



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING**  
August 15, 2022 — 6:00 p.m.  
Whitmore Lake Public Schools  
Administration Office



# WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Mission Statement

*Partnering with students, parents, and the community to  
provide exceptional, personalized education.*

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Monday, August 15, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Whitmore Lake Public Schools Administration Office**  
**Superintendent Conference Room**  
**8845 Main Street**  
**Whitmore Lake, MI 48189**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION ROLL CALL**

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

“The meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District’s business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.”

### **BOARD CLARIFICATION**

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Approval of minutes from the July 18, 2022 Board of Education Regular Meeting. (**Attachment 1**)

Approve fund transfer of \$401,001 in payments from Accounts Payable as per attachment 2; further, to approve the transfer of \$396,548 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of July 15, 2022 and July 29, 2022. (**Attachment 2**)

### **OLD BUSINESS**

*Operating Millage Proposal*

Motion to approve the resolution authorizing the submission of the revised ballot language for the November Operating Millage Proposal as prepared by Thrun Law Firm. (**Attachment 3**) **A roll call vote will be required.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Personnel*

Motion to approve the hire of Derek Zuidema as a full time Elementary STEM Teacher at Level 7 on the WLEA BA salary scale, and

to approve the hire of Emily Branigan as a full time Elementary Special Education Teacher at Level 3 on the WLEA BA salary scale, and

to approve the hire of Erin Podgorski as a full time First Grade Elementary Teacher at Level 8 on the WLEA BA salary scale, and

to approve the hire of Jallene Eckert as a full time Second Grade Elementary Teacher at Level 3 on the WLEA MA salary scale with a start date of August 24, 2022, and

to approve the hire of Ian Nifoussi as a full time Montessori Elementary Teacher at Level 5 on the WLEA MA salary scale with a start date of August 22, 2022.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

#### *Personnel*

The following people recently submitted their resignations: High School Special Education Teacher, Tara Prieskorn (Muchow), High School Paraprofessional, Jenna Peloso, English Language Tutor, Mary Murphy, and WISD School Psychologist, Susan Willacker-Brown.

LaNanda Cook has accepted the position of Head Start Paraprofessional with a start date of August 17, 2022. This position has an hourly pay rate of \$17.50 (Step 3 of the WLPA).

Tamara Booth and Lauren Foresman have accepted the positions as GLTW Preschool Assistant Teacher with a start date of August 22, 2022.

Amber Stuart has accepted the full time position as Elementary Behavior Specialist. Jezreel Gesinski and Delaney Peters have accepted the positions as MS/HS Paraprofessional with an hourly pay rate of \$17.00 (Step 1 of the WLPA). These positions have a start date of August 24, 2022.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, September 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center.**

### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Mr. Cole, Mr. Henry, Mrs. Kritzman, Mrs. McCully, Mr. Meadows, Mrs. Schwennesen and Mr. Zolenski

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Please fill out a "Public Participation Request" form if you wish to address the Board prior to the Public Comment section of the meeting. Please include your name, address and topic you wish to speak on. Those wishing to speak in Public Comment are limited to three (3) minutes.

#### 0000 – BYLAWS

#### 0160 - MEETINGS

##### 0167.3 – Public Participation at Board Meetings

Tape or video recordings are permitted subject to the following conditions:

- A. No obstructions are created between the Board and the audience.
- B. No interviews are conducted in the meeting room while the Board is in session.
- C. No commentary, adjustment of equipment, or positioning of operators is made that would distract either the Board or members of the audience while the Board is in session.

The person operating the recorder should contact the Superintendent prior to the Board meeting to review possible placement of the equipment.

M.C.L. 15.253(4)(5)(6), 380.1808

Revised 9/27/2010

#### Use of Recording Devices

Anyone attending a school event who wishes to record the activity on a visual recording device shall be asked to abide by the following rules:

- A. The recorder must operate the device within the area designated by the principal or director of the activity.
- B. The camera must not block the view of any other attendees or interfere with others who seek to record the activity.
- C. Those who record or assist a recorder must not block any passageways nor interfere with any other attendee's participation or observation of the activity.
- D. If sound is also being recorded, the recorder must not ask other attendees to be quiet or to change their behavior in order to improve the quality of the sound.
- E. If the District is recording the activity, the principal may arrange for a person to obtain a copy providing s/he agrees to provide a tape and pay whatever the principal may need to charge to cover the costs of transfer.

Where the District does not possess the appropriate license or permission to allow the recording of a copyrighted work or performance, notice will be given, when possible, prior to the exhibit or performance. Announcements shall be made at the beginning of any such exhibit or performance.

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**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*

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**Whitmore Lake Public Schools**  
**Business Office Transactions**

For the Month Ending:  
**July 31, 2022**

<u>Payroll Transactions</u>	July 15, 2022	\$	197,679
	July 29, 2022	\$	198,869
		\$	<u>396,548</u>

<u>Accounts Payable Transactions</u>		\$	<u>401,001</u>
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Whitmore Lake Public School District, Washtenaw and Livingston Counties, Michigan  
(the "District")

A regular meeting of the board of education of the District (the "Board") was held in the Whitmore Lake Public Schools Administration Conference Room, within the boundaries of the District, on the 15th day of August, 2022, at 6:00 o'clock in the p.m. (the "Meeting").

The Meeting was called to order by \_\_\_\_\_, President.

Present: Members

Absent: Members

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member \_\_\_\_\_  
and supported by Member \_\_\_\_\_:

**WHEREAS:**

1. Pursuant to the Michigan Election Law, the District's regular school election shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even years.

2. It is necessary to conduct the District's regular election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, to fill one or more Board positions.

3. On or before 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, the Board shall certify any ballot proposition to be submitted to the voters at such election to the election coordinator or coordinators designated to conduct elections within the District (the "Election Coordinator").

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The regular school election of the school electors of the District be called and held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

2. The proposition to be voted on at the regular school election shall be stated on the ballots in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit A.

3. The Election Coordinator is requested to:

- a. Utilize Washtenaw Legal News, a newspaper published or of general circulation within the District, for publication of notices in accordance with the election law requirements.
- b. Utilize ballot proposition summary information, as prepared by legal counsel, in the forms of the notices of last day of registration and election in substantially the form as set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto.
- c. Provide a proof copy of the ballot to the District and its legal counsel in sufficient time to allow the ballot to be proofread prior to printing.

4. The Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to file a copy of this resolution with the Election Coordinator and with any Election Clerk or clerks designated to conduct elections within the District by 4:00 p.m., on Tuesday, August 16, 2022.

5. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Ayes: Members

Nays: Members

Resolution declared adopted.

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Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Whitmore Lake Public School District, Washtenaw and Livingston Counties, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at the Meeting, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the Meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Meetings Act" (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).

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Secretary, Board of Education

CJI/lma

## EXHIBIT A

### WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Whitmore Lake Public School District, Washtenaw and Livingston Counties, Michigan, be increased by 21 mills (\$21.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2022 to 2031, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and .0542 mill is levied in 2022 is approximately \$7,080 (this will replace existing millage and also adds additional millage that will be levied only to the extent necessary to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963)?

## **EXHIBIT B**

### **SUMMARY OF BALLOT PROPOSITION TO BE INSERTED IN THE NOTICES OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTION:**

WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL  
EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE  
AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW  
21 MILLS FOR 10 YEARS

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Whitmore Lake Public School District, 8845 Main Street, Whitmore Lake, Michigan 48189-9597, telephone: (734) 449-4464.