



## **Westlake Board of Education**

### ***Board Notes from Monday, Jan. 23, 2017, Regular Meeting***

#### **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.

#### **INFORMATIVE REPORTS & RECOGNITIONS**

1. Superintendent's report
  - a. Girls lacrosse is being recognized as a Varsity sport.
  - b. Friday we met with our high school and middle school staffs about Tim Freeman's retirement from WHS and moving Paul Wilson up to the high school. The timing of this revolved around an opportunity that came to Freeman. It also provides Wilson a chance to make critical decisions regarding the upcoming school year.
2. Treasurer's report
  - a. Auditor of state's office annual audit came back with a clean audit. Eligible for Auditor of State Award of Distinction. Credited his predecessor Mark Pepera and the treasurer's staff.

- b. RFP's for Construction Manager At Risk. Received 7 proposals. Whittled down to 4 selected to interview next Monday. Hope to have recommendation to the Board shortly thereafter.
- c. Sale of Bonds: We sold \$9.19 million in bonds in December in a negotiated sale at a lower interest rate. This time we are going with a competitive sale. This provides a benefit to the community by providing a savings over the life of the bonds. We're trying to provide the best interest rate for the community by collecting less tax and providing that benefit to the community. Anyone interested in buying bonds will contact Todd Hopkins, who will pass that information on to the underwriter to provide local residents first crack at buying bonds. Tax exempt and benefit to their portfolio, and allows residents to invest directly in our schools.
  - i. Joe Kraft: Hopkins provided a clear explanation of the competitive sale process.
- d. Commended administrative assistant Dottie Kozak, who has been with the district 18 years, and is retiring Jan. 31. Her abilities and the quality of her work, and her kindness, are a blessing. I wish her the best.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Treasurer's recommendations
  - a. Approved FY16 audit report
  - b. Issued then and now certificates
    - i. Cuyahoga County Board of Health
    - ii. Lake Erie Basketball League
    - iii. International Baccalaureate
    - iv. Gordon Food Service
    - v. Squire Patton Boggs
  - c. Adjusted FY17 appropriations
  - d. Approved the issuance and sale of \$24.4 million in bonds to build a new elementary school
- 2. Superintendent's recommendations
  - a. Accepted gifts and contributions
    - i. The CBC Foundation
    - ii. Estfan family
    - iii. First Federal of Lakewood
    - iv. Hyland Software
    - v. Dr. Dvora Nelson Jeter
    - vi. John Shumway
    - vii. Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Tatter
    - viii. Kertes Enterprises Inc.
  - b. Approved the employment of classified staff Robert Baird and Jeanette Kruse
  - c. Approved supplemental contracts
    - i. Michael Allan

- ii. Kelly Smith
  - iii. Scott Rovniak
  - iv. Kurt Thonnings
  - v. Jodi Patton
  - vi. Michael Abbadini
- d. Approved the employment of Project Link personnel
  - i. Amy Carey
  - ii. Catherine Nowlin
  - iii. Eva Starr
  - iv. Bianca Beekman
  - v. Mark Bender
  - vi. Chris Frantz
  - vii. Alan Ziga
- e. Approved home instruction by James Bingham and Melissa Barth
- f. Approved licensed substitute Dorothy Beyer
- g. Approved middle school game workers Islam Abu Hamdeh and Lee Scaggs
- h. Adjusted exempt employee salary schedule and placement
  - i. Robin Allen
  - ii. Lynda Apel
  - iii. Jennifer Dossa
  - iv. Pam Dreher
  - v. Patrick Furlong
  - vi. Dana Hoffman
  - vii. Kim Katz
  - viii. Dottie Kozak
  - ix. Robin Murray
  - x. Roberta Rence
  - xi. Meri Shortreed
  - xii. Ron Stephenson
  - xiii. Jackie Stroh
  - xiv. Mary Studer
  - xv. Eric Tedder
  - xvi. Ruth Weible
  - xvii. Lisa Zuk
- i. Approved classified substitute Lori Stella
- j. Approved contracts and agreements
  - i. Certified Language International Service Agreement
  - ii. ESC of Cuyahoga County Audiology and/or Hearing Impaired Services
  - iii. ESC of Cuyahoga County Visual Impairments
  - iv. Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland
  - v. Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities
  - vi. Cuyahoga County Local Education Agencies

- vii. Family and Children First Council of Cuyahoga County
- viii. Help me Grow of Cuyahoga County
- ix. Starting Point for Childcare and Early Education
- x. The Centers for Families and Children-Head Start Grantee for Catholic Charities and Ohio Guidestones
- k. Approved applications for payment in lieu of transportation to Messiah Lutheran School, Montessori Children's School, Westside Christian Academy and Al Ihsan School-Parma.
- l. Recognized girls lacrosse as a Varsity sport
- m. Approved Westlake High School course of studies for 2017-2018 school year

#### **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

1. Lynda Appel: It's Coaches v. Cancer week. Sixth year. T-shirt designed by a student artist/athlete. Appel family donated Lacey's gold laces for the athletes for the games. 85% of proceeds for laces go to Coaches for Cancer, 15% to Lacey's Legacy. We are building our wall of hope. Girls play Olmsted Falls Wednesday night with raffles. Boys take on Avon Lake Friday night with same raffles and Ronald McDonald. All proceeds stay local and go for cancer research. We are shooting for cure to celebrate more birthdays.

#### **BOARD COMMENTS**

1. Dr. Carol Winter: Excited to see the expanded College Credit Plus offerings at the high school.
  - a. Kathy Maxwell: We have 17 offerings at the high school. We partnered with Tri-C this year.
  - b. I'm serving as a research assistant in a 4th grade classroom, Leah Burke's classroom, at Bassett Elementary. Their 4th grade inquiry based project is looking at what the ultimate classroom would be. This is work we'd be seeing at the middle and high school level. Volunteers will help answer kids' questions. 65% of the jobs needing filling 5 years from now have not been created yet. They are looking at what individual learners need in the classroom, technology, materials. [Superintendent Goggin is scheduled for Feb. 24].
2. John Finucane: WHS Science Olympiad invitational tournament on Jan. 7. Thanked the custodial and kitchen staff. Over 80 schools and 2,000 students and coaches from across the state and Michigan.
3. Barb Leszynski: Chinese School had a celebration last weekend for Chinese new year with singing and dancing. It was fabulous.

#### **BOARD ITEMS**

1. Second reading of board policies
  - a. Revised definitions
  - b. Use of electronic mail/text messages
  - c. Open meetings/Sunshine law
  - d. Evaluation of principals and other administrators

- e. Special education
- f. Standards-based school counselor evaluation
- g. Procurement and use of epinephrine auto injectors in emergency situations
- h. Student acceleration
  - i. Promotion, academic acceleration, placement and retention
  - j. Early high school graduation
- k. Student records
- l. Deleting the current acceleration, promotion, retention policy

The Board adjourned to executive session to discuss the possible sale/acquisition or property. No action was taken.

The next meeting will be held Feb. 6 at 6pm.

For more detailed information on these items, visit  
<http://beta.westlake.k12.oh.us/boe/meetingschedule/default.aspx>.