

WEST BRANCH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR SESSION

APRIL 28, 2025

Members Present: Christina Brown, Chad Diviney, Jason Porter, Melvin Smeal, Donald Yontosh

Members Absent: Jeremiah Dobo, James Emigh, Jessica Maines, Norman Parks

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: Sherri Laurusavage, Rob Strickler, Greg Hoover, Layton Lucas, Kenley Kaiser, Dan Michaels, Aimee Willett, Stacey Guenot

OPENING EXERCISES

President Chad Diviney called the meeting to order at 6:54 p.m. All present were asked to stand and pledge allegiance to the American Flag.

STUDENT REPORTS/RECOGNITION

Student athletes, Layton Lucas and Kenley Kaiser visited the Board and were recognized for their recent accomplishments at Keystone Wrestling States and PJW States. William Edwards was not able to attend the meeting but was also recognized for his accomplishments. The future looks bright for West Branch Athletics.

MINUTES

Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the meeting minutes from March 17, 2025. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Kevin Hubler, Middle/High School Principal:

- DUI/Prom Mock Crash Simulation
- State Testing
- WB Envirothon Team
- PMEA Presentation – Lance Jones

Mr. Jesse Husted, Assistant Principal:

- Weapons Detectors
- Discipline and Mental Health
- AEDY Program
- PBIS Rewards

Mrs. Ashley Nunley, Elementary Principal:

- Donkey Basketball Event
- PTO Carnival
- Student Bullying Presentation
- CIU 10 Reading Competition
- Educational Consultant Update

Ms. Angela Lucas, Special Education Supervisor:

- Life Skills Prom
- PASA Testing

Mr. Branden Evans, Technology Coordinator:

- Lightspeed Demo
- AI Camera Project
- Elementary Renovation

Mrs. Leslie Stott, Business Manager:

- Budget Update
- Audit Update
- Health Insurance Consortium

Mr. David Williamson, Athletic Director:

- Spring Athletic Update
- Attendance Comparison
- Physicals for 2025-26

Mr. David Catherman, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds:

- Renovation Meetings
- Boiler Room Cleanup/Painting
- Landscaping
- Boys' Restroom Upgrade
- Boiler Project

Mrs. Tiffany English, Food Service Director:

- Easter Meals
- Grilled Cheese Day
- Wellness Cooking Class
- School Lunch Hero Day
- School Cookouts & Carnival

CIU (Mr. Norman Parks): (absent)

CCCTC (Mr. Jason Porter):

- Skills Competition – Refurbished Computer Project
- PASBO/Dr. Mowery – CCCTC Audit

PSBA (Mr. Chad Diviney): (no report)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held from 7:43 p.m. until 8:20 p.m. for personnel and litigation purposes.

BOARD

Agreement

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Agreement with student and family of student number 300195 and to authorize the Board President and Superintendent to execute any documentation necessary to effectuate the agreement. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

PERSONNEL

Health & PE Teacher	Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Rachelle Sidorick as Girls Health and Physical Education Teacher at a starting salary of \$66,295 (Step 14M), effective with the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
MOA WBESPA	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the West Branch Area School District and the West Branch Education Support Professionals Association related to the Hallway/Cafeteria Monitor Positions. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
Resignation	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the resignation of employee #001151, effective April 28, 2025, and also approve the agreement with the employee and WBESPA. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
MS Yearbook Advisor	Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Kaleb Quick as Middle School Yearbook Advisor, at the contracted rate. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

EDUCATION

Field Trips	<p>Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the 8th Grade to go to Hershey Park on May 28, 2025 (Culminating Middle School Experience). Cost to the District: 2 substitutes; Cost to the Student: \$90 (can be offset through fundraising). (Information Only: 65 students will be attending. Chaperones are Kevin Hubler, Jesse Husted, Angela Lucas, Shayne McCusker, Joe Matson, Kristina Edwards, Abigail Kann, Michelle Guerra, Cheri Cantolina, Rhonda Trude, Pearl Johnson, Lynne Rockey, Kelley Hubler, Danny Clark and Bethany Briskar.) Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.</p> <p>Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Aquatic Biology Class to go to Alder Run and Flat Run on April 29, 2025. Cost to the District: substitute and van; Cost to the Student: none. (Information Only: 7 students will be attending. The chaperones are Georgia Rice, Suzann Rensel, and Stacy Ricciotti.) Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.</p>
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POLICY

1 ST Reading	<p>Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the first reading of the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy 103: Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Students• Policy 103.1 Nondiscrimination-Qualified Students With Disabilities• Policy 104: Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff• Policy 234: Pregnant/Parenting/Married Parents <p>Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.</p>
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BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Penelec Easements	Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the proposed easements necessary for Penelec to install, operate, and maintain the facilities as part
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of the LTIIP upgrade project at the West Branch Area School District. Mr. Melvin Smeal seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

TRANSPORTATION & ATHLETICS

- Driver – Sones Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Jeffrey Reish as van driver for Sones Transport, Inc., starting date pending receipt of paperwork. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
- P. McGonigal Resignation Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the resignation of Paula McGonigal, Assistant Junior High Volleyball Coach, effective May 30, 2025. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
- Head JH Wrestling Coach Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve Steve Sudik as Head Junior High Wrestling Coach effective with the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

FINANCE & PURCHASE

- Disbursements Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the following Disbursements:

\$ 67,053.25	Cafeteria Fund Bills Dated 4/29/2025	Checks 4765 through 4766
8,067.77	Visa 3/31/25 Invoices	
1,101,315.46	General Account Dated 3/17/25 – 4/29/2025	Checks 61495 through 61627
\$ 1,176,436.48	Grand Total	

Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

- Treasurer's Report Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Treasurer's Report for March 2025. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
- Activity Acct. Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve the Activity Account for March 2025. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
- Engineering Costs Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment of \$35,050.53 for February 2025 engineering costs to EI Associates for the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds). Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
- Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment of \$37,656.17 for March 2025 engineering costs to EI Associates for the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds). Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.
- Payments JC Orr Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment application #1 – March 2025 in the amount of \$672,226.06 to JC Orr & Son, Inc. as it relates to the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds). Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment application #2 – April 2025 in the amount of \$1,694,715.75 to JC Orr & Son, Inc. as it

relates to the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds). Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

Payments
Quandel

Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment application #3 – March 2025 in the amount of \$237,011.00 to Quandel Construction Group, LLC as it relates to the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds as detailed in the GESA Agreement). Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment application #4 – April 2025 in the amount of \$950,981.92 to Quandel Construction Group, LLC as it relates to the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds as detailed in the GESA Agreement). Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

Payment
FacTech

Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve payment to FacTech, Inc. in the amount of \$62,498.23 for professional services as it relates to the Renovation Project (to be paid out of bond funds). (October 2024 & December 2024-March 2025) Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

School Zone
Signal Bids

Mr. Melvin Smeal, in the form of a motion, recommended to approve soliciting for bids for the purpose of installing school zone signal upgrades. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

Fire
Protection
Bid

Mrs. Christina Brown, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the bid from S.A. Commune in the amount of \$539,808.00 for fire protection construction associated with the Elementary Renovation Project. Mr. Donald Yontosh seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

Asbestos
Abatement
Bid

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to accept the bid from PRISM Response, LLC in the amount of \$42,926.00 for asbestos abatement construction associated with the Elementary Renovation Project. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it was carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Smeal reminded the board that the beautiful Big Run Park is open to teachers and students to use for activities at no cost. He shared the contact information of Sue Pase for those interested.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Donald Yontosh, in the form of a motion, recommended to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. Mrs. Christina Brown seconded the motion, and it carried with a vote of 5-0-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held following adjournment for the purpose of personnel.

Respectively Submitted,



Stacey Guenot
Secretary to the Board of Education

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