



Whitmore Lake Public Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 20, 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 Instructional Interventionist & Montessori Principal, Cory Woodard, Student Services Director, Melissa Heuker, and Communication & 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 agenda as presented was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.*
Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC None

STUDENT COUNCIL Student Council President, Jacob Bissonette shared that the Homecoming festivities went well. He also shared that a lot of students were able to attend the dance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS Mr. Meadows reported that the Finance Committee met on October 13, 2025. Topics included state budget updates; per pupil was higher than predicted at \$10,050, food service will be free again this year, some uncertainty exists in categoricals...more information is expected in the coming weeks in particular with at-risk funding. He also reported that the district enrollment is higher than predicted from 700 to 724, and all indicators point to a stable budget this year.

Mrs. Collins shared that the Executive Committee met on October 15, 2025. Topics included, reviewing the Superintendent evaluation process and work to date, the committee will meet again in November to prepare a recommendation to the whole Board to review and discuss in closed session at the December meeting, contractual changes can be made in open session. She also shared that Mr. DeKeyser is planning on seeking approval for a new LCA member, providing updates on the LCA contract and lease renewals, and providing an Athletic and Community Recreation update in November.

CONSENT ITEMS *Motion to approve the minutes from the September 15, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Zolenski.*
Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$701,441 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$668,065 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of September 15, 2025, and September 30, 2025 was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Zolenski.
Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0

NEW BUSINESS None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Academic Assessment

Elementary Instructional Interventionist & Montessori Principal, Cory Woodard, shared that the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) is administered online each spring and is designed to gauge how well students are mastering state standards. He then provided an overview of the academic performance results on the spring 2025 M-STEP noting the percentage of Whitmore Lake students who are at or above the state percentage. Mr. Woodard then answered all board member questions.

Superintendent DeKeyser shared the following:

- 1) Student enrollment update – 24 of our 724 students registered, attend the WEOC programs offered through the WISD. The WEOC programs include WAVE (seat-time waiver program) and ECA (Early College Alliance program with Eastern Michigan University)
- 2) WISD CTE Millage – Shared the additional CTE programs that could be offered to WLPS students if the proposal passes on the November 4, 2025 ballot.
- 3) Facilities updates – all lighting upgrades are scheduled to be completed this week, training on the light controls will follow.

OTHER INFORMATION

Personnel

The Board acknowledged the retirement letter received by Middle School Teacher, Eric Kobeck with an effective date of June 2025, the resignations of HS Food Service Manager, Jonelle Lupi, ES Food Service Worker, Renee Anderson and Montessori Teacher Assistants Nicole Pfefferle and Miriam Apostal, and the hiring of Nikki Perez as MSC Custodian, Mercy Brinkerhoff as Swim Instructor, Samantha Price as HS Food Service Manager, Tracey Visser as Food Service Substitute, Cecilia Otero-Villadiego as EDU Care Team Member, Jeni Olney as MS Volleyball Coach, Sydney Pfeiffer as MS/HS Paraprofessional and Danielle Corrie as ECC Paraprofessional.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will meet on Monday, November 17, 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 Book Bingo was a great success. She also announced that all Foundation Grant Applications will be accepted until November 3, 2025.

Mrs. McCully announced that she is unable to attend the November Board of Education meeting.

Mrs. Kritzman announced that she has signed up for the annual Adopt-A-Family, on behalf of the board, again this year.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:45 p.m. was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole
Ayes – 7; Nays – 0, motion carried 7 – 0


 Lisa C. McCully, Secretary, Board of Education
 Whitmore Lake Public Schools (Treasurer)


 Date