



## Whitmore Lake Public Schools

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### Regular Meeting Minutes

December 16, 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*), and Bob Henry (*Trustee*)

#### MEMBERS ABSENT

Laura Schwennesen (*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, Communications and Human Resources Director, Maria Carter-Ewald, and Athletic Director, Brad McCormack

#### OTHERS PRESENT

Staff, parents, and members of the community

#### CALL TO ORDER

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

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

#### CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

#### STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council President, Landen Livingston updated board members with the holiday spirit festivities planned throughout the week.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Meadows reported that the Executive Committee met on December 3, 2024 and the Finance Committee met on December 9, 2024. Topics of discussion included personnel updates, and Superintendents evaluation, the Finance Committee also discussed energy expenses, budget update; adjustments in revenue and expenses, with the possibility of an amended budget in February, and UAAL (Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability).

Mr. Cole reported that the Executive Committee also discussed the Energy Bond and recommends waiting for additional information before moving forward.

#### CONSENT ITEMS

*Motion to approve the minutes from the November 11, 2024 Board of Education Regular Meeting was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Cole.*

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

*Motion to approve fund transfer of \$667,054 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$652,372 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of November 15, 2024, and November 29, 2024 was made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mr. Cole.*

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

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### *Personnel*

*Motion to approve the hire of Elementary Speech/Language Therapist, Julia Newman, for the New Special Education Communication, Technology and Safety Specialist position at Level 15 on the WLEA MA salary scale with an effective date of December 16, 2024 was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Henry.*

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

##### *Financial Report*

Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, updated the Board with information regarding the November 30, 2024 financial report. She shared how the UAAL is being addressed through the State of Michigan. She then answered all board member questions.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

##### *Athletics*

Athletic Director, Brad McCormack shared the 2024 fall sports season highlights and team accomplishments. He also shared that the Football team is the MIAC Champions, and the Boys and Girls Cross Country team achieved the titles as the MIAC Champions and the Regional Champions, with the Girls team continuing to win their second title, as D4 State

Champions. Mr. McCormack then shared that the winter sports have begun and answered all other Board member questions.

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the following:

1) Shout-out to Bob Henry who has dedicated 50 years to education as a Teacher, Coach, Athletic Director, and the last several years on the Board as Treasurer and Trustee for Whitmore Lake Schools.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

The board acknowledged the retirement of Linda Lupi, the resignations of Michael Brief, Madia Standlick, Vanessa Holden and Sami Khalil, and the hiring of Mikala Williams-Yee and Rebekah Murillo in Community Recreation, Robin Wilkes in Transportation, Ola Elserwi in GLTW Montessori, and Anita Fahey, Chyanne Fiser-Adcox, and Katie Winn as Custodians in the district.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will meet on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Barb Huang Library.**

#### CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

#### BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mrs. Kritzman announced that there will be a Legislative Breakfast held at the WISD on January 27, 2025 from 7:30 to 9:00 am. She also gave a shout-out to both middle school and high school Drama Clubs on their great performances and was grateful seeing the new lighting and bleachers in the theater.

#### CLOSED SESSION

*Motion to adjourn into closed session meeting at 7:35 p.m. (with a 5 minute break) to discuss the superintendent's evaluation was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Zolenski.*

**Roll call vote:** Mr. Henry – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Cole – yes

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

#### Call to Order

Open session called to order at 8:09 p.m. by President Michelle Kritzman

#### SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

The Board of Education worked with the Superintendent in each part of the evaluation. The WLPS Board rates Tom DeKeyser, Superintendent as Effective for the 2024 evaluation.

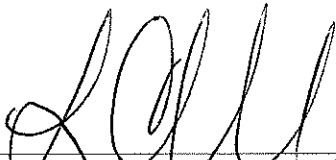
*Motion to support the rating of Effective for Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser's 2024 annual evaluation was made by Mr. Cole; supported by Mr. Henry.*

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

#### ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:11 p.m. made by Mr. Henry; supported by Mrs. Kritzman.*

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

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

*1/13/2025*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date