



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, October 20, 2025 — 7:00 p.m.

Whitmore Lake High School

Barb Huang Library



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, October 20, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Whitmore Lake High School Barb Huang Library
7430 Whitmore Lake Rd.
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 September 15, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting. **(Attachment 1)**

Approve fund transfer of \$710,441 in payments from Accounts Payable as per attachment 2; further, to approve the transfer of \$668,065 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of September 15, 2025 and September 30, 2025. **(Attachment 2)**

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Academic Assessment

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

OTHER INFORMATION

Personnel

Middle School Teacher, Eric Kobeck has submitted his retirement letter. His retirement will be effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

The following people recently submitted their resignations; HS Food Service Manager, Jonelle Lupi, ES Food Service Worker, Renee Anderson and Montessori Teacher Assistants Nicole Pfefferle and Miriam Apostol. **(Attachment 3)**

The following people have recently accepted positions with WLPS; Nikki Perez as MSC Custodian, in Community Recreation, Mercy Brinkerhoff as Swim Instructor, in Food Service, Samantha Price as HS Food Service Manager, and Tracey Visser as Food Service Substitute, in GLTW Montessori, Cecilla Otero-Villadiego as EDU Care Team Member, and in Athletics, Jeni Olney as MS Volleyball Coach.

Sydney Pfeiffer and Danielle Corrie have accepted the positions as MS/HS Paraprofessional with a start date of September 29th and ECC Paraprofessional with a start date of October 1, 2025, respectively. These positions have an hourly pay rate of \$17.51 (Step 1 of the WLPS).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, November 17, 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

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

September 15, 2025 –High School Barb Huang Library – 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser, Assistant Superintendent, Denise Kerrigan, MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry, Elementary Principal, Jennifer Petzke, Elementary Instructional Interventionist & Montessori Principal, Cory Woodard, and Student Services Director, Melissa Heuker.

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

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Brendan Baker from Maner Costerisan CPA Firm presented the 2024-25 audit report. He walked the Board through the report sharing it was an unmodified audit, adding that this is the highest level of assurance they can provide as auditors. He also shared that at this time he can only present a draft of the 2025 financial statements, due to the 2025 finance compliance supplement not being released from the Federal Government. However they do not expect to see any changes. Mr. Baker noted that the general fund is consistent with last year and has an 8.2% fund balance.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council President, Jacob Bissonette updated the board on the festivities planned for Homecoming week. He also shared that the switching between classes are pretty flawless and noted there is very little time when a middle school and high school student are in the hallway at the same time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Meadows reported that the Finance Committee met on August 25, 2025. Topics included the 2024-25 audit review including state aid funding and reimbursement on additional costs associated with special education, the 2025-26 budget, additional costs to continue a free school lunch to students beyond September 30, 2025, student enrollment and staffing.

Mr. DeKeyser shared that it will cost the district an additional \$30,000 per month to continue a free school lunch program. He also recommended to continue the free lunch program through October 2025 using funds in the Food Service budget. Then, if the state does not continue funding the program, the board would need to decide at the October Board Meeting to continue the program using General Fund dollars.

Mrs. McCully shared that the Policy Committee met earlier this evening and reviewed the suggested revisions and updates received from Miller Johnson. She then shared that the Committee recommends accepting all the changes/updates to the policies and administrative regulations as presented and accepting the option 2 for policy 4003 – Employee Salary Schedules. She also shared that they would recommend adding the additional language to “may not engage in use of marijuana products” to 3010-AR – Field Trips, regarding adult chaperones.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the August 18, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Zolenski.
Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$667,601 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$564,891 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of August 15, 2025, and August 29, 2025 was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Zolenski.

NEW BUSINESS

BOE Policy 1003 First Reading

Motion to accept the report from the Policy Committee for the first reading of the Board of Education policies as listed under new business, in accordance with Policy 1003 – Adoption or Amendment of Bylaws and Policies was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. McCully.

Mr. Zolenski inquired about the blank position regarding the 3006-AR- Parent Objections. Mr. DeKeyser shared that it would be filled with the “Director of Instruction”

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

Board of Education Policies

The Board reviewed the Miller Johnson policies and administrative regulations, 4003 – Employee Salary Schedules, 3006 AR – Parent Objections, 3010 AR – Field Trips, and 8007.1 – 8007.3 AR’s – Discrimination and Harassment updates and revisions for a second reading.

Motion to approve the Miller Johnson Policies and Administrative regulations as reviewed and presented was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Collins.
Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Personnel

Motion to approve the hire of Gina Massa as a full time Montessori Elementary Teacher at Level 6 on the WLEA BA salary scale with a start date of August 18, 2025 was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.
Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the following:

- 1) Student enrollment is slightly higher at 715 but many changes can still happen over the next couple of weeks.
- 2) Updated Board members on the possible changes to the State Budget that he and Mrs. Kritzman heard at the Legislative breakfast they attended.
- 3) WISD CTE Millage – shared information on a CTE presentation by the WISD regarding a 10 year 1 mil proposal will be on the November ballot, The CTE funding will help all K-12 students in Washtenaw County.
- 4) Facility update – all issues at the MSC regarding the water pipe break have been repaired, total cost slightly exceeds \$30,000. High School still has issues with a circuit board that controls the pressure at the pump house, replaced a water cannon at the HS for the irrigation system to get enough pressure to water the football field. The concrete repairs at the Elementary curb and sidewalk has been repaired with patchwork, but will require a complete repair in the near future.

OTHER INFORMATION

The board acknowledged the resignations of Montessori EduCare Assistant Teacher, Julie Jaworski, MSC Custodian, Chyanne Fiser-Adcox, HS Assistant Football Coach, Izaak Angel and Transportation Bus Driver, Robin Wilkes, and,

the hiring of retirees, Lonnie Hensley, Dennis Schairer, Lloyd Vogel and Steve Wolk in Transportation, Kaitlyn Johnson as part-time Food Service Worker, Jonathan Mesarosh as full-time Food Service Worker and Custodian, Fredrick Smith, as full-time MS/HS Custodian, Nicole Pfefferle as Montessori Infant Teacher Assistant and

Cody England as HS Assistant Football Coach, Amy Warren, Jana Stephens, and Jada Guinn as Elementary Special Education Paraprofessionals.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will meet on Monday, October 20, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Barb Huang Library.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mrs. Collins announced that the Education Foundation will be hosting their fundraiser, Book Bingo on October 18, 2025. She also shared that all Foundation Grant Applications will be accepted until November 3, 2025.

Mrs. Henning announced the Scholarship Fund Committee is updating and preparing the Senior Scholarship Applications to be shared with students during October.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:10 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*

Date

2

Whitmore Lake Public Schools
Business Office Transactions

For the Month Ending:
September 2025

<u>Payroll Transactions</u>	September 15, 2025	\$	318,760
	September 30, 2025	\$	349,305
		<u>\$</u>	<u>668,065</u>
<u>Accounts Payable Transactions</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>710,441</u>

3

October 1, 2025

Dear Robin,

I would like to inform you of my intention to resign from Go like the wind Montessori as Acting lead Toddler Teacher, effective 2 weeks from today, October 1, 2025.

I want to thank you for all you've done for me here at Go like the wind. The experiences and constant learning of Montessori philosophy will always stick with me as I embark on a new journey. I am grateful to have been a part of the toddler community and will always cherish the memories I've made not only with the kids but also with the faculty and staff. Thank you again for your constant support and encouragement.

Please let me know if there is anything you need from me during this resignation period.

Best,

Miriam Apostol
