

MINUTES

WEST LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room
1200 N. Salisbury Street
West Lafayette, Indiana

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Monday, January 8, 2024

PRESENT: Mrs. Amy Austin; Mr. Brad Marley; Mr. Tom Schott; Mrs. Rachel Witt;
Dr. Yue Yin; Mrs. Dacia Mumford; Mr. Laurence Wang; Dr. Shawn Greiner,
Superintendent; Mrs. Anna Roth, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Michelle Cronk, CFO

President Austin called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

I. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Greiner extended **CONGRATULATIONS** to **Mr. John Levy**, JSBS Social Studies Teacher, for the Golden Apple Award. A popular tradition since 1987, the Golden Apple Awards recognize the most outstanding teachers in Tippecanoe County. Educators are nominated by students, parents and colleagues.

The Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Greater Lafayette Career Academy located at 2201 S 18th Street, Lafayette.

II. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Erin Moon-Walker, Parent/Community Member (re: Bullying Incident)
- David Kucik, Parent/Community Member (re: Board Unity)

III. ROUTINE BUSINESS

A. A motion was made to approve the Agenda for the January 8, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees.

Motion by: Mr. Schott Seconded by: Mr. Marley Vote: 7 of 7

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt; Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

B. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the Board of School Trustees held on December 11, 2023.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt Seconded by: Mr. Marley Vote: 7 of 7

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt; Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

C. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees held on December 11, 2023.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt Seconded by: Mr. Schott Vote: 4 of 7

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt; No: Mumford, Wang, Yin; The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mumford to table the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of School Trustees that was held on December 11, 2023. She noted that "discussion ensued" was removed, and information/discussion need to be included in the meeting minutes.

Motion by: Mrs. Mumford Seconded by: Mr. Wang Vote: 3 of 7

Discussion ensued between the Board members with some individual input regarding their opinions about the meeting minutes.

Yes: Mumford, Wang, Yin; No: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt; The motion failed.

Mrs. Austin returned to the main motion for a final vote.

D. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the Board of School Trustees held on December 19, 2023.

Motion by: Mr. Marley Seconded by: Mrs. Witt Vote: 7 of 7

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel Report

Recommendation: Dr. Greiner recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve all information contained in the personnel report. Dr. Greiner also extended gratitude to Mrs. Denise Deutsch for her thirty-nine and a half years of service and wished her well in her retirement. Dr. Greiner also reminded the Board that unpaid days are only presented, for Board approval, for staff who are under contract.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the names and positions reflected in the Personnel Report including the update as previously mentioned in the meeting.

Motion by: Mr. Wang Seconded by: Mrs. Mumford Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion ensued regarding non-contracted employee unpaid leave days. The requests are approved by the Director of the department in which the employee works.

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

B. Early Literacy Achievement Grant

Recommendation: Mrs. Roth requested the Board's approval, in accordance with policy 6110, to accept all IDOE Literacy Achievement Grant funds available to the district in the 2023-2024 school year. Grant funds awarded totaled \$11,574.58. The stipend amount will be \$231 for a total of 44 teachers (42 full-time and 2 half-time). Any teacher employed in a teaching position and providing instruction grounded in literacy standards during the 2022-2023 school year in grades K-3 and still employed with the district on the date of payment will receive the stipend. Pending approval, the stipend will be paid on January 19, 2024.

Motion by: Mr. Wang Seconded by: Mr. Marley Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion continued regarding the grant. It is not a competitive Grant, so every school in the state of

Indiana is awarded the funds. It is awarded on a variety of factors including literacy achievement.

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

C. Staff Recognitions

Mrs. Roth provided information regarding a staff recognition program that started in November 2022. The program is Appreciation, Recognition and Thanks (A.R.T.) which promotes a positive work environment, is open to all employees, recognitions and certificates of appreciation are delivered monthly, five names are randomly drawn and receive a small, donated gift card, and, to date, 330 messages have been delivered.

Discussion ensued and Mrs. Roth told the Board that there are plans to expand on staff recognitions (re: work year anniversaries, and so forth).

D. High School Art Donation

Recommendation: A donation was received in the amount of \$1000 from Round the Foundation Art Fair, Inc. to be applied to the Art Department at the JSHS. All donations over \$1000, per policy 7230, must be presented to the Board for approval.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt

Seconded by: Mr. Wang

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion continued noting that the donation was received in recognition of staff who participate in Round the Foundation Art Fair. The donation does not have restrictions, therefore, can be utilized as necessary.

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

E. Retroactive Transfer Resolution

Recommendation: Mrs. Cronk presented a Transfer Resolution for the Board to retroactively approve the transfer as a blanket transfer resolution not completed for the 2023 budget year as it had been for the upcoming 2024 budget year. She requested the approval to transfer from the 2017 Lease Fund to the Debt Service retroactively and sign the resolution so that documentation would be available for the State Board of Accounts. Please note that the State Board of Accounts does not allow for a negative balance at the end of a six-month period; thus, a transfer from the 2017 Lease Fund to the Debt Service Fund is necessary.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the Retroactive Transfer Resolution.

Motion by: Mr. Wang

Seconded by: Mr. Schott

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion ensued for clarification of the transfer. There was a waiver for protected taxes in order to keep more money in the operations fund. The Debt Service amount went down due to the waiver.

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

F. Resolution: Additional Check Runs

Recommendation: The school corporation regularly incurs expenses that must be paid on a timely basis outside of normally-scheduled meetings of the Board of School Trustees. In order to maintain operations and not incur late fees and/or penalties, some invoices (utilities, charge accounts, insurance, taxes, etc.) need to be paid outside of the regular meeting schedule. Please note: these expenditures would still be included on the monthly claims docket so that approval can be given retroactively and identified. Mrs. Cronk recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve the Resolution for Additional Check Runs.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve

Motion by: Mrs. Witt

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 7 of 7

A comment was made thanking Mrs. Cronk for adding the “between Board notation” to the claims docket making it easier to identify.

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

G. Accounts Payable/Finance Update

Recommendation: Mrs. Cronk recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve the audited claims in the report.

The total claims paid:

- o Corporation Claims – \$5,952,856.30
- o WVEC Claims – \$175,324.68
- o Total Claims Paid – \$6,128,180.98

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the audited vouchers as presented.

Motion by: Mr. Wang

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion continued between Board members and Mrs. Cronk regarding the West Lafayette City Cares Grant listed on the Financial Report Funds Report and the textbook reimbursement amount (\$412,000 in expenditures and \$349,495 in reimbursement from the state).

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

H. Safe/Accessible Neighborhood Discussion/Resolution

Recommendation: During the December 2023 Board Meeting, there was a discussion regarding conversations with Mayor Easter as to what extent, legally, the City of West Lafayette could request full restriction of transient guest housing in R1 zones. The Board provided feedback in support of providing families and children access to neighborhoods that are safe, accessible, multi-generational and walkable. A request was made that the Board approve the resolution supporting Mayor Easter and the City of West Lafayette.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve and support the Resolution to restrict transient guest housing in R1 zones which will provide safe/accessible neighborhoods in West Lafayette.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt

Seconded by: Mr. Schott

Vote: 7 of 7

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.

VI. INFORMATION TO THE BOARD -

Mrs. Austin reported that Board Committee assignments will be forthcoming. If Board members have any feedback or requests, they are to email Mrs. Austin. The Parks Board and Redevelopment Board both hold “swearing in” ceremonies, therefore a WLCSC Board member will need to be assigned to that committee this month.

VII. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Dr. Greiner

Thanked Ann Gerlach for her help in assisting the elementary school with kindergarten coverage.

January is School Board Appreciation Month and gratitude was expressed to the WLCSC Board of School Trustees for their service and dedication. Recognition month was created back in 1995 by the National School Boards Association, so it is an honor to recognize our Board members.

An update on the JSHS Principal search was provided. Second-round interviews will be conducted

on January 10th and 11th for the three final candidates. Appreciation was extended to the WLCSC Technology Department for their assistance, in addition to, the interview committee for their time. The second-round interview committee consists of administrators, teachers, parents and students. The position will remain posted until the position is filled. Following the second-round of interviews, two final candidates will be selected for a third interview which will consist of Dr. Greiner, Mrs. Roth, Mrs. Cronk and the three Board members who were originally appointed by the Board.

Mrs. Austin

Reported that the Legislative Session is commencing.

Mr. Marley

Resolution R.C. 2023-6 was approved. There have been several readings of the budget allocations for the TIF Districts. There are 5 TIF Districts in all: total service and other charges amounted to \$6,013,000; Capital Outlay was \$14,554,328; Debt Service totaled \$12,595,100 with a grand total of \$33,162,428.

Mrs. Mumford

An Executive Session was held prior this meeting to discuss the Safety Plan led by Mr. Ulrich.

Mr. Schott

WLSEF is providing support for the upcoming Career and Trades Fair on January 18th. The Foundation appreciates the opportunity to work with the Counseling Office on this great event.

The deadline for graduating senior to apply for scholarships is February 1st. WLSEF is grateful to the many donors who provide scholarship funds to support our students.

Nobel Prize recipient, Mounji Bawendi (Class of 1978), will be returning to West Lafayette to spend the day with West Side students and staff on April 25th. WLSEF and the West Lafayette Alumni Association are excited to host Dr. Bawendi. That evening, Dr. Bawendi will be the guest of Purdue President Mung Chiang as part of the Presidential Lecture Series.

The next Community Council meeting is January 22nd at noon.

Mr. Wang

Attended a School Finance Seminar in December with Dr. Greiner and Mrs. Cronk.

Mrs. Witt

The WLEA Board-Teacher discussion met on December 21st. There was an update from WLEA members regarding class sizes, especially the 5th grade cohort. There have also been some open positions and issues that are Administrative in nature. The WLEA did inquire as to which School Board member would be assigned to attend the meetings.

Dr. Yin

The Parks Department will have new programs which will include some online to accommodate more homeschooled students. There will also be additional Park Board members who will be appointed by the Mayor of West Lafayette. The meetings will be held at 4 p.m. every third Monday of the month.

During the Curriculum meeting with Mrs. Roth, the new format for the WLCSC website was previewed and is very nice.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

Friday, February 9, 2024 at 7:00 a.m. – Work Session (IF NEEDED), Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room
Monday, February 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room

IX. UPCOMING DATES of INTEREST

Monday, January 15, 2024 – MLK Day (no school)
Monday, February 19, 2024 – Snow Makeup Day #1 (if needed)
Friday, March 8, 2024 – End of 3rd 9-week grading period
Monday, March 11 – Friday, March 15, 2024 – Spring Break
Monday, March 18, 2024 – School Resumes / 4th 9-week grading period begins

X. INFORMATION for the PUBLIC

Board documents will be posted on the WLCSC website as early as Friday afternoon and no later than noon on the Monday prior to the Board meeting.

Video, audio, and written transcript will be posted within 7-10 days following the Board meeting.

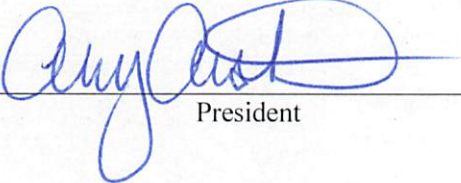
XI. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Motion by: Mrs. Mumford


Seconded by: Mr. Wang

Vote: 7 of 7

Yes: Austin, Marley, Schott, Witt, Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None; The motion passed.



President



Secretary

Please note: a transcript of a meeting is a non-edited electronic transcription generated by YouTube from the livestream of the meeting. These have not been reviewed or edited for accuracy and ***should not*** be considered official minutes of the meeting. Typographical errors and omissions should be expected.

Documents are available on the WLCSC website <https://www.wl.k12.in.us/> Recent Documents / View All Documents / School Board Information / Board Meeting Documents / 2024 / 2024_01_08