



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, July 21, 2025 — 6:00 p.m.

Main Street Campus
Administration Office Conference Room



WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mission Statement

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

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA Monday, July 21, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

Whitmore Lake Public School Administration Office
Superintendent Conference Room
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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of minutes from the June 23, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting. (**Attachment 1**)

Approve fund transfer of \$918,360 in payments from Accounts Payable as per attachment 2; further, to approve the transfer of \$676,683 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of June 13, 2025 and June 30, 2025. (**Attachment 2**)

NEW BUSINESS

Curriculum

Motion to approve the EL Education and Orton-Gillingham Plus curriculum for the Elementary Literacy Program at an amount not to exceed \$140,000. Approval is recommended.

School Bond Loan Fund Resolution

Attachment 3 Contains a copy of the School Bond Qualification and Loan Program Resolution for the 2025-2026 school year for approval. **A roll call vote will be required.**

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 2025-2026 school year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

OTHER INFORMATION

Transportation Bus Driver, Dennis Schairer has submitted his letter of retirement with an effective date of July 31, 2025.

Middle School Softball Coach, Don Muchow and High School Football Coach, Alexander Graff have recently submitted their letters of resignation effective June 26, 2025 and July 1, 2025, respectively.

The following people have recently accepted positions in the District: In Athletics, Joe Deane as High School Assistant Football Coach, In Community Recreation, Sarah Murillo as Under 18 Lifeguard and Swim Instructor, and Alivia and Cameron Jarrett as Lifeguards-Under 18, and in GLTW, Gina Massa and Darla Wentworth as full time Montessori Infant Assistant Teachers.

Jessica Clark has accepted the full-time position as Elementary Special Education Paraprofessional with a start date of August 19, 2025. This position has an hourly pay rate of \$17.51 (Step 1 of the WLPA).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, August 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Street Campus, Administration Office Conference Room.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Cole, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Henning, Mrs. Kritzman, Mrs. McCully, Mr. Meadows, and Mr. Zolenski

CLOSED SESSION

The Board will adjourn to go into closed session for the Superintendent's Mid-year evaluation. **Roll Call vote is required.**

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.

1



Whitmore Lake Public Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2025 – High School Barb Huang Library – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Frank Zolenski (*Vice President*), John Meadows (*Treasurer*), Lisa McCully (*Secretary*), Lindsey Collins (*Trustee*), Kelly Henning (*Trustee*) (*arrived at 6:09 p.m.*), and Lee Cole (*Trustee*) (*arrived at 6:30 p.m.*)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michelle Kritzman (*President*)

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 6:05 p.m. by Vice President Frank Zolenski.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Zolenski requested to remove the Curriculum that is listed under new business until the July 21, 2025 meeting.

Motion to approve the revised agenda was made by Mr. Zolenski; supported by Mr. Meadows.

Ayes – 4; Nays – 0, motion carried

BUDGET HEARING

*2024-2025 Final Budget Proposal and
2025-2026 Budget Proposal*

Director of Finance and Operations, Denise Kerrigan, acknowledged the main purpose of the budget hearing is to set the amounts that will be levied for 2025 per the MCL Headlee rollback. Mrs. Kerrigan then reviewed the levied mills and the budgets they affect, sharing that WLPS would receive the full 18 mills from our state aid this year.

Mrs. Kerrigan updated the Board on the 2024-2025 final budget proposal, reviewing the increases in revenue and decreases in expenses since the amended budget. She also shared the projected 2024-25 fund balance is 7.86%. Mrs. Kerrigan then reviewed the 2025-2026 budget proposal with the board, clarifying that the revenue is based on estimates due to the uncertainty of the state budget and answered all Board member questions.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council President, Landen Livingston updated the board on their election results for the 2025-2026 school year. He then shared that the new Student Council President, Jacob Bisonett, will attend the BOE meetings beginning in the fall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Collins reported that the Executive Committee met on June 2, 2025. Topics included the mid-year superintendent evaluation requirements, WLEA negotiation updates, school calendar, posting of WLES Principal, and 2025-26 Middle School courses.

Mr. Meadows reported that the Finance Committee met on June 16, 2025. Topics included the Michigan House and Senate proposals regarding the SOM school aid budget, the 2024-25 final budget, the proposed 2025-26 budget, Sinking Fund renewal in 2027, Recreation Fund renewal in 2028, purchase of steamers in food service, Fund 42 to track expenditures and revenue with the energy bond, personnel notes, sewer easement, and energy savings of \$40,000 since pool upgrades.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting, the May 12, 2025 closed session, and the June 5, 2025 Special Meeting was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Collins.

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

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$700,771 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$676,683 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of May 15, 2025, and May 30, 2025 was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Collins.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

NEW BUSINESS

L-4029 Tax Rate

Motion to approve the L-4029 2025 Tax Rate Request as presented was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mrs. McCully.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

2024-2025 Final Budget Resolution

Motion to approve the 2024-2025 Final Budget General Appropriations Resolutions as presented was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Collins.
Roll call vote: Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes, Mrs. Henning – yes, Mrs. Collins – yes, Mr. Cole – yes
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

2025-2026 Budget Resolution

Motion to approve the 2025-2026 Original Budget General Appropriations Resolutions as presented was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mr. Meadows.
Roll call vote: Mrs. Collins – yes, Mrs. Henning – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

Borrowing Resolution

Motion to approve the borrowing resolution for adoption for the 2025-2026 school year through the Michigan Financial Authority (MFA) for an amount not to exceed \$2,100,000 made by Mrs. McCully; supported by Mr. Meadows.

Mrs. Kerrigan shared that in order to meet cash flow needs, the district needs to borrow funds. She also shared that the increase is to allow us the cash needed, until the state aid and taxes are received.

Roll call vote: Mrs. Henning – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mrs. Collins – yes
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

WISD CTE Millage Resolution

Motion to approve the resolution in support of a Washtenaw Intermediate School District CTE Millage (1 mill, ten years) proposal, intended for the November 2025 ballot was made by Mrs. Henning; supported by Mrs. Collins.

Roll call vote: Mr. Meadows – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mrs. Collins – yes, Mrs. Henning – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

2026 Washington D.C. Trip Proposal

Motion to approve the proposal for a 7th & 8th grade overnight trip to Gettysburg and Washington D.C. from March 17, 2026 through March 20, 2026 submitted by MS/HS teacher Carrie Starman was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mr. Meadows.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

2026 Performing Arts Trip Proposal

Motion to approve the proposal for a middle/high school overnight trip submitted by Elisa Fixler, MS/HS Band Director, over the 2026 spring break, for 6 days, to Lake Buena Vista, FL. Was made by Mrs. Henning; supported by Mrs. Collins.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

Personnel

Motion to approve the hire of Molly Bartley as a full time Middle/High School Social Worker at level 1 on the WLEA MA salary scale, and

to approve the hire of Rindy Root-Kolic as a part-time Middle/High School Social Studies Teacher at level 4 on the WLEA BA salary scale, and

to approve the hire of Margot Moffa as a full time Middle/High School Math and Special Education Teacher at level 3 on the WLEA BA salary scale as presented, with a start date of August 19, 2025, made by Mrs. McCully; supported by Mrs. Collins.

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

Administration Contracts

Motion to approve the renewal contract of Assistant Superintendent, Denise Kerrigan, Communications and Human Resources Director, Maria Carter Ewald, and Middle/High School Principal and Director of Instruction, Jill Henry-Peters effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027, and

to approve the renewal contract of Director of Student Services, Melissa Heuker, and new contract for Jennifer Petzke, as Elementary Principal, effective August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2027 as presented was made by Mrs. McCully; supported by Mrs. Collins.

Mr. DeKeyser shared that Jill Henry was added to the year-round contracts while Melissa Heuker and Jennifer Petzke would remain under the not year-round contract.

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

MHSAA Resolution

Motion to adopt the Michigan High School Athletic Association Resolution for the year August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026 was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mr. Meadows.

Roll call vote: *Mrs. McCully – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mrs. Collins – yes, Mrs. Henning – yes*

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

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent DeKeyser gave a shout-out to the Transportation Department who jumped in to help install some portable AC units in classrooms at the Main Street Campus during the heat wave to avoid a possible shut down. He also thanked Jennifer Petzke for accepting the position as the new Elementary Principal, and Denise Kerrigan for her endless hours spent preparing the budgets and getting ready for the audit.

OTHER INFORMATION

The board acknowledge the retirements of Elementary Principal, Heidi Roy-Borland, with an effective date of August 31, 2025, and District Math Coach, Carolyn Otterman, Mechanic/Transportation Coordinator, Steve Wolk and Transportation Bus Driver, Lloyd Vogel, effective June 30, 2025, and the resignations of Community Recreation Lifeguards, Alaina Carson and Ashlyn Houtman.

The board also acknowledge the hiring of Izaak Angel as HS Assistant Football Coach, Jeremy Bell and Adam Brown as Assistant MS Football Coaches, Gabby Ditto as Sideline and Competitive Cheer Coach, Madison Dutton as Infant Assistant Teacher, Savannah Pomorski as Infant/Toddler Assistant Teacher, Cierra Adams as a part-time Summer Camp Paraprofessional, Isabella Johnson as Lifeguard Under 18 and the transfers of Daniela Paute to Montessori Infant Lead Teacher and Jamie Goyette to Middle School Science Teacher.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will meet on Monday, July 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Street Campus, Administration Office Conference Room.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:58 p.m. was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Cole

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

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

Date

2

Whitmore Lake Public Schools
Business Office Transactions

For the Month Ending:
June 2025

<u>Payroll Transactions</u>	June 13, 2025	\$ 321,346
	June 30, 2025	<u>\$ 355,337</u>
		<u><u>\$ 676,683</u></u>
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<u>Accounts Payable Transactions</u>		<u>\$ 918,360</u>

3

School Bond Qualification and Loan Program
School Loan Revolving Fund
Bureau of Bond Finance
Michigan Department of Treasury
430 W. Allegan
Lansing, MI 48922

ANNUAL LOAN/REPAYMENT ACTIVITY APPLICATION
For Participation in the School Bond Qualification and Loan Program

Legal Name of School District	District Code No.	County
Whitmore Lake Public Schools	81-140	Washtenaw County

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Board of Education, do certify hereby that the following constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of this School District, at a [regular or special] meeting held on the ____ day of _____, _____, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of 1976 (Open Meetings Act).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of _____, _____.

(Type or Print Name of Secretary)

(Signature of Secretary)

(Type or Print Name of Treasurer, Board of Education)

(Signature of Superintendent of Schools)

RESOLUTION

A 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. Act 92 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 2005, enacted pursuant to Article IX, Section 16, of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, provides the procedure, terms and conditions for obtaining a loan from the Michigan School Loan Revolving Fund.

2. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 1993-19, the state activities related to bond qualification and state borrowing functions for the provision of loans by the State of Michigan to school districts were transferred from the Department of Education to the Department of Treasury. The State Treasurer is responsible for prescribing the forms and procedures regarding the application for loan from the School Loan Revolving Fund.

3. This district has taken all necessary actions to comply with all legal and procedural requirements for borrowing from the School Loan Revolving Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT:

1. The district approves the estimated amount to be borrowed from or repaid to the School Bond Qualification and Loan Program and certifies the amount of qualified debt millage to be levied in accordance with the following:

Qualified bond debt millage (Tax Year 2025)	8.39	
Combined beginning balance owed to the SBLF and/or SLRF 06/30/2025		\$ 9,146,236.61
Estimated amount to borrow from or repay to the SBLF and/or SLRF		95,000.00
Estimated accrued interest		462,207.00
Estimated combined ending balance owed the SBLF and/or SLRF 06/30/2026		\$ 9,703,443.61

2. The district agrees to levy the debt millage tax as indicated above in the current tax year and to levy the debt millage tax required by law on the taxable valuation of the district for each subsequent year until all loans are repaid in full to the State of Michigan.

3. The district agrees to take actions and to refrain from taking any actions as necessary to maintain the tax exempt status of tax exempt bonds or notes issued by the State or the Michigan Finance Authority for the purpose of financing loans to school districts.

4. The district agrees to file a draw request with the State Treasurer not less than 30 days prior to the time when disbursement proceeds will be necessary in order to pay maturing principal or interest or both and to provide any other pertinent facts which may be required to be included in the request.

5. The (title of authorized officer) Assistant Superintendent is authorized and directed to file with the Department of Treasury the Annual Loan/Repayment Activity Application and any draw request documents necessary for borrowing from the SLRF.

6. In the event that the district fails to perform any actions as identified in this application or required by law, the district will submit to the State Treasurer a board approved resolution which indicates the actions taken and procedures implemented to assure future compliance.

7. The district board members have read this application, approved all statements and representations contained herein as true to the best knowledge and belief of said board, and authorized the Secretary of the Board of Education to sign this application and submit same to the State Treasurer for his review and approval.

Ayes: Members

Nayes: Members
