

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, August 12, 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

GUEST: Mrs. Jessica Billingsley, Legal Counsel (CCHA)

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

I. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

State Representative Chris Campbell presented the Circle of Corydon Governor's Award in honor of Dr. Karen Springer. This award recognizes individuals who have made remarkable contributions to the betterment of Indiana and its people and, therefore, are deserving of the consideration for membership in the Indiana General Assembly Circle of Corydon. Dr. Springer was declared a distinguished member, and her daughter, Laurel, was present to accept on her behalf.

II. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Don Coller – Mrs. Mumford's commentaries
- Erin Moon-Walker – Policy G350 Audio Video and Digital Recording on School Property and of School Meetings
- Tiffany Lyle – Preschool Program

III. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were placed under the Consent Agenda for the Board's approval:

- **Agenda for the August 12, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees.**
 - this remained in the Consent Agenda.
- **Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Trustees held on July 15, 2024.**
 - this remained in the Consent Agenda.
- **Teacher Appreciation Grant (TAG)**
 - this was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion and separate vote.

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

Discussion included clarification for distributing the TAG money, the current policy regarding Teacher Appreciation Grants and funds allocated to all other staff.

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

➤ **Permission to Apply for and Accept Annually Awarded Federal & State Grants**

- this was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion and separate vote.

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

Discussion included an explanation that this is an annual, mandatory process that allows school corporations to receive federal and state funds. The Board of School Trustees has to vote to accept the grants and agree/abide to the terms.

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

➤ **Investment Resolution**

- this remained in the Consent Agenda.

➤ **Personnel Report**

- this was pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion and separate vote.

Motion by: Mr. Wang Seconded by: Dr. Yin Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion involved recruiting practices, hiring guidance, manuals, limited candidate pools and as to whether hiring decisions are rushed. It was insinuated that such processes may lead to the perceptions of lack of transparency and accountabilities which may damage the integrities of the hiring process. There was also an inquiry as to the number of athletic supervisor positions.

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

➤ **Accounts Payable**

- this remained in the Consent Agenda.
 - Corporation Claims - \$2,446,487.10
 - WVEC Claims - \$3,701.73
 - Total Claims - \$2,450,188.83

A motion was made to approve all items remaining in the Consent Agenda as noted above.

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.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Board Policy G350 – Audio Video and Digital Recordings on School Property and of School Meetings

Note: Mrs. Austin switched Unfinished Business Items A and B on the Agenda.

Recommendation: It was recommended that Policy G350 – Audio Video and Digital Recordings on School Property and of School Meetings be tabled so that Dr. Greiner could ask the building principals to review the policy and provide feedback.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees table Policy G350 until building principals have time to review the policy and provide feedback.

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.

B. Board Policy C375 – Suspension and Expulsion of Students

Recommendation: A second reading was conducted on Policy C375 – Suspension and Expulsion of Students. The policy provided by legal counsel does not include language that states Suspension and Expulsion appeals will be heard by the School Board of Trustees, but be filed with the County Court.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve Policy C375 as recommended by legal counsel which does not include language for the Board to hear suspension and/or expulsion appeals.

Motion by: Mr. Schott

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 4 of 7

It was requested that each Board member share their reason(s) as to why they do not want to hear appeals if they wished to do so.

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

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Phone System Upgrade

Note: *Mrs. Austin switched New Business Items A and B on the Agenda.*

Recommendation: The Technology Department requested the replacement of the corporation-wide phone system as hardware is nearing its end of life and is difficult to replace and repair. Replacement was included in the 2024-2026 Capital Plan during the 2024 budget process. Three quotes were received, and Mrs. Cronk recommended approving the replacement of phone hardware, corporation-wide, with Wintek Business Solutions in the amount of \$69,671.10 which includes hardware, Smartnet licensing and maintenance. It was also requested to purchase the cost for licensing the phone system that will allow WebEx capabilities. Wintek provided a 5-year cost of \$112,813.36 (\$22,562.68 annually).

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the corporation-wide phone system upgrade and 5-year licensing with Wintek Business Solutions.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt

Seconded by: Mr. Wang

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion regarding when this would be implemented ensued and noted that installation would begin depending on supply-chain management.

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

B. Administrator and Teacher Evaluation Presentations

Dr. Greiner presented the required Administrator and Teacher Evaluations with the overall ratings. The first presentation explained the Teacher Evaluations.

- ❖ Four-point Rating Scale
 - Highly Effective (4)
 - Effective (3)
 - Improvement Necessary (2)
 - Ineffective (1)
- ❖ Professional Teacher Summative Evaluation
 - Instructional Leadership (25%)
 - Professionalism (20%)
 - Effective Instruction (30%)
 - Student Assessment/Feedback (25%)
- ❖ Final Summative Score
 - Locally approved Professional Teacher Summative Evaluation
 - Final Summative Score based on professional judgment after a minimum of 2 observations by the evaluator

- ❖ West Lafayette Community School Corporation Teacher Evaluation Ratings 2023-2024
 - WLES – 49 teachers, 49 highly effective
 - WLIS – 37 teachers, 33 highly effective and 4 effective
 - JSBS – 73 teachers, 64 highly effective, 8 effective and 1 improvement necessary

The second presentation explained Administrator Evaluations.

- ❖ Four-point Rating Scale
 - Highly Effective (1)
 - Effective (2)
 - Improvement Necessary (3)
 - Ineffective (4)
- ❖ Summative Evaluation
 - Human Capital
 - Instructional Leadership
 - Leading Indicators of Student Learning
 - Professional Behavior
 - Building Relationships
 - Culture of Achievement
- ❖ Final Summative Score – Administrator Evaluation Instrument
 - Administrator Self-Evaluates
 - Supervisor Evaluates
 - Final Score is Determined
- ❖ West Lafayette Community School Corporation Administrator Evaluation Ratings 2023-2024
 - WLCSC – 9 administrators, 5 highly effective and 4 effective

Discussion topics included applauding the WLEA discussion team for their updates, communication, professionalism and advocacy for teachers in the WLCSC. It also recognized the collaborative nature of the process of teacher and administrator evaluations. It was also noted that the evaluation tool is used as a support system for administrators and teachers. Evaluations are not meant to be punitive, but as a supportive measure to help the individual learn and grow. Principals and assistant principals are responsible for evaluating their teachers, and the superintendent or assistant superintendent evaluates administrators. Students are not involved in the evaluation process.

C. Athletics Complex Running Track Replacement

Recommendation: It was determined that the running track at the WLCSC Athletic Complex needs to be resurfaced due to cracks developing throughout the track and deterioration of the inside lane. The project was included in the 10-Year Capital Improvement Study as well as the 2024 Budget Capital Projects Plan. Hellas Construction, through Sourcewell Purchasing Cooperative, is a national company that has been in the sports facility and athletic surface industry for over a decade. Their base proposal is \$319,300 with an additional alternate of \$45,600 for an upgraded impermeable system for a total cost of \$364,900. The cost of the project will be paid out of the Operations Fund. Mrs. Cronk requested the Board approve the replacement/repairs to the Athletics Complex Running Track.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve Hellas Construction to begin the replacement/repairs to the Athletic Complex Running Track.

Motion by: Mr. Wang

Seconded by: Mrs. Witt

Vote: 7 of 7

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

D. Finance Update

Mrs. Cronk reported that the Objects Breakdown of the month's claims is included in the Board Packet during the period of July 11 through August 2. Two Fund Reports were also provided. The first one is the month-end final Fund Report for June after all revenue and expenses have posted and the bank reconciled.

A preliminary Fund Report for July, which is still in process of posting revenue and some expenses, was also included in the Board packet.

A motion was made to share, publicly, the transaction history for each of the construction accounts before the Work Session on the GO Bond.

Motion by: Mrs. Mumford

Seconded by: Mr. Wang

Vote: 3 of 7

Discussion involved if the information was available and how long it would take to run the reports. It was also noted that all of the years have been audited by the state and passed.

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

VI. INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

Mrs. Austin

Mrs. Austin reported she has been in communication with Representative Campbell, and they share concerns regarding diploma requirements. Mrs. Austin was unable to attend a recent event hosted by Representative Campbell regarding this topic, but Mrs. Witt attended and said it was good to hear from local school teachers and where things stand at this time. Mrs. Witt said that Purdue President Chiang said that under these diploma formats, students would not be eligible for admission. The first deadline for feedback has already passed, but the Board of Education is meeting on Wednesday, and she encouraged community members to send individual emails to each member of the State Board expressing concerns.

VII. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Dr. Greiner

School Opening

- We are off to a positive start to a new year.
- We kicked off with our typical opening meeting with staff on Tuesday of last week
- Thank you to those of you on the Board who were able to attend.
- With school being in session since last Wednesday, I would like to report that we have had a great first few days of school with no major issues.
- I would like to thank staff, students and families for your part in making this a great start to an exciting new school year.

Transfers and HB1380

- I was asked to remind the board about HB1380.
 - HB1380 is a bill that prohibits school districts from charging transfer tuition starting July 1. We had questions from Board members, how does this impact our agreement with TSC?
- One thing I want to point out is our district does not bill families in our current agreement with TSC.
- Currently, we allow students from TSC to attend our schools with permission from Dr. Hanback under the understanding that it is “better accommodated” circumstances. Families complete an application and the superintendent approves on a student-by-student basis.
- From there, our principals review the applications and approve based on space within our buildings/classrooms, and review attendance and/or behavior records.
- That being stated, TSC does charge families for the difference in costs when factoring in our total expense per student compared to the costs for TSC to provide educational services. Dr. Handback, TSC superintendent, has checked with his legal counsel and has confirmed that the practice is acceptable.
- As long as this process is deemed acceptable, we are comfortable with the current process.

Enrollment Numbers

- We continue to monitor beginning of the year enrollment numbers.
- Initially, I can tell you our kindergarten numbers are down from previous years.
- This appears to be a trend at least within the county after speaking with county superintendents Mr. Huddle and Dr. Hanback.
- That being stated, it is not uncommon to get a few more students once Purdue starts school and TSC

starts school.

- We will continue to monitor and update the board accordingly once we have more solid numbers to report to the Board.

New Central Office

- We have moved to the new location at 3061 Benton Street behind the elementary school.
- We look forward to Board meetings being held at our new location once everything is in place.
- We anticipate moving meetings to the new office either October or November.

Strategic Planning

- Our central office team met with Adam Jones with SkyBound in late July.
- We will begin with a survey for all stakeholders.
- We will develop the survey with Mr. Jones as he works with central office leaders and principals in August.
- From there Mr. Jones will present to the board for feedback before administering it to the stakeholders within the school and school community.

Mr. Marley

The Redevelopment Commission meeting was held on July 17, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. Highlights included the following:

- Quote acceptance for the Sagamore Parkway Trail solar lighting - \$132,000 for the lights
- Public Safety Center Phase II – approved contract for just over \$2 million with an estimated cost of \$60 million for the Safety Center. This will be serviced by TIF Bond issuance in which there are six now.
- Landmark Project is planned for the Levy and a \$5.5 million issuance of the TIF Bond was approved that will be serviced by the increment taxes off of that area.

Mr. Schott

WLSEF Report

- Doug Masson has resigned as president.
- Brad Cohen was elected president and Patrick Jones vice president at the August meeting.
- Sue Lasater will continue as treasurer.
- Mary Beth Whitman will continue as secretary.

Dr. Yin

- Participated in the ISBA training workshop and was impressed with the topic of Authentic Community Engagement and how to communicate and reach the community, in addition to, sustainable engagement strategies.

Mrs. Witt

- Board-Teacher Discussion was not held during summer break.
- Expressed gratitude to Mr. Caldwell, Transportation Director, for always going above and beyond.
- Appointed as the Region IV Representative for the ISBA Awards Committee.
- Has chosen to participate in the ISBA Member Book Club this fall.

Mr. Wang

- Participated in the ISBA Leadership Academy discussing the following topics:
 - School Board Policies
 - Management of large projects
- Expressed appreciation to the administrators and teachers who participated in the 80-hour Literacy Endorsement course.
- Attended the Back-to-School Opening Ceremony and enjoyed Dr. Greiner's speech.
- Shared that positive feedback is being received regarding the new JSBS Principal, Chad Rodgers.
- The Parks and Rec Summer Camp went extremely well. They need recreation coordinators and bus drivers for the after-school program. Finally, the Farmer's Market has updated its hours of operation.

Mrs. Mumford

- The Public Schools Foundation of Tippecanoe County met last week.
- The Cupcake Run will be held on September 22 and registration is open. WLES is in 2nd place for having the greatest number of registrants, and WLIS is tied for 3rd place.
- The Fall Grant deadline is September 25 for the teachers.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday, August 26, 2024 at 5 p.m. – Work Session, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room
Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 5 p.m. – Executive Session, Central Office
Monday, September 16, 2024 at 5 p.m. – Work Session, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room
Monday, September 16, 2024 at 6 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room
Monday, October 1, 2024 at 5 p.m. – Executive Session, Central Office

IX. UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

Monday, September 2, 2024 – Labor Day (No School)
Friday, September 20, 2024 – Professional Staff Day (Staff Only)

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.

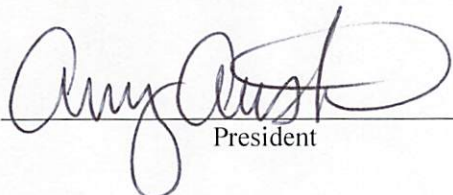
XI. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Motion by: Mr. Wang

Seconded by: Mrs. Witt

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/board/meetings-info>