## **MINUTES**

## **REVISED 5/11/2023**

## 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, April 10, 2023

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Rachel Witt; Mr. Bradley Marley; Mrs. Amy Austin; Mr. Thomas Schott; Dr. Yue Yin;

Mrs. Dacia Mumford; Mr. Laurence Wang; Dr. Shawn Greiner, Superintendent; Mrs. Anna Roth,

Assistant Superintendent; and Mrs. Michelle Cronk, CFO

President Witt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

#### I. ROUTINE BUSINESS

A. A motion was made to approve the Agenda for the April 10, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees.\*

Discussion ensued.

Motion by: Mr. Marley Seconded by: Mrs. Austin Vote: 4 of 7

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Mumford to add the January 2023 Organizational Minutes to the Agenda for another vote.

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Mumford requesting that items 5 and 6 on the Agenda, School Board Policy Revisions (policies 0171.3 and 8510), be presented as first readings only at this meeting and voted on at the May Board meeting during a second reading.

The votes were as follows for both Agenda items 5 and 6.

Discussion ensued.

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

Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Witt returned to the motion to approve the Agenda for the April 10, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees (noted above\*).

B. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Board of School Trustees Work Session held on February 1, 2023.

Discussion ensued.

Motion by: Mrs. Mumford Seconded by: Mrs. Austin Vote: 7 of 7

Yes: Witt, Marley, Austin, Schott, 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 March 6, 2023.\*\*

Discussion ensued.

Motion by: Mr. Schott Seconded by: Mr. Marley Vote: 4 of 7

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Mumford to table the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees held on March 6, 2023 because she stated that votes and motions are not in order.

Discussion ensued.

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

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

NOTE: Member Wang moved that his individual statements be included in these minutes during a subsequent meeting (May 2023). These statements do not represent the views of the Board as a whole.

#### II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

#### III. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT/SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mrs. Cronk was pleased to share news from WLES. Parent Council hosted the Kindness Challenge at the elementary school. \$7,455 (\$6,948 net to school) was received, 377 lbs. of food was collected and delivered to Food Finders Food Bank and 357 Acts of Kindness were performed. AMAZING work WLES!

Mrs. Roth congratulated WLIS on a wonderful Living History experience. Students dressed in costume and had a parade. Mrs. Roth said the kids did a tremendous job and extended appreciation to staff, parents and students for coming together for this school community event. This takes learning beyond the classroom and allows students to interact with one another.

Dr. Greiner shared highlights from the JSHS. The percussion ensemble captured its highest placement in school history. The Robotics Team excelled this season and advanced to world level competition that will be held in Houston, Texas this month. And finally, spring sports are up and running. Teams are experiencing success in their respective areas. Great things are ongoing and continuing to happen all around WLCSC.

Mrs. Psarros shared information regarding the arts programs and extended gratitude for the amazing opportunities the students have in these programs. Intermediate students have the opportunities of orchestra, band and choir. Mrs. Psarros also acknowledged the arts program and congratulated Chloe Zhang for Best in Show at the Tippecanoe Arts Youth Fair. An Art Fair Open House will be held at WLIS on April 17 from 6-7 p.m. which will showcase student art.

## We're PROUD of our students, staff and volunteers!

Mrs. Witt returned to the motion to approve the minutes for the March 6, 2023 Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Trustees (noted above\*\*).

#### IV. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE (Current Agenda Items)

Mrs. Kathy Parker – School Safety/Gun Violence/Suicide Prevention <a href="https://besmartforkids.org/">https://besmartforkids.org/</a>

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

## A. School Board Policy Revisions

**Recommendation:** Dr. Greiner presented the following policies to the School Board of Trustees for their consideration based on "substantial changes" to the wording within the policies provided by legal counsel.

- Policy 0143 Board Member Authority
- Policy 0143.1 Public Expressions of Board Members

The purpose of these updates is to address the Board's interest in releasing parts of the Board packet prior to each Board meeting.

This is the second reading/final reading.

Discussion ensued.

\*Member Wang thinks the School Board Policy Committee should present this updated policy for Board approval after an open-door meeting.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the revisions/updates to the following policies:

- Policy 0143 Board Member Authority
- Policy 0143.1 Public Expressions of Board Members

Motion by: Mrs. Austin Seconded by: Mrs. Mumford Vote: 7 of 7

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

#### **B.** School Board Policy Revision

**Recommendation:** Dr. Greiner recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve the revisions to the following policy.

• Policy 0171.3 – Secretary

Dr. Greiner conferred with WLCSC legal counsel regarding the duties of the Board Secretary. Per advice, of legal counsel, substantive revisions were made to the policy to reflect the actual duties of the Board Secretary.

Discussion ensued.

\*Member Wang's discussions:

- 1) The updates of this policy are substantive (all existing clauses have been replaced). Per school bylaw, such change needs 2 readings fore Board voting.
- 2) The clause C in the repealed policy may need to keep unchanged in the updated policy since, as far I as I understand, the IC requires the secretary of a governmental entity (including school corp.) with long term (> 5 years) debt to publish an Annual Financial Report.
- 3) Per Indiana Code, the Superintendent could recommend a school employee as Board Executive Secretary, and the School Board approves the recommendation so that we can officially establish the position of Executive Secretary for our School Board.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the revision/updates to the following policy:

• *Policy 0171.3 – Secretary* 

Motion by: Mr. Marley Seconded by: Mr. Schott Vote: 5 of 7

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

## C. School Board Policy Revision

**Recommendation:** Dr. Greiner recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve the revisions to the following policy.

• Policy 8510 – Wellness

An assessment of a school's Wellness policy must be conducted a minimum of once every three years per the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations. Dr. Greiner invited Mrs. Courtney FitzSimons, Food Service Director, to present the Wellness Committee's recommended revisions to the policy.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the revision/updates to the following policy:

• Policy 8510 – Wellness

Motion by: Mr. Marley Seconded by: Mrs. Austin Vote: 5 of 7

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

#### D. Summer Stem Camp 2023

**Recommendation:** Mrs. Roth recommended the Board of School Trustees approval to hold Summer Stem Camp 2023. The camp will run from May 30 - June 9, 2023 (2 weeks / Monday-Friday). The cost is \$100 / per student and there will be 3 available workshop / camp sessions each day with a capacity of 25 seats per session. The camp is for students going into the  $4^{th}$  through  $6^{th}$  grades under the leadership of Mr. David Brantley.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve Summer Stem Camp 2023.

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

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

#### E. WLCSC K-5 Jumpstart 2023

**Recommendation:** Mrs. Roth recommended the Board of School Trustees approve the request for the Jumpstart Summer 2023 program. This will be held from July 24 – August 4, 2023 at the Intermediate School from 8:45 a.m. (updated from 9 a.m. start time) to 12 p.m. The program is for current kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup> graders (rising 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders). Breakfast, lunch and transportation will be provided to students attending the program.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve K-5 Jumpstart 2023.

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

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

#### F. Emergency Authorization to Hire

**Recommendation:** Every year a request is made that the Board of School Trustees approve the authority for the Superintendent to hire during the months of May-August. As per protocol, if an employee is hired during this time, the information will be formally presented on the next available Board meeting Personnel Report.

Per Policy 0132.2 – Administrative Authority. This policy states that the Superintendent is the delegated authority to take necessary action in circumstances not provided for in Board policy, provided that such action shall be reported to and ratified by the Board at the next meeting following such action. This includes, but is not limited to, emergency authorization to hire personnel.

Based on School Board Policy 0132.2, this item does not need to be listed on future Agendas for Board approval.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve Emergency Authorization to Hire by the Superintendent, even though this technically does not require a vote.\*\*\*

Motion by: Mr. Schott Seconded by: Mrs. Austin Vote: 5 of 7

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

Mrs. Mumford requested tabling the motion in regards to Emergency Authorization to Hire, as more information is necessary. (Board Policy 0132.2 authorizes the Superintendent to take necessary action in circumstances requiring immediate attention).

Motion by: Mrs. Mumford Seconded by: Mr. Wang Vote: 2 of 7

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

Mrs. Witt returned to the motion to approve the Emergency Authorization to Hire and asked Board Members to vote (noted above\*\*\*).

#### G. Field Trips

**Recommendation:** Dr. Greiner recommended the Board's approval on the following field trips:

- Robotics Team: Competition at Anderson University, Anderson, IN April 6-8, 2023
- Robotics Team: World Championship at George Brown Convention Center, Houston, Tx – April 19-22, 2023 (Tentative)

Dr. Greiner congratulated the Robotics Team for placing in competition at Anderson University and qualifying to attend the Robotics World Championship at George Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. Congratulations and good luck to the team!

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the Robotics Team field trip requests.

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

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

## H. Personnel Report

**Recommendation:** Dr. Greiner recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve all information contained in the personnel report.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the names and positions reflected in the Personnel Report.

Motion by: Mrs. Austin Seconded by: Mr. Schott Vote: 6 of 7

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

## I. Accounts Payable/Finance Update

**Recommendation:** Mrs. Cronk recommended that the Board approve the audited claims in the report.

The total claims paid:

Corporation Claims - \$3,371,752.87

WVEC Claims - \$101,748.22

Total Claims Paid - \$3,473,501.09

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

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

#### J. High Ability

Mr. Wang, Board Member, requested the addition of High Ability to the Agenda. Mr. Wang believes that the Board of School Trustees, not the Superintendent, should develop a plan and establish a planning committee for High Ability Programs. Mr. Wang referenced IC 20-366-2-2 and WLCSC Board Policy 2464. This was for information only and no votes were conducted.

Discussion ensued.

#### VI. <u>INFORMATION TO THE BOARD</u> - None

#### VII. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

#### Dr. Greiner -

HB 1001 Budget allows the Indiana economic development corporation to certify an applicable tax credit that exceeds the maximum allowable amount after review by the budget committee. This Bill is moving out of the Senate, and there are no details on how this is different than the House Bill. Vouchers are receiving funding: 1/3 increase in spending vouchers and 1/3 towards curricular materials. This is not a large increase to schools for 2023/2024 and 2024/2025, and possibly a decrease in the following year which would be crippling to public schools. As a result, this could cause WLCSC to rely heavily on the referendum.

SB 380 requires each school corporation to publish, on the school corporation's website, the graduation rate for each high school in the school corporation. Amends the definition of "graduation" for purposed of the high school graduation rate determination. Allows a school corporation to adopt a policy concerning dress code or distracting behavior.

Discussions continue on the future of the Happy Hollow building. As of now, current tenants will remain and communication is occurring with West Lafayette Parks and Recreation about potentially holding their Summer Camp in 2024 at the building if there is availability. The possibility of a preschool is in the early stages of discussion and information will be provided as warranted.

#### Mr. Schott -

2023 Wall of Pride dates have been announced. Five distinguished alumni and one educator will be recognized for career accomplishments on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. The Wall of Pride was established for the purpose of celebrating WLCSC alumni and our schools. Nominees are reviewed annually and selected by a committee comprised of WLCSC administrators, alumni and members of the West Lafayette Schools Education Foundation. This year's inductees include: Sonia Angell (1983), Mayor John Dennis (1977), David Kelso (1963), Gary Lehman (1970), Chris Ho (1984) and Joseph Krause (WLHS Social Studies Teacher from 1961-1999).

The honorees are each assigned a student host and will visit classes throughout the school day on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, followed by a convocation for juniors and seniors at 1:30 p.m. There is limited seating available for anyone wishing to attend.

Save the date for the 2023 Scarlet and Gray Dinner and Auction. Formerly known as West Side Story, this annual celebration is the primary fundraising event for the West Lafayette Schools Education Foundation. The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 22, 2023 in the Shively Club at Ross-Ade Stadium. Approximately 10 tickets remain of the goal of 200. Ticket sales end on Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact the Foundation at wlsef@wl.k12.in.us or 765.269.4007.

WLSEF received a record number of teacher grants this spring; 13 grants totaling over \$15,000. One proposal fit perfectly into the STEM grant that was received by the corporation. Another grant was withdrawn because other funding was obtained. Five proposals were totally funded and three proposals were partially funded. The total awarded this spring was \$8,032.13. The total amount awarded in teacher grants this academic year is \$11,723.14. There will be a paddle raise at the Scarlet & Gray dinner to raise funds for teacher grants.

#### Mrs. Austin -

Attended Board-Teacher discussion on March 23, and there is another meeting late April.

SB 12, which would criminalize librarians and teachers who share objectionable material with minors, is dead. Of all of the bills this session, Mrs. Austin spent the most time on this one trying to protect our teachers and librarians.

There was a major amendment to HB 1002 which streamline the bill that creates Career Scholarship Accounts with \$5,000 per student to use to enroll in work-based learning/apprenticeship programs. It appears that went to appropriations on April 6 which should mean that it has a good chance of passing. There is quite a bit of information in that bill, and it is recommended looking at the ISBA bill tracker for more information.

An interesting bill on bullying was eligible to be heard in the Senate today. HB 1483 would require schools to notify a student's parents when they've been a victim of bullying. It also allows parents to review certain materials that would be used in bullying and suicide prevention programs. It has gone to the House for a second reading.

Mrs. Austin recognized her daughter, Mary Grace, and her friends, for founding Students Demand Action at the JSHS. This group promotes sensible gun laws and safety.

#### Dr. Yin -

Discussed working with Mrs. Roth in regards to the High Ability Program.

#### Mrs. Mumford -

Attended the Public Schools Foundation of Tippecanoe County meeting and shared that Laura Falk, WLCSC Diversity Initiative Specialist, was announced a winner of a grant from them and will be recognized on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5 p.m. at Rush Pavilion in Columbian Park.

The Public Schools Foundation of Tippecanoe County is preparing for their annual Cupcake Run this fall and are looking for ideas for the teacher's booths.

Mrs. Mumford also attended the Wellness Committee and acknowledged the work by Mrs. Courtney FitzSimons, Food Service Director, and expressed appreciation for actively inviting parents and students in the future, and her willingness to review the policy on a yearly basis instead of every three years.

The Diversity Roundtable will be holding a Diversity Summit on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Ivy Tech in Lafayette. Registration deadline is Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Recommendation:** Mrs. Mumford requested that the Board of School Trustees schedule a Work Session in April to discuss the upcoming referendum.

Discussion ensued.

Motion by: Mrs. Mumford Seconded by: Mr. Wang Vote: 0 of 7

**Recommendation:** Mrs. Mumford requested that the Board of School Trustees move her previous motion for an April Work Session to a May Work Session.

No votes were taken as Mrs. Witt said they have plans to schedule it. The referendum will be discussed.

Mrs. Mumford asked Dr. Greiner about the change to the WLIS music program. Dr. Greiner explained that this is the time of year when master schedules are being discussed at the building levels with principals and teachers. In regards to WLIS, Mrs. Psarros, building Principal, has asked her staff for questions/feedback/suggestions/concerns and is currently working through options. No final decisions have been made at this time.

#### Mr. Wang -

Reported that he has participated in webinars. In March, ISBA hosted Open Door and Public Access and in April discussed Policy 101.

Mr. Wang also attended a presentation on equity by Dr. Azziz, Founder/Director of Virtuoso Education Consulting.

\*Member Wang suggests making our Board meeting Agenda more flexible and removing the limitation of "Current Agenda Items" for communication from the audience before any voting items, so that we can have an open and welcoming environment for community members.

## VIII. <u>COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE</u> (Non-Agenda Items) - None

## IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. - Executive Session, Wabash Valley Education Center (WVEC) Monday, May 1, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. - ISBA Region IV Meeting, The Stables Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. - Regular Board Meeting, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room

#### X. UPCOMING DATES of INTEREST

Tuesday, April 25, 2023 – Referendum Renewal (initial meeting with Board Officers) Friday, April 28, 2023 - Snow Make-up Day #3 (no school if make-up day is not needed)

## XI. <u>INFORMATION for the PUBLIC</u>

Board documents and audio from the April 10, 2023 meeting will be posted on the WLCSC website within 7-10 days following the Board meeting.

Beginning in May, the Board documents will be posted on the WLCSC website as early as Friday afternoon and no later than noon on Monday prior to the Board meeting. Video and audio will still be posted within 7-10 days following the Board meetings.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Motion by: Mr. Marley	Seconded by: Mr. Schott	Vote: 7 of 7
Yes: Witt, Marley, Austin, Schott,	Yin, Mumford, Wang; No: None.	The motion passed.
President		Secretary