

May 12, 2025

A regular voting meeting of the Washington School Board was held on Monday, May 12, 2025 in the high school media center.

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 pm by President Sparks-Gatling followed by the pledge of allegiance, mission statement and audio/vision statement.

Roll Call:

Members Present:	Mrs. Rhonda Barnes	Mr. Rodney Jones
	Mr. Eric Bird	Mrs. Kimberly Kelley
	Mr. John Campbell, Sr.	Mrs. Amy Roberts
	Mrs. Jennifer Ewing	Mrs. Tara Sparks-Gatling

Absent: Mrs. Pamela Kilgore

Non-Voting Member Present: Mr. George Lammay, Superintendent

Present: Mrs. Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary
Mr. Richard Mancini, Director of District Operations (via phone)
Mrs. Rebecca Heaton-Hall, Solicitor

Executive Session: The Board met in executive session prior to the start of the meeting to discuss personnel issues. No action was taken.

President Welcomes Visitors: Mrs. Sparks-Gatling extended a welcome to the public and stated the following, “In accordance with Washington School District Policy No. 005 entitled “Public Participation at Meetings”, this public participation session shall not exceed 20 minutes. Any individual resident may make comments not to exceed three minutes. Any resident who wishes to address the Board should have submitted to the President of the Board or to the Board’s Secretary a written statement including their name and address, the name of the group the speaker is representing, if any, and the general nature of the topic and comments to be made. Any resident who has not submitted a written request shall have the right to speak, time permitting by raising his or her hand so that they may be recognized. No one having any desire to speak, the meeting continued.

Questions on the Agenda: The Board reviewed the agenda.

Agenda: Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mr. Jones seconded that the minutes of the April 22, 2025 regular voting meeting be approved.

Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the April 30, 2025 Treasurer’s Report be accepted as information, said report showing the following book balances:

	<u>April 30, 2025</u>
General Fund	\$ 384,566.22
Payroll Account	\$ 32,141.34
Cafeteria Account	\$ 11,377.03
WHS Athletic Account	\$ 6,643.53

WHS Activities Account	\$ 75,681.09
WPS Activities Account	\$ 33,465.44
WSD PSDLAF-Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 148,557.88
WSD-PSDLAF-Expendable Benefit Trust	\$ 89,149.39

Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel: Mrs. Barnes moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Resolution No. 2024-2025-1 of the Washington School District authorizing a Statement of Charges and unpaid leave for Employee #1982, as submitted to the Board.

Motion denied, members present voting as follows:

-Mrs. Barnes	-yes	Mr. Jones	-yes
-Mr. Bird	-no	Mrs. Kelley	-no
-Mr. Campbell	-no	Mrs. Roberts	-no
-Mrs. Ewing	-no	Mrs. Sparks-Gatling	-yes

Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Grant permanent contracts, in accordance with the School Laws of Pennsylvania, to the following teachers who have completed at least three years of satisfactory service and are properly certified:

**Christie Cypher, Jacqueline Jaroszynski, Lauren Kasula, Ashley Kern
Sadie Sabo, Raven Sherbine and Amy Strang**

-Resignation of **Ashlea Presto**, cafeteria worker, after six months in the district, retroactive to April 27, 2025.

-Resignation of **Adrianna Williams** as a full-time paraprofessional, after six days in the district, retroactive to April 28, 2025. Ms. Williams is returning to be a substitute paraprofessional.

-Resignation of **Siobhan Visser** as the sponsor for National Honor Society and Future Teachers of America, effective at the end of this school year.

-Supplemental employment of the following staff for summer school programs:

Summer Learning Academy – Grades K-6

Program Coordinator – **Tiffani Lusk**

Teachers – **Keri Griffith, Tiffani Titler, Ashley Belcastro, Amy Strang,
Christie Cypher, Amie Camps and Taylor Montgomery**

Junior High Summer Learning Academy – Grades 7-8

Special Education Teacher – **Ron Todd**

Summer Learning Academy – Grades 9-12

Special Education Teacher – **Jessica Gardner**

Extended School Year (ESY)

Coordinator/Speech Therapist – **Keri Griffith**

Special Education Teachers – **Jessica Gardner, Ron Todd, Amie Camps,
Joshua O'Brien, Kyleigh Felio and Nicole Naumoff**

Paraprofessionals – **Courtney Carroll, Joy Cumer, Jocelyn Floyd, Haeley Gordon, Abigail Mahan, Wendy Harris and Robert Anderson**

-Supplemental employment of the following teachers as Cyber Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year, at the contractual stipend, not to exceed three (3) hours per week, unless approved by the Cyber Administrator.

Jeff Devenney	Jessica Gardner	Amie Camps
Marsha Mosca	Jessica Ott	Andrew Spargur
Siobhan Visser	Ron Todd	Michelle Wendell
Christie Cypher	Corbi Spargur	Josh Barrette
Tiffany Morris	Tiffenie Russell	Erica Ola
Diana Fronzaglio	Ali Cottom	Julia Calder
Robert Strnisha	Antoinette Dirda	Natalie Hess

-Approval of **Marie Mazza-Higgins, Cayla Jones, Terri Perri, Kelli Benner, and Michelle Pittas**, paraprofessionals and foodservice workers, to work as summer substitute custodians, at a rate of \$15 per hour.

-Approval of **Jamie Wolfe, Lucinda Sworcheck, Julia Winters, Tayvone France, Tayler Barnes, Eric Everett, Nicholas Sicchitano, Diego Velasquez, Shawanti Fuller, Jean Yandel and Geoffrey Brown** and as substitute custodians for the summer months, at the rate of \$14 per hour.

-Conference requests, in accordance with the policy of the District as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| a. Teresa Booker | -The Art of Coaching Volleyball Clinic - Harrisburg, PA |
| Gretchen Battafaran | June 6, 7 and 8, 2025 |
| | Estimated cost – \$690 per person |

Motion carried on all items listed above and Mrs. Kelley abstained from voting on the Adrianna Williams item.

Athletics: Mr. Campbell moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Recommend **Mike Bosnic** as the Athletic Director for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Roberts moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Resignation of **Jason Porterfield** as Athletic Trainer, effective June 6, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

Board Policy: Mr. Jones moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the Board approve the following:

-First read, pursuant to Washington School District Policy No. 001, of the following policy:

Policy #801 – Transportation of Students

-Second reading and adoption, pursuant to Washington School District Policy No. 001, of the following policy:

Policy #823 – Conflict of Interest

Motion carried unanimously.

Contracts, Agreements and Grants: Mrs. Roberts moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Agreement with Redstone Rehabilitation Services to provide physical and occupational therapy to qualified school age students for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years and for the extended school year services for June/July 2026 and 2027, at the following costs:

Physical Therapist	\$58.00 per hour
Occupational Therapist	\$58.00 per hour
Occupational Therapist Assistant	\$48.00 per hour

-Five year Cyber Services agreement with Seneca Valley School District, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030.

-The following Intermediate Unit 1 Agreements for the 2025-2026 school year:

- a. Educational Services Agreement
- b. Access Services Agreement – IU1 – Based Staff
- c. Access Reimbursement Service Agreement – Administrative Support Only
- d. Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth Educational Services Agreement
- e. Curriculum Services Agreement
- f. ESL Agreement
- g. MOU for Outpatient Mental Health Provider

Motion carried unanimously.

Business and Finance: Mrs. Roberts moved and Mr. Campbell seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Designation of Depositories for school funds.

Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Board Treasurer: Mr. Bird moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded that the Board approve the following:

-That the Board name **Jennifer Ewing** to serve as school district Treasurer From July 1, 2025 to July 1, 2026. *(The Board of School Directors shall annually, during the month of May, elect a treasurer to serve for one year beginning the first day in July following such election.)*

Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Board Secretary: Mrs. Roberts moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the Board approve the following:

-That the Board re-elect **Lisa Coffield** as Board Secretary for a four-year term, effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029. *(The Board secretary is elected in May of every fourth year for a four-year term. The secretary's present term expires on June 30, 2025.)*

Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of Tax Collectors: Mr. Campbell moved and Mr. Jones seconded that the Board approve the following:

-RESOLVED, that **Anthony Nicolella**, the duly elected Treasurer of the City of Washington, is hereby appointed Tax Collector for the Business Privilege Tax and Mercantile Tax and the delinquent Business Privilege Tax and Mercantile Tax in the City of Washington for the year 2025 effective July 1, 2025, to collect taxes levied by the Washington School District under the provisions of the Local Tax Enabling Act approved December 31, 1965, Act No. 511, as amended, provided said Tax Collector has posted the surety bond or bonds as required by law, the compensation and cost of such collection for the City to be in accordance with the Joint Tax Agreement between the City of Washington and the Washington School District approved by the School District on May 21, 2007.

RESOLVED, that Kratzenberg & Associates, Inc. d/b/a **Keystone Collections Group** is hereby appointed Tax Collector for the collection of per capita tax and delinquent per capita tax for the City of Washington and the Borough of East Washington and collection of the current business privilege/mercantile tax and delinquent business privilege/mercantile tax in the Borough of East Washington.

RESOLVED, that Kratzenberg & Associates, Inc. d/b/a **Keystone Collections Group** is hereby appointed Tax Collector for occupational privilege tax now known as local services tax and delinquent local services tax in the City of Washington and the Borough of East Washington.

RESOLVED, that Kratzenberg & Associates, Inc. d/b/a **Keystone Collections Group** is hereby appointed Deputy Tax Collector for current real estate taxes in the City of Washington.
(Dawn Petrosky is the duly elected real estate tax collector for the Borough of East Washington through December 31, 2025.)

Motion carried unanimously.

Preliminary Budget for the 2025-2026 School Year: Mrs. Roberts moved and Mrs. Ewing seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Adopt the Preliminary Budget for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$34,778,451 dollars and set the preliminary millage rate at 14.3672. This is a decrease from last year's millage rate of 15.3696. The Board directs and authorizes the Administration to timely submit the Preliminary Budget to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for review in accordance with Act 1.

Motion carried unanimously.

ATSI Plan: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Barnes seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Submission of the Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) Plan for the Junior High School for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ratification and Payment of Bills: Mrs. Ewing moved and Mrs. Kelley seconded that the Board approve the following:

-Ratification and payment of bills in the amount of \$1,352,041.35.

Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

-Copy Machines at the Jr/Sr High School – Mr. Mancini reviewed the location of copy machines at the jr/sr high school. Mr. Campbell is concerned that more copiers might be needed to meet the needs of the teaching staff. Mr. Mancini stated he will look into the matter.

-The Athletic Committee requested the following six items be discussed:

1. Comprehensive list of various issues for the stadium's athletic director to seek consultation
2. Installation of a new rubber floor in the weight room from Advantage Sport & Fitness, Inc., at a cost of \$18,769.92
3. Five-year lease agreement with Advantage Sport & Fitness, Inc. for cardio equipment for all students to use in the weight room, at a cost of \$29,998
4. Award banner for the wrestling 100-winner club from Novum Designs, at a cost of \$187.50
5. Purchase a blow-up entry archway from BSN Sports, at a cost of \$4,500
6. Create a middle school soccer program and post for a coach

Mr. Mancini reviewed the process for requesting budgeting items for Board approval. All items should be sent to the business manager by February to be reviewed and included for the next year's budget. Anything over \$11,000 needs to go out for bidding. Low-cost items can be put through on the district's requisition system. Money will be allocated in the athletic budget for the stipend to pay a middle school soccer coach and the position will be posted.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Lammay's report included information on teacher staffing for 2025-2026, a list of meetings he has attended, PSSA testing and Keystone Exams.

Solicitor's Report: Attorney Heaton-Hall had no report.

Special Representative Reports

-Western Area Career & Technology Center – Mrs. Sparks-Gatling stated that they are still working on ratifying their teacher contract and working on bids for the new machine/auto shop. All shops are fully staffed, there are no survey results on the co-op opportunities and Washington still doesn't have any students enrolled in any co-op programs.

-PSBA – Mrs. Kilgore was absent from the meeting.

-Parking Authority – Mr. Mancini stated that they paid bills and bond payments. Their next meeting is June 4th.

-Citywide Development Corporation (CDC) – No Report

-Updates from Activities, Education and Policy Committee Representatives:

Activities Committee (Mr. Bird) – Mr. Bird – Most of their items were discussed above under New Business, they did have some calls from community members regarding the Prom King and Prom Queen and they discussed fixing the auxiliary gym at the elementary school for the wrestling program.

Education Committee (Mrs. Roberts) – Mrs. Roberts – Their meeting is this Thursday.

Policy Committee (Mrs. Ewing) – Mrs. Ewing – They met last Wednesday and discussed the two policies that were approved at tonight's meeting. Their next meeting is June 11th.

Information

- A. **June Board Meeting** – Monday, June 16, 2025 at 6:30 pm in the high school media center
- B. **Job Conference Reports for High School Exterior Improvement Project**
- C. **Awards Day Programs**
 - Elementary School (Grades 5 and 6) – Tuesday, June 3rd at 1:00 pm in the auditorium
 - Junior High School – Monday, June 2nd at 1:30 pm in the high school gym
 - High School – Tuesday, June 3rd at 9:00 pm in the high school gym
- D. **Graduation and Last Day for Students** – Thursday, June 5th
- E. **Clerical Day** – Friday, June 6th
- F. **Kennywood Day** – Washington School District's Kennywood Day is Saturday, June 14th

Adjournment: Moved by Mrs. Ewing and seconded by Mrs. Kelley that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously. 7:45 pm

/s/ Lisa Coffield
Lisa Coffield, Board Secretary