



Whitmore Lake Public Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2021 – Virtual per E.O. under MCL333.2253 – 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Meadows (*President*); *Green Oak Township*, Michelle Kritzman (*Vice President*); *Northfield Township*, Laura Schwennesen (*Treasurer*); *Northfield Township*, Lisa McCully (*Secretary*); *Northfield Township*, Lee Cole (*Trustee*); *Northfield Township*, Bob Henry (*Trustee*); *Green Oak Township*, and Frank Zolenski (*Trustee*); *Green Oak Township*

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser, Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry, Elementary Lead Teacher and Literacy Coach, Heidi Roy-Borland, High School Dean of Students, Linda Lupi, Director of Student Services, Melissa Heuker, Community Relations & Recreation Director, Maria Carter-Ewald, and Athletic Director, Brad McCormack

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff, parents and members of the community

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:01 p.m. by President John Meadows.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the revised agenda as presented made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Henry.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council Representative, Samantha Ogden shared they are planning to meet this week to discuss Snowcoming events which take place next week

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Schwennesen shared the Executive Committee met earlier this month. Topics included vaccine updates from the MDHHS, student enrollment, and state funding.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2021 Board of Education Organizational-Regular Meeting and the January 18, 2021 closed sessions was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Cole.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$370,532 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$386,319 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of January 15, 2021, and January 31, 2021 made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Cole

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Reaffirm Instructional Delivery

Motion to approve the February Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan Reconfirmation Report was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Kritzman.

Superintendent DeKeyser updated the Board, sharing student engagement levels were in the upper-nineties during January. He also shared WLPS will continue to follow the original plan and offer in-person instruction for all students and parents who selected the option.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

NEW BUSINESS

2021 Revised Europe Trip Proposal

Motion to approve the revised proposal for a WLHS overnight trip submitted by Jill Henry, MS/HS Principal, and Candy Huddleston, High School Teacher, for a trip in June 2021, for 10 days, to Europe was made by Mr. Cole; supported by Mr. Henry.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

2022 Washington D.C. Trip Proposal

Motion to approve the revised proposal for a 7th through 9th grade overnight trip to Gettysburg and Washington D.C. from March 14, 2022 through March 17, 2022 submitted by MS/HS teachers Eric Kobeck and Kathryn Woods was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.

Mr. Meadows inquired about the different grade levels. MS/HS Principal Jill Henry shared the 7th & 8th grade trip scheduled for this year was cancelled due to COVID-19. Including the 9th grade next year allows those students to not miss out on the opportunity to visit Washington D.C.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

School of Choice

Motion to approve Whitmore Lake Public Schools as a School of Choice district with limited enrollment for students in grade K – 6 and unlimited enrollment for students in grade levels 7 - 12 in all programs for the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year pursuant to Sections 105 and 105 (c) of the State School Aid Act made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Kritzman.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Financial Report

Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, updated the Board with information regarding the January 31, 2021 financial report.

MASB Board of Directors Election

Mr. Meadows announced Board members may choose to vote for one of the five candidates representing Region 7 to serve on the board of directors for MASB for a three-year term.

Motion to nominate candidate Mara Greatorex representing Region 7 to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors for MASB was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Cole.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

ORS 3% Taxable Status Resolution

Motion to approve a resolution prepared by Thrun Law Firm regarding the proposed Closing Agreement pertaining to the ORS 3% Healthcare contributions was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Henry.

Mrs. Kerrigan shared the Michigan School retirement system was changed in 2012 requiring a 3% healthcare contribution.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Henry – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Cole – yes. Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 - 0

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Eagle Scout Project

Superintendent DeKeyser introduced Eagle Scout candidate, Gabriel Semrau. Gabriel presented the board with plans for a possible outdoor theater, which would include a chalkboard on a 13' X 10' platform. He also shared the structure would be built at the Elementary School in the open area between the playground and parking lot and would also include bench seating if enough funds are raised.

Elementary Academic Achievement

Elementary Lead Teacher and Literacy Coach Heidi Roy-Borland provided an overview of the fall 2020 academic performance results in the NWEA/MAP scores.

Mr. DeKeyser shared the following:

- 1) COVID-19 vaccination – WCHD has been working to get more vaccines done. He also noted 30% of WLPS employees will have received 1 dose by the end of the week.
- 2) Elementary School – Administration is looking into having Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences on March 18, 2021 and March 19, 2021 and promoting March 19, 2021 as an asynchronous day to accommodate day-time conferences.

OTHER INFORMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, March 8, 2021.

The next Finance Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, March 15, 2021.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Theater, unless an Executive Order requires the meeting to be held virtually.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mrs. Kritzman announced Drama Club is planning a Talent Show to be presented virtually the weekend of March 5, 2021. She also shared it is open to all students in the district.

Mrs. Schwennesen announced Varsity Quiz Bowl will be competing in the state tournament on April 17, 2021. She also shared this will be a virtual event and encourages everyone to watch it.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:38 p.m. made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Zolenski.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - 7; Nays - 0, motion carried 7 - 0.



*Lisa C. McCully, Secretary, Board of Education
Whitmore Lake Public Schools*

3/22/2021

Date