



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