



## **Westlake Board of Education**

### ***Board Notes from Monday, Jan. 12, 2009***

**This is the Westlake Board of Education's annual organizational meeting.**

**Election of Officers:** The Board unanimously re-elected Andrea Rocco as President and Carol Winter as Vice President. Both were administered the oath of office. The Board then authorized the Treasurer to file Form 904 with the Cuyahoga County Auditor to certify the members and officers of the Board – Joseph Marinucci, Thomas Mays, Andrea Rocco, Timothy Sullivan and Carol Winter.

**Organizational Matters:** The Board adopted a tentative Board meeting calendar for 2009:

- Jan. 12, organizational meeting
- Jan. 26, regular meeting
- Feb. 23, regular meeting
- March 30, regular meeting
- April 27, regular meeting
- May 18, regular meeting
- June 29, regular meeting
- July 27, regular meeting
- Aug. 31, regular meeting
- Sept. 28, regular meeting
- Oct. 26, regular meeting
- Nov. 30, regular meeting
- Dec. 14, regular meeting

The Board also approved liability insurance for the Board and established a Board of Education Service Fund. Joseph Marinucci was appointed as OSBA legislative liaison. Joseph Marinucci and Timothy Sullivan were appointed to serve on the 2009 Policy Subcommittee of the school district. Thomas Mays and Carol Winter were appointed to serve on the 2009 Curriculum Subcommittee. Timothy Sullivan was appointed to the 2009 Tax Incentive Review Council for the district.

Board-approved items included: Liability insurance for the Treasurer, Administrative Staff, Support Staff, Superintendent, Teaching Staff and Volunteers. Established the Board of Education Service Fund. Authorized the treasurer to secure advances from the Cuyahoga County Auditor for funds lawfully due the school district. Authorized the transfer of funds. Approved standing authorizations.

Among other Board-approved items were: The ability for Board members, treasurer and superintendent to attend seminars/conferences. Named school attorneys (Ulmer & Berne; Squire, Sanders & Dempsey; Pepple & Waggoner; Chester L. Sumpter & Assoc. LLC; Kadish, Hinkel & Weibel; Brindza, McIntyre & Seed LLP). Continued Board of Education membership in the Ohio School Boards Association, Ohio Schools Boards Legal Assistance Fund, Greater Cleveland School Superintendents Association, Alliance for Adequate School Funding and the West Shore Chamber of Commerce for calendar year 2009. Appointed the superintendent as the chief executive officer/purchasing agent/authority for the Board. Appointed Director of Business Affairs Dave Puffer as prevailing wage coordinator, asbestos management designated person, Americans with Disabilities Act compliance officer, safety coordinator and records retention officer. Appointed Superintendent Dr. Daniel J. Keenan Jr. as Title IX hearing officer, nondiscrimination hearing officer, sexual harassment hearing officer, suspension hearing officer and expulsion hearing officer. Adopted the 2009-2010 tax budget.

The Board reaffirmed the district Vision Statement and mission Statement.

- Vision Statement: the Westlake City School District will provide a dynamic, student-centered, 21<sup>st</sup> century learning environment. Our district will be characterized by high achievement, actively engaged learners, mutual respect, shared knowledge, pursuit of new skills and capabilities, collaborative learning, willingness to take action a team commitment to data-driven continuous improvement, and tangible results.
- Mission statement: We Educate for Excellence ... Empowering all students to achieve their educational goals, to direct their lives and to contribute to society.

The Board also reaffirmed the Board of Education Belief Statements:

- Leadership in Education is not about our District being number one; it is about striving to make our students number one. We must develop their skills; we must harness our resources, from the outside as well as inside. We must employ the best and brightest and focus on taking care of students. The rest flows from that point forward (Leadership in Education).
- We believe that the Westlake City School District should continue to strive to be a superior performing and a student-focused district (Academic).
- Our primary responsibility is to insure that every student is challenged to excel and to achieve at his or her maximum potential (Academic).
- The support of the community is critical to our District's success and will be earned through effective, open, and honest communication and demonstrated results (Communication).
- We have an obligation to preserve the community's financial/physical assets and to provide a safe, well-maintained environment for learning (Facilities).

- The administration, staff, and Board are partners in the entire educational process for our students and are responsible for removing those barriers that could impact upon the achievement of our students (Road Blocks) (Administration/Staff).
- The administration, staff and Board have a responsibility to work collaboratively in a climate of mutual respect, focusing on student achievement (Climate).
- Extracurricular and co-curricular programs and activities are an integral part of the educational process and can significantly contribute positively to the character of our students while bringing significant recognition, pride and support from the community (Extracurricular/Cocurricular).

The Board reaffirmed the framework for Board operations:

1. Members of the Board vote individually but act as one as determined by the majority of the Board
2. This Board is a single unit with five contributing members.
3. The strength of this Board is in the diversity of its members.
4. The president of this Board acts as the spokesperson for this Board.
5. Board members represent this Board as a whole.
6. Member of this Board realize that we cannot be all things to all people.
7. This Board believes that all people should be treated with dignity and respect.
8. The customers of this Board are our students and our taxpayers.
9. This Board's first and foremost responsibility is to be the trustee for the education of our students, within the financial parameters determined by our taxpayers.
10. This Board, Superintendent and Treasurer will work together as a team.
11. This Board delegates the responsibility of the daily management of the District to the Superintendent and the Treasurer in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** Monday, Jan. 26, 5:30pm, at the Westlake Schools administration building.

For more detailed information on these items, visit

<http://www.westlake.k12.oh.us/AdminBldg/BOE/BOESched.htm>