



**Whitmore Lake Public Schools**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
*Regular Meeting Minutes*  
**June 14, 2021 – High School Media Center – 6:00 p.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Meadows (*President*), Laura Schwennesen (*Treasurer*), Lisa McCully (*Secretary*), Bob Henry (*Trustee*), and Frank Zolenski (*Trustee*)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Lee Cole (*Trustee*), and Michelle Kritzman (*Vice President*)

**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, Director of Student Services, Melissa Heuker, and Athletic Director, Brad McCormack

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Staff, parents and members of the community

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 6:03 p.m. by President John Meadows.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried

**BUDGET HEARING**

Mrs. Kerrigan acknowledged the main purpose of the budget hearing is to set the amounts that will be levied for 2021 per the MCL Headlee rollback. She shared the increase in revenue for the 2020-2021 is from COVID relief funding and reimbursements from Medicaid, and she received information today that WLPS was awarded the ESSER II funds from the federal government. Mrs. Kerrigan shared these changes would leave a projected 6.4% General Fund balance for 2020-2021.

Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan reviewed the proposed budget recommendations for the 2021-2022 school year, answering all Board member questions.

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the 2021-2022 budget does not reflect the purchase of two new buses, new math curriculum, and contracts in negotiation. He also shared the projected total fund balance would be between 6.4 – 12%.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Athletic Director, Brad McCormack shared the spring sports accomplishments and recognitions with Board members. He also congratulated all team members and coaches on the great season.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Meadows reported the Finance Committee met earlier this evening. Topics included the 2021-2022 budget, math curriculum, purchase of new buses, and contract negotiations.

Mrs. Schwennesen shared the Executive Committee met on June 7, 2021. Topics included the district property, LCA Lease, GLTW Montessori School, budget impact, and contract negotiations.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

*Motion to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2021 Board of Education Regular Meeting was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Henry.*

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

*Motion to approve fund transfer of \$214,928 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$424,942 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of May 14, 2021, and May 28, 2021 made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Henry.*

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

*Reaffirm Instructional Delivery*

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

Superintendent DeKeyser updated the Board, sharing the student attendance rate was in the mid 90% with a slight drop in June do to graduated seniors. He added, the public comments were generally positive, with the majority ready to return to pre-COVID learning.

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

**NEW BUSINESS**  
*MHSAA Resolution*

*Motion to adopt the Michigan High School Athletic Association Resolution for the year August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mrs. McCully.*

*Roll Call Vote: Mr. Henry – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes.*

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

*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 10 day trip to Europe in December 2021 was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Henry.*

MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry, updated the Board with the revised dates sharing due to COVID-19 the dates were again revised. She also noted this is the same trip that was originally approved in 2019 for travel during the 2021 spring break, then revised and approved in February 2021 for a June departure date. Mrs. Henry answered all Board members questions and concerns regarding 2021 graduates attending.

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

*2023 Europe Trip Proposal*

*Motion to approve the proposal for a WLHS overnight Trip submitted by Jill Henry, MS/HS Principal and Candy Huddleston, High School Teacher, for a spring break trip in 2023, for 10 days to Europe was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Zolenski.*

MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry, shared that requesting the proposal 2 years prior to departure will allow students/parents time for fundraising efforts and to make a lower monthly payments. She also noted, several families who had previous siblings attend show interest to attend this trip.

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

*Personnel*

*Motion to approve the hire of Allison Gyurich as a full time Early Childhood and Kindergarten Special Education Teacher at step 1 on the WLEA BA salary scale with a hire date of June 2, 2021 and a start date of August 18, 2021 was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.*

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

*Financial Report*

Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, updated the Board with information regarding the May 31, 2021 financial report. She also reported additional revenue is still coming in for the general fund.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. DeKeyser shared the following:

- 1) Congratulations and Kudos: spring sports team members and coaches on their accomplishments and a great season, administrative staff for balancing all the changes due to COVID-19 for the past school year, and a special thanks to all the teachers who participated in our virtual academy this year.
- 2) Summer cleaning - has begun, recruiting employees for summer help, on schedule to open on August 25, 2021.
- 3) Summer School – grades 7 – 12 online credit recovery offered with in person meetings, and grades K - 6 will have an eight week program with a three week reading focused program.
- 4) WLPS Property update – requesting an appraisal on the .25 acre property. The appraisal is estimated at \$2500.
- 5) LCA Lease – modified rent increases over 5 years, penalty clauses reduced.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

*Personnel*

The Board acknowledged the retirements of Elementary Special Education Teacher, Elizabeth Levy and High School Paraprofessional, Paula Truhn., the resignations of Melanie Clawson and Ryan Allen, and the accepted positions from Ethan Drouillard, John Holt and Michael Keegan. Mr. Meadows, on behalf of the Board, thanked the retirees for their years of service and wished them well on their retirement. He also welcomed the new hires to the district.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, June 28, 2021 in the High School Media Center at 6:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

None


**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:05 p.m. made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Meadows.*

Ayes - 5; Nays - 0, motion carried 5 - 0.



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

*6/28/2021*  
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 Date