposed budget.

Mr. Soles, Mr. Wehrer and/or Mr. Squires addressed the questions as they went through the agenda.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Congratulations to Victoria Lauterbach (Grade 12) and Dorsae Moore (Grade 12) for being honored as the 2025 Spring SHASDA Award Winners.

6. BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT**A. Board of Directors**

Board action to approve/ratify items under Board of Directors, as listed/presented.*

1. Executive Sessions

- a. April 10, 2025 – Discussed Personnel and Legal Issues
- b. April 16, 2025 – Discussed Personnel and Legal Issues

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. April 10, 2025 – Work Session
- b. April 16, 2025 – Regular Board Meeting

It was moved by Gajdos, seconded by Ahern to approve Section 6A, Items 1-2.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhás, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

7. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS' REPORT**A. Finance**

Board action to approve/ratify items under Finance, as listed/presented.*

- 1. Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium (ACSHIC) standard medical premium (monthly) rates for 2025-2026:

	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Parent & Child</u>	<u>Parent & Children</u>	<u>Employee & Spouse</u>	<u>Family</u>
Community Blue Flex PPO	\$929.84	\$2,082.70	\$2,290.96	\$2,523.51	\$2,623.76
Community Blue Flex EPO	\$867.79	\$1,946.47	\$2,141.06	\$2,357.42	\$2,451.23

These rates are a 5.7% increase from the 2024-2025 premiums.

- 2. Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium (ACSHIC) standard dental and vision premium (monthly) rates for 2025-2026:

Dental and Vision	Employee Only	\$39.85	3% increase
Dental and Vision	Employee & Dependents	\$125.35	3% increase

- 3. Proposed 2025-2026 Steel Center for Career and Technical Education Operating Budget of \$8,083,760 and Administrative Budget of \$220,782. The district share of the operating budget will depend on the number of students enrolled, and the district share of the administrative budget is \$20,206.31.
- 4. Proposed 2025-2026 South East Area Special School Administrative Budget of \$92,595.18. The district share of the administrative budget is \$11,595.18.

5. Authorization for the Solicitor's office to settle the tax appeal docketed at BV 24-2569 at an assessed value amount of \$1,939,000 for 2023, \$1,675,500 for 2024 and \$1,337,500 for 2025.
6. Authorization for the Solicitor's office to settle the tax appeal docketed at BV 24-1371 at an assessed value amount of \$476,500 for 2022, \$477,000 for 2023, \$408,800 for 2024 and \$395,300 for 2025.
7. Authorization for the Solicitor's office to settle the tax appeal docketed at BV 24-2570 at an assessed value amount of \$460,600 for 2022, \$461,100 for 2023, \$395,100 for 2024 and \$382,100 for 2025.
8. April real estate tax refunds due for 2023 and 2024 to specified property owners of West Mifflin and Whitaker Borough in the amount of \$1,851.30 as presented by the respective tax collectors. The refunds are the result of changes in real estate tax assessment values established by Allegheny County.
9. Proposed Final General Fund Budget for 2025-2026 and authorize its public display as presented. The proposed real estate tax rate will increase by the Act 1 limit of 5.5% to 28.0304 mills; the proposed revenues are \$66,776,000; and the proposed expenditures are \$67,509,700. The difference of \$733,700 will be made up by the general fund balance. (7.A.9 Failed)
10. Approve the Confidential Settlement Agreement and Release regarding the litigation filed at GD-22-011489.
11. Approve the Settlement Agreement with Advanced Home Health and Hospice, as presented

It was moved by Donahoe, seconded by Englert to approve Section 7A, Items 1-11.

There was an extensive discussion regarding the proposed budget. Mr. Yuhas spoke against the proposed budget, and Mr. Squires and Mr. Donahoe spoke in favor of the proposed budget.

Roll Call: Ahern (Voted "No" to 7.A.9), Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert (Voted "No" to 7.A.9), Gajdos (Voted "No" to 7.A.9), Kopay (Voted "No" to 7.A.9), Yuhas (Voted "No" to 7.A.9), DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". ALL ITEMS PASSED EXCEPT 7.A.9.

B. Purchasing/Contracting

Board action to approve/ratify items under Purchasing/Contracting, as listed/presented.*

1. Agreement with Adelphoi Education, Inc. to provide Special Education Services through their facility at 15020 Ardara Road, North Huntingdon, PA at daily rates as offered for the two programs for the 2025-2026 school year.
2. Agreement with The Nutrition Group to provide contracted Food Service Management Services for the 2025-2026 school year. This agreement is the fourth year of a potential five-year contract, which must be renewed annually. It is also recommended the Board approve the Cafeteria Fund Budget, as presented.
3. Agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3 for Comprehensive Services during the 2025-2026 school year per the cost schedule as presented.

4. Quote from Vasco Asphalt Company for a 4" asphalt overlay of the second javelin runway for outdoor track at a cost of \$15,926.00 through the OMNIA purchasing program.
5. Quote from Vincent Lighting Systems for the inspection of the stage rigging in the Middle School auditorium at a cost of \$1,200.00.
6. Renewal quote from Harris School Solutions for Prosoft financial system software at a cost of \$38,142.28.
7. Quote from Raptor Technologies for four (4) emergency management full suite modules (one for each school building) at a cost of \$8,612.00.
8. Quote from Horizon Information Systems to replace the public address system in the High School with the CareHawk Intercom/Paging System at a cost of \$29,178.00 through the COSTARS purchasing program.
9. Application for ArbNet arboretum accreditation to establish an arboretum on the secondary campus in conjunction with T's Trail, a cross country, fitness and wellness path for students, staff, and the community.
10. Agreement with UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital for the Cool Zone program at the Middle School for the period of May 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 at a cost of \$108,858.00, as presented.

It was moved by Donahoe, seconded by Yuhas to approve Section 7B, Items 1-10.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Board action to approve Financial Reports, as listed/presented

A. Secretary's Receipts

1. April - \$3,607,358.93

B. Student Activities

1. April - \$205,203.51

C. Treasurer's Report

1. April - \$10,539,244.91

D. Refunds Subtracted from Expenditures

1. April

Account Description	Received From	Amount
Due To/From Cafeteria	Monessen SD	\$791.43
Insurance Copay	Pay Date – 04/18/25	\$39,825.92
Early Retirement Benefits	AMCA	\$20,416.16
Supplies – HS – Pre-K	HS Pre-K	\$1,330.00
Food – HS – Pre-K	HS Pre-K	\$570.00
Tuition – Steel Center	Duquesne SD	\$48,793.64

Other Expenses – Tax Collector	Borough of West Mifflin	\$2,580.71
Contracted Medical Services	Monessen SD	\$33,333.30
Technology – Repairs and Maintenance	Student Obligations – CB	\$100.00
Technology – Repairs and Maintenance	Student Obligations – MS	\$237.00
Technology – Repairs and Maintenance	Student Obligations – HS	\$300.00
Activities - MS Musical	Ads/Tickets Sales	\$2,400.00
Athletics – Salaries	Special Olympics	\$1,000.00
Athletics – Supplies – District	WPIAL	\$148.97

E. Tax Collector's Report

1. April

Tax Type	Received From	Amount	Commission
Earned Income Tax – West Mifflin	Jordan Tax Service	\$132,182.09	\$1,155.58
Earned Income Tax – Whitaker	Jordan Tax Service	\$6,784.58	\$100.57
Realty Transfer Tax – West Mifflin	V. McDonald Roberts	\$17,425.88	\$348.52
Realty Transfer Tax – Whitaker	V. McDonald Roberts	\$2,702.00	\$54.04
Business Privilege Tax – West Mifflin	Legal Tax Service	\$218,755.60	N/A
Business Privilege Tax – Whitaker	Legal Tax Service	\$162.18	N/A
LST Tax – West Mifflin	Legal Tax Service	\$16,123.16	N/A
Mercantile Tax – West Mifflin	Legal Tax Service	\$164,243.19	N/A
Delinquent Realty Tax – West Mifflin	Legal Tax Service	\$132,697.77	\$16,604.54
Delinquent Realty Tax – Whitaker	Legal Tax Service	\$2,149.63	\$414.52
Del Mercantile Tax – West Mifflin	Legal Tax Service	\$823.67	\$45.30
Del Bus Privilege Tax – West Mifflin	Legal Tax Service	\$51,830.71	\$2,850.69
Del Realty Tax – Act 20 – West Mifflin	Legal Tax Service	\$294.66	N/A
Del Realty Tax – Act 20 – Whitaker	Legal Tax Service	\$10.25	N/A
Del Realty Tax – Civil Action – West Mifflin	Legal Tax Service	\$185,932.38	N/A
Del Realty Tax – Civil Action – Whitaker	Legal Tax Service	\$3,705.07	N/A

F. Online Sales – April

Card Point	\$828.25
Track	\$546.00
MS Musical Tickets	\$4,972.00
HS Prom	\$16,470.00
Titan Gear	\$122.50
Titan Shoppe	\$4,111.51
Total	\$27,050.26

It was moved by Donahoe, seconded by Gajdos to approve Section 8, Items A-F.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

9. INVOICES/BILLS PAYABLE/PURCHASE ORDERS

Board Action to approve/ratify Invoices/Bills Payable/Purchase Orders, as listed/presented*

A. General Fund Invoice(s)

Payee	Invoice #	Description	Amount
1. Legal Tax Services	WSD-309	Filing Fees	\$5.00
2. Legal Tax Services	WSD-310	Filing, Parking, Bank, and Notary Fees, and Postage	\$165.41

3. Andrews and Price	14281	April Monthly Retainer	\$1,000.00
4. Andrews and Price	14280, 14286, 14288, 14279, 14285, 14277, 14287	April Other Professional Services	\$2,982.00
5. Andrews and Price	14290, 14293, 14294, 14289, 14292, 14291, 14283, 14282, 14284, 14276, 14295, 14278	April Real Estate Related Services	\$2,234.50

B. All other Bills, P-Cards, Purchase Orders, and Cash Disbursement Reports

It was moved by Donahoe, seconded by Gajdos to approve Section 9, Items A-B.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

10. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Board Action to approve/ratify items under District Operations, as listed/presented.*

A. Elimination of a Third Grade Teacher position at Clara Barton Elementary for the 2025-2026 school year.

B. Creation of a Second Grade Teacher position at Clara Barton Elementary for the 2025-2026 school year

C. Special Education Plan, 2025-2028, as presented

It was moved by Englert, seconded by Kopay to approve Section 10, Items A-C.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

Board Action to approve/ratify Superintendent's Reports, as listed/presented.*

A. Home & School Visitor's Report – April 2025

B. Student Activities

ID	Staff/Bldg.	Activity/Location	#Students	Grade(s)	Date
*1603299	Danielle Onuffer & Ashley Green/HV	PBIS/PSSA reward/Esports Room at HS	15	3	5/8/25
1609618	Beth Ann Churma Buchleitner/CB	Critter Country Exotic Animal Farm/Smithton	63	3	5/22/25
*1615160	Richard Vogtsberger/HS	Titan Troop LSS Cookout/Thomas Jefferson HS	28	9-12	5/2/25
1619454	Jayson Monroe/HS	Seton Hill University Leadership Workshop/Seton Hill University	30	9-12	7/9/25
1621687	Kristen Bonacci/HS	Senior Class March/CB, HV, MS, Duquesne K-8	53	12	5/19/25
1621815	Kyra Reinheimer/MS	CBI-Ryan Hacke Park/WM	46	4-8	5/16/25

C. Buildings and Grounds

ID	Location	Date(s)/Time	Purpose/Applicant	Amount Paid
*550	HS Pool	May 5, 6, 12, 19 (5:00 PM-8:00 PM)	Adult/Lap Swim, Adult/Make-up Lesson/West Mifflin Pool & Aquatics (Laura Dolton)	n/a
*551	HS Pool	May 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 (5:00 PM-8:00 PM)	Family/Open Swim/ West Mifflin Pool & Aquatics (Laura Dolton)	n/a
*552	HV Parking Lot	May 3, 10; June 7, 21 (12:00 PM-3:00 PM)	Youth Football and Cheer Sign-Ups/ WM Youth Football (Jim Gatewood)	n/a
553	HS Back Parking Lot, Cafeteria, Gym Lobby, Patio	September 20 (8:00 AM-4:00 PM)	Arts Festival/WM Community Foundation (Ray Rost)	n/a
5477 5478	MS Auditorium	June 6 (5:00 PM-9:00 PM) June 7 (4:00 PM-9:00 PM)	Dance Recital & Rehearsal/ABC Dance Studio (JoAnn Missig)	\$5270
6401	MS Cafeteria	May 21 (6:30 PM-7:30 PM)	Summer Camp Parent Meeting/Champions B4/After School Program (Gina Calfo)	n/a

D. Conferences

ID	Name/Building	Conference/Location	Date/#Days	Cost	Sub
*1611204	Marci Hunnell/HS	Financial Literacy-Moving Forward/AIU Waterfront	4/24/25 1 day	\$0	Yes
1614769	Kyra Reinheimer/MS	PASA Training/AIU Waterfront	5/20/25 1 day	\$0	No
1616835	Erica Haakensen/MS	Text Dependent Analysis: Effective Instructional Practices 2025-2025/AIU Waterfront	9/16/25, 10/28/25 12/8/25, 1/29/26 4 days	\$600	Yes
1622238	Heather Vidic/CB	Tier 2 PBIS Data Collection Action Items Workshop/ AIU Waterfront	8/26/25, 8/27/25 2 days	\$0	No

It was moved by Kopay, seconded by Ahern to approve Section 11, Items A-D.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

12. PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL

Board Action to approve/ratify items under Professional Personnel, as listed.*

A. Leaves of Absence

1. Employee #3826, leave of absence beginning Friday, August 15, 2025 through Friday, October 31, 2025, using all sick and PTO days, with remaining days unpaid.
2. *Employee #2327, unpaid day on Friday, May 2, 2025
3. *Employee #2866, unpaid leave of absence beginning Wednesday, April 30, 2025 (half-day PM) through Monday, June 9, 2025
4. *Employee #2569, unpaid days on Monday, May 12, 2025 through Wednesday, May 14, 2025

B. Hires

- 2025 Summer Music Program Teachers; \$30.75/Hour (2024-25 Homebound rate):

Position	Name
Band Boot Camp	Jayson Monroe, Devon Smeal
Musical Theater Boot Camp	Melissa Prutz, Ericka Sanders
String Boot Camp	Jeffrey Kesser

- Titan Cyber Academy 2025 Secondary Summer School Teachers; \$30.75/Hour (2024-25 Homebound rate):

Position	Name
Science	Anna Kudla
English	Elizabeth Takach
Math	Mychele Westerlund
Social Studies	Isabelle Thompson
Physical Education	Stacy Galiyas

It was moved by Gajdos, seconded by Yuhas to approve Section 12, Items A-B.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

13. NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Board action to approve/ratify items under Non-Certified Personnel, as listed.*

A. Leaves of Absence

- *Employee #3075, unpaid day on Friday, April 25, 2025
- *Employee #3880, unpaid days on Thursday, April 24, 2025; Monday, May 5, 2025; and Tuesday, May 6, 2025
- *Employee #3927, unpaid day on Thursday, May 1, 2025
- *Employee #3931, unpaid day on Wednesday, April 30, 2025
- *Employee #3907, unpaid days on Monday, May 5, 2025, and Tuesday, May 13, 2025

B. Resignations

- Approve the Resignation Agreement with Employee #3109, as presented.

C. Hires/Transfers

- *Kayleigh Frank, Full-time Class 1 Custodian on the 3:00 PM-11:00 PM shift at the Middle School effective Monday, May 5, 2025
- Additional ESY Program Paraeducator, June 16, 2025 through July 10, 2025 (Monday-Thursday, not July 3, 2025); 8:30 AM-12:30 PM; Individual's 2024-2025 hourly rate as stated in current SEIU contract:

Deodis Powell

3. *Brenda Harmening, transfer from Full-time Class 1 Custodian on the 6:00 AM-2:00 PM shift at the Middle School to the posted position of Full-time Class 1 Custodian on the 3:00 PM-11:00 PM shift at the Middle School effective Monday, March 24, 2025. Ms. Harmening was the senior qualified bidder for the position.
4. 2025 Summer Music Program, Music Professional; \$22.00/hour:

Position	Name
String Boot Camp	Nichole Thomas
Band Boot Camp	Joe Scifo

D. Other

1. Additional Summer Student workers, as presented

E. Substitutes

1. Michelle Lesutis, Custodian, effective Friday, May 16, 2025
2. Alysa Collins, Custodian, effective Friday, May 16, 2025

It was moved by Kopay, seconded by Ahern to approve Section 13, Items A-E.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTIONS CARRIED

14. ATHLETIC PERSONNEL

Board action to approve/ratify items under Athletic Personnel, as listed.*

A. Resignations/Terminations

1. Employee #3652, supplemental contract has been rescinded as of Thursday, May 15, 2025

B. Hires

1. Daniel Trbovich, High School Varsity Football Equipment Manager, effective Friday, May 16, 2025
2. Daryl Carter, Middle School 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, effective Friday, May 16, 2025
3. Damonje Clark, Middle School 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach, effective Friday, May 16, 2025
4. Sarah Merlina, High School Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, effective Friday, May 16, 2025

It was moved by Gajdos, seconded by Yuhas to approve Section 14, Items A-B.

Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert, Gajdos, Kopay, Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

15. BOARD PRESIDENT'S CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Squires had no correspondence today.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION DISCUSSION

Mr. Squires reported that Executive Session was held prior to the Regular Board meeting to discuss litigation and personnel.

17. BOARD REPORTS

A. Committees

Committee reports were given at the Work Session

B. Steel Center

Mr. Donahoe reported that on April 1st and 2nd students from Steel Center's CTE group had an opportunity to travel to the state capital to participate in advocacy day and met with Senator Robinson and Senator Pisciotano. Steel Center hosted their annual job fair on April 9th and 10th with more than 60 employers in attendance. Steel Center had 19 Skills USA students attend the conference in Hershey PA. Renovations will continue through the summer, with a majority of the work being completed by the end of November. Mr. Donahoe listed the Students of the Month for April, Work-Based Co-Ops and Top of the Shop awards.

18. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Lucas had no report this evening.

19. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Squires mentioned that he, Mr. Donahoe, Mrs. Englert and Ms. Kopay attended the Senior Awards earlier this week. Mr. Donahoe recognized the Steel Center students and Mrs. Englert recognized the SHASDA students. Overall, it was a very nice evening.

There was another discussion about the proposed budget.

Lastly, a motion was made by Mr. Donahoe, seconded by Mrs. Ahern for a Revised Proposed Final General Fund Budget for 2025-2026 and authorize its public display as presented. The proposed real estate tax rate will increase by 0.7080 mills to 27.2771 mills; the proposed revenues are \$66,118,369; and the proposed expenditures are \$67,509,700. The difference of \$1,391,331 will be made up by the general fund balance.

Public Comment:

- Debbie Costelnik agreed with Mr. Yuhas when he stated that the Board should go over this budget one more time. She stated that tax payers should not be burdened with another real estate tax increase. She wants the district to stop the extra spending.
- Diane Stanesic agrees that the budget should be re-evaluated, and there should not be a tax increase.
- Theresa Sekely doesn't want to see any real estate tax increase. She wants the Board to go line by line, and see what can be cut from the budget.


Roll Call: Ahern, Blazeovich, Donahoe, Englert (Voted "No"), Gajdos (Voted "No"), Kopay (Voted "No"), Yuhas, DiCenzo and Squires voted "Aye". MOTION CARRIED

20. NEW BUSINESS

None

21. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.


Meg Arbasak
Board Secretary

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE SIGN IN SHEET**VISITOR RECORD**

Regular Meeting
Board of School Directors
West Mifflin Area School District

Name	Address	Organization Representing (If Any)
Barb Gregory	666 DeBaldo Dr W M	
Diane Staresic	2803 Glenning Lane East W M	
Chuck Krebs	613 Corbin St W.M	
Deb Kostelnik	106 Samuel Dr	
Greg Ragonyi	629 DeBaldo Dr.	
Marie Kzykowsky	301 Dennison Dr	
Barbara Smith	2516 New England Rd	
Therese Scholz	110 Main Entrance	
Ladimir Garcia	261 Emerson st	Mon Valley Independent
Karen Treax		WMFT
Jen Becher	2 423 Livingston Rd	CB PTA
Kaitlin Charles	623 Pgh McKeesport	CB PTA
Maura Deegan	2528 Old Elizabeth Rd.	CB PTA
Rich Kirkwood	1403 Highland Ave	
Carla Kirkwood	1803 Highland ave	