



## **Westlake Board of Education**

### ***Board Notes from Monday, Aug. 13, 2012, Work Session***

#### **RECITATION OF DISTRICT VISION & MISSION**

*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 Education for Excellence ... Empowering all students to achieve their educational goals, to direct their lives, and to contribute to society.

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

1. Had our new staff orientation today. Convocation tomorrow to welcome all staff back for the new school year.
2. Site is pretty ready. Getting custodial staff geared up.
3. Getting the LBMS parking lot and roof done was a great thing to do.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approved resignation for the purpose of retirement for Terese Tunney
2. Approved unpaid leave of absence for Joseph Colombo
3. Approved classified resignation of Joseph Colombo

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Continuous Improvement Plan Update/Dr. Keenan
  - a. We audit our plan twice a year. We make changes where appropriate. When we do realize the tasks aren't enabling us to reach the goal, we make changes so people continue to work toward the goals. We have a mixed group of administrators, staff, parents, community and higher education audit the plan.

b. Changes since 2010:

- i. Performance Indicators: 5 of last 6 years had highest Performance Index ever. Earned the highest achievement rating. Added a number of assessments to see how we stack up. Hoping to have more international measures under International Baccalaureate program.
- ii. Implement IB Schools: Considered candidate schools at all elementary schools. Huge strides in this area with global learning. IB Learner Profile Attributes adopted.
- iii. Coordinated all staff development to CIP.
- iv. Feedback loop for monitoring best practices, but need to do a better job of keeping channels open.
- v. Progress: we've hit that measure once out of three years. We have so many more progress monitoring tools in place – response to intervention a program in all of our buildings.
- vi. Continuing to make progress on common assessments and short cycle assessments. better than three years ago, but need to improve.
- vii. Travel to Costa Rica, Africa again emphasizing language and connecting. Working on making connections with sister schools on other continents.
- viii. Service learning initiated and started. Taking suggestions from Citizens Advisory Committee to implement. They did a nice job pointing out how we can improve this program.
- ix. Have an engineering class at the middle school and added a teacher at the high school for STEM learning. Done a lot with CSU engineering, working with a local company. Going to run a business out of our school this year.
- x. Integration of technology & maximized learning: making buildings more accessible for staff and students to bring their own technology. Starting to consider policy and accelerate things. Model following with new buildings is with LCCC and CSU with a wireless building. Goal is to make completely wireless and able to handle the bandwidth.
- xi. All-inclusive environment: hit bullying, harassment and safe environment pretty hard. Making people feel they are included or thought of.
- xii. Wellness and environmental responsibility: Wellness Committee reconvened last year. Drafted a policy revision that will be recommended this fall. Recycling program coming.
- xiii. Struggle to find international assessment for areas.
- xiv. STEM-like term changed to “integrated units with higher order thinking and experiential learning.” More than science, technology, engineering and math.
- xv. Positive behavioral supports program is IB Learner attributes. Changed guidance counselors to school counselors.
- xvi. Highlighted addition of recycling program. Now we can have student efforts contribute to a more comprehensive program.

c. Changes we make relative to resources we have and goals.

- d. Barb Leszynski: hours for service learning?
  - i. 6 hours/year. Have to be tied to learning. Reflection component. Porter Public Library's Andrew Mangels worked with community group, Energizer trying to make more connected with business. Database of companies/entities who want to work with us is being developed. Hospice writing a profile on type of student they want to work with. It's evolving.
- 2. Tom Mays: asked about filling CAC meetings.

The Board adjourned to executive session to discuss negotiations. No action was taken following the executive session.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** The next meeting of the Board is Monday, Aug. 27, at 5:30pm, at Westlake High School.

For more detailed information on these items, visit

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