

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, May 13, 2024

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

VIRTUAL: Dr. Yue Yin
**Dr. Yin attended virtually and roll call votes were conducted*

GUEST: Mrs. Amy Matthews, Legal Counsel (CCHA)

President Austin called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

I. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS - None

II. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE - None

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- **Agenda for the May 13, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees.**
- **Minutes of the Work Session of the Board of School Trustees held on April 8, 2024.**
- **Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Trustees held on April 8, 2024.**
- **Minutes of the Executive Session of the Board of School Trustees held on April 29, 2024.**
- **The Church Annual Lease Agreement**
- **Field Trips**
 - June 17-19, 2024: Football Camp at Manchester University in North Manchester, IN
 - July 8-11, 2024: Boys Soccer Camp at Purdue University in Fort Wayne, IN
- **Personnel Report**
- **Accounts Payable**
 - Corporation Claims - \$3,668,551.94
 - WVEC Claims - \$11,442.48
 - Total Claims - \$3,679,994.42

A motion was made to approve all items listed under the Consent Agenda.

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.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Board Policies

Recommendation: Policy A300, Responsible Use of Technology and Internet Use, was presented to the Board of School Trustees for a vote.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve Policy A300, Responsible Use of Technology and Internet Use.

Motion by: Mr. Schott

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion ensued with a suggestion from Mrs. Witt to move the second reading of policies to ***Unfinished Business***. Mr. Wang commented that he hoped first and second readings would be held when reviewing and approving policies.

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



Recommendation: Policy A301, Wireless Communication Device, was presented to the Board of School Trustees for a final vote.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve Policy A301, Wireless Communication Device.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 5 of 7

Discussion continued with a comment from Mrs. Mumford. She noted she was concerned that feedback from the building principals was not received and Policy A301 is not ready for a vote. Mrs. Witt added that the administrators and instructors in the classroom are responsible for monitoring the use of wireless devices during school hours. Dr. Yin expressed concerns of cell phone usage during study halls.

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



A first reading was held for Policy G350, Audio, Video and Digital Recording. This policy applies to all Corporation employees, students, parents/guardians, visitor and third parties on Corporation property. The public is permitted to record public school board meetings in accordance with state law. Video recordings of meetings with parents/guardians is prohibited, however, audio recording may be permitted. Recordings made in, or of, classrooms or other Corporation property are prohibited without prior written approval.

Church Church Hittle and Antrim (CCHA) will be submitting a change recommendation from what was originally submitted that will discuss the aspect of making it clear that advanced authorization for recording in classrooms and other school property will only be needed for non-public events, in other words, public event recording is not required to have an advanced authorization from the administration.

Mrs. Witt requested that CCHA make a note of adding the gender-neutral language in the policy.

Mrs. Mumford questioned why recordings at IEP meetings and/or meetings with parents require approval.

Amy Matthews, CCHA legal counsel, said that this policy is in place to give the corporation three days-notice so that the presenters can be prepared and the school can possibly record. She also said that there is not a right to record on school property, generally, unless there is a special accommodation.



Recommendation: Policy A100, Non-Discrimination & Anti-Harassment, was presented to the Board of School Trustees for a final vote.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve Policy A100, Non-Discrimination & Anti-Harassment.

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.

B. Mental Health Update

Alyson Smith, WLCSC Mental Health Therapist, provided a Mental Health Update presentation. She shared the following with the Board of School Trustees:

- Introduction of Herself – education, license, experience
- District Priorities – supporting the well-being of students beyond academic needs, invest in staff needs to support “at risk” students, identify quantifiable measures as a basis analyzing student needs and setting goals for positions of diversity and mental health professionals in schools
- Position Objectives – reduce barriers to access quality mental health care and resources, meet and attend to the growing mental health needs for youth in K-12, cultivate a positive and supportive mental-health culture, tend to community-wide mental health needs, establish and secure a permanent mental health therapist position within WLCSC
- Referrals for Services – Tier 1 (General Core Instruction), Tier 2 (Targeted Interventions) and Tier 3 (Intensive Interventions)
- Tracking Measures – attendance, grades, missing assignments, discipline referrals, special population and safety plan/students at risk
- Referral Data – WLES (12 students), WLIS (16 students) and JSHS (22 students)
- Therapy Hours – WLES (40.15 hours), WLIS (86.25 hours) and JSHS (118.35 hours)
- Concerns – Anxiety, Depression, ADHD, PTSD, Autism, Substance Abuse, Self-harm, Suicide Ideation, Friendship & Social Skills, Functioning Needs and Responding to Community Traumas

Discussion, questions and answers continued between the Board of School Trustees and Ms. Smith regarding mental health, services and supporting students.

C. WLES & WLIS Student Code of Conduct Handbook Revisions

Recommendation: The elementary and intermediate schools submitted revisions to their Student Code of Conduct Handbooks for approval. The JSHS did not have any revisions/updates to its handbook at this time. The building principals, Mrs. Psarros (WLIS) and Mrs. Delaney (WLES), presented the updates to their respective handbooks during the meeting.

WLIS updates: attendance policy, arrival for bus students, grading scale, homework policy, visitor verification and drop off/pick-up procedures

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the requested revisions to the WLIS Student Code of Conduct Handbooks for the 2024-25 school year.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion continued regarding the playground area and perimeters (students are allowed to play on the playground after-hours) and parent-teacher conferences (teachers will schedule these if requested, but there are not set dates/times). Code of Conduct was also discussed (in the current WLCSC policy parents/guardians are not allowed to appeal suspension and expulsions).

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



WLES updates: clarifications regarding when students can be in the building after school and clarification for nurses when students can return to school after taking an antibiotic.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the requested revisions to the WLES Student Code of Conduct Handbooks for the 2024-25 school year.

Motion by: Mr. Schott

Seconded by: Mrs. Witt

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion continued regarding who the handbook is “addressed/directed” towards. The WLES Handbook is for the parents as a guide to help their children.

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

Note: Student Handbooks can be found on the corporation website.

D. Strategic Planning

Dr. Greiner provided the Board of School Trustees with an updated list of seven vendors, a link to their company website and an average cost regarding Strategic Planning for the West Lafayette Community School Corporation which ranges between \$6,500 to \$172,200. The next step is for the Board to determine how they want to move forward in the selection process. The proposed timeline to begin Strategic Planning is August or September of this coming year, and the Board is encouraged to discuss this so that it can voted on during the June Regular Board meeting.

Discussion topics continued between the Board of School Trustees regarding Strategic Planning:

- Potential vendors and meetings
- Expense/budget
- Products offered
- Side-by-side comparison

It was also requested that the Board review the previous Strategic Plan as a reference and decided that it has been narrowed down to two vendors to select from.

E. WLES Preschool 2024-26 Pilot Proposal

Recommendation: The WLCSC administrative team requested the Board’s approval to begin one preschool pilot class at the West Lafayette Elementary Schools during school years 2024 through 2026. The preschool pilot class would be the beginning point for children of staff and children in the community to access high-quality, early learning opportunities through our schools. In the second operating year, the plan is to accept OnMyPreK vouchers as the next step of addressing known issues of affordability for families and children who may find the cost of high-quality early learning programs to be a barrier.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the WLES Preschool 2024-26

Pilot Proposal.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt

Seconded by: Mr. Schott

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion continued regarding the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment and if it will be implemented, in addition to, clarification on payment/fees/discounts.

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

F. Textbook Adoption

Recommendation: A recommendation has been made by the K-12 teachers serving on the adoption team following a robust and complete process review. Final recommendations regarding curricular materials to be adopted for grades K-12 in the areas of reading and English Language Arts for grades K-12 are outlined in the table at the end of the narrative in the Board packet and available online with the Board documents.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve curricular materials, for adoption, for grades K-12 in the areas of reading and English Language Arts.

Motion by: Mr. Marley

Seconded by: Mr. Wang

Vote: 7 of 7

Mrs. Witt expressed appreciation for the informative presentation. Mr. Wang also expressed appreciation and requested additional information pertaining to expenses and textbook reimbursements. Dr. Yin stated she appreciates parent involvement in the process.

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

G. NCHS Preventing Youth Suicide Grant

Recommendation: Mrs. Roth requested the Board's approval to accept a Grant from North Central Health Services. The funds are available to the West Lafayette Community School Corporation through the NCHS Preventing Youth Suicide in accordance with Policy 6110. The total amount of the Grant is \$60,450.00, which cannot be used for staff (positions), but stipends are acceptable.

The work of the grant will be to address the key components of multi-tiered suicide prevention as identified by North Central Health Services:

- Engaging school community members in suicide prevention planning, training and communication
- Developing community partnerships to ensure students receive necessary support and services
- Promoting protective factors that enhance students' wellbeing
- Creating policies and protocols for helping students who are at risk of suicide
- Creating policies and protocols for response after a suicide
- Identification and support for youth who are at-risk of suicide

The administration of this grant will adhere to all applicable Federal, State, local and grantor rules and regulations, including the terms and conditions of the grant awards, as well as Corporation policies.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve to accept the funds, totaling \$60,450.00, available to the district through the NCHS Preventing Youth Suicide Grant from North Central Health Services.

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.

H. WLCSC & TSC Bus Maintenance Agreement

Recommendation: The 2024-26 Transportation Renewal Agreement between the West Lafayette Community School Corporation (WLCSC) and the Tippecanoe School Corporation (TSC) is due for renewal. TSC has not suggested any changes, however, the WLCSC will have one additional school bus once it is delivered, therefore, the flat annual fee will be more expensive. The WLCSC will pay a flat fee of \$4,625.00, per bus, annually, in addition to, actual maintenance costs including fuel, supplies, repairs, service and labor. This agreement is necessary due to the fact that the WLCSC does not have a transportation barn or mechanics.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the WLCSC & TSC Bus Maintenance Agreement for 2024-26.

Motion by: Mr. Schott

Seconded by: Mr. Wang

Vote: 7 of 7

Discussion continued with some questions regarding the agreement. Mr. Marley asked for verification of the number of buses in the fleet which totals 20 (16 regular and 4 activity). Dr. Yin said that she is a little naïve about this as she has nothing to compare it to. She requested expense clarification for services and what it would look like if we had our maintenance barn. Mrs. Witt asked for clarification on the longevity of the agreement.

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

I. Technology Purchase

Recommendation: The Technology Department has requested permission to purchase 700 new Chromebooks for the WLCSC JSHS for the 2024-25 school year through a lease option with Trafera for a term of four years. The cost of each Chromebook is \$397, and a four-year warranty and Google licensing would be added to each unit. It is preferred to do the dollar buy-out option at the end of the lease which would be more cost effective than the flex lease option. Trafera is offering the contract through the Indiana approved Educational Shopping Cooperative. The Chromebooks will be paid from the Curricular Materials Fund, then will be moved to the Educational Fund due to state code. Any expenses not covered through state reimbursement would come from the Education Fund as the computers are for student use.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the Technology request to purchase 700 new Chromebooks for the Jr. Sr. High School for the 2024-25 school year.

Motion by: Mr. Marley

Seconded by: Mrs. Witt

Vote: 7 of 7

Mrs. Mumford asked if this has been done in the past and it was verified that it has. Dr. Yin asked what is done with outdated equipment. An evaluation of the equipment is completed to see if it can still be utilized, and if not, it is sent for recycling. Computers are not allowed to be given to students.

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

J. Finance Update

Mrs. Cronk reported that the Objects Breakdown of the month's claims is included in the Board Packet during the period of April 4 through May 3. Two Fund Reports were also provided. The first one is the month-end final Fund Report for March after all revenue and expenses have posted and the bank

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

Mrs. Cronk attend the Indiana Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) annual meeting, partaking in professional development which covers all aspects of school business and operations.

Fiscal year-end reporting will begin in June and July.

VI. INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

Mrs. Austin

The June 10 Work Session will be shortened due to the Retirement Reception that will be held between the Work Session and Regular Board meeting.

First readings have been conducted on the following policies:

- A125 - Nepotism, Conflict of Interest, Gifts and Use of Corporation Resources
- A175 - Whistleblower Protection
- A200 - Firearms, Weapons and Destructive Devices
- A225 - Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect
- A250 - No Tobacco
- A325 - Communicable Diseases

These policies will be presented during the June Regular Board meeting and any suggestions should be submitted prior in the hopes of having these policies ready.

VII. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Dr. Greiner - Superintendent

- Upcoming dates of interest:
 - May 14 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers, the City of West Lafayette will hold an Early Childhood Education Forum.
 - May 22 concludes the 2023-24 school year.
 - May 24 at 7 p.m. is Graduation at the JSHS.
- The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is looking to be the first in nation to “transform” education. Changes to graduation requirements will result in two diplomas and more flexibility in meeting those requirements with fewer courses. Additional information can be found on the following:
<https://www.in.gov/doe/about/news/indiana-becomes-first-state-to-significantly-redesign-diplomas/>
<https://indianagps.doe.in.gov/About>

- We are a closed district to transfers, but have an informal agreement with the Tippecanoe School Corporation (TSC); more information can be found on the WLCSC and TSC websites. These students are counted as TSC students for funding from the state. WLCSC is accountable for attendance and achievement of the students and bills TSC for the cost of educating the students based on actual expenditures at the end of each school year. Procedures for consideration of educational services, at WLCSC from TSC, are available on the website at:
<https://www.wl.k12.in.us/handouts-forms-flyers/start-here-documents/registration-and-enrollment>.

Mrs. Mumford – Public Schools Foundation of Tippecanoe County

The Public Schools Foundation had some impressive spring grants which will be awarded on Tuesday, May 14 at the Whittaker Inn and all are invited. The Cupcake Run, their big fundraiser, will be held on Sunday, September 22.

Mr. Wang – Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation has a new Youth Development Coordinator who oversees the After-school Programs and Summer Camps. The Municipal Pool is being prepared to open over the Memorial Day weekend. Part-time summer help is needed if anyone is interested in applying. The Farmer's Market opened on May 1. Information was also shared during the meeting regarding the WLCSC Pre-K Pilot Program.

Mrs. Witt – Board/Teacher Discussion

Board/Teacher discussion was held on April 18. Some of the topics discussed during the meeting were anticipated staffing, class sizes, pre-enrollment surveys, sub fill-rates (which are running 95-100% full), creative approaches to AP proctors, Safety Plan review, Literacy Endorsement Certification, evaluations and closing with positive news from the buildings.

Dr. Yin – G.L.A.S.S.

Last year there was an increase of over 106 students who needed Special Education services. There are 40 contracted full-time and part-time positions in different departments with the positions listed on district websites. TSC is conducting a study to determine if they will provide their own services and separate from G.L.A.S.S. Future dates for Governing Board Member meetings are September 17, November 12, February 18 and April 15 at 2 p.m. in the Durgan training room.

Mr. Schott – WLSEF and Community Council

▪ WLSEF:

April was a busy month for WLSEF. They hosted the sixth Wall of Pride induction April 11-12, and more information can be found at wlsef.org.

The Scarlet & Gray Dinner and Auction on April 19 was a wonderful night of celebrating our school community and raising support for WLSEF initiatives. It was great to see so many Board members in attendance and contributing.

Dr. Mounji Bawendi, Class of 1978 and 2023 Nobel Prize recipient, presented to 400 students when he returned to visit on April 25. He also met with approximately 50 students for an informal Q&A, followed by lunch with current science teachers and his teacher, Jim Guy.

On May 23, WLSEF will host the Scholarship Program and Reception. That is different in that it is the day before graduation. This year, WLSEF will award 37 scholarships to 32 different students totaling \$44,500.

▪ Community Council:

Community Council met on April 22. Dr Greiner and Mrs. Roth shared information about the preschool pilot proposal. Other highlights were the various year-end activities going on at our schools.

Mr. Marley – Redevelopment Commission

The Redevelopment Commission of West Lafayette met on April 17 at 8:30 a.m. in City Council Chambers, and the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 15 at 8:30 a.m., same location. Cason Park is moving along and construction has begun on the third building which is the Event Center. The vertical building that is up now is the Boathouse and restroom and soil work continues on that site. Some maintenance has been done at the John Dennis Wellness Center. A heat exchanger went out, and it was almost \$19,000 to repair it. Also, a window was broken which was a \$7,000 repair. The purchase of additional police cars was approved and there is a Bond issue of \$5.5 million for the new Landmark

Project in the Levy. Finally, another TIF District was created for the Tapawingo Redevelopment.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

Friday, June 7, 2024 at 7 a.m. – Work Session (**IF NEEDED**), Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room
Monday, June 10, 2024 at 5 p.m. – Work Session, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room
Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room

IX. UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 – Last day of school / End of 4th 9-week grading period
Friday, May 24, 2024 at 7 p.m. – Graduation, Berberian Gymnasium, Jr. Sr. High School
Monday, June 10, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. – Retirement Reception, Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room

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 8:24 p.m.

Motion by: Mrs. Witt

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/board/meetings-info>