



## **Westlake Board of Education**

### ***Board Notes from Monday 10/25/10, Regular Meeting***

#### **DISCUSSION:**

1. Mark Pepera had a comment on the Sept. 13 minutes. Proposed a modification to ensure comments in minutes reflected what occurred in the meeting.
2. President Carol Winter stated the meetings are being videotaped and audiotaped.
3. Tim Sullivan explained his objection to the minutes and the subsequent review by Pepera.
4. Tim Sullivan suggested changes to minutes of Sept. 27 and handed out suggested changes to Board members.
5. Winter suggested tabling Sept. 27 to have Pepera listen to the tape

#### **SPECIAL REPORTS & RECOGNITIONS:**

1. Ohio Rep. Nan Baker presented the Board of Education with a Proclamation in recognition of our Excellent school district rating
2. Jason Linger & Abhi Ravichandran presented a report on the Cleveland Clinic Internship Program

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

3. Superintendent Dr. Daniel J. Keenan Jr. noted we have posted on our website, sent out email blasts about brick requests. We have set aside 500 bricks for community members. Deadline is Nov. 30.
4. Girls' tennis team participated in state tournament. Sophomore Lauren Golick placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. Team was Division 1 state runners-up.
5. Two engineering staff members recognized as best in their fields – Adam Purdy and Scott Kutz
6. 5 junior students selected by John Carroll University to be student senators at a summer conference about addressing prejudice and bullying.
7. Plain Dealer article on Sunday about economic decisions affecting schools. Our mission protects educational excellence, but increasingly difficult with state mandates and phenomenal programming. Tradition here to think outside the box to cut costs:

- a. Belong to Suburban Healthcare Consortium of 16 school districts for health insurance
  - b. Utilize Ohio Schools Council to combine purchasing power with other districts for savings:
    - Bus Purchase 30 districts participating
    - Natural Gas 140 districts
    - Term Life 25 districts
    - AlertNow – 10% Lower negotiated price
  - c. The districts has combined with other LEECA computer association districts for savings in the following areas:
    - Fiber installation 20 districts
    - Internet connectivity – discounted because combined with other districts
    - Fiscal, library services – all have a savings because of combined efforts with other districts
    - Progress Book – cooperative changed price from \$3.50/student to \$2.24/student
    - Web filter equipment – cooperative purchasing changed price from \$9,895 to \$2,796
    - Microsoft software purchasing cooperative
  - d. We have cooperative purchasing with 54 districts through OASBO for insurance premium savings of 18-20%
  - e. Participation in Ohio School Plan – We combine with 300 districts for insurance purchasing
  - f. West Shore Career Center partnership. Vocational type programming through four-district consortium (Bay, River, Lakewood, Westlake)
  - g. Transportation between the four districts for career tech programs consolidated to save on cost
  - h. Ombudsman for alternative school programming
  - i. ½ million dollar STEM grant was the result of 13 partnerships with businesses and higher education
  - j. Continued STEM grants – this month an additional \$10,000 this year by working with other school districts
  - k. Advertising such as the addition of the cell tower at the stadium will generate revenue we can specifically earmark for extra- and co- curricular capital needs.
  - l. We are continually working to find ways to work to achieve our mission of excellence, but also to be extremely mindful of how we get and use resources. The importance of expanding partnerships is something we heard loud and clear from our community as part of our CIP. We specifically indicated plans to see this practice continues to be built on because we understand the importance of thinking outside of the box.
8. Tim Sullivan added to the conversation about the Plain Dealer article on public schools. Ask a summary of costs per student for surrounding districts be put into record and compare to ODE costs per pupil, which shows our costs in excess. We need to step back and understand districts are in deep trouble if we don't take drastic measures.

9. Carol Winter indicated a continuing discussion on per pupil spending. The Board directed Dr. Keenan and Mark Pepera to pull together a comparison list of like districts in Ohio to compare per pupil spending. That will be further discussed Nov. 29.
10. Dr. Keenan indicated that he agreed these types of measures are needed and noted that to Westlake's credit, many programs have been in place for years and the districts have a record of adding to these practices and understands it is a priority to continue to do so. It is important to understand priorities and then to start with priorities and go from there. The article referred to how schools can still stay exceptional and while being mindful of measures to be efficient. Westlake does this and needs to continue to building on this tradition, especially in these tough times.
11. Andrea Rocco said cost per pupil for Westlake may look higher, but look at the size of the district and type of students that make up that district, which plays into cost per pupil. ESL, special needs students, cost to educate those students, transportation issues, etc. all figure into cost per pupil. Getting that number down but maintaining the excellence is a difficult balancing act.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

12. Quarterly report and financial forecast presented
  - a. Financial forecast – additional one-time funding from Jobs stimulus dollars (using to offset all-day kindergarten costs next year). FY14 show negative balance of \$1.4 million. Better indication of forecast around January/February 2011. State biennial budget a critical component of resources. Don't make financial strides in forecast without creative thinking. Westlake always strived to look for economies while achieving our mission. Addition of building program will show operational efficiencies.
  - b. Nate Cross: questioned expenditures in forecast. [Pepera explained levies keep you solvent for certain number of years. Levy cycle typically shows extra dollars at the beginning of the cycle and incremental lowering of reserves.]. Called the five-year forecast a financial train wreck. This forecast should be a strong wakeup call. [Pepera indicated forecast no surprise to the Board. Share forecast at least on a quarterly basis to keep the Board informed.]. Scary scenario of revenues coming in the door v. expenses. Smart school districts going to react and set the tone and make decisions fiscally prudent to keep doing what we do. [Pepera explained expenditures are all estimates. We've never spent the budget to the penny. These numbers are very conservative and will likely come in better than expected]. [Dr. Keenan indicated that the way schools are funded, ultimately expenditures eventually will outweigh revenues unless deep cuts are made. We've made strides to adjust the ends we can control and will continue to do that we are beyond the projected period for the revenues projected from the last operating levy and actually will continue to stretch]. [Tom Mays took exception to comment about not being mindful about financial decisions. We're well beyond 4-year period from our last levy because we've taken the steps of smart school districts to control costs. Mr. Pepera has always looked for ways to save money.].
13. Action items approved

- a. Quarterly report and financial forecast
- b. Accepted grant funds from Education Jobs Fund FY11, EMIS FY11 and Ohio K-12 Network FY11
- c. Returned advances from Uniform Supply and Project Link accounts to General Fund
- d. Established Education Jobs Fund FY11
- e. Established appropriations for EMIS FY11 and Ohio K-12 Network FY11 accounts
- f. Adjusted FY11 appropriations
- g. Authorized the treasurer to secure all available tax advances from auditor for funds lawfully due the school district
- h. Resolution to accept gifts from the Westlake Demons Club and authorize the execution of a memorandum of understanding with the Demons Club

**CAC UPDATE:**

- 14. Laura Steinbrink: fully engaged in two research projects (healthy eating and high school start times)
  - a. Healthy eating: focusing on emerging trends about what healthy means, how district is currently operating, what other districts are doing.
  - b. High school start times: Looking at scientific data at performance, student wake cycle, compare to our school calendar and what other districts are doing.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 15. Accepted gifts and contributions from:
  - a. Design Engineering Inc/the Markley Family
  - b. Mr. & Mrs. Jamie Justice
  - c. Mr. & Mrs. Demetrios Korakis
  - d. Mr. & Mrs. Dave Newman
  - e. Lillian George
  - f. Cuyahoga League of Women Voters
  - g. Duane Miller
  - h. Teen Leadership Corps
  - i. Westlake Town Criers
- 16. Approved classified resignations of Carol Hennessy
- 17. Approved FMLA and extended medical leave of absence for Celia Kubincanek, Patrick Schade, Tracie Sidloski, Jennifer Seighman, Ruth Ann Weekley
- 18. Approved exempt employment for Jennifer Dossa
- 19. Approved certified employment of Jaclyn Nara
- 20. Approved classified employment of Tina Bacik, Janis Kingsbury, Adria Hughes, Jonathan Perkins, Carol Hennessy
- 21. Approved classified substitute resignation of Renee Golick
- 22. Approved certified substitute resignations of Rachel Cottom, Jaclyn Nara, Cheryl Williams

23. Approved classified substitutes Jason Allen, Laura Bollinger, Gale Bordner, Allyson Carmel, Candace Clark, Lori Davis, Corena Green, Sabrina Kamman, Indrani Karthikeyan, Edward McCartney, Lotfiah Mustafa, Mary Newbacher, Kelli Noykos, Julie Parobek, Susan Pesta, Margaret Ratliff-Null, Megan Reilley, Katharine Suttman, Sarah Umek
24. Approved certified substitutes Dylan Acerra, Christine Angelo, Gayle Boesken, Laura Bolloinger, Gale Bordner, Michelle Bruce, Shannon Burke, Allyson Carmel, Nicole Cobb, Megan Collins, Catherine Cook, Lori Davis, Nicole Dover, Sharon Flaherty, Francee Giovannazzo, Jaclynn Hayne, Jason Hayne, Colleen Hays, Tom Hopkins, Christine Jaeger, Kendra Jaeger, Timothy Kairis, Sabrina Kamman, Indrani Karthikeyan, Jennifer Koelliker, Allison Kokely, Michael Laurenty, Patricia Leonard, Antonio Mayornick, Molly McAllen, Dana McCabe, Meridith Misich, Mary Newbacher, Kelli Noykos, Julie Parobek, Susan Pesta, Jennifer Poweski, Megan Reilley, Heather Scheef, Kathrine Suttman, Margaret Timmons, Sarah Umek, Lauren Westfall, Stephen White, Karen Wisner, Lori Yates, Stephanie Yehlik
25. Approved reclassification of certified staff members Judy Dubil, Maureen McBride, Amal Mustafa, Valerie O'Connor, James Patrizi
26. Approved 2010-2011 supplemental contract resignations for Emerson Emser, Nancy English, Sara Latkowski, Jennifer Butler
27. Approved 2010-2011 supplemental contracts for Emerson Emser, Judy McMaser, Julie Davison, Matt Planisek, Geoff Friedrich, Amy Schillinger, Art Daniels, Sara Latkowski, Jennifer Britton, Eric Richardson, Mike Marcellino, Mark Lenczewski, Mike Thoms
28. Approved certified home instruction by Jean Barrett and Michael Newman
29. Approved stipends for ESL program evaluation/staff development hours for Celina Bigio, Jennifer Petticord, Jaclyn Nara
30. Approved stipends for World Language Committee members Cheryl Bendik, Kelly Bryan, Luda Grossman, Ursula Hayes, Ashley Leukhardt, Nicolette Miller, Eneida Ruiz, Loretta Tindall, Claudia Vakos, Anne Francis Zaborniak, Elizabeth Zingales
31. Adjusted Transportation Department hours for drivers Suzan Chambers, Linda Clemons, Joseph Gatens, Sandra Houser, Tami James, Susan Kantner, Celia Kubincanek, Margaret Laskowski, Ann Manning, Edward Moran, Crystal Pelfrey, Shelly Perkins, Pam Phillips, Dawn Reynolds, Bonnie Sliva, Lora Stemmer and Denise Wering
32. Approved athletic camp employment for high school soccer camp for Mike Besu, Winston Jacobs, Mirco Gubellini, Alessandro Sbrizzo for high school soccer camp
33. Approved Saturday school supervision stipend for Mike Besu, Jim Egan and Debra Voss
34. Approved agreements for admission of tuition pupils and purchased services for Education Alternatives, Jeanette Dawes-ESL Evaluation/Audit
35. Approved Adult Basic Literacy Education rental agreement between Westlake Schools and Fairview Hospital Wellness Center for ABLE classroom space
36. Approved general liability insurance for adult support groups, WHS Senior Class Parents
37. Approved lease agreements with John Lance for lease of property on which St. Bernadette's mobile unit rests
38. Approved participation in the Metropolitan Cleveland Consortium for STEM

39. Approved field trip for WHS band & orchestra for National Music Festival in Atlanta, GA, paid by student fees
40. Adopted Board of Education policies for:
- a. Sexual harassment
  - b. Reporting of hazards
  - c. First aid
  - d. Bloodborne pathogens
  - e. Buildings and grounds security
  - f. Vandalism
  - g. Student conduct on school vehicles
  - h. Food services management/free & reduced lunch
  - i. Food sale standards
  - j. Student wellness program
  - k. Staff and student relations
  - l. Health education
  - m. Entrance age (mandatory kindergarten) – delay requirement of Aug. 1 birth date for one year
  - n. Early entrance (Kindergarten of first grade)
  - o. Student attendance counting
  - p. Student conduct on school vehicles
  - q. Hazing and bullying
  - r. Immunizations
  - s. Student safety
  - t. Notification about sex offenders
41. Approved reappointment of Porter Public Library trustee Bob Plantz
42. First reading of policy on proficiency testing

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

32. Master facility plan Phase I report – Bob Teitenberg/Turner Construction
- a. Working budget through Sept. 30, 2010 – right now just in soft costs, very early in the project
  - b. Nate Cross: commissioning agent question [Teitenberg: Need for LEED silver certification].
  - c. Tim Sullivan: question on enhanced commissioning.
  - d. Developing estimate by the end of the month with initial schematic designs. Come up with a budget to show cost savings.
33. Dr. Keenan presented information gleaned from 20/20 Vision Committee and neighborhood construction update meetings
- a. Opted to bring the community along for the entire process so they are aware of every step
  - b. Highlighted changes made to initial plan based on input from the community groups

- c. Outside looks well received were Georgian and prairie styles
  - d. Minutes and PowerPoints are on the website and the blog  
[westlakefacilities.blogspot.com]
34. Red Brick update
- a. Asbestos contractors are inside
  - b. Demolition contractor looking at historical items to salvage

**BOARD ITEMS:**

- 1. Approved reappointment of Porter Public Library Trustee Bob Plantz
- 2. OSBA delegate assembly meeting discussion – Tom Mays is delegate, Nate Cross is alternate

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** To discuss Superintendent evaluation. No action was taken following the executive session.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** The next regular meeting of the Board will be Monday, Nov. 22, at 5:30pm at the Westlake Schools Administration Building.

For more detailed information on these items, visit

<http://beta.westlake.k12.oh.us/boe/meetingschedule/default.aspx>