



Whitmore Lake Public Schools
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2021 – High School Media Center – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser, Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry, and Director of Student Services, Melissa Heuker

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff, parents and members of the community

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:00 p.m. by President John Meadows.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Nate Muchow expressed his concerns regarding students wearing masks in school for the 2021-2022 school year. He also thanked Board members for keeping WLPS schools open last year, during the pandemic.

Jim Bennardi expressed his concerns regarding masks being worn and suggested using face shields as a possible alternative. He also inquired if the district will supply masks to students.

BOARD CLARIFICATION

Superintendent DeKeyser acknowledged the concerns and questions. He then shared, the elementary school will start the school year without shields and wear masks only, the district will supply masks to those who need one, and the ventilation system at the elementary circulates fresh air through building.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Kritzman shared the Finance Committee met on August 16, 2021. Topics included the 2020-2021 audit, the Elementary Montessori Magnet Program and the sale of property.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the July 26, 2021 Board of Education Regular Meeting was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Cole.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$640,855 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of 241,513 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of July 15, 2021, and July 30, 2021 made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Cole.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel

Motion to approve the hire of Jennifer Petzke for the new Learning Enrichment Coordinator for the 2021-2022 school year, and

to approve the hire of Cory Woodard as a full time first grade Elementary Teacher at step 7 on the WLEA MA salary scale with a hire date of July 28, 2021 and a start of August 23, 2021 was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Cole.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried

Sale of Property

Motion to recommend the sale 0.25 acres of property adjacent to 8845 Main Street (Field 6) for an amount not less than \$25,000. Offers will be limited to cash in full with property as is and in accordance with district policies and regulations was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Kritzman.

Mr. DeKeyser answered all Board member questions regarding advertising and access to the property.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Juul Litigation Resolution

Motion to approve the resolution to authorize and direct Superintendent to sign the Attorney-Client Fee Contract on behalf of the School District, and to take such other action as necessary to obtain monetary damages and injunctive relief for the School in the lawsuit represented by Frantz Law Group, APLC was made by Mr. Cole; supported by Mr. Henry.

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

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. DeKeyser shared the following with Board members;

- 1) COVID Mitigation Strategies – because of increased spread in the area, per the Washtenaw County Health Department, will reevaluate every two weeks with both the Livingston and Washtenaw County Health Departments. Begin the year with masks required for grades PreK – 6 students and staff, masks are optional but strongly recommended for staff and students in grades 7 – 12. Superintendent DeKeyser then addressed Board member questions regarding MHSAA rules and athletic games.
- 2) School of Choice, Enrollment, class sizes, and staffing updates for the 2021-2022 school year.

OTHER INFORMATION

Personnel

The board acknowledged the resignations and hiring of staff members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, September 20, 2021 in the High School Media Center at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Lindsay Collins expressed how happy she is to see kids in school and thanked board members for continuing to keep the doors open during the COVID Pandemic.

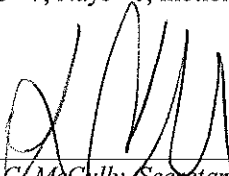
BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mrs. Kritzman shared the Education Foundation will host a Cornhole tournament on October 9, 2021 for the Teacher Amazon Wish List fundraiser.

Mrs. Schwennesen shared Whitmore Lake Kiwanis is donating \$1000 in school supplies to the district.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:07 p.m. made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Henry.
Ayes - 7; Nays - 0, motion carried 7 - 0.



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

9/20/2021

 Date