



## **Westlake Board of Education**

### ***Board Notes from Monday, Oct. 13, 2008***

**Prior to the start of the regular meeting, the Board toured Holly Lane Elementary School.**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Dr. Keenan talked about the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade fall reading test and that the district had good attendance that week. Continuing with facility forums on Oct. 14 at Holly Lane.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The Board approved resolutions to update a variety of Board policies, including Public Participation at Board Meetings, School Properties Disposal Procedure; Integrated Pest Management; School Bus Safety Program; Professional Staff Contracts and Compensation Plans (Administrators); Professional Staff Supplemental Contracts; Programs for Students with Disabilities; Preschool Program; Animals in the Schools; Admission of Exchange Students; Public's Right to Know; Public conduct on District Property. These policies had small changes in language.

**TREASURER'S ITEMS:** Passed a resolution to issue then and now certificate for \$16,000 for Bureau of Criminal Investigation & Identification and FBI fingerprint scans.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** Dr. Keenan gave a facilities update. Oct. 14 meeting will summarize what we've heard from the community to date. We've asked our community whether they see a problem to address, do neighborhood schools outweigh grade level configuration option, what do they value as our mission of excellence. Response has been a call for more information. Trying to inform in every publication about facilities and that we're using taxpayer dollars wisely. Web site has facilities reports, podcast of a community forum and a PowerPoint. WHBS has been running a community forum piece. Vision 20/20 committee up to 24 members – good cross-section of residents – to look at solutions and evaluate options over six meetings through December/January.

Dr. Keenan mentioned feedback from the West Shore Sun article about facilities. People are confused about cost estimates. Others have expressed concerns about classrooms in a restroom, which is incorrect. (We have a sensory area used part of the day by one to two students that is in a converted restroom). Board members also have been questioned about cost estimates in the article, which appear

to refer to the cost for a new high school. The \$80 to \$126 million figure is a cost estimate for the entire project covering all seven buildings.

**BOARD ITEMS:**

**CAC Study Topics:** Looking at two to three topics for CAC research studies – Going Green, School/Business Partnership Opportunities in Westlake and Service-learning.

**Leadership Challenge Letter:** WHS educator Kathy McGinty is nominating the Leadership Challenge group for the Asset Builder Awards. The Board is writing a letter in support.

**Hearing of the Public:** Resident Harry Applegate questioned the animal policy and how it will be addressed with special needs students who have a guide animal. Dr. Keenan said it hasn't been an issue but the district would work with students if the need arises.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** For the purpose of negotiations. No action was taken.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** Monday, Oct. 27, 5pm, in the Dover Elementary School library.

For more detailed information on these items, visit

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