



**Whitmore Lake Public Schools**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
*Regular Meeting Minutes*  
**July 18, 2022 – Administration Office Conference Room – 6:00 p.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

John Meadows (*President*)

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Staff, parents and members of the community

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 6:00 p.m. by Vice President Michelle Kritzman.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDGA**

*Motion to approve agenda as presented was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole. Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried*

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

None

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Students from the elementary, middle, and high school robotics teams performed demonstrations of their robots for the Board of Education in the Main Street Campus gym.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

*Motion to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2022 Board of Education Regular Meeting made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.*

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

*Motion to approve the fund transfer of \$1,098,870 in payments from Accounts Payable as per attachment 2; further, to approve the transfer of \$488,746 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of June 15, 2022 and June 30, 2022.*

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Operating Millage Review*

Superintendent DeKeyser presented two options, as prepared by Thrun Law Firm, regarding an operating millage proposal with the Board. Mr. DeKeyser then noted the first option is a renewal to restore the current operating millage with the 1.5 mil Headlee Override for the remaining five years of the 18 mil tax levy, and the second option is a new proposal request of the 18 mil non homestead tax levy and increase of additional 1.5 mil Headlee override that would allow for a 3.0 mil hedge for a period of ten years, 2022 to 2031.

Board members discussed the two options presented. Mrs. McCully noted that the tax levy rate applies only to all non-homestead property. Board members inquired if language on the second option could be adjusted. Mr. DeKeyser responded he will request the changes regarding the option 2 operating millage proposal with Thrun Law Firm.

*Motion to increase the non-homestead property tax to 21 mills at which we can levy 18 mills for a period of ten years beginning 2022 to 2031 as outlined in option two was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.*

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Operating Millage Proposal*

*Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the submission of the Operating Millage Proposal as prepared by Thrun Law Firm was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.*

**Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Henry – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Cole – yes,  
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

*Approval of Legal Counsel*

*Motion to retain the legal firms of Dickinson Wright PLLC, Miller Johnson, and Thrun Law Firm as legal counsel for the Whitmore Lake Public School District for the 2022-2023 school year was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.*  
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

*School Bond Loan Fund Resolution*

*Motion to approve the School Bond Qualification and Loan Program Resolution for the 2022-2023 school year was made by Mr. Cole; supported by Mr. Henry.*

**Roll Call Vote:** Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mr. Henry – yes  
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 - 0

*Administration Contracts*

*Motion to approve the renewal contracts of Director of Finance and Operations, Denise Kerrigan; Middle/High School Principal and Director of Instruction, Jill Henry-Peters; Elementary Principal, Heidi Roy-Borland; and Director of Student Services, Melissa Heuker made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. McCully.*

Mr. Henry excused himself from voting due to a conflict of interest with the position of Middle/High School Principal.

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

*Personnel*

*Motion to approve the hire of Annika Helber as a full time Junior Kindergarten Teacher for WLES at level 1 on the WLEA BA salary scale with a hire date of June 27, 2022 and a start date of August 24, 2022, and*

*to approve the hire of Stephanie Showman as a full time Elementary Art Teacher at level 3 on the WLEA BA salary scale with a hire date of June 28, 2022 and a start of August 24, 2022 was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Henry.*

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the following;

- 1) Kingscott and Clark update – met today: discussed scale of project for district needs, requested new list with max amount of \$26.5 million, theater modifications, meet every three weeks
- 2) GLTW update – summer programs going well, expanding preschool classrooms as needed with enrollments, additional training for Montessori staff.
- 3) Building Security – reviewing all areas to ensure secure operations, working with Lt. Smith on a grant to provide a Resource Officer in Northfield Township.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

*Personnel*

The board acknowledged the resignations of ECSE Teacher, Allison Crecelius, and Community Recreation, Ethan Drouillard as Aquatic Program Supervisor, the hiring of Jordan Blom as Montessori Preschool Assistant Teacher, and the accepted position of Director of Community Recreation by John Holt.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, August 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Office, Superintendent Conference Room.**

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

None.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Mrs. Kritzman announced the Education Foundation will host a Cornhole Tournament at the Rod N' Gun Club on October 1, 2022.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:07 p.m. made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.*

Ayes - 6; Nays - 0, motion carried 6 - 0.

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

  
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*Date*