



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, February 9, 2026 — 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, February 9, 2026 – 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

Student Council President, Jacob Bissonette will present the student council report.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

### CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of minutes from the January 12, 2026 Board of Education Organizational / Regular Meeting. (**Attachment 1**)

Approve fund transfer of \$745,368 in payments from Accounts Payable as per attachment 2; further, to approve the transfer of \$723,557 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of January 15, 2026 and January 30, 2026. (**Attachment 2**)

### NEW BUSINESS

#### *Athletic Cooperative Programs*

Motion to approve an athletic cooperative between WLPS and Livingston Classical Academy to form a Varsity boys’ golf team for the 2025-26 and the 2026-27 school years. Approval is recommended.

Motion to approve an athletic cooperative with Father Gabriel Richard High School (FGR) to form a Varsity Boys’ Volleyball team for the 2025-26 and the 2026-27 school years. Approval is recommended.

#### *Financial Report*

**Attachment 3** contains the Budget Performance Report for January 31, 2026. Assistant Superintendent Denise Kerrigan will update the Board with information regarding the financial report.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### *Extracurricular Activities*

Patti Kobeck, MS Drama Club Advisor and Carol Spilak, HS Drama Club Advisor, will share highlights from recent productions and update the Board on activities planned.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

### *Personnel*

The following people recently submitted their resignation; District EL Teacher Brandy Muscato, MS/HS Custodian Fredrick Smith, Community Recreation Aquatics Facility Supervisor Billy Ferguson, and Director of Student Services Melissa Heuker.

Terra Plum has accepted the position as Custodian at the Elementary School and Myisha Stephens has accepted the position as Montessori Teacher Assistant Substitute. These positions have a start date of February 16, 2026 and March 2, 2026, respectively.

Amy Binns has accepted the full-time position as Special Education Paraprofessional with a start date of January 19, 2026. This position has an hourly pay rate of \$18.54 (Step 5 of the WLPa).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, March 9, 2026 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**



Please fill out a "Public 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.

## 1000 – BYLAWS

### 1002 - MEETINGS

#### 1002 – 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. 15.263(4)(5)(6), 380.1808

Revised 4/9/2017

#### 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.

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**WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Organizational / Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**January 12, 2026 – High School Barb Huang Library – 7:00 p.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT**

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser; Assistant Superintendent, Denise Kerrigan; Elementary Principal, Jennifer Petzke; Elementary Instructional Interventionist & Montessori Principal, Cory Woodard; Student Services Director, Melissa Heuker; and Communications & Human Resources Director, Maria Carter-Ewald

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Staff, students, parents, and members of the community

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Michelle Kritzman.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Ms. Kritzman; supported by Ms. McCully.*

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; motion carried

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

None

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – ELECTION OF OFFICERS (2026)**

Ms. Kritzman called for nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Board for the 2026 calendar year.

Mr. Meadows nominated Ms. Kritzman as President, Ms. Collins as Vice President, Mr. Zolenski as Treasurer and Ms. McCully as Secretary. Ms. Kritzman inquired if there were any other nominations.

*Motion to close the board officer nominations for the 2026 calendar year was made by Ms. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole*

Ayes - 7; Nays - 0; motion carried

**President**

*Motion to approve Michelle Kritzman as President was made by Ms. Collins; supported by Mr. Meadows.*

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; motion carried

**Vice President**

*Motion to approve Lindsey Collins as Vice President was made by Ms. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.*

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; motion carried

**Secretary**

*Motion to approve Lisa McCully as Secretary was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Ms. Collins.*

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; motion carried

**Treasurer**

*Motion to approve Frank Zolenski as Treasurer was made by Ms. Collins; supported by Mr. Cole.*

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; motion carried



## **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION MONTH**

In recognition of School Board Appreciation Month, students and staff from across the district presented gifts and messages of appreciation. Representatives from Go Like the Wind Montessori, Whitmore Lake Elementary School, Middle School and High School leadership groups, National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, Student Council, and the Whitmore Lake Education Association participated. Donations included books for classrooms, cards, student artwork, and contributions to the local food pantry.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Student Council President, Jacob Bissonette, shared appreciation for the Board and provided brief updates on Snowcoming planning, including the “Under the Sea” theme, and other upcoming activities.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

*Motion to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2025 Board of Education Regular meeting, the December 15, 2025 closed session and the December 22, 2025 Board of Education Special meeting was made by Ms. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.*

Ayes - 7; Nays -0; motion carried

*Motion to approve fund transfer of \$599,197 in payments from Accounts Payable; further to approve the transfer of \$774,967 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of December 15, 2025 and December 31, 2025 was made by Ms. Kritzman; supported by Mr. Cole.*

Ayes - 7; Nays -0; motion carried

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **School of Choice – 2026-27 First Semester**

*Motion to approve Whitmore Lake Public Schools as a School of Choice district pursuant to Sections 105 and 105c of the State School Aid Act with unlimited open enrollment for students in grades K–12 for all programs for the first semester of the 2026-27 school year was made by Ms. Kritzman; supported by Ms. Collins.*

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; motion carried

### **Personnel**

*Motion to approve the transfer of Lindsey (Kathleen) McDonough to Elementary Teacher at Level 4 of the WLEA MA salary schedule, effective January 5, 2026, was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Ms. Collins.*

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; motion carried

### **Financial Report**

Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Kerrigan provided an update on the General Fund budget, noting amended revenue projections related to mental health funding, upcoming tax revenue receipts, and continued review of expenditures. She also shared preliminary planning considerations related to facilities, the sinking fund, and Community Recreation projects. She then answered all board member questions.

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Superintendent, Mr. DeKeyser thanked the Board for its service and provided updates on middle school robotics qualifying for world competition, facilities response over winter break, emergency signage updates, lighting improvements, ongoing HVAC commissioning, Community Recreation pool lighting considerations, potential water system replacement at the elementary school, and early discussions with developers regarding a potential pedestrian connection near district property.

## OTHER INFORMATION

### Personnel

The Board acknowledged the retirement of Kim Bakker, Elementary Teacher effective December 31, 2025.

The Board acknowledged the resignations of Elaina Westphal, MS/HS Paraprofessional, and Stephanie Wilson, ECC Head Start Teacher Assistant, effective December 20, 2025 and January 6, 2026, respectively.

The Board acknowledged the hiring of:

- Laura Canfield, Swim Instructor (Community Recreation)
- Rhianon Ortiz, Bus Driver (Transportation)
- Molly Mileschkowsky, GLTW Montessori Toddler Teacher Assistant
- Averil Weitzmann, GLTW Montessori Primary Teacher Assistant
- Charlotte Henry, Student Success Advocate (MS/HS), effective January 5, 2026

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Barb Huang Library.**

## CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

## BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Cole: Shared concerns regarding recent Northfield Township Parks and Recreation Board processes and communication.

Ms. Henning: Reported that the William Wagner family fully funded a Community Scholarship prior to the annual campaign.

Ms. McCully: Expressed appreciation for student and staff recognition efforts during Board Appreciation Month.

Ms. Kritzman: Thanked staff and students for the presentations and acknowledged Kim Bakker's years of service; announced the upcoming legislative breakfast scheduled for 7:30 a.m. January 26, 2026 at the WISD, and the Middle School Drama Club presentation scheduled for February 6th - 8th.

## ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:45 p.m. was made by Ms. Kritzman; supported by Ms. Collins.*

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0; motion carried

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

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*Date*



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**Whitmore Lake Public Schools**  
**Business Office Transactions**

For the Month Ending:  
**January 2026**

<u>Payroll Transactions</u>	January 15, 2026	\$	321,944
	January 30, 2026	\$	401,613
		\$	<u>723,557</u>

<u>Accounts Payable Transactions</u>	\$	<u>745,368</u>
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**Whitmore Lake Public Schools  
Budget Performance Reports  
January 31, 2026**

Revenue	Actual	Amended Budget	Remaining Budget	% Rec'd	Expected Additional	Projected Amendment
Fund 11 - General Fund Revenue	\$5,000,048	\$15,228,916	\$10,228,868	32.83%	\$117,204	\$15,346,120

Revenue	Actual	Adopted Budget	Remaining Budget	% Rec'd	Expected Additional	Projected Amendment
Fund 23 - Comm Rec Revenue	\$1,022,477	\$1,857,200	\$834,723	55.05%		
Fund 25 - Food Service Revenue	\$326,276	\$667,300	\$341,024	48.89%		
Fund 41 - Sinking Fund	\$254,371	\$510,000	\$255,629	49.88%		

Expenditures	Actual	Amended Budget	Remaining Budget	% Used	Expected Additional	Projected Amendment
Fund 11 - General Fund Expenditure	\$8,191,521	\$15,219,211	\$7,027,690	53.82%		

Expenditures	Actual	Adopted Budget	Remaining Budget	% Used	Expected Additional	Projected Amendment
Fund 23 - Comm Rec Expenditure	\$983,918	\$1,683,700	\$699,782	58.44%		
Fund 25 - Food Service Expenditure	\$363,074	\$662,300	\$299,226	54.82%		
Fund 41 - Sinking Fund	\$331,163	\$271,463	(\$59,700)	121.99%		

**Audited Fund Balance 6-30-2025**

Fund 11 - General Fund	\$1,195,566
State Aid Note	\$1,770,424
Fund 23 - Community Recreation	\$385,936
Fund 25 - Food Service	\$87,510
Fund 41 - Sinking Fund	\$431,811