

WELLSBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2026- 6:30 PM

- I. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM, by Mr. Christopher Gastrock.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Gastrock led the pledge of allegiance.
- III. Roll Call of Members – Mrs. Linda West; Mr. Eric Baldwin; Mr. Jerry Curreri; Mr. Daniel Nowak; Mr. Scotty Brown; Mr. Christopher Gastrock; Mrs. Valerie Baltzley; Mrs. Maegan McConnell; Mr. Glen Reese was absent.
- IV. Announcement of any Executive Sessions – Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 5:30 PM in the Conference Room, Administration Office, for the purpose of personnel and legal issues; Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the Conference Room, Administration Office, for the purpose of personnel and legal issues;
- V. Concerned Resident Issues: None, at this time.
- VI. Approval of Agenda – A motion was made by Mr. Dan Nowak, seconded by Mrs. McConnell to approve the agenda as presented. On a voice vote, there were 8 yes votes. Motion passed.

☒ X Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Amended ☐ Tabled ☐ Postponed

- VII. Board Minutes/Financials – A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mrs. McConnell to accept the board minutes and approval of bills as presented. On a voice vote, there were 8 yes votes. Motion passed.

*A. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Re-Organizational Meeting of December 3, 2025;

(Attachment VII-A)

Regular Board Meeting of December 3, 2025;

(Attachment VII-A-1)

*B. Approval of Bills

General Fund Invoices;

(Attachment VII-B)

Disbursements – General Fund;

☒ X Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Amended ☐ Tabled ☐ Postponed

VIII. A. Reports

1. Superintendent - Mrs. Sottolano presented Mr. Al Bieber with a plaque for his years serving the board. She spoke about an anti-bullying assembly that will take place in May and about attending a New Superintendent Academy.
2. Business Manager – Mrs. Jordan DeHaas reported to be working on the budget. She also told the board the auditors will be attending the February work session to present.
3. Board Members – Mr. Jerry Curreri asked to have a time slot during the February work session to present on the use of computers in the classroom.
4. Student Representatives – Ms. Claire Smith gave the presentation for the high school student body.
5. Public Relations Follow-Up – None, at this time.

IX. CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Baldwin to approve the Consent Items as follows.

1. ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

*A. Tax Collection Committee Delegate Appointment Resolution

Consideration of approval to adopt Tax Collection Committee Delegate Appointment Resolution for Tioga County and Lycoming County, as presented. (Attachment IX-1A)

*B. Approval of WASD Teacher Equity Plan for School Year 2025-26

Consideration of approval of Wellsboro Area School District Teacher Equity Plan for School Year 2025-2026 as required by DPE Federal Programs. (Attachment IX-1B)

C. Approval of Curtailment of CTE CIP 46.0201 Carpentry/Carpenter

Consideration of approval of curtailment of CTE CIP 46.0201 Carpentry/Carpenter effective at the conclusion of the 2025-26 school year due to low enrollment. Students interested in Carpentry will transition to the CTE Construction program curriculum.

D. Approval of Curtailment of CTE CIP 01.0601 Applied Horticulture/Horticultural Operations

Consideration of approval of curtailment of CTE CIP 01.0601 Applied Horticulture/Horticultural Operations as supported by the Occupational Advisory Committee vote in May 2023, due to low enrollment.

*E. Approval of WASD School Calendar for School Year 2026-2027

Consideration of approval for the WASD School Calendar for School Year 2026-2027 as presented. (Attachment IX-1E)

2. PERSONNEL

*A. Extra-Curricular Resignations

Consideration of approval to accept letters of resignation from:

1. Andrew Borzok, as Middle School Soccer Head Coach, effective November 29, 2025;
2. Ethan Nichols, as High School Football Assistant Coach, effective December 1, 2025;
3. Todd Outman, Middle School Boys Basketball Assistant Coach, effective December 27, 2025;
4. **Todd Fitch, High School Boys Soccer Head Coach, effective January 12, 2026;**

B. Approval of Professional Resignations Due to Retirement

Consideration of approval to accept letters of resignation due to retirement from:

1. Kevin Post, Middle School Special Education Teacher, with regret, effective June 5 2026;
2. Daren Getty, Don Gill Title I Reading Specialist, with regret, effective June 5, 2026;

C. Approval of WESPA Staff Resignation Due to Retirement

Consideration of approval to accept letter of resignation due to retirement from Beverly Wesneski, Charlotte Lappla L.P.N. School Nurse, with regret, effective June 5, 2026;

D. Approval of WESPA Support Staff Resignation

Consideration of approval to accept letter of resignation from Douglas Love, High School Custodian, effective January 10, 2026;

E. Approval of Custodial Substitute for School Year 2025-2026

Consideration of approval of Douglas Love as a custodial substitute at the rate of

\$16.00 per hour; current clearances have been received;

3. STUDENT

*A. Approval of Overnight Field Trip Request

Consideration of approval for the following overnight field trip request:

1. Melanie Berndtson, High School Ag/Science Teacher, to take 15 Grand Canyon FFA High School students to PA Farm Show, Harrisburg, PA on January 16-17, 2026
Expenditures paid through FFA Account. (Attachment IX-3A)

Mrs. West – Yes	Mr. Brown – Yes	Mrs. Baltzley – Yes
Mrs. McConnell – Yes	Mr. Curreri – Yes	Mr. Gastrock – Yes
Mr. Nowak – Yes	Mr. Baldwin – Yes	

☒ X Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Amended ☐ Tabled ☐ Postponed

X. ACTION ITEMS:

A motion was made by Mrs. West, seconded by Mrs. McConnell to approve the Action Items as follows.

1. ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

*A. Approval of Adoption of Resolution

Consideration of approval for the adoption of Resolution of the Board of Education for the Wellsboro Area School District indicating that the District will not raise the rate of any tax for support of its public schools for the 2026-27 fiscal year by more than the index established by the Department of Education of 4.5%. (Attachment X-1A)

*B. Approval of First Reading of Revised WASD Policy #815

Consideration of approval for the first reading of revised Wellsboro Area School District Policy #815 – Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources; (Attachment X-1B)

Mrs. West – Yes	Mr. Brown – Yes	Mrs. Baltzley – Yes
Mrs. McConnell – Yes	Mr. Curreri – Yes	Mr. Gastrock – Yes
Mr. Nowak – Yes	Mr. Baldwin – Yes	

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2. PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mrs. McConnell to approve the Action Items as follows.

A. Extra-Curricular Volunteer Appointments for School Year 2024-25

Consideration of approval for the following extra-curricular volunteer appointments for School Year 2024-25; required clearances have been submitted;

1. Donna Hawk, Volunteer for WASD School Activities, effective for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year;
2. Kristin Boggs, Volunteer for WASD School Activities, effective for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year;
3. Jennifer Swift Bowers, Volunteer for Middle School Lego Robotics, effective for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year;

4. Jill Kephart, Volunteer for WASD School Activities, effective for the reminder of the 2025-26 school year;
5. Lundy Spinner, Volunteer for the High School Boys Track Team for School Year 2025-26;

***B. Approval of Conference Requests**

Consideration of approval for the following conference requests:

1. Dr. Ben Largey, School Psychologist and Tammy Giarth, Wellsboro On-Line Academy Lead Teacher, to attend the PETE & C Conference in Hershey, PA on February 1 - 4, 2026, for sessions related to the greatest and latest in educational technology. Costs: Approximately \$3,377 (Includes Travel - \$152; Lodging - \$1980; Meals - \$100; Registration - \$650; Substitute Costs: \$495 (Attachment X-2B-1)
2. Becky Rawson, Middle School Math Teacher and Jennifer Outman, Middle School Science Teacher, to attend PASAP Conference in State College, PA on February 22 - 24, 2026, for sessions related to effective initiatives and strategies for students experiencing barriers to their learning and school or life success. Costs: approximately \$3,031 (includes Travel - \$201.60; Lodging - \$600; Meals - \$240; Registration - \$1,000; Substitute Costs - \$990; (Attachment X-2B-2)
3. Joyce Butler, Administrative Assistant Child Accounting/Registrar, to attend "2026 PDE Data Summit" on March 30 – April 1, 2026 in Hershey, PA; Costs: Travel - \$210; Lodging: \$500; Meals - \$150; Registration - \$325 TOTAL: \$1,185 (Attachment X-2B-3)
4. Isaac Cary, Don Gill Computer Teacher, to attend the PETE & C Conference in Hershey, PA on February 1 – 4, 2026 covering the latest and greatest in educational technology; Costs: Lodging: \$495; Meals: \$100; Registration \$325; Substitute costs: \$495; TOTAL: \$1,415 (Attachment X-2B-4) Budgeted
5. Brent English, Don Gill Third Grade Teacher, to attend the PETE & C Conference in Hershey, PA on February 1 – 4, 2026 covering the latest and greatest in educational technology; Costs: Lodging - \$495; Meals: \$100; Registration: \$325; Substitute costs: \$495; TOTAL: \$1,415 (Attachment X-2B-5) Budgeted
6. Brigitte Ostrom-Largey, Elementary Guidance Counselor, to attend the PETE & C Conference in Hershey, PA on February 1 – 4, 2026 covering the latest and greatest in educational technology; Costs: Meals: \$100; (Attachment X-2B-6) Budgeted
7. Jessica Palmer (Unruh), Charlotte Lappla Kindergarten Teacher, to attend the PETE & C Conference in Hershey, PA on February 1 – 4, 2026 covering the latest and greatest in educational technology; Costs: Travel: \$152; Lodging: \$492; Meals: \$45; Registration: \$325; Substitute costs: \$495 TOTAL: \$1,509 (Attachment X-2B-7) Budgeted
8. Rachel Smith, District-Wide Librarian, to attend the PETE & C Conference in Hershey, PA on February 1 – 4, 2026 covering the latest and greatest in educational technology; Costs: Travel - \$105; Lodging: \$495; Meals - \$100; Registration: \$325; TOTAL: \$1025 (Attachment X-2B-8) Budgeted
9. Marcia Smith Kenyon, Elementary Special Education Teacher, to attend "QBS Trainer Recertification" in State College, PA on March 17, 2026; Costs: Travel: \$127.40; Meals: \$10.00; Substitute Costs: \$165; TOTAL: \$302.40 (Attachment X-2B-9)

C. Approval of Homebound Teacher for School Year 2025-26

Consideration of approval of Jamie Madlock, High School Special Education Teacher, to provide homebound instruction for Homebound Student #1 2025-2026 commencing at a date

of December 18, 2025 at the rate of \$38.00 per hour (5 hrs. instruction per week plus 1 hr. of prep time per week) and mileage allowed at the IRS rate of \$.70 per mile.

D. Approval of Long-Term Substitute Art Teacher

Consideration of approval of hire of Erica Parzych as Long-Term Substitute Art Teacher at Step #1, Bachelors, salary of \$56,866, effective start date of January 14, 2026;

Mrs. West – Yes

Mr. Brown – Yes

Mrs. Baltzley – Yes

Mrs. McConnell – Yes

Mr. Curreri – Yes

Mr. Gastrock – Yes

Mr. Nowak – Yes

Mr. Baldwin – Yes

☒ X Approved

☐ Disapproved

☐ Amended

☐ Tabled

☐ Postponed

XII. Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nowak to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Gastrock
Board Secretary

