



Whitmore Lake Public Schools
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2021 – High School Media Center – 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michelle Kritzman (*Vice President*), and Bob Henry (*Trustee*)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser, Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry, Elementary Principal, Heidi Roy-Borland, Student Services Director, Melissa Heuker, 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 agenda as presented made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Cole.
Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council President, Jamie Meadows shared the successful homecoming week events with the Board. She also shared planning will begin soon for the holiday assembly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Schwennesen shared the Executive Committee met on September 21, 2021 and discussed contract matters.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2021 Board of Education Regular Meeting, the September 20, 2021 closed session, and the October 18, 2021 Workshop Meeting was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Cole.
Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$306,406 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$469,510 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of September 15, 2021, and September 30, 2021 made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Cole.
Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

NEW BUSINESS

Copier Purchase

Motion to approve the purchase of four new copiers from Cannon for an amount not to exceed \$35,000 was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mrs. McCully.

Mr. DeKeyser shared that the five year lease-to own agreement with Ricoh has expired. The purchase from Cannon would replace the two larger machines that seem to break down frequently. Mrs. Kerrigan shared copier bids received with the Board members and informed them this would be an outright purchase. Mrs. Kerrigan also answered all Board member questions sharing the per-copy cost covers the service agreement for the machines. If approved we would have a service agreement with, both Canon and Ricoh for their machine types.

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

Approval of Facilities RFP

Mr. Meadows shared during the Board Workshop Meeting, members reviewed and discussed the facilities proposals received. He also shared presentations were conducted this past week from those companies with the Ad-hoc Committee.

Mr. DeKeyser requested to add his recommendation, Kingscott and Clark, into the motion and shared Kingscott has experience with schools of our size, financial position and most on point with their proposal.

Motion to select Kingscott and Clark as architect and construction management firms and approve proposal to complete a facilities and program assessment for Whitmore Lake Public Schools was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Zolenski.

Board members from the Ad-hoc committee updated members on the information and answered all questions regarding the presentations and their thoughts on the companies understanding the needs of the district.

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried

Off-Schedule Payments

Motion to approve employee off-schedule payments in the amount not to exceed \$60,000 was made by Mr. Cole; supported by Mr. Zolenski.

Superintendent DeKeyser briefed the Board with the plan and shared this amount is based on current employees, who worked during the 2020–2021 school year. Board members shared their appreciation and thanked all employees for going above and beyond in keeping the schools open and operating for students.

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried

Financial Report

Mrs. Kerrigan updated the Board information regarding the September 30, 2021, financial report.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. DeKeyser shared the following:

- 1) WLHS -- October is dedicated as College Month. Every Monday students and staff wear their college shirt.
- 2) Athletics update – Athletic Director, Brad McCormack shared the MS/HS highlights from the fall sports season with Board members. Mr. DeKeyser added that John Holt and Ethan Drouillard from Community Recreation along with Mr. McCormack, are working together to offer additional youth sports to the community.
- 3) COVID update -- Have had a few cases and continue to seek solutions in buildings regarding the lunchrooms, no classroom isolation or quarantine through close contact, students and staff continue to wear masks, waiting for guidance from the health department for winter sports.
- 4) Staff update – Continue to seek additional teacher and paraprofessionals, this is a county wide problem, generally in the special education department.

OTHER INFORMATION

Personnel

Mr. Meadows, on behalf of the board, congratulated Catherine Schneider, elementary teacher, and LuAnn Easlick, high school teacher, on their plans to retire at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. He also noted their years of service and wished them well.

The Board acknowledged all other personnel and award information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Lindsey Collins shared the Education Foundation raised \$3,500 from the Cornhole tournament fundraiser.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mrs. Schwennesen announced Board members will again participate in the Northfield Human Services Adopt-a-Family this year. She also volunteered to do all the shopping for the family.

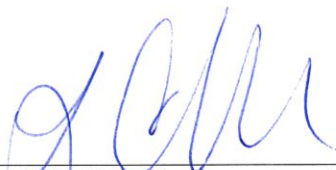
Mr. Cole shared he attended the Northfield Township Park & Rec committee meeting on October 19, 2021. He also shared the disc-golf course is now open at the park.

Mr. Zolenski gave kudos to HS Marching Band Director, Elisa Fixler, for continuing the plan to perform their last performance even though the home football game was cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:06 p.m. made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. McCully.

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



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

11/8/2021

Date