

# 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, March 6, 2023

Updated 5.2.23

**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 March 6, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees.

Discussion ensued.

*Motion by: Mr. Marley*

*Seconded by: Mr. Schott*

*Vote: 6 of 7*

*Yes: Mrs. Witt, Mr. Marley, Mrs. Austin, Mr. Schott, Dr. Yin and Mrs. Mumford*

*No: Mr. Wang*

*The motion passed.*

A motion was made to add Community Discussion in regards to High Ability Committees to the Agenda.

Discussion ensued.

*Motion by: Mr. Wang*

*Seconded by: Dr. Yin*

*Vote: 3 of 7*

*Yes: Mr. Wang, Dr. Yin and Mrs. Mumford*

*No: Mrs. Witt, Mr. Marley, Mrs. Austin and Mr. Schott*

*The motion failed.*

B. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees held on February 13, 2023.\*

Discussion ensued.

*Motion by: Mrs. Austin*

*Seconded by: Mr. Marley*

*Vote: 7 of 7*

*Yes: Mrs. Witt, Mr. Marley, Mrs. Austin, Mr. Schott, Dr. Yin, Mrs. Mumford and Mr. Wang*

*No: None*

*The motion passed.*

A motion was made by Mrs. Mumford to postpone the approval of the Regular Board Minutes to after the Recognition Awards because there needs to be a

**discussion of error.**

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

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

**II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

**III. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT/SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

This month the West Lafayette Elementary School was recognized. Mrs. Delaney presented the Good Citizenship Club (*Life-Skills of Cooperation*) Awards to the following students:

- Allen Sun – Kindergarten
- Jaap Singh – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade
- Ayan Panchal – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- Charlize Erickson – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

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

**IV. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE (current Agenda items)**

Mrs. Amanda Hart - Agenda item 6 (School Board Policies)

Mr. Don Coller - Release of Redacted Information

Mrs. Lisa Mills - Agenda item 6 (School Board Policies)

**Mrs. Witt returned to the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees held on February 13, 2023. Mrs. Mumford disputed the lack of information included in the Minutes from the January 9, 2023 Organizational Meeting. Mrs. Mumford requested all motions and votes be listed in the correct order for Board President, Vice President and Secretary. Mrs. Witt asked for approval of the minutes including the requested changes.\***

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Diversity/Equity/Inclusion (DEI)**

Mrs. Laura Falk, Diversity Initiative Specialist, provided a presentation involving inclusion, diversity, equity, access and social justice. Mrs. Falk spoke about the Professional Development Day that was held on February 10<sup>th</sup>, in addition to continued efforts. The presentation can be found on the WLCSC website under Recent Documents / View All Documents / School Board Information / Board Meeting Documents / 2023 / 2023\_03\_06.

Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Roth noted that on April 4, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., Dr. Azziz of Virtuoso Educational Consulting will be presenting for the community at the JSBS and more information will be forthcoming.

**B. Summer School Recommendation**

**Recommendation:** Mrs. Roth recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve the provisions for the 2023 Social Studies Summer School program. The courses will be offered virtually from June 5 – July 21, 2023 through Canvas with West Lafayette teachers as the course instructors. Hours worked will not exceed 75 hours per instructor/per course. The WLCSC will seek reimbursement from the IDOE for summer school programs through IOA and the Social Studies teachers.

Discussion ensued.

***A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the 2023 Social Studies Summer School program from June 5 – July 21, 2023.***

*Motion by: Mrs. Austin*

*Seconded by: Mr. Marley*

*Vote: 7 of 7*

*Yes: Mrs. Witt, Mr. Marley, Mrs. Austin, Mr. Schott, Dr. Yin, Mrs. Mumford and Mr. Wang*

*No: None*

*The motion passed.*

**C. Technology Purchase Approval**

***Recommendation:*** The Technology Department requested approval to purchase 400 new Chromebook devices for students at West Lafayette Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year. Current devices are nearing the end of their useful life. Students use these devices in the classroom on a daily basis as a supplemental resource in the learning process. In accordance with state guidelines, three quotes were obtained. The lowest bid was provided by Red8 in the amount of \$98,764.00. The purchase will be funded, in part, with technology grant funds and the Education Fund. Mrs. Cronk requested approval of the purchase on behalf of the Technology Department.

***A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the request allowing the Technology Department to purchase 400 new Chromebook devices for students at the Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year.***

*Motion by: Mr. Schott*

*Seconded by: Mr. Marley*

*Vote: 7 of 7*

*Yes: Mrs. Witt, Mr. Marley, Mrs. Austin, Mr. Schott, Dr. Yin, Mrs. Mumford and Mr. Wang*

*No: None*

*The motion passed.*

**D. School Board Policy Revisions**

Dr. Greiner presented the following policies to the School Board of Trustees for their consideration based on “substantial changes” to the wording. The policy committee reviewed the language, sent proposed language to legal for review, and then brought current language, proposed language and legal recommendation to the Board.

- 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 a first reading, and a second reading and vote will be conducted at the April meeting.

Discussion ensued.

**E. Release of Redacted Board Chair Notes**

Mrs. Witt reported to the Board that she will continue to provide a redacted version of her weekly Board Chair notes to be posted on the WLCSC website. She consulted with Dr. Greiner and WLCSC legal counsel for clarification of what can legally be shared/posted. Board members will continue to receive an unredacted version, but are not required to read them.

Discussion ensued.

**F. 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: Mr. Marley*

*Seconded by: Mrs. Austin*

*Vote: 7 of 7*

*Yes: Mrs. Witt, Mr. Marley, Mrs. Austin, Mr. Schott, Dr. Yin, Mrs. Mumford and Mr. Wang*

*No: None*

*The motion passed.*

**G. Accounts Payable/Finance Update**

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

The total claims paid:

Corporation Claims - \$2,480,847.43

WVEC Claims - \$94,083.18

Total Claims Paid - \$2,574,930.61

Discussion ensued.

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

*Motion by: Mr. Wang*

*Seconded by: Mr. Schott*

*Vote: 7 of 7*

*Yes: Mrs. Witt, Mr. Marley, Mrs. Austin, Mr. Schott, Dr. Yin, Mrs. Mumford and Mr. Wang*

*No: None*

*The motion passed.*

**VI. INFORMATION TO THE BOARD**

**Mrs. Witt -**

Received an inquiry about the language in our policies related to the roles and responsibilities of a Board member and the role of the Secretary of the Board. This has been sent to WLCSC Legal Counsel for review.

Reminder that Board training will be held in an Executive Session on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Wabash Valley Education Center with Dr. Judi Hendrix.

A question was received regarding Policy 2464 asking if it was in conflict of Indiana Code 20362-2. Mrs. Witt reported that the policy and law do align and are not in conflict. The Board is charged with the responsibility of ensuring a myriad of Indiana code requirements are met. To meet statutory requirements, the Board delegates those duties to the Superintendent and/or his designee. The Superintendent is held accountable for the day-to-day operation of the schools and for the management of personnel. The Board does not perform these tasks.

**VII. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

**Dr. Greiner -**

Reported that we're in the legislative session right now. He said we're talking closely with our professional organizations and/or legislators. House Bill 1499 relates to operations fund, property taxes and referendum fund. There are concerns about the current, proposed three percent cap on the new referendum revenue which would decrease the property tax cap for residential taxpayers from one percent to 0.95 with a gradual increase over time which will severely limit our operations revenue and likely increase circuit breaker loss. So, while we expect changes from House to Senate, we certainly want to keep our eye on these topics with continued communication with our professional organizations.

House Bill 1001 is the budget bill which drastically increases voucher funding while also increasing the number of people eligible for the voucher program.

Senate Bill 12 establishes a procedure to allow a parent/guardian, of an enrolled child in school, to submit a complaint that a book in the school library is inappropriate. This Bill talks about taking away protections for our teachers. Dr. Greiner said he believes in local decisions and local control and believes that our teachers, if they're making good faith efforts, to present materials for educational reasons and should be protected.

Congratulations to the elementary students on a great week of Read Across America. The overall favorite book was the Harry Potter series. Also, Kindergarten Round-Up is around the corner, so we encourage all families who will have an incoming kindergarten student to save the date.

**Mrs. Roth -**

Was pleased to congratulate the 17 National Merit Scholarship finalists for 2023 (which is approximately 10% of the JSHS students). Mrs. Roth also extended appreciation to the families, educators and friends who support and cheer on our scholars.

The number of teacher proposals received for PD for the Stem Grant was 115. This number is more than 115 teachers because some of the proposals are from multiple groups of teachers. Mrs. Roth expressed how impressed she was with the outstanding number of proposals received.

**Mrs. Cronk -**

Extended congratulations to Mrs. Janelle Wade, Deputy Treasurer, who recently completed her Assistant Business Manager Certifications through the Indiana Association School of Business Officials (IASBO).

All members of the Business Office take part in workshops and certification courses offered by IASBO. Dr. Greiner also participates in courses for certification purposes.

A retirement information meeting was recently held for teachers who plan on retiring or just wanted to learn more about the retirement process. This will be an annual event providing general information with regards to retirement, the master teacher contract in Indiana and the Indiana teacher retirement funded Social Security.

Students at the Intermediate School recently had a lot of success with Math Counts, Battle of the Books, Indiana Chess Regional and the Regional Spelling Bee Championship (won by Sharanya Kar who will represent WLIS at the Nationals). We're so PROUD of our students, staff and parents.

**Mr. Marley -**

The Redevelopment Commission will meet on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at Margerum City Hall.

Coming soon to West Lafayette will be a seven-story, 500-unit mixed-use apartment complex with 12,000 square foot of retail space at the corner of Brown Street and River Road, as well as a seven-story, 150-room Courtyard by Marriott at the site of an old drive-thru ATM on Brown Street.

Park officials are in the planning process of building a tree nursery on approximately 15 acres of donated land. A 2,300 square-foot greenhouse will be built to house saplings, perennial and native plants. The nursery will have the capacity to grow up to 1,200 trees.

The Wellness Center will soon be getting a new sign at the entrance.

There has been a change order on the Caretaker's Cottage to allow for better movement of traffic.

There is a contract for design services for the new Cason Park on Cumberland Avenue.

**Mr. Schott -**

The West Lafayette Schools Education Foundation will meet on Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at Central Office.

Teacher Grant applications are due by Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. As of Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, six applications have been received; the most applications in a grant cycle since the pandemic.

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).

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. The website is now live and tickets are available for purchase <http://bidpal.net/scarletandgray>. For more information, contact the Foundation at [wlsef@wl.k12.in.us](mailto:wlsef@wl.k12.in.us) or 765.269.4007.

**Mrs. Austin -**

Mrs. Austin reported that she has attended several legislative updates and has two scheduled this week. She continues to monitor legislation and communicate with elected officials.

**Dr. Yin -**

Dr. Yin reported that Riverside Skating Rink at Tapawingo Park is closed for the season.

De-trash the Wabash will be held at Tapawingo Park, West Lafayette, on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Dr. Yin also attended the G.L.A.S.S. meeting and heard a presentation stating that she learned a lot and was amazed by the scope of work they've been doing. There are more than 4,000 students in the greater Lafayette area, and she appreciates the teachers who work with special needs students.

**Mrs. Mumford -**

Mrs. Mumford attended the Diversity Roundtable which is committed to addressing dimensions of human diversity with specific focus on those linked to conditions in our community that result from prejudice and discrimination. All three area Superintendents have also attended these meeting in the past, but were not at this most recent meeting. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Wells Community Cultural Center, 638 North Street, Lafayette in person or via zoom.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette will hold their next meeting on Thursday, March 9, 2023.

**Mr. Wang -**

Mr. Wang did not have any Engagement report at this time.

**VIII. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE – None**

**IX. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. - Regular Board Meeting, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room  
Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. - Executive Session, Wabash Valley Education Center

**X. UPCOMING DATES of INTEREST**

**Spring Break:** Monday, March 13, 2023 - Friday, March 17, 2023

**School Resumes:** Monday, March 20, 2023 and 4<sup>th</sup> 9-Week Grading Period begins

**Kindergarten Round-Up:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at WLES

**Snow Make-up Day #2:** Friday, April 7, 2023 (no school if make-up day is not needed)

**XI. INFORMATION for the PUBLIC**

Board documents and audio from the March 6, 2023 meeting will be posted on the WLCSC website within 7-10 days following the Board meeting.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.**

*Motion by: Mr. Wang*

*Seconded by: Mr. Marley*

*Vote: 7 of 7*

*Yes: Mrs. Witt, Mr. Marley, Mrs. Austin, Mr. Schott, Dr. Yin, Mrs. Mumford and Mr. Wang*

*No: None*

*The motion passed.*

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President

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Secretary