

**WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**Monday, October 12, 2015 – 6:00 p.m. – Work Session  
Administration Building – 27200 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, Ohio 44145**

Call to Order Time: 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

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

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

**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.

Acknowledgment of Visitors – President Falcone thanked all visitors in attendance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Ms. Winter

Seconded by Mrs. Leszynski

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

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

**A. Adjourn to Executive Session**

Time: 6:04 p.m.

Purpose: To Discuss Employment and Compensation of Personnel

Motion by Mrs. Leszynski

Seconded by Mr. Finucane

Roll Call Vote:

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

Others in Attendance: None

Adjourn Executive Session and Return to Regular Session

Time: 6:48 p.m.

B. Discussion Items

1. Superintendent Search Firms

President Falcone provided an update on the superintendent search process and explained the Board had narrowed its selection to two firms: Finding Leaders and K12 services. He further commented that reference checks for both firms returned positive results.

The Board then shared their individual thoughts on both firms' strengths and weaknesses (Finding Leaders and K12). Consideration was based on input, output, post-hire process, community input process.

Mrs. Leszynski stated she strongly recommended retaining Superintendent Palmer for one more year and delaying the search due to a number of district ongoing and outstanding issues.

Mr. Mays also noted his interest in keeping Superintendent Palmer for another year. He suggested the Board tailor their search process to utilize the best ideas and concepts from all of the firms they interviewed. President Falcone summarized that the consensus was to move forward with the search process, and based on the feedback of the Board to contact K12 services.

2. Strategic Planning Update

Superintendent Palmer updated the Board on the Strategic Planning process. He noted Burges & Burges has completed the staff and community listening sessions and will be compiling the feedback shortly for review. The newly formed 20/20 group is still slated to begin in November and will focus on feedback from the listening sessions and online survey. Superintendent Palmer indicated the process is scheduled to conclude by the end of January.

On a separate note, Superintendent Palmer indicated that discussions are still ongoing with City officials about a possible land swap arrangement but to date no commitments have been made.

3. Board Policy Update

Superintendent Palmer indicated the new policies are being updated and will be posted online in totality. The Board will see additional policy recommendations in late September for a first reading by the October 26<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Superintendent Palmer then discussed the board policy on tutoring/conflict in interest. The major change to the current policy from the old policy is the deletion of permissibility of tutoring for our music staff. He clarified that tutoring by itself isn't prohibited, but the way you compensate individuals for this service must be in line with existing ethics laws.

\*Hearing of Public (15 Minutes) – None.

C. Board Comments

Mr. Mays thanked Mindy Clark and the students for their involvement during homecoming festivities. Mrs. Leszynski asked if the field house is up and running. Mr. Kocevar noted the fire alarm plan is still waiting for City approval.

D. Adjourn to Executive Session

Time: 7:39 p.m.

Purpose: To Discuss Employee Negotiations

Motion by Mr. Mays

Seconded by Mrs. Leszynski

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Falcone AYE

Mrs. Leszynski AYE

Mr. Finucane AYE

Mr. Mays AYE

Ms. Winter AYE

President Falcone declared a brief recess at 7:39 p.m. and resumed the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Others in Attendance: Joe Kraft, Bob Stoll, Palmer, Pepera

Adjourn Executive Session and Return to Regular Session

Time: 8:23 p.m.

E. Adjournment

President Falcone adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

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President

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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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