

**WHITEFORD SCHOOLS  
OTTAWA LAKE, MICHIGAN 49267**

**November 11, 2024**

**Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call**

A regular meeting of the Whiteford Agricultural School Board of Education was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Shane Hillard on November 11, 2024. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Hillard. Members present were Shane Hillard, Dave Dixon, Mike Iott, Janelle Young, Jeff Bunge and Jason Vida. Kristi Mock was absent.

Also present were Superintendent Scott L. Huard, Director of Human Resources Cathy Machcinski, Director of Data, Curriculum and Assessment Marcy Anderson, and Director of Transportation & Buildings and Grounds Charlie Butz. There were 7 visitors present.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Dave Dixon, seconded by Janelle Young to approve the November 11, 2024, Regular Meeting Agenda as presented. Motion approved – 6 yes (1 absent-Mock)

**Special Presentations**

Student Participation – Student Council President Alaina McClain was unable to attend the meeting.

Leski Wittman Insurance Agency Staff Member of the Month – Mr. Jeremy Simmons, HS/Social Studies Teacher, was recognized as Staff Member of the Month for October. Chris MacMillan from Leski Wittman Insurance Agency attended the meeting and presented Mr. Simmons with a \$100 gift card. Mr. Simmons was nominated by Mr. Ken Groch for standing out as one of our great teachers because the students know he is sincere when he talks to them and is a super mentor to our young people. Janelle Young shared how her daughter loves being in Mr. Simmons' class and learning about history. Mike Iott shared how he likes to see that Mr. Simmons' consistency and enthusiasm never drops off and he is much more than a teacher here. Jeff Bunge added that he is a great teacher and person, and Shane Hillard seconded this sentiment. Marcy Anderson expressed that he was the reason her son would come to school. Additionally, Mr. Huard added he has a major impact on the lives of our students.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Jeff Bunge, seconded by Mike Iott, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

- Minutes of October 14, 2024, Regular Meeting and the October 29, 2024, Special Meeting
- Treasurer's Report and Check Register (October 2024)

Motion approved – 6 yes (1 absent-Mock)

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**Administrative Reports**

**Director of Human Resources – Mrs. Cathy Machcinski:**

- The REP report deadline is coming up. She has been submitting information since August. The final report is due December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Insurance open enrollment will be open this week for dental, vision and life. These rate increases were mild. The health insurance initial quote was high. Working with the insurance broker. Hopefully we will have a couple of options to choose from.
- Got our licensing set up for our electronic document storage. Have about 98% of accounts payable records scanned and ready for electronic filing.

**Director of Data, Curriculum and Assessment – Mrs. Marcy Anderson:**

- Gathering the last 10 years of testing data (NWEA, MSTEP, PSAT, SAT) to get ready for MICIP.
- Digging deeper into essentials.
- The report cards are finished and set up for Transitional Kindergarten.
- Starting to look into social studies curriculum for 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Director of Transportation & Buildings and Grounds – Mr. Charlie Butz:**

- They are staying on top of leaves and campus cleanup and putting fields to bed. The bleachers have been moved from football. Cleaning up the track and getting it ready for spring.
- There were a lot of field trips this month.
- Winter sports are ramping up. Working with the Athletic Director to get is squared away.
- Sub driver ready for her state testing.

**Athletic Director – Mr. Marcus Luzier:**

- Fall sports have come to a close.
- Football made playoffs for the 13<sup>th</sup> season in a row.
- Volleyball finished second in the league.
- Girls Cross Country finished second in league; Alaina McClain qualified for states.
- Boys Cross Country finished third in league.
- First TAAC meeting Thurs. Nov. 7. Should have 2025 football schedule soon.

**Middle/High School – Mr. Jeremy Fielder:**

- Our November 1<sup>st</sup> PD with Gerry Brooks was outstanding. Very uplifting for our staff. I'd like to thank Mr. Huard for his support for our teachers attending this meaningful and funny presentation!
- Fall PSAT/NMSQT testing is wrapped up. Huge thanks to Corey Mills and all of our proctors for their work.
- Busy times with close of Marking Period one. We will shift focus toward academic interventions at MS and HS levels: 1). Students in grades 7 and 8 will begin their "content recovery" process with Mrs. Thomas, using online learning to plug learning/content gaps if they failed a core class, and 2) We will re-establish our Peer2Peer tutoring for students in grades 6-12 to take place twice a week during Seminar time.
- MS Fall Harvest Dance was Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Big thanks to Mrs. Diesing and the MS Student council members.

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- Mandatory Sexual Harassment/Assault communication for students/parents - update: The letter to meet the state's legal requirements will be sent to parents via Infinite Campus on Monday, November 18th. It will be posted to students via Schoology on Monday, December 2nd. This will allow parents time to review the information and address their concerns in a timely manner.

**Approval of TEAM (Teaching, Educating, and Mentoring) Curriculum**

A motion was made by Janelle Young, seconded by Jeff Bunge, to approve the TEAM Curriculum for our 7<sup>th</sup> grade students as an alternative to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade DARE program as presented. Motion approved – 6 yes (1 absent-Mock)

**Elementary School – Mr. Samuel Marsh:**

- We celebrated our October Respect Students on November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- November is Responsibility Month!
- We had our kickoff for Responsibility Month Assembly on November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Adventure Camp for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade went to Camp Michindoh October 28<sup>th</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Healthy Choices Spirit Week was October 28<sup>th</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The Scholastic Book Fair was held November 4<sup>th</sup> through November 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Mrs. Tara Pawson for setting this up and running the book fair for us. Thank you to all our parent volunteers who helped with our Elementary Book Fair. Thank you to the WPA for gifting the elementary teachers with books from the book fair for their classrooms.
- Parent Teacher Conferences will be held November 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Hearing and Vision Screening is on November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The Elementary Christmas Concert will be held on December 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Great parent turnout for the Elementary Halloween parade and parties.

**Superintendent's Report**

1. News from the Capital – In October, the Senate Regulatory Affairs Committee heard testimony on SB 651 (S-1) and SB 652. Both bills establish a license requirement for nicotine and tobacco retailers. The license establishes fines and penalties for any tobacco or nicotine retailers who sell to minors. Nicotine, tobacco products, vaping products and flavor enhancers will be covered by these bills. They also update language to include the sale of nicotine and vaping products to minors. A retailer will face a fine of \$1,500 for selling to a minor. If four violations occur within a 36-month period, the retailer pays a \$3,000 fine and will have their tobacco license revoked. Additionally, any person who sells or gives tobacco or vaping products to a minor is subject to fines and penalties of up to \$2,500 for multiple offenses. Testimony in support included Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Parents Against Vaping, Michigan State Medical Society, Michigan Association of Public Health, and Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. There was bill opposition from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Petroleum Association, Midwest Independent Retailers Association and Wild Bill's Tobacco. MASB strongly supports these bills and believes they are an important step to curbing youth tobacco and vape use. Superintendent Huard asked the Board to pass a resolution in support of the Protect Mi Kids legislation, so we can share it with our Senators and Representatives. Our voice is important to help keep momentum on this issue within the Legislature.

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2. Gifts/Donations – Recent donations to the district include:

Tim and Denise Hill.....	\$100.....	Football Program
Tim and Denise Hill.....	\$200.....	Class of 2025
Doreen Meisner .....	\$100.....	Class of 2025
Varsity Volleyball Parents .....	\$385.....	Volleyball Program

3. Announcements / Reminders / Informational Items

- November 14..... WPA Cookie Dough Pick-Up
- November 14..... Early Dismissal (Elem-10:55) (MS/HS-11:05)
- November 14..... Parent-Teacher Conferences (12: -3:00pm) (4-7:00pm)
- November 16..... WPA Mother/Son Night 6-8:00pm
- November 18 ..... American Red Cross Blood Drive
- November 19..... WPA Limo Ride (Cookie Dough Winners)
- November 22..... MS Walley Hockey Game Field Trip
- November 27..... Early Dismissal (Elem-10:55) (MS/HS-11:05) -Thanksgiving Break
- November 28-29 ..... No School – Thanksgiving Break
- December 6 ..... HS Ensemble/Chorale Concert: 13ABC News 12-12:30pm
- December 9-13..... WPA Santa's Workshop (Elementary)
- December 9 ..... Board of Education Meeting 6pm
- December 12 ..... Elem. Christmas Concert TK-2<sup>nd</sup> (6-7:00pm) 3-5<sup>th</sup> (7:15-8:15pm)
- December 14 ..... HS Ensemble/Chorale Concert: Mathes Tree Farm 12-1:00pm
- December 15 ..... Student Council Wreaths Across America 1-2:00pm
- December 15 ..... HS Band/Choir Christmas Concert 3-4:00pm
- December 16 ..... MS Band/Choir Christmas Concert 7-8:00pm
- December 18 ..... HS Ensemble/Chorale Concert: Toledo Zoo 5-6:00pm
- December 20 ..... Early Dismissal (Elem-10:55) (MS/HS-11:05) -Christmas Break
- December 23-January 3..... No School - Christmas Break

**Capital Bond Campaign**

Superintendent Huard updated the Board on the latest Capital Bond details.

**Approval of NEOLA Board Policy Updates (Second Reading)**

Superintendent Huard reviewed Board Policy Updates as noted below and recommended board action as this is the second reading of the updated policies:

1. Policy 3120.08..... Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities (Update)
2. Policy 5330.02 ..... Opioid Antagonists (Update)
3. Policy 5340..... Student Accidents (Update)
4. Policy 5500..... Student Conduct (Update)
5. Policy 7440.03 ..... Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Technical Update)
6. Policy 7540.09 ..... Artificial Intelligence ("AI") **New**
7. Policy 8321 ..... Criminal Justice Information Security (Non-Criminal Justice Agency) (Update)
8. Policy 1130 ..... Conflict of Interest (Update)
9. Policy 3110..... Conflict of Interest (Update)
10. Policy 4110 ..... Conflict of Interest (Update)
11. Policy 6110..... Grant Funds (Update)
12. Policy 6111 ..... Internal Controls (Update)

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- 13. Policy 6112 .....Cash Management of Grants (Update)
- 14. Policy 6114 .....Cost Principles – Spending Federal Funds (Update)
- 15. Policy 6325 .....Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds (Update)
- 16. Policy 6550 .....Travel Payments & Reimbursement (Update)
- 17. Policy 7310 .....Disposition of Surplus Property (Update)
- 18. Policy 7450 .....Property Inventory (Update)

A motion was made by Mike lott, seconded by Jason Vida, to approve the NEOLA Board Policy Updates as presented. Motion approved – 6 yes (1 absent-Mock)

**Approve of Request for Unpaid Leave of Absence**

A motion was made by Janelle Young, seconded by Mike lott, to approve an Unpaid Leave of Absence for an elementary paraprofessional for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year for childcare. Motion approved – 6 yes (1 absent-Mock)

**Approval of the 2025-2026 School Calendar**

A motion was made by Jeff Bunge, seconded by Janelle Young, to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar as presented. Motion approved – 6 yes (1 absent-Mock)

**Adoption of Resolution in Support of the Protect Mi Kids Legislation**

A motion was made by Dave Dixon, seconded by Mike lott, to approve the resolution in support of Protect Mi Kids Bill Package in the Michigan Legislature as presented. Motion approved – 6 yes (1 absent-Mock)

**Other Board Concerns/Reports**

Jeff Bunge shared that he attended the 2024 MASB Annual Leadership Conference and Delegate Assembly in Lansing. He noted two sessions that were particularly informative: Anatomy of an Audit Report and Labor Relations. He recommended other board members attend next year's conference which will be held in Traverse City, Michigan.

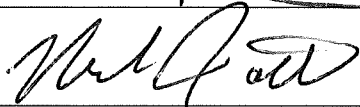
Superintendent Huard shared it will be Mike lott and Kristi Mocks last month on the Board of Education in December. Mr. lott expressed it's been an honor to serve on the board.

Mr. Huard recognized and congratulated Brandon lott as an incoming Board of Education member. He noted that the election results have not been certified yet of this date.

**Adjournment**

The regular meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Minutes approved , President

Minutes approved , Secretary

**Resolution of Support of *Protect Mi Kids Bill Package* in the Michigan Legislature To Address the Lack of Effective Statewide Tobacco Prevention Policies.**

WHEREAS, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability and death in Michigan. Tobacco kills more than 16,200 Michiganders annually – more than AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides combined; and

WHEREAS, Michigan is one of 12 states that make up “Tobacco Nation” where the smoking prevalence is higher compared to the rest of the country. Tobacco costs Michigan over \$5.33 billion in health care expenditures and \$11.5 billion in lost productivity each year; and

WHEREAS, flavored tobacco increases youth usage. In 2023, 90.3% of high school students and 87.1% of middle school students who use e-cigarettes reported using a flavored e-cigarette. Youth who vape, use the product "because they come in flavors I like."

WHEREAS, historically, cigarette companies have disproportionately marketed menthol products in predominantly Black communities by using culturally tailored advertising images and messages. 85% of African American adult smokers use menthol products. This is three times the rate of menthol use among white adult smokers worsening tobacco-related health disparities; and

WHEREAS, Michigan state law prohibits local governments from enacting policies that regulate the sale of tobacco and nicotine products and require tobacco retailer licensure, preventing local communities from protecting kids' health; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 647 restores local control and repeals state law prohibiting local governments from enacting ordinances and regulations pertaining to the sale or licensure of tobacco products. Allowing localities to pass stronger tobacco control measures and;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 648 proposes to establish a new tax on e-cigarettes and increase taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products, with revenue generated dedicated to tobacco prevention and cessation programs, and enforcement of tax and smoke-free air laws, aligning with evidence-based strategies to reduce tobacco use, especially among youth; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bills 649 and 650 aim to prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-cigarettes and menthol-flavored cigarettes, recognizing the significant role flavors play in driving tobacco-related inequities and youth initiation; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bills 651 and 652 establishes a statewide Tobacco Retail Licensing program, requiring all establishments selling nicotine or tobacco products to obtain a license. Improving compliance with existing tobacco sales regulations and reducing youth initiation to nicotine and;

WHEREAS, Senate Bills 653 and 654 repeal provisions in the Youth Tobacco Act that impose civil and criminal penalties on minors for purchasing, using or possessing tobacco products;

WHEREAS, (insert something about why these bills are important for our youth.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Whiteford Agricultural School District Board of Education supports the Protect MI Kids Bill Package (SB 647-654) and urges the Michigan Senate Committee on Regulator Affairs begin hearings on these bills as soon as possible.

Be it further resolved, that the Whiteford Agricultural School District Board of Education calls on the Legislature to swiftly pass these critical bills ***in their entirety*** to protect the health and well-being of Michigan's residents.

Be it Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the members of the Senate Committee on Regulatory Affairs, the members of the Michigan Senate who represent the Whiteford Agricultural School District, and to the Michigan Association of School Boards.

Resolved and adopted this 11 day of November, 2024



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Mike lott, Secretary  
Whiteford Board of Education