



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
AMERICAS  
MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT  
WEST POINT SCHOOLS  
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY  
WEST POINT, NEW YORK 10996-1196**

April 3, 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes of West Point School Board Meeting, April 3, 2019

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting of the West Point School Board was called to order by Mrs. Evangelista on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 4:35 PM in the West Point MS Media Center.

2. **Members Present were:**

Heather Evangelista, President  
Jennifer Black, Board Member  
Helen Balilo, Community Superintendent, via Skype

Kirk Ingold, Board Member  
Denise Eves, Board Clerk, via Skype

**Others Present:**

Miles Shea, WPMS Principal  
Aristian Torregano, WPES Assistant Principal  
Lauren Lebiechnik, PTO  
Gala Edgar, Union representative  
Tim Pillsworth, USACE  
Melissa Prosperie  
Valerie Morgan  
Tom Cowan, USAG

Denise DeMarco, WPES Principal  
Angie Lamonski, ISS  
Terry DeLay, Administrative Officer  
Michi Carl, SLO  
Marta Haxz  
Kelly Bluman  
Sarah Kline  
Sue Kerns

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mrs. Black made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Ingold seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the agenda was approved.

4. **APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES:** The minutes from the March 2019 meeting were reviewed. Mrs. Black motioned to approve the past minutes. Mr. Ingold seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the minutes were approved.

5. **MILCON Report:** Mr. Pillsworth gave an update.

- Moisture barrier complete on all roofs.
- Dry wall placement on lower level 90% complete
- Main power feed to building completed on 23 March 2019
- School turnover (90 day transition) 26 July 2019 per last schedule update
- Move in date would be around Christmas.

Mr. Pillsworth stated that the Board would need to set a date for the walking tour of the new building.

6. **School Updates/Presentations:** Middle School presented a version of a Utopian Society which was completed in ELA.

7. **INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE SCHOOL BOARD:** None

8. **BOARD PRESIDENT COMMENTS:** Thanks-a-latte for March Middle School improvement meeting: AVID Mrs. Granger  
Elementary school student: Dr. Sue Kerns on the new yearbook.

## 9. REPORTS

### a. **PTO Report:** given by Mrs. Lebiednik

**Cadet for a Day:** March 21<sup>st</sup> all the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students attended and choose who they wanted to send a thank you to the Cadets.

**Spare one:** ES

**School requests are coming in**

PTO purchased the Bull Dog mascot

Elections of the new board is April 24<sup>th</sup> during the book fair

### b. **SLO Report:** Report given by Michi Carl

✚ Keeping Your Children Safe in Today's Digital World was a success, well received by the parents. Many stayed long after the program ended to ask more in depth questions. COL Marson opened and closed the formal portion of the presentation.

✚ Reminder that the USAG Volunteer Recognition Ceremony will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-3:00 at the USMAPS auditorium

Mrs. Evangelista asked the following:

✚ Will "See the Point" occur this summer? The logistics for this initiative will begin in early May.

✚ Will the HS Boat Ride occur this August? Yes, this is already locked in.

## 10. CONTINUING BUSINESS:

**Staffing numbers:** None

**Second and Third Grade:** None

**School Calendar:** Mrs. Balilo stated that the early release Wednesday will stay as is and no additional day will be added for Professional development.

## 11. NEW BUSINESS:

**5<sup>th</sup> grade rotation:** Some parents are concerned about the movement of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade to the new Elementary School. The following questions were asked by parents:

- Could they be allowed to finish up in the MS?
- Could there be a parent forum to hear the parents concern about the move?

Mrs. Balilo is very happy to host a forum for the parents to discuss their concerns. May would be a good time to set up the forum.

- Is it locked in stone to keep the 5<sup>th</sup> graders to stay at the MS?

Mrs. Balilo stated that this is locked in stone. She is willing to listen to the parents to concerns.

Mrs. Evangelista stated that a parent had said that the current 4<sup>th</sup> graders may feel like they are being demoted if they move to WPMS to start the year and then move to the new WPES. A parent said that her children did not feel that it was a demotion. Mrs. Balilo stated that we will work to ensure that all the students are excited about moving into the new building. There will be student tours to see the new building. The date for the parent forum will be April 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.


**FLES:** parents would like to add a FLES club to have options for those students who were in the FLES class. The question was asked: What will be put in the rotation spot during that rotation?

Mrs. DeMarco stated that Digital Arts which will integrate STEAM. Mrs. Balilo stated that this program was implemented at Crossroads ES and it has been received well by the students and parents.

**Clubs:** Per Mrs. Evangelista the major concern from families about the additional time teachers will have to be at the school is how this going may impact the climate and clubs? Is the 4:00 dismissal for teachers going to impact the clubs? Mrs. Balilo stated that DoDEA Mid-Atlantic is deciding to increase the teacher duty day by 30 minutes. As the 8<sup>th</sup> hour was rolled out, there has been strict guidance on how the 30 mins are to be used. Mrs. Evangelista asked how will this impact the clubs? Mrs. Balilo stated that if a teacher was sponsoring a club, they could adjust their day to come in 30 mins earlier so it doesn't impact the clubs. Both administrators stated that there is no impact on the clubs for this 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

12. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the West Point School Board will be held on May 1, 2019 at 4:30 PM at West Point Middle School in the Information Center.

13. **ADJOURN MEETING:** Mrs. Black motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ingold seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:50 PM.

Approved by:   
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Helen Balilo  
Community Superintendent

  
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for Heather Evangelista  
President, West Point School Board