

WDS Board of Education Monthly Meeting Minutes

DATE: April 21, 2025

PLACE: VAC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Melissa Moore, Rachel Fekken, Chris Mahoney, Paula Martin, Shannon McGoran, Tim Cross, Jimmy TenBrink

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: CJ Van Wieren, Kirsten Bolles, Tyler Van Antwerp, other staff and community members

Ms. Fekken called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion Cross/TenBrink to approve agenda as presented.

Ayes (7) Cross, TenBrink, Mahoney, Martin, McGoran, Moore, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Public Comment

C. Normandin – Board Policy

H. Mathiot – Shoreline Incident

C. Thompson – Suspension

J. Mennenga – Shoreline Incident

C. Raeth – Catchmark Partnership

Consent Action Agenda

Motion Martin/McGoran to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ayes (7) Martin, McGoran, Moore, TenBrink, Mahoney, Cross, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Items Approved: Minutes of meetings dated March 17, March 17 Work Session; disbursements for the month of March 2025: general fund \$909,687.36, community education \$24,302.67, food service \$19,751.89, technology and security fund \$240.17, activity accounts \$26,964.31, common debt \$0, capital projects \$0.

Student Representative Update

NHD competed at state competition. Three Whitehall students advanced to Nationals, and two students placed 3rd. The high school has a PBIS store that has many items that students can redeem their points for. Events taking place this week: SAT testing, HS Carnival on Thursday, Whitehall Prom on Saturday. The application process for next years student representative will be underway soon.

Committee Reports

Policy Committee met on April 2, 2025 to review the proposed policy updates from Miller Johnson. We will review the first reading tonight. Ms. Martin commended Tyler for his time served on the board as our student representative.

Ms. Fekken addressed the community about the social media post made today regarding the different committees of the board and the Open Meetings Act, [MCL Section 380.1203](#) which refers to the business of the board when they have a conflict of interest “with regard to a contract or other financial transaction that requires the approval of the board...”. In reviewing these concerns with the district attorney, WDS has been, and will continue to operate in compliance with the policies set in place, and the Code of Ethics that each board member review and signs off on each year.

Unfinished Business

N/A

Chromebook Purchase

Motion Mahoney/TenBrink to approve the purchase of 325 chromebooks and licenses from HP at a cost of \$96,122.50

Ayes (7) Mahoney, TenBrink, McGoran, Martin, Cross, Moore, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

First Reading Policy Updates

Board reviewed the policy updates. They will be reviewed and adopted at the next board meeting.

Consideration of the MAISD Biennial Election Resolution Memo

The board members reviewed the memo and will adopt the resolution at the next board meeting.

Monthly Financials

Mr. Van Wieren reviewed the monthly financials with the board.

Superintendents Report

Mr. Van Wieren explained the E-Rate program, which is a federal initiative designed to make internet access and telecommunications services more affordable for eligible school and libraries across the United States. WDS applied in January and received notification of being awarded. Of the three bids that were received and reviewed carefully, the bid winner is going to Vector Tech. They were the only company that is willing to complete all phases of the project and the only company that is not subscription based. The PSAT/SAT/M-STEP test windows open soon. High School graduation is set for May 22, 2025. We will be holding two more community events on Wednesday, April 30th. Coffee with the Superintendent at 10:00 a.m., followed by another session at 6:00 p.m. Both events will take place in the VAC Conference Room. To close out the Superintendent Report, Mr. Van Wieren addressed the Shoreline incident, stating that he never meant to downplay the incident in his communication. Noting that school staff cannot control what students bring from their homes, we as a district are looking at ways to prevent another occurrence from happening again.

Public Comment

C. Thompson – Suspension

C. Normandin – Transparency

T. Hampel – Friends of Fruitland Township

Adjournment

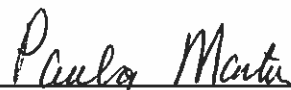
Motion Cross/TenBrink to adjourn.

Ayes (7) Cross, TenBrink, Martin, Moore, McGoran, Mahoney, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Adjourned at 7:22 p.m.



Board Secretary or Designee