WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SESSION

JUNE 24, 2024

Members Present:

Christina Brown (via phone), Chad Diviney, Jeremiah Dobo, Jessica Maines (via phone),

Norman Parks, Jason Porter, Melvin Smeal, Donald Yontosh

Members Absent:

Other:

Ronald Askey, Michael Vind, Scott Kramer, Alisa Liptak, Ryan Mentzer

Media Present:

Kassidi Byerly - The Progress

Administration Present:

Mark Mitchell, Brandy O'Hare, Kevin Hubler, Branden Evans, Leslie Stott, David

Williamson, Tiffany English

Others Present:

Aimee Willett, Stacey Guenot

OPENING EXERCISES

Mr. Chad Diviney called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. All present were asked to stand and pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Ronald Askey addressed the Board in reference to the Karthaus Parade that is held in June. Mr. Askey would love for the West Branch Warrior Marching Band to participate in this parade next year. Administration will pass on Mr. Askey's contact information to the band director, Lance Jones, for consideration. The Board and Administration thanked Mr. Askey for bringing his concern to their attention.

MINUTES

Mr. Don Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the meeting minutes from June 10, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mrs. Brandy O'Hare, High School Principal:

- Staff End of Year Luncheon
- Graduation/Senior Sunrise Breakfast
- Safe Schools Report
- Warrior Painting Touch Up
- WB Athletics

Mr. Kevin Hubler, Middle School Principal:

- Safe Schools Report
- 8th Grade Hershey Trip
- PSSA Testing
- Middle School Student Handbooks
- Middle School Master Schedule

Dr. Angela Michaels, Elementary School Principal: (Absent)

Report Provided

Ms. Angela Lucas, Special Education Director: (Absent)

Mr. Branden Evans, Technology Coordinator:

- Facebook Update
- Sapphire Implementation
- Networking Switch

Mrs. Leslie Stott, Business Manager:

- Budget Update
- ESSER Monitoring

Mr. David Williamson, Pupil Services Coordinator:

- Attendance Handbook Updates
- Sports Physicals
- Athletic Update

Mr. David Catherman, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds: (Absent)

Mrs. Tiffany English, Food Service Director:

- Profit & Loss Statement
- Primero Edge Implementation
- Reveal Days
- Menu Cycle for 2024-2025

CIU (Mr. Norman Parks):

- Meeting is June 27, 2024
- Minutes Available From Prior Meeting

CCCTC (Mr. Jeremiah Dobo):

- Drafting Teacher Needed
- HVAC Project

PSBA (Mr. Chad Diviney):

PSBA Report Highlights

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Together, the following gentlemen provided a financing update to the Administration and Board in relation to the Elementary Renovation Project.

Mr. Scott Kramer, Managing Director – Raymond James

Mr. Michael Vind, Managing Director - FSL Public Finance, LLC

Mr. Ryan Mentzer, Associate Attorney - Eckert Seamans

A detailed handout was distributed along with the presentation. The gentlemen were available for questions.

BOARD

Board Vacancy

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to appoint James Emigh as School Board Member to fill the seat vacated by Mr. Sterling. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion. Following further discussion, both Mr. Yontosh and Mr. Parks rescinded their motions.

Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to defer the appointment of a new Board member until the position is advertised further and public interviews can take place. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of

5-3-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh — no; Mr. Dobo — yes; Mr. Porter — yes; Mr. Diviney — yes; Mr. Parks — yes; Mrs. Maines — no; Mr. Smeal — yes; Mrs. Brown — no. 5 — yes; 3 — no. Members agreed to hold a Special Voting Board Meeting on July 8, 2024.

PERSONNEL

WBESPA Contract

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Agreement between the West Branch Area School District and the West Branch Education Support Professionals Association (WBESPA) from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029. Mr. Jeremiah Dobo seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Dobo – yes; Mr. Porter – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes; Mr. Parks – yes; Mrs. Maines – yes; Mr. Smeal – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. 8 – yes; 0 – no.

Act 93 Non-Supervisory Contract

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the revised Act 93 Non-Supervisory Contract as presented, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Dobo – yes; Mr. Porter – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes; Mr. Parks – yes; Mrs. Maines – yes; Mr. Smeal – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. 8 – yes; 0 – no.

Superintendent Salary

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Superintendent's salary of \$120,000 for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Dobo – yes; Mr. Porter – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes; Mr. Parks – yes; Mrs. Maines – yes; Mr. Smeal – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. 8 – yes; 0 – no.

Business Manager Contract

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the contract between Leslie Stott, Business Manager, and the West Branch Area School District, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Dobo – yes; Mr. Porter – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes; Mr. Parks – yes; Mrs. Maines – yes; Mr. Smeal – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. 8 – yes; 0 – no.

D. Cherry Treasurer

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Denise Cherry as Treasurer to the District for the 2024—2025 school year. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Secondary Science Teacher

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Allie Myers as Secondary Science Teacher, effective with the 2024-25 school year, at a starting salary of \$46,695 (Step 1B). Mr. Jeremiah Dobo seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Dedicated Substitutes

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve three (3) dedicated teacher substitute positions and one (1) dedicated paraprofessional substitute position for the 2024 -2025 school year. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Grade 4 Dept. Chair

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Shari Buck as Grade 4 Department Chair, effective with the 2024-25 school year. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Central Regist. Extra Days

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve 10 additional summer days for Sue Folmar, Central Registration/Guidance Secretary. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

R. Guerra Resignation

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the resignation of Ruth Guerra, Middle School Classroom Paraprofessional, effective June 12, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Elem. PCA

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Taylor Maney as Elementary Personal Care Aide at the contracted rate, effective with the 2024-25 school year. (Assignment - Kindergarten) Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

MS PCA

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Ryenne Burns as Personal Care Aide at the contracted rate, effective with the 2024-25 school year. (Assignment - Middle School) Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

P/T Café/Hall Monitors

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Sarah Olson and Shawna Rinehart as Part-Time Cafeteria/Hall Monitors, at the contracted rate, effective with the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

GSA Advisor Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Rachel Steffan as advisor to the Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) effective with the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Jeremiah Dobo seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

TL JP Affiliation Agreement Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Affiliation Agreement between the West Branch Area School District and the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. This agreement is to provide IUP student, Angel Shifter, with an internship experience as part of her Counselor Education and Supervision doctoral degree requirements. The length of the internship will be from August through December 2024. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Sub. Student Custodians Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Jamica Horsey, Mackenzie McBride, Gabrielle Keck, and David Catherman, Jr. as substitute student custodians, retroactive to June 10, 2024, at a rate of \$10/hour. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

EDUCATION

Contract

Soaring Heights Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the contract with Soaring Heights for the following special education daily tuition rates during the 2024-2025 school year:

- Autism Services \$310.00 (increase of \$8.00)
- Emotional Support \$310.00 (increase of \$60.00)
- Personal Care Aide \$141.00 (increase of \$4.50)

Mr. Jeremiah Dobo seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Handbooks

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Elementary Parent & Student Handbook for the 2024 - 2025 school year. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Middle School Parent & Student Handbook for the 2024 - 2025 school year. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the High School Parent & Student Handbook for the 2024 - 2025 school year. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY) Handbook for the 2024 – 2025 school year. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

POLICY

1st Reading

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

- Policy 222: Tobacco and Vaping Products
- Policy 227: Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
- Policy 323: Tobacco and Vaping Products
- Policy 351: Controlled Substance Abuse

Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

2nd Reading

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

- Policy 707: Use of School Facilities
- Policy 815.1: Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Education

Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Surplus

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to donate approximately 100 used toddler cots to local organizations. These cots have been replaced with mats. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

TRANSPORTATION & ATHLETICS

Sones Transport, Inc. Contract

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Transportation Contract with Sones Transport, Inc. for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

J. Koleno Resignation Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the resignation of Justin Koleno, Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, effective May 22, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0. Mr. Williamson expressed thanks for the great job that Mr. Koleno did during the time he coached.

Cheer Coaches Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Mallarie Maines as Head Varsity Competitive Cheerleading Coach, effective July 1, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Alisa Liptak as Head Varsity Non-Competitive Cheerleading Coach, effective July 1, 2024. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0. Ms. Liptak was present for the meeting. She thanked the Board for the opportunity and is looking forward to more trips to Hershey to compete.

Football Staff

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following football staff members for the 2024-25 school year:

- Assistant Varsity Football: Todd Dobo
- Head Junior High Football: Lester Smeal
- Assistant Junior High Football: Alvin Hubler

Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 7-0-0. Mr. Melvin Smeal abstained from this vote.

Fall Athletic Volunteers Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following Fall Athletic Volunteers (2024-2025 Season):

- Volleyball: Kody Trude, Taylor Trude, Chad Koleno, Allison Koleno, Rhonda Trude, Carrie Peterson
- Cross Country: David Catanzaro, Jane Catanzaro

Mr. Jeremiah Dobo seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Athletic Handbook Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Student Athletic Handbook for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Coach Handbook Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Coach Athletic Handbook for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

FINANCE & PURCHASE

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

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\$ 140,516.30	Cafeteria Fund Bills Dated 6/25/2024	Checks 4717 through 4739
7,179.21	Visa 5/31/24 Invoice	
1,175,170.94	General Account Dated 5/14/2024 - 6/25/2024	Checks 60197 through 60300
\$1,322,866.45	Grand Total	

Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Treasurer's Report Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Treasurer's Report for May 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Activity Acct. Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Activity Account for May 2024. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

A La Carte Pricing Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the revised a la carte cafeteria pricing list for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Payment of Bills Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the payment of bills through June 30, 2024. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

End of Year Transfers Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Business Manager and local independent auditors to make the necessary month-to-month and end-of-year budgetary transfers to close out the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Student Accident Ins. Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve K-12 Voluntary Student Accident Insurance for the 2024-2025 school year at no cost to the District (paid by parent/guardian). Policy is brokered by AG Administrators, LLC, and underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

General Fund Transfer

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following transfers from General Fund Unassigned balance to the General Fund Assigned accounts:

Music Fund \$3,000Athletic Facility Fund \$5,000Vehicle Fund \$5,000

Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Auditor

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Baker Tilly Virchow Kraus, LLP as the local auditor to complete the 2023-2024 fiscal year audit of the financial statements and related disclosures at the rate of \$30,000. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Depositories

Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following appointments as depositories for district funds and investments for the 2024-2025 school year:

- M&T Bank
- First National Bank of Pennsylvania (FNB)
- CNB Bank
- Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF).
- Pennsylvania Government Local Investment Trust (PLGIT).

Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Insurance Policies

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following insurance policies at the stated rates for the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025:

a) Highmark monthly Medical and prescription insurance rates through the Central Intermediate Unit Insurance Consortium:

Plan 1: Administrators, Teachers, and Act-93 Non-Supervisors:

•	Single:	\$754.48	(Current Rate	\$ 685.91)
•	Employee & Child(ren)	\$1,817.59	(Current Rate	\$1,652.50)
•	Employee & Spouse	\$2,033.02	(Current Rate	\$1,848.24)
•	Family	\$2,332,20	(Current Rate	\$2,120,28)

Plan 1B: Full-Time Support Staff Members:

•	Single:	\$ 784.85	(Current Rate	\$ 713.52)
•	Employee & Child(ren)	\$1,890.96	(Current Rate	\$1,719.20)
•	Employee & Spouse	\$2,114.65	(Current Rate	\$1,922.45)
•	Family	\$2,425.78	(Current Rate	\$2,205.35)

QHDHP Plan: For all Eligible Employees:

•	Single:	\$ 679.99	(Current Rate	\$ 618.19)
•	Employee & Child(ren)	\$1,638.21	(Current Rate	\$1,489.43)
•	Employee & Spouse	\$1,832.31	(Current Rate	\$1,665.78)
•	Family	\$2,101.99	(Current Rate	\$1,911.00)

Eligible Retirees Prior to July 1, 2014:

\$857.38 - COBRA Rate (Current Rate \$779.45)

Eligible Retirees After to July 1, 2014:

- Plan 1: \$800.54 COBRA Rate (Current Rate \$727.79)
 QHDHP: \$693.58 COBRA Rate (Current Rate \$630.55)
- b) General and Property Liability insurance (includes property, general liability, auto, crime, and errors & omissions coverage) underwriter Utica National Insurance Group broker Burns & Burns Associates, at a rate of \$67,771. (9.5% increase)

 Cyber Risk Insurance from Travelers Indemnity Company, broker Burns & Burns Associates, Inc. at a rate of \$8,177.

Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Workers' Comp Ins

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Workers' Comp Insurance through AmTrust, broker Burns & Burns Associates, at a rate of \$26,460, for the term of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Bond Resolution

Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to adopt the Parameters Bond Resolution as presented authorizing and securing a bond issue producing approximately \$15,000,000 for elementary school improvements, and capital projects. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0. Voice Roll Call: Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Dobo – yes; Mr. Porter – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes; Mr. Parks – yes; Mrs. Maines – yes; Mr. Smeal – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. 8 – yes; 0 – no.

New Story Agreement

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Services Agreement between the West Branch Area School District and New Story Schools for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

UGI Utility Right Away Agreement

Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the UGI Utility Right Away Agreement between the West Branch Area School District and the Clearfield County Career and Technology Center. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Payment Application

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment application #2 to Overdorf Snyder Mechanical, Inc. for HVAC work on the Water Heater Replacement Project in the amount of \$34,110.00 (to be paid out of the bond funds). Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

Engineering Costs

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve \$166,995.23 for engineering costs from EI Associates for the Renovation Project (to be paid for out of the bond funds). Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

General Fund Budget

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Final General Fund Budget for the 2024-2025 school year. Providing a total budgeted revenue of \$20,763,468 and total budgeted expenditures of \$21,187,786 with a preliminary budget deficit of \$424,318 and implementing the following tax rates:

- 118.25 mills (increase of 8.45 mills) for Clearfield County and 14.33 mills (increase of 1.02 mills) for Clinton County
- \$5.00 Per Capita (Section 679 School Code)
- \$5.00 Per Capita (Act 511)
- \$10.00 Occupation Tax (Act 511)
- \$10.00 Local Service / Occupational Privilege Tax
- 1.0% Earned Income Tax (shared evenly with municipalities, Act 511)
- 1.0% Real Estate Transfer Tax (shared evenly with municipalities, Act 511)

Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0. Voice Roll Call Mr. Yontosh – yes; Mr. Dobo – yes; Mr. Porter – yes; Mr. Diviney – yes; Mr. Parks – yes; Mrs. Maines – yes; Mrs. Brown – yes. 8 – yes; 0 – no.

Homestead Act

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adopt the 2024 Homestead and Farmstead Resolution in alignment with the approved Final West Branch Area School District General Fund budget. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

OTHER ITEMS FOR ANNOUCNEMENT / DISCUSSION

• July Meeting – July 22, 2024 (if necessary).

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Mr. Norman Parks seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of 8-0-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held following adjournment for the purposes of personnel.

Respectively Submitted,

Stacey Guenot

Secretary to the Board of Education

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