



WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes- DRAFT
December 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 Instructional Interventionist & Montessori Principal, Cory Woodard; Student Services Director, Melissa Heuker; Brad McCormack, Athletic Director; and Communications & Human Resources Director, Maria Carter-Ewald

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff, parents, and members of the community

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Whitmore Lake Public Schools Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Michelle Kritzman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Meadows.

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

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council President, Jacob Bissonette, shared that planning is underway for the holiday assembly. He also reported on the success of the Canned Food Drive and Caroling for Cans initiative, which exceeded its goal with 4,690 cans collected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

CONSENT ITEMS

1) November 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the November 17, 2025 Board of Education Regular Meeting, the November 21, 2025 Board of Education Special Meeting, and the November 21, 2025 Closed Session was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mr. Zolenski.

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

2) Fund Transfers

Motion to approve a fund transfer of \$691,797 in payments from Accounts Payable, and the transfer of \$736,179 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of November 14, 2025 and November 28, 2025 was made by Mrs. Collins; supported by Mr. Zolenski.

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

NEW BUSINESS

2027 Europe Trip Proposal

Motion to approve the revised proposal submitted by Jill Henry, MS/HS Principal, and Candy Huddleston, High School Teacher, for a WLHS overnight trip over spring break for eight days to Western Europe was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.

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

Financial Report

Assistant Superintendent, Denise Kerrigan, provided an overview of the November 30, 2025 Budget Performance Report. She shared that revenues and expenditures are tracking as expected, with increases largely tied to restricted state and grant funding. She also noted upcoming state aid payments and addressed Board questions.

2025–2026 Budget Proposal and Resolution

Motion to review the amended General Fund budget proposal for the 2025–2026 school year and to approve the resolution to the amended budget was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins.

Roll Call Vote:

Zolenski – yes; Meadows – yes; McCully – yes; Kritzman – yes; Henning – yes; Collins – yes; Cole – yes

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

Livingston Classical Academy Board Appointment

Motion to authorize the Superintendent to inform the Livingston Classical Academy Board of Education of the appointment of Matthew Kettmann to a three-year term on the Board of Directors, commencing January 26, 2026, was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Athletics

Athletic Director, Brad McCormack, presented highlights from the fall sports season, including conference, regional, and state championships, strong academic achievements by student-athletes, and increased participation in several programs. He also shared updates on new digital displays showcasing athletic and extracurricular accomplishments and provided an overview of winter sports offerings.

OTHER INFORMATION

Personnel

The Board acknowledged the resignations of Montessori Primary Teacher Assistant, Hannah Seeley, and JV Boys Basketball Coach, Ladislaus Dombrowski.

The Board also acknowledged the hiring of Heidi Roy-Borland as part-time School Performance & Supports Coordinator; Savanna Gamet, Manjula Sutar, and Jessica LaFave as Montessori Toddler and Infant Assistants; Glynis Flowers as part-time Elementary Math Interventionist; Brendan Ely as Boys Freshman Basketball Coach; and Tristen Needham as JV Basketball Coach and MS/HS Paraprofessional. Nicholas Godfrey was hired as an Elementary Paraprofessional.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, including the annual Organizational Meeting, will be held on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Barb Huang Library.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

- Mrs. Henning: Shared an update from the Community Scholarship Committee, noting that 65% of seniors have completed scholarship applications and the fundraising goal for the year is \$45,000.
 - Mrs. Kritzman: Gave a shout out to students and staff involved in recent drama productions for their great performance. She also announced that there will be a Legislative Breakfast in January.
 - Mr. Zolenski: Suggested highlighting new digital athletic displays on social media.
-

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn into a closed session meeting at 7:52 p.m. (with a 5 minute break) to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins.

Roll Call Vote:

Collins – yes; Henning – yes; Cole – yes; Zolenski – yes; Kritzman – yes; McCully – yes; Meadows – yes

Motion carried 7 - 0

Call to Order

Open Session called to order at 8:57 p.m. by President Michelle Kritzman.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

Motion to approve the Superintendent's 2025 evaluation with a rating of effective was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Zolenski.

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

Motion to amend the agenda and approve the extension of the superintendent's contract through June 30, 2029 with the terms and conditions defined in the agreement was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mrs. Collins.

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

Motion to amend the agenda to approve the extra duty as defined in appendix A, B, and C of the superintendent's contract was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Meadows.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:00 p.m. was made by Mrs. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.

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