



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, August 18, 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 - Revised Monday, August 18, 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

STUDENT COUNCIL

Jacob Bissonette will present the student council report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of minutes from the July 21, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting, and the July 21, 2025 closed session (to be handed out at the meeting). **(Attachment 1)**

Approve fund transfer of \$487,106 in payments from Accounts Payable as per attachment 2; further, to approve the transfer of \$568,646 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of July 15, 2025 and July 31, 2025. **(Attachment 2)**

NEW BUSINESS

2027 Costa Rica Trip Proposal

Motion to approve the proposal for a WLHS overnight trip submitted by Jill Henry, MS/HS Principal, and Candy Huddleston, High School Teacher, over the 2027 spring break, for 9 days, to Costa Rica. Approval is recommended.

Administration Contract

Motion to approve an additional \$12,000 compensation for extra duties associated with the Middle School to the MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry.

Director Contracts

Motion to approve the compensation increase of the Maintenance Supervisor, Technology Director, Athletic Director, and Community Recreation Director not to exceed \$20,000, collectively.

Personnel

Motion to approve the hire of Cory Woodard as Elementary Instructional Interventionist & Montessori Principal with a start date of August 1, 2025, and

to approve the hire of Samantha Borgelt as a full time Elementary School Special Education Resource Teacher at Level 1 on the WLEA BA salary scale with a hire date of August 12, 2025, and a start date of August 19, 2025.

WLPS Course Catalog

Motion to approve the Whitmore Lake Public Schools student handbooks and the course guide, to include additional courses offered in the 2025-2026 school year. Approval is recommended.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Academic Assessment

The 2024-2025 academic performance will be shared with the Board.

OTHER INFORMATION

Personnel

The following people have recently submitted their resignations: Elementary Special Education Teacher, Karen Hawk, Elementary Paraprofessional, Brittany Kobliska, MS/HS Special Education Teacher, Madison Fisher, MS/HS Custodian, Anita Fahey, and GLTW EduCare Assistant Teacher, August DuPuis.

The following people have recently accepted positions in the District: In Community Recreation, Kelsey Fanslau as Swim Instructor and lifeguard, in GLTW, Julie Jaworski as EduCare Assistant Teacher, Savannah Covault as full-time Montessori Primary Assistant Teacher, Gail Bright-McGovern as Montessori Infant Assistant Teacher, and Michelle Goodrich as 12-month part-time GLTW Montessori Lead Teacher, and in Transportation, Adam Maier as Bus Driver.

Kathleen McDonough and Sean McCartney have accepted the full-time positions as Elementary & MS/HS Special Education Paraprofessional, respectively, with a start date of August 19, 2025. These positions have an hourly pay rate of \$18.54 (Step 5) on the WLPS, MEA/NEA wage schedule.

Bradley Gross has accepted the full-time position as MS/HS Special Education Paraprofessional with a start date of August 19, 2025. This position has an hourly pay rate of \$18.03 (Step 3) on the WLPS, MEA/NES wage scale.

Attachment 3 contains a letter from Michigan School Business Officials stating Maria Carter-Ewald has earned her Human Resource Specialist certification.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Barb Huang Library.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

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

1



Whitmore Lake Public Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2025 –WLPS MSC Administration Conference Room – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michelle Kritzman (*President*), Frank Zolenski (*Vice President*), John Meadows (*Treasurer*), Lindsey Collins (*Trustee*), Kelly Henning (*Trustee*), and Lee Cole (*Trustee*)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Lisa McCully (*Secretary*)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser, Assistant Superintendent, Denise Kerrigan, 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 6:00 p.m. by President Michelle Kritzman

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Kritzman requested to amend the agenda, adding a MS/HS Robotics team presentation.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Zolenski.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Students from the middle and high school robotics teams shared the requirements for each level of the FIRST Robotics Competitions with Board members. Students also shared their experiences and their 2024-2025 accomplishments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Collins reported that the Executive Committee met on July 14, 2025. Topics included reviewing the mid-year superintendent progress report, administration compensation recommendations, staff and community relations, spending Sinking Fund dollars for concrete repairs of sidewalks, curbs and manhole cover. Mr. DeKeyser shared a discussion regarding the discontinuation of fundraising through parking for U of M events.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 23, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting, was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins.

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

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$918,360 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.

Mrs. Kerrigan shared that the transfer to cover the payrolls of June 13th and June 30th is incorrect on the agenda. The correct amount of \$694,445 will be reflected in the minutes. Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

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 was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Kritzman.

Elementary Principal, Heidi Roy-Borland presented the board with an overview of the WLES Literacy proposal. She then answered all their questions, and also shared that a majority of the curriculum materials would be purchased with the 35J grant. Mr. DeKeyser added we are hopeful that additional grant funding will help cover the costs for the Professional Development with staff.

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

School Bond Loan Fund Resolution

Motion to approve the School Bond Qualification and Loan Program Resolution for the 2025-2026 school year was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins.

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. She also shared this would be the last year to borrow the funds, as we are set to become a paying district in 2026-2027.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. Henning – yes, Mrs. Collins – yes, Mr. Cole - yes
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

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 was made by Mr. Cole; supported by Mr. Meadows.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

None

OTHER INFORMATION

The board acknowledged the retirement of Transportation Bus Driver, Dennis Schairer, with an effective date of July 31, 2025, and the resignations of Middle School Softball Coach, Don Muchow and High School Football Coach, Alexander Graff.

The board also acknowledge the hiring of Joe Deane as High School Assistant Football Coach, Sarah Murillo as Under 18 Lifeguard and Swim Instructor, Alivia and Cameron Jarrett as Lifeguards-Under 18, Gina Massa and Darla Wentworth as full-time Montessori Infant Assistant Teachers and Jessica Clark as full-time Elementary Special Education Paraprofessional.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn into a closed session meeting at 6:57 p.m. (with a 5 minute break) to discuss the superintendent’s mid-year progress evaluation was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mrs. Kritzman.. **Roll call vote:** Mrs. Collins – yes, Mrs. Henning – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mr. Meadows – yes
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

Call to Order

Open session called to order at 7:44 p.m. by President Michelle Kritzman

SUPERINTENDENT MID-YEAR EVALUATION

The Board of Education worked with the Superintendent in each part of the mid-year progress evaluation. The WLPS Board shared that they are satisfied with his progress and will use continued goals to evaluate curriculum implementation, pacing, coaching, and performance using MSTEP results.

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:
July 2025

<u>Payroll Transactions</u>	July 15, 2025	\$	261,477
	July 31, 2025	\$	307,169
		\$	<u>568,646</u>

<u>Accounts Payable Transactions</u>		\$	<u>487,106</u>
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3



June 30, 2025

Mr. Tom DeKeyser
Superintendent
Whitmore Lake Public Schools
8845 Main St.
Whitmore Lake, MI 48189-9249

Dear Mr. DeKeyser,

On behalf of the Michigan School Business Officials, it is my pleasure to inform you that Maria Carter-Ewald has met the requirements for certification under the MSBO Voluntary Certification Program and has earned the Human Resource Specialist certification. This award reflects a high degree of academic and professional preparation established by the MSBO Board of Directors through our Professional Development Committee.

Ms. Carter-Ewald's certificate will be valid from 06/01/2025-05/31/2030. During this 5-year period, she will need to maintain active MSBO membership and earn 90 professional development hours in order to maintain and renew her certification.

I hope that you will join us in celebrating Ms. Carter-Ewald's accomplishment. You may wish to inform your district's Board of Education and/or the local media. It is an opportunity to highlight your staff's accomplishments and shed a positive light on your school district.

If you have any questions or want additional information, please call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'RD', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Robert Dwan
Executive Director

RD/cbb

cc: Maria Carter-Ewald, HRS