



Whitmore Lake Public Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Organizational/Regular Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2024 – High School Barb Huang Library – 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

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 Communications and Human Resources Director, Maria Carter-Ewald

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff, parents, and members of the community

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m. by Trustee Michelle Kritzman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Henry.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

Trustee Kritzman, called for nominations for the position of President for the 2024 calendar year.

Mr. Meadows nominated Michelle Kritzman for President of the Board; Mrs. Kritzman then inquired if there were any additional nominations for President.

Motion to close nominations and cast a vote for the nomination of Michelle Kritzman as President of the Board through December 2024 was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen

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

Mrs. Kritzman accepted the position as President of the Board and called for nominations for Vice President, Secretary, and Treasure of the Board.

Motion to close nominations and nominate Frank Zolenski as Vice President of the Board through December 2024 was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.

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

Motion to close nominations and nominate Lisa McCully as Secretary of the Board through December 2024 was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Cole.

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

Motion to close nominations and nominate John Meadows as Treasurer of the Board through December 2024 was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Cole.

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

In recognition of Board Appreciation Month, staff and many student organizations from each building presented board members with gifts and tokens of appreciation.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council President, Natalie Meadows updated Board members on the festivities planned during Snowcoming week, which begin February 5, 2024. She also shared the theme for Snowcoming this year is “Winter Soletice”.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Schwennesen shared the Executive Committee met on December 12, 2023 with a representative from EPIC MRA to review the questions they will ask for the bond survey.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2023 Board of Education Regular Meeting and the December 11, 2023 closed session was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Cole.

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

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$641,141 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$643,341 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of December 15, 2023, and December 29, 2023 was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Cole.

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

NEW BUSINESS

School of Choice

Motion to approve Whitmore Lake Public Schools as a School of Choice district for the 2024-2025 school year with unlimited enrollment in all grades and programs for the first semester, and a limited enrollment in grades K-6 and an unlimited enrollment in grades 7-12 for the second semester pursuant to Sections 105 and 105 (c) of the State School Aid Act was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Meadows.

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

Marching Band Trip Proposal

Motion to approve the proposal for an overnight WLHS Marching Band Trip submitted by Elisa Fixler, MS/HS Band Director, to travel to Hersey, MI for Band Camp from July 29, 2024 to August 2, 2024 was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Henry.

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

Financial Report

Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, updated the Board with information regarding the December 31, 2023 financial report. She then answered all board member questions and shared an amended budget will be presented at the March 18, 2024 meeting.

Board of Education Policies

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the policies and administrative regulation change options and updates to 1001 – Organization and Functioning of the Board, 2003 – Education Records, 2005 – Communication, 4003 – Condition of Employment, Staffing, Layoff, and Recall of Teachers, 4003 AR – Condition of Employment, Transportation Employees, 4003.1 AR – Teacher Placement, 4003.2 AR – Teacher Vacancies, 4003.3 AR – Staffing Reductions, 4003.4 AR – Program Reductions, 4003.5 AR – Recall Process, 4004 & 4004 AR – Evaluations, Discipline and Discharge, Resignations, 4005 – Other Matters of Employment, 6002 & 6002 AR – Threat Assessments, 6006 – Tobacco-Free Environment, 8001 & 8001 AR – Acceptable Use, and 8002 – Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 with the Board for a first reading. He then answered all questions from Board members and added if there are any additional questions, they should be directed to him prior to the February 12, 2024 meeting, where approval will be recommended.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the following:

- 1) Health Equity update – working with the Health Department to expand additional opportunities to residents in the areas of mental, financial, and housing instability. The Health Department will also host a vaccine clinic next week at the Northfield Human Services Center.
- 2) Community Recreation – Great job on the pool expansion, they are also working with the Metro Parks, as a facility, to offer free adult swim lessons.
- 3) Transportation – new van purchased, Whitmore Lake decals will be installed when it is received.
- 4) Facilities update – Drinking water bottle filling stations are installed at the Main Street Campus, security improvements for sound are being installed in each building, Main Street Campus boilers – no issues since new regulators installed.

OTHER INFORMATION

Personnel

The Board acknowledged the hiring of Amanda Warner as the Montessori Family Care Specialist and Quynh Phuong Luu as Infant Teacher Assistant for GLTW Montessori Preschool.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Barb Huang Library.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Mr. Meadows and Mr. Zolenski acknowledged and thanked Mr. DeKeyser and WLPS for hosting the vigil for Bragg / Pruden families.

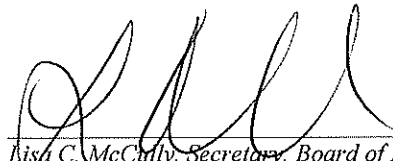
Mrs. Schwennesen thanked everyone for the appreciation and gifts received. She also shared it is great to be a part of this wonderful community.

Mrs. Kritzman announced the Whitmore Lake Foundation for Education Excellence is hosting the upcoming Mom Prom and online auction fundraiser on February 3, 2024. She also shared MS Drama will perform their production of "Bad Auditions for Bad Actors" on February 2nd through February 4th. She then updated members on topics discussed at the Legislative Breakfast she attended the morning of January 22, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:57 p.m. made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.

Ayes - 7; Nays - 0, motion carried 7 - 0.



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

2/12/2024
Date