

WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SESSION NOVEMBER 18, 2024

Members Present: Chad Diviney, Jeremiah Dobo, Norman Parks, Jason Porter, Melvin Smeal, Donald Yontosh

Members Absent: Christina Brown, James Emigh, and Jessica Maines

Other:

Media Present:

Administration Present: Mark Mitchell, Kevin Hubler, Jesse Husted, Ashley Nunley, Angela Lucas, Branden Evans, Leslie Stott, David Williamson, David Catherman, Tiffany English

Others Present: Scott Kramer, Sherri Laurusevage, Adam Kerr, John Hayden, Rob Strickler, Greg Hoover, Travis McDowell, Erin Liegey, Mark Norris, Tammy Torretti, Magdalena Torretti, Stacey Guenot

OPENING EXERCISES

President Chad Diviney called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. All present were asked to stand and pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

STUDENT REPORTS/RECOGNITION – Life Skills Classes

Mrs. Liegey and Mr. Norris, along with student Magdalena Torretti, shared crafts that the life skills classes have been creating for their upcoming Christmas Craft Sale. This year's theme is upcycling; the students have been transforming old items into something new and beautiful. Magdalena gifted board members with snowmen created by the students. Some of the crafts were also purchased by others in attendance for the board meeting. The Christmas Craft Sale will be held on November 25th and 26th from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in room 111.

MINUTES

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the meeting minutes from October 28, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Kevin Hubler, Middle/High School Principal:

- "Do Nut" Miss Monday
- Veterans Day Breakfast
- National Honor Society Induction
- No Vape November Presentation
- Reading Competition

Mr. Jesse Husted, Assistant Principal:

- Discipline Breakdown (District Wide)

Mrs. Ashley Nunley, Elementary Principal:

- School Culture and Climate Survey
- Balloons Over Broadway

Ms. Angela Lucas, Special Education Supervisor:

- Report Cards
- Kindergarten Transition Meetings
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Balloons Over Broadway

Mr. Branden Evans, Technology Coordinator

- Transportation Software Update
- Temperature Sensors Configuration

Mrs. Leslie Stott, Business Manager:

- Banking Update
- Budget Update
- Financial Audit

Mr. David Williamson, Athletic Director:

- Attendance Comparison
- Athletic Update
- ALICE Training
- Transfinder Training

Mr. David Catherman, Supervisor of Building and Grounds:

- Propane Bids
- Fire Alarm Completion
- Boiler Project Update
- Winter Preparation
- John Diebel - Resignation

Mrs. Tiffany English, Food Service Director:

- Holiday Meals
- Fuel Up Friday
- Veterans Breakfast
- National Grilled Cheese Day

Mr. Greg Hoover, Owner's Representative (Elementary Renovation):

- Project Update

CIU: (Mr. Norman Parks)

- RACP Grant

CCCTC: (Mr. Jeremiah Dobo)

- No Report

PSBA: (Mr. Chad Diviney)

- No Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Scott Kramer, of Raymond James & Associates, provided a detailed financing update to the Board and Administration in relation to the elementary renovation project. Mr. Kramer explained interest rate trends and summarized the debt service both prior to and after state reimbursement. He along with Mrs. Stott welcomed questions from the Board.

Mr. Mark Mitchell, along with representatives from EI Associates and Quandel Energy Solutions, provided the Board with a detailed summary of project costs for the elementary renovation project. All parties welcomed questions from the Board and there was lengthy discussion. Administration continues to work with these companies to realize solutions that are both cost effective and functional.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held from 8:15 p.m. until 8:44 p.m. for personnel purposes.

PERSONNEL

MS Counselor	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Shayne McCusker as Middle School Counselor at a starting salary of \$58,219 (Step 9M). Start date pending clearances, employment paperwork, and release date from the Clearfield Area School District. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
WBEA MOU	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the West Branch Area School District and the West Branch Education Association and employee number 2008, pending solicitor approval of paperwork. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
J. Diebel Resignation	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the resignation of John Diebel, Part-Time Custodian, effective November 15, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
K. Hamilton Resignation	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the resignation of Kayla Hamilton, Elementary Classroom Paraprofessional, effective October 31, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
Elem. Para	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Breanna Williams as Elementary Learning Support Paraprofessional at the contracted rate. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
A. Bolan Resignation	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the resignation of Amanda Bolan, Elementary Life Skills Personal Care Professional, effective October 28, 2024. Ms. Bolan is now a Dedicated Substitute Teacher for the District through ESS. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
J. Hunt Resignation	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the resignation of Joellen Hunt from the eSports Manager position, effective December 9, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
Ski Club Advisor	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Susan Folmar as Ski Club Advisor at the contracted rate. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
Volunteer	Mr. Norman Parks, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Zachary McGonigal as a volunteer to the district; all paperwork has been received. Mr. Jeremiah Dobo seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

EDUCATION

- HS Library Book Order Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the High School Library book order in the amount of \$699.24 (High School Budget 2024-2025). Mr. Jeremiah Dobo seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
- Field Trips Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the WB Band field trip Messiah University on November 25, 2024. Cost to the District: van transportation/one substitutes; Cost to the Student: none. (Funding – MS/HS Budgets). (Information Only: 8 students will be attending; Chaperone is Lance Jones.) Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
- Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the eSports trip to Mount Aloysius College on November 20, 2024. Cost to the District: van transportation, Cost to the Student: none. (Funding – MS/HS Budgets). (Information Only: 12 students will be attending; Chaperones are Allie Emigh, JoEllen Hunt and Travis Gummo.) Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

POLICY

- 2nd Reading Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the second reading of the following policies:
- Policy 113.1: Discipline of Students with Disabilities
 - Policy 113.2: Behavior Support
 - Policy 236.1: Threat Assessment
 - Policy 254: Educational Opportunity for Military Children
 - Policy 202: Eligibility of Nonresident Students
 - Policy 607: Tuition Income
 - Policy 805.2: School Security Personnel
- Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

TRANSPORTATION & ATHLETICS

- Driver – Long Motor Buses, Inc. Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Robert Carles as bus driver for Long Motor Buses, Inc. All paperwork has been received. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
- J. McDowell-Resignation Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the resignation of Julie McDowell, Junior Varsity Cheerleading Advisor, effective November 11, 2024. Ms. McDowell will move to volunteer status. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
- JH Girls Basketball Coach Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Adriyanna Dale as Head Junior High Girls Basketball Coach. Start date pending clearances/employment paperwork. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.
- Winter Volunteers Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following winter athletic volunteer, all paperwork has been received.
- Boys Basketball: Jarrett Rockey
- Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

FINANCE AND PURCHASE

Disbursements Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following Disbursements:

\$ 72,453.15	Cafeteria Fund Bills Dated 11/19/24	Checks 4754 through 4755
11,162.36	Visa 10/31/24 Invoice	
1,062,446.47	General Account (10/22/24 - 11/19/24)	Checks 60859 through 60960
\$1,146,061.98	Grand Total	

Mr. Jeremiah Dobo seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

Treasurer's Report Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Treasurer's Report for October 2024. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

Activity Acct. Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Activity Account for October 2024. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

Payment Application Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment application #4 (\$98,350.00) to Quandl Construction Group, LLC for work on the Boiler Upgrade Project (to be paid out of bond funds). Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

Engineering Costs Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve \$59,300.50 for engineering costs from EI Associates for the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds). Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

Bills through Dec. 2024 Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the payment of bills through the end of December 2024. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Mitchell shared that Senator Langerholm will visit the district on November 19, 2024.

Mr. Mitchell also reminded members that the Reorganizational Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., with a regular business meeting immediately following.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

Respectively Submitted,


Stacey Gueriot
Secretary to the Board of Education

