

**WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 16, 2013 – Special Session – 5:00 PM
Administration Building - 27200 Hilliard Blvd.**

Call to Order: Time: 5:03 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Mays	<u>Present</u>
Ms. Winter	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Cross	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Falcone	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Leszynski	<u>Present</u>

Pledge of Allegiance – President Mays led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acknowledgment of Visitors – President Mays thanked all in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Falcone

Seconded by Ms. Winter

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Mays	<u>AYE</u>
Ms. Winter	<u>AYE</u>
Mr. Cross	<u>AYE</u>
Mr. Falcone	<u>AYE</u>
Mrs. Leszynski	<u>AYE</u>

VISION STATEMENT

The Westlake City School District will provide a dynamic, student centered, 21st 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.

*Hearing of Public (Agenda Items - 15 Minutes) – None.

A. Adjourn to Executive Session

Time: 5:05 p.m.

Purpose: To Discuss Labor Negotiations

Motion by	<u>Mr. Falcone</u>
Seconded by	<u>Mrs. Leszynski</u>

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Mays	<u>AYE</u>
Ms. Winter	<u>AYE</u>
Mr. Cross	<u>AYE</u>
Mr. Falcone	<u>AYE</u>
Mrs. Leszynski	<u>AYE</u>

Others in Attendance: Keenan, Pepera, Pyros

Adjourn Executive Session and Return to Regular Session
Time: 5:34 p.m.

B. Discussion Items
1. WTA Agreement

Resolution to Adopt Tentative Agreement between Westlake
Board of Education and Westlake Teachers' Association
Effective January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014

RES #13-30

Motion by	<u>Mr. Falcone</u>
Seconded by	<u>Mrs. Leszynski</u>

Board Discussion:

Superintendent Keenan began the discussion with highlighting the new terms of the labor agreement with the WTA. Members of the Board commented they were appreciative of the cooperation between the parties and acknowledged the sacrifice from the teachers in achieving a settlement that will better position the District for a levy effort this Spring. They also commented that the terms of the agreement were necessary to uphold their commitment of maintaining the educational program in addition to changing the way the District does business. Mr. Cross noted the District's fiscal reality dictated the results obtained from the new contract and also complimented his colleagues for staying the course in the process.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Mays	<u>AYE</u>
Ms. Winter	<u>AYE</u>
Mr. Cross	<u>AYE</u>
Mr. Falcone	<u>AYE</u>
Mrs. Leszynski	<u>AYE</u>

2. Discussion on Spring Operating Levy

Mr. Mays began the discussion with a reminder that the Board had been discussing an operating levy for several months pending the outcome of the recent labor negotiations. He then asked Superintendent Keenan and CFO Pepera to comment on any recommendation they had with respect to placing a levy on the ballot. Dr. Keenan and CFO Pepera recommended the Board conduct a community survey to help gauge support for an operating levy in May. They both went on to say that assuming the survey is positive, and assuming no change in school programming or levy cycle, the amount of the millage would be similar in range to the last levy passed seven years ago in 2006. Superintendent Keenan went on to say that Cathy Axcell would step forward to chair the levy campaign should the Board move forward with a ballot issue this Spring. All members of the Board indicated that the fiscal situation of the District warrants a levy but that it is also critical to survey and gauge community support. Mr. Cross mentioned his concern on timing and the pros and cons of going on the ballot in the Spring versus the Fall. Dr. Keenan said he would communicate that concern to Triad Research but would defer to their expertise in developing a statistically valid survey. Mr. Mays then asked Dr. Keenan to provide a summary of ballot frequency of neighboring districts.

*Hearing of Public (15 Minutes) – None.

C. Adjournment

Motion by	_____ Mr. Falcone
Seconded by	_____ Ms. Winter
Roll Call Vote:	
Mr. Mays	_____ AYE
Ms. Winter	_____ AYE
Mr. Cross	_____ AYE
Mr. Falcone	_____ AYE
Mrs. Leszynski	_____ AYE

President Mays adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

President

CFO/Treasurer

The public may address the Board during the periods of the meeting designated for public participation. Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted three minutes until the total time allotted is used. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board present and voting.

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