



Whitmore Lake Public Schools
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2020 – High School Theater – 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Laura Schwennesen (*President*), John Meadows (*Vice President*), Michelle Kritzman (*Treasurer*), Lisa McCully (*Secretary*), Lee Cole (*Trustee*), and Bob Henry (*Trustee*)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ken Dignan (*Trustee*)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Superintendent, Tom DeKeyser, Director of Finance & Operations, Denise Kerrigan, MS/HS Principal, Jill Henry, Elementary Lead Teacher and Literacy Coach, Heidi Roy-Borland, and Athletic Director, Brad McCormack

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff, parents and members of the community

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:01 p.m. by President Laura Schwennesen.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the amended agenda as presented made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mrs. Schwennesen.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council Representative, Samantha Ogden shared homecoming will be on October 9, 2020, however there will be no parade or dance this year due to COVID-19 distancing rules.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2020 Board of Education Regular Meeting was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Henry.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

Motion to approve fund transfer of \$383,437 in payments from Accounts Payable; further, to approve the transfer of \$321,761 from Accounts Payable to cover the payrolls of August 14, 2020 and August 31, 2020 made by Mr. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Henry.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Cole and Mrs. Schwennesen shared the Executive Committee recently met. Topics of discussion included the reopening schools, enrollment fluctuation, and marketing.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel

Motion to approve the transfer of Melanie Clawson from a full time Title 1 Paraprofessional to a full time Kindergarten Teacher for WLES at Step 2 on the WLEA MA salary scale with a start date of August 31, 2020 was made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Cole.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

Administration Contract

Motion to approve the renewal contract of Director of Student Services, Melissa Heuker was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Meadows.
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

2020 Refunding Resolution

Motion to approve the ratification of the resolution authorizing the refunding of Whitmore Lake Public School District's 2020 Refunding Bonds, as prepared by Thrun Law Firm made by Mr. Meadows; supported by Mr. Henry.

Mr. DeKeyser shared with the low interest rates, this would save the tax payers money. Mrs. Kerrigan shared it has a potential savings of 2.6 million dollars by paying off earlier and shortening the time to pay. She also informed Board members there are two resolutions to approve, due to timing of purchase. One is for 2020 and the other is for 2021.

Roll Call Vote. Mr. Henry – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. McCully – Yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes, Mr. Cole – yes
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

2021 Refunding Resolution

Motion to approve the ratification of the resolution authorizing the issuance and delegating the sale of Whitmore Lake Public School District's 2021 Refunding Bonds, as prepared by Thrun Law Firm made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Meadows.

Roll Call Vote. Mr. Henry – yes, Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. McCully – Yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes
Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

WLPS Course Catalog

Motion to approve the Whitmore Lake Public Schools student course catalog was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mrs. Kritzman.

Superintendent DeKeyser updated the board regarding the courses and answered all Board member questions.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried

Financial Report

Mrs. Kerrigan updated the Board with information regarding the August 31, 2020 financial report. She also shared due to COVID-19 and Community Recreation being shutdown there is no revenue at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Athletics/Extra Curricular

Superintendent DeKeyser thanked Mr. McCormack for his efforts in keeping the sports going this fall. Mr. McCormack updated the Board with the additional requirements due to COVID-19. He also shared our goal is to keep our kids safe and we will have be expectations with visitors wearing facial coverings.

Enrollment Update

Mr. DeKeyser updated Board members regarding student enrollment, in-person learning, and virtual learning. He also shared Kindergarten enrollment is up and an additional teacher may be needed.

Extended Continuity of Learning Plan

Mr. DeKeyser shared the educational goals which includes expectations from Michigan Department of Education. He also shared our ISD will need to approve our plan, which is due October 1, 2020.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Board acknowledged all other items of information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, October 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center, unless an Executive Order still requires to be held virtual.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Lindsey Collins expressed her appreciation for all the communication received regarding school during 2020-21. She also shared it's been amazing for students with the in-person learning and is very pleased with the elementary school.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mrs. Kritzman shared the Educational Foundation is having a Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser. It will be held outdoors at the Rod & Gun Club on October 3, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Meadows and Mrs. Schwennesen expressed their thanks to Mr. DeKeyser, Mrs. Henry and Mrs. Roy-Borland for communicating with the community during this COVID-19 pandemic.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn into closed session meeting at 8:40 p.m. (with a 5 minute break) to discuss contract negotiations was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Cole. Roll call vote: Mrs. Kritzman – yes, Mrs. McCully – Yes, Mr. Meadows – yes, Mrs. Schwennesen – yes, Mr. Cole – yes, Mr. Henry – yes,

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0, motion carried 6 – 0

Call to Order

Open session called to order at 9:04 p.m. by President Laura Schwennesen.

WLEA Negotiations


Motion to waive, for the 2020-21 school year, fund balance “6% wage freeze” clause and compensate teachers based on Appendix A of WLEA contract was made by Mrs. Schwennesen; supported by Mr. Meadows

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:06 p.m. made by Mr. Cole; supported by Mr. Henry

Ayes - 6; Nays - 0, motion carried 6 - 0.



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

10/12/2020
Date