



Whitmore Lake Public Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2025 –WLPS MSC Administration Conference Room – 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser, Assistant Superintendent, Denise Kerrigan, MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry, Elementary Principal, Jennifer Petzke, 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

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

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council President, Jacob Bissonette shared that the Homecoming Dance will be on September 27, 2025. He also shared that the Homecoming Parade will be on Friday, September 26, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Meadows reported that the Finance Committee met on July 21, 2025. Topics included administration compensation recommendations which are reflected under new business.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting, and the July 21, 2025 closed session, was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$487,106 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$568,646 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of July 15, 2025, and July 31, 2025 was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins.

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 was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Cole.

Mr. Zolenski expressed his concerns with the proposal to Costa Rica and shared he would rather see a proposal to Europe for educational purposes. Mrs. Henry answered all Board member questions and shared that they considered both the student interest and cost of the trip.

Ayes – 6; Abstain – 1, Nays – 0, motion carried 6 - 0

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 was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mrs. Henning.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

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 was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole. Mr. DeKeyser shared that the adjustments to the compensation are to align these position wages using a formula as discussed during committee meetings.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

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 was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mr. Cole.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

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 was made by Mrs. Henning; supported by Mrs. Kritzman.

Mr. DeKeyser shared that the middle School and high school courses are separated into two course guides. He also shared that the middle school will offer elective courses on a quarterly basis to allow additional opportunities. Mrs. Henry joined Mr. DeKeyser, to answer all Board member questions. Mr. DeKeyser also shared the changes in the handbooks regarding food service, cell phones, and attendance policy.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Academic Assessment

Mrs. Henry shared that the high school offered eight Advanced Placement (AP) program courses during 2024-25, which are run by the College Board and culminate in an end of course assessment. She then shared an overview of the academic performance results in the AP curriculum, and answered all Board member's questions.

Superintendent DeKeyser also shared the following:

- 1) Staff updates - Teachers and staff return this week for Professional Development, and Open house in all buildings, Elementary schedules are being sent out, reviewing enrollment numbers at the elementary to evaluate hiring of an additional teacher.
- 2) Facility update - classroom & Hallway LED lighting upgrades at MS/HS may run into September due to backorder on parts, the ES and MSC lighting upgrades will have a completion date in November, with Heating and Cooling control upgrades to follow. Emergency concrete repair work is being done at the HS, additional concrete repairs due to safety issues will be done at the MSC building and at the ES the curb will have some repair with patchwork.
- 3) WISD CTE Millage – a 10 year 1 mil proposal will be on the November ballot, presentation information will be presented during committee meetings.
- 4) MSC had a cold water pipe break underground. Approximate cost to repair/replace the cold water line is \$25,000 which should be completed by the end of the week. HS irrigation system broke, looking into replacing a water cannon to get enough pressure to water the football field.

OTHER INFORMATION

The board acknowledged all the resignations, hiring, and certifications issued of staff as listed on the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:03 p.m. was made by Mrs. Kritzman;
supported by Mrs. Collins
Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0*



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

9/15/2025

Date