



Whitmore Lake Public Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2024 – Main Street Campus Admin Office Conference Room – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michelle Kritzman (*President*), Frank Zolenski (*Vice President*), John Meadows (*Treasurer*), Bob Henry (*Trustee*), and Laura Schwennesen (*Trustee*)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Lee Cole (*Trustee*) and Lisa McCully (*Secretary*)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser, and Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff, parents, and members of the community

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:01 p.m. by President Michelle Kritzman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2024 Board of Education Regular Meeting was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.

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

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$711,424 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$625,015 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of June 14, 2024, and June 28, 2024 was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Legal Counsel

Motion to retain the legal firms of Miller Johnson, and Thrun Law Firm as legal counsel for the Whitmore Lake Public School District for the 2024-2025 school year was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Henry.

Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried

School Bond Loan Fund Resolution

Motion to approve the School Bond Qualification and Loan Program Resolution for the 2024-2025 school year was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Meadows.

Mrs. Kerrigan shared this allows us to borrow funds from the loan program to make the debt millage payments because we do not collect enough in tax revenue at this time.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Henry – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes

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

Sewer Easement Resolution

Motion to approve the Sewer Easement Resolution of an existing sewer easement in a location and under terms substantially similar to the attached easement and sketch, and to authorize the Superintendent to execute all necessary documents was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Henry.

Mr. DeKeyser shared an aerial map of the WLPS property on Jennings Rd. to show the existing 15" sewer line location that the township will replace with an 18" sewer line. He also shared it could require the removal of brush and trees if needed. He then answered Board member questions and shared he would not sign an Easement Agreement with the Northfield Township if it includes any part of a recreational pathway.

Roll call vote: Mr. Meadows – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Henry – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes
Ayes – 5; Nays – 0, motion carried 5 – 0

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the following:

- 1) Updated Board members on the effects from the State Budget approving a zero dollar per-pupil increase and significantly reducing the funding for Mental Health & Security for districts.
- 2) The grant for the WLPS Early Childhood Head Start Program was approved for the 2024-25 school year.
- 3) Bond updates – cost and savings analysis on an Energy Bond will be shared in August for evaluation. A second mailer with the bond proposal information will be mailed to parents on July 25, 2024, and Mr. DeKeyser will be hosting another Zoom Q&A session on July 23, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.
- 4) Facility update – high school theater bleachers are near completion. Installer is re-engineering handrails, parts, should be complete by July 25, 2024.
- 5) Committee Meetings – Board members have received invites to their committee meetings. For planning purposes, please respond soon.

OTHER INFORMATION

The board acknowledge the retirement of Elementary Teacher David Chapman. They also shared he will be sadly missed and thanked him for the many years of commitment and service to the district, and wished him well.

The board also acknowledge the resignation of Elementary Teacher, Kara Weinstein.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will meet on Monday, August 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Barb Huang Library.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

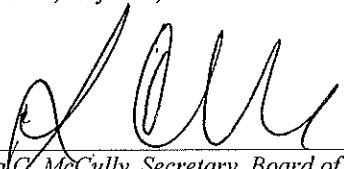
BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mrs. Schwennesen announced that there are three candidates running in the November 5, 2024 General Election for the two open seats on the WLPS Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:38 p.m. made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen

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



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

8/12/2024

Date