

# Whitmore Lake Public Schools BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2025 – High School Barb Huang Library – 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michelle Kritzman (President), John Meadows (Treasurer), Lisa McCully (Secretary), Lee

Cole (Trustee), Lindsey Collins (Trustee), and Frank Zolenski (Vice President)

**MEMBERS ABSENT** 

Kelly Henning (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, 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 President Michelle Kritzman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Mr. Cole.

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

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council President, Landen Livingston shared that teachers were recognized for all they do for students during the Spring Fling assembly. He also shared they will be meeting on May 13, 2025 to begin planning for the end-of-the year wrap-up.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** 

Mr. Meadows shared that the Finance Committee met on May 5, 2025. Topics included the WISD budget, the energy bond, teacher negotiations, personnel and staffing for 2025-2026, 6th grade transition to the Middle/High School, and LCA Board changes. Mr. Meadows and Mr. DeKeyser then answered all Board member questions.

**CONSENT ITEMS** 

Motion to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Collins.

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

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$663,918 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$620,812 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of April 15, 2025, and April 30, 2025 was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Collins. Ayes -6; Nays -0, motion carried 6-0

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

WISD Biennial Election Resolution

Motion to approve the WISD biennial election; further, the Board designates Trustee, Lee Cole, as its representative and President, Michelle Kritzman as its alternate representative to serve on the 2025 electoral body responsible for electing members to the WISD Board of Education and directs the representative to vote for incumbent candidates Mary Jane Tramontin and Diane Hockett for the two six-year term seats and Dorcas Musili for the two-year term at the June 2, 2025 election meeting was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins.

Roll call vote: Mr. Zolenski-yes, Mr. Meadows-yes, McCully-yes, Mrs. Kritzman-yes, Mrs. Collins-yes, Mr. Cole-yesAyes -6; Nays -0, motion carried 6-0

WISD Budget Resolution

Motion to approve the resolution in support of the Washtenaw Intermediate School District 2025-2026 Budget as presented was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.

Mr. DeKeyser shared that the WISD budget has moderate changes to a healthy fund balance and includes a 3% salary increase for staff. He also shared the budget looks well, as

presented, but could change if the federal funding for some grants are withdrawn. Mr. DeKeyser then shared that they are prepared to make cuts if needed, which could affect some services that are provided to us by the ISD.

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

## 2025 Improvement Bonds Sale Resolution

Motion to approve the 2025 School Improvement Bond bid resolution as prepared by Thrun Law Firm was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mr. Meadows.

Mr. DeKeyser shared he commonly refers to these as Energy Bonds and then updated the Board members on the bids received, sharing the sale went to the lowest bidder, Bank of Oklahoma (BOK) Financial Securities, Inc. and would recommend approval. Mr. DeKeyser then answered all Board member questions.

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

2025-2026 Start Date

Motion to approve the start date of August 25, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins. Ayes -6; Nays -0, motion carried 6-0

Financial Report

Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, updated the Board with information regarding the April 30, 2025 financial report. She then answered all board member questions.

Copier Purchase

Motion to approve the purchase of eight new copiers from Epson for an amount not to exceed \$44,500 was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. McCully.

Mr. DeKeyser shared that the High School building has copiers that were purchased almost ten years ago. He also shared some are beyond repair or parts are no longer available for repair however we plan to continue to use the working ones. Mrs. Kerrigan shared that Epson has the lowest bid and has improved the technology on the copiers. She then answered all Board member questions.

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

# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the following:

- 1) Facility / Event Updates the Elementary library mural project has been completed, the Elementary had an enjoyable and fun talent show supported by Ms. Jakrzewski and Ms. Winstanley, and the Junior/Senior Prom held last Saturday was successful. GLTW Montessori is in the planning stages for staffing, curriculum, and activities to offer a summer camp at the Main Street Campus.
- 2) Announcements The Board has been invited to attend a performance by the HS Robotics Team, The Trobots, at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at the Main Street Campus, followed by the Senior Awards Night at 6:30 p.m.in the High School Theater.
- 3) Redistricting plans still working out some details for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade transition to the Middle/High School and the pre-school reconfiguration but things are moving along well. Feedback from current 5<sup>th</sup> grader parents has been positive.

# OTHER INFORMATION

Personnel

The Board acknowledged the retirements of High School Paraprofessional, Anna Borden, Elementary Custodian, Beverly Fouty, and GLTW Montessori Toddler Assistant, Theresa Kilkenny. Mrs. Kritzman, on behalf of the Board, thanked them for their years of service and wished them well on their retirement.

The Board also acknowledged the resignations of Middle/High School History/Social Studies Teacher, Kate Reese and the hiring of Susan Alt as Swim Instructor, Joseph Murillo as Lifeguard-Under 18, Anita Fahey as HS Custodian, Holly Miller as GLTW Montessori Lead

Primary Teacher and the transfer of Hannah Wright from ES Lunch Room Monitor to ES Paraprofessional.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will meet on Monday, June 23, 2025 following the Budget Hearing at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Barb Huang Library.

#### CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

#### **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Mrs. Henning was not able to attend the meeting, however she sent the following report: The Board of Education will present two scholarships at the Senior Awards Night which is scheduled at 6:30 p.m on May 21, 2025 in the high school theater. She also announced that Lawrence Savoy, 2007 WLHS graduate, will be presenting two "Trojans Rise-up" scholarships that evening too.

Mrs. Kritzman shared that she and Mr. Meadows delivered coffee, donuts and fruit to each building for staff appreciation on May 8, 2025. She also announced that the MS/HS will—have their Band Concert on Thursday, May 15, 2025.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn into closed session meeting at 7:33 p.m. (with a 5 minute break) to discuss contract negotiations was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Zolenski. Roll call vote: Mr. Meadows – yes, Mr. Zolenski – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mrs. Collins – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. McCully – yes Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6-0

#### Call to Order

Open session called to order at 8:12 p.m. by President Michelle Kritzman

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:12 p.m. made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Meadows.

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

Lisa C. McCully, Secretary, Board of Education

Whitmore Lake Public Schools