

Record of Proceedings  
Minutes of the Williamsburg Local School Board Regular Business Meeting  
Held at the Middle/High School, Media Center  
On Monday, October 16, 2023, at 6:00 PM

The Williamsburg Board of Education met for a Regular Business Meeting at 6:00 PM on Monday, October 16, 2023, at the Middle/High Media Center, with the following members present and answering roll call: Charlie Maklem, Brandon Lindsey, Jeff Cummins, Daniel Knapke, and Beth McManus. Matt Earley, Superintendent, and Greg Wells, Treasurer, were also present along with several staff and community members.

Mr. Maklem led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

EDITS / ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

COMMUNICATIONS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Earley gave the floor to Mike Kirk, Assistant Principal of the Middle/High School, who introduced 7th Grader Zane Wright as the October Moment of Excellence recipient. Zane was nominated by his Art teacher, Ms. Lewis, who described Zane as an art student who is truly dedicated to being successful in the classroom. She says "One of my favorite things is how excited he gets for the projects and is always thinking one step ahead". He often will come and talk to me about his researched ideas for his artwork and is constantly looking for ways to improve". Zane truly represents the #WildcatWay.
- Mr. Earley then offered news from around the district:
  - The Media Center renovation is in its final stages (everyone in attendance was excited about it's new look and functionality). Should be completed in next month.
  - Tonight we are hosting a Sectional Girls Soccer match. Felicity was the home team but their soccer field does not have lights so they asked to use Abrams Stadium. By installing field turf we hope to create future rental opportunities like this.
  - Mr. Earley reviewed recent late start days. In addition to our normal professional development of education staff our bus drivers have received De-escalation Training.
  - Bus drivers also conducted evacuation drills this morning. It went very well.
  - National Honor Society induction ceremony scheduled for OCT 24. NHS induction was historically held in spring but we moved to fall going forward so members can enjoy several more months of participation opportunities.
  - OSBA Capital Conference will be held NOV 12-14. Great slate of learning sessions. Most Board members and several staff are planning to attend.
  - Staff Appreciation Night at varsity football game was a great success. Approximately 150 staff and their families participated and received great support from home crowd.
  - WES held their annual Grandparent Days last week. This two-day event was well attended once again this year with over 80% of students participating.
  - WES also conducted their annual Wildcat Walk fundraiser last Friday, raising over \$20K.
  - Finally, the district is winding down fall sports. Very successful seasons including:
    - Boys Golf were league champs and qualified for Districts.
    - Volleyball was league champs, starting state tournament play this Saturday. Middle School Volleyball also won league.
    - Boys Soccer kept improving and notched a couple wins late in season. Girls Soccer finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in league. Both start state tournaments this week.

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- Football is 8-1, currently sitting as the 1-seed for state tournament. Wrap up regular season this Friday.
- Cross Country boys and girls compete in District Meet this weekend.

REPORT FROM U.S. GRANT CAREER CENTER

Mrs. McManus reported on key events and matters at Grant, including:

- Students and staff served in multiple locations around Williamsburg on OCT 13 during their annual "Grant Give Back Day". Burg projects included Harmony Hill, Garden Club, and painting curbs throughout the village.
- Next regular business meeting to be conducted this Thursday.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Wells highlighted matters impacting the district's finances, including:

- In the month of SEP we filed all our Final Expenditure Reports (FER's) on federal Grants except for ESSER II (not due yet). We have received all reimbursements except for Title I-A (\$38K) and IDEA (\$30K) which are in a backlog at ODEW.
- We also received our state reimbursement for Homestead and Rollback (see Property Tax Allocation line). That pretty well wraps up TY2022 H2 with the exception of a sliver of manufactured home taxes to receive in OCT.
- Earlier today we received our OCT #1 State Foundation payment, which included a \$140K "catch-up" for our increased state funding under HB133 Biennial Budget. The OCT #2 is due 10/27 and will reflect what our actual state foundation increase is versus the simulation (just under \$745K as last published 9/3/2023).
- Hopefully in OCT we will also receive the property insurance check for our lightning strike 1/12/2023. We had to replace over \$63K of equipment at Abrams and WHS, and will receive \$62K reimbursement (we have a \$1K deductible).
- As anticipated, HB187 passed and now moves on to the State Senate (SB153). If passed in its current form, it is estimated to reduce the tax increases from the sexennial revaluation by a third. However, there's major pushback from impacted County Auditors and County Treasurers statewide, concerned if they can completely rework their valuations, bill and collect the taxes in a timely manner. Thankfully Clermont County has already done much of that work and assures us there will be little or no delay if passed. Stay tuned.
- It should be noted, the passage of HB187 was also notable for what it DID NOT contain. There was a large number of ultra-conservatives who were pushing to reduce the 20 mill floor. 374 school districts in Ohio are currently sitting at the 20 mill floor, including Burg. After the sexennial revaluations it's estimated over 75% of districts will be sitting on it overall. So a reduction of the 20 mill floor would have thrown school funding statewide into a tailspin. Thanks to heavy pressure from educational advocacy groups like OASBO and OSBA, HB187 that amendment never hit the House floor. We will still continue to monitor SB153 to make sure it doesn't come back into play.
- CLEAR MOUNTAIN ENERGY UPDATE: Charlie, Matt, and I attended the latest information session held at the County Fairgrounds this past WED, 10/11. Saveon had approximately 20 reps manning displays all around the Multi-Purpose Building providing information in a small group setting. They insist it's full speed ahead for the project.

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APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND BOARD MINUTES

Motion by Knapke, second by Cummins, to approve the Minutes for Business Meeting held on Monday, September 18, 2023. Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Knapke, second by Cummins, to approve the Financial Statements for September 2023. Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Student Achievement: Several staff and board members made road trip to Warren Schools in southeast Ohio OCT 9. Great vision casting on school design, CTE, and CCP pathways.
- Student Life: Exploring graphics for WHS gym, including Barn Painter for accent wall. Members of the Board inquired about new mascot uniform not matching our branding (purchased replacement of the same standard gray used previously) and discrepancies in our online color codes.
- Finance Committee: Next meeting to be scheduled in conjunction with NOV Five Year Forecast review, prior to regular Board business meeting.
- Tech Committee: Next meeting to be scheduled in conjunction with Media Center tech needs. Mr. Cummins asked if there is opportunity for IT Program grads to assist with networking, as well as mentoring of current participants.
- Facilities Committee: Met SEP 22. Topics included:
  - Solicited quote from Barn Painter for WHS gym accent wall (\$7500).
  - Exploring improved signage placement for baseball sponsor banners.
  - SHP has submitted a new Athletic HOF renovation, including a virtual tour. Cost estimate was higher than expected so team will explore mitigation options.
  - Exploring potential spaces for a Spiritwear Shop, possibly manned and managed by the Band Boosters as a consistent fundraiser.
  - Warren HS tour also yielded idea about using large carpet squares to cover and protect gym floor for large events requiring chairs and non-athletic shoes on the court. Their ES pod concept is a potential option for our new WES design.
  - Exploring options for new BOE Office.
  - Board follow-up questions: a) Will the team also be exploring an update for the Academic HOF in addition to the Athletic HOF? b) Is the team seeking quotes for track resurfacing? c) Have we ordered new choir risers? d) Do we have a list of facility projects, including priority of need?
- State Report Cards: Mr. Earley reported the Administrators are still reviewing the data and will do a robust review of the results in November.

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**MAJOR ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

024-2504 APPROVAL OF DONATIONS:

Motion by Knapke, second by Lindsey, to accept the following donations:

CONTRIBUTOR:	PURPOSE:	AMOUNT:
Williamsburg Farmers Market	Student Lunch Debt	\$700.00
Everett J Sons	Student Lunch Debt	\$100.00
Kelly Kreimer of Sweet Frog Eastgate	Class of 2025(Juniors)	\$1,000.00
Williamsburg Athletic Boosters	Class of 2025(Juniors)	\$410.65
Williamsburg Athletic Boosters	Athletics	\$500.00
Doug and Gretchen Lefferson	Elementary Field Trip	\$900.00

Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

024-2505 APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS:

Motion by Knapke, second by Lindsey, to establish and appropriate the following funds:

FUND	FUND NAME	AMOUNT
507 9024	APR ESSER	\$926,249.92
507 9124	ARP Homeless II	\$4,374.27
507 9224	ARP Homeless Targeted	\$16,500.00

Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Cummins, second by Lindsey, to move into Executive Session, per Ohio Revised Code 121.22. to discuss:

- Certain Personnel Matters - To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official; and to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual.
- Purchase or Sale of Property, Real, Personal, Tangible, or Intangible.
- Pending or Imminent Court Action
- Collective Bargaining Matters
- Security Matters
- Economic Development
- Matters Required to be Kept Confidential

Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 6:52 pm and returned at 8:45 pm.

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**PERSONNEL MATTERS**

**024-2506 APPROVAL TO EMPLOY SUBSTITUTE CLASSIFIED STAFF FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR:**

Motion by Cummins, second by Knapke, to employ the following classified staff member(s) as substitute employee for the 2023-2024 school year. Employment is contingent upon maintaining proper certification and pending successful completion of BCI & FBI background checks.

Individual(s):  
Barbra Blake  
Melissa Smith  
Laura McComas  
Bryce Lillie

Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**024-2507 APPROVAL TO EMPLOY INDIVIDUALS FOR SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR:**

Motion by Maklem, second by Lindsey, to employ the following individuals for a period of one (1) year pending satisfactory background checks (BCI & FBI) and completion of all requirements for employment at the board adopted salary schedule for the supplemental positions as listed for the 2023-2024 school year. Employment is contingent upon obtaining all necessary certificates, background checks and completion of required paperwork. All contracts expire June 30, 2024.

Individual(s):	Other Supplemental Position(s):
Robyn Futhey	RESA Mentor Teacher
Whitney Moore	RESA Mentor Teacher
Samantha Williams	RESA Mentor Teacher
Karen Greene	RESA Mentor Teacher
Stephanie Bauer	Drill Team Advisor (retroactive 9/19/2023)

Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**024-2508 APPROVAL OF RESIGNATION:**

Motion by Cummins, second by Knapke, to accept the resignation of Lindsey Stith from her MS Girls Track position effective 9/21/2023. Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**024-2509 APPROVAL OF RESIGNATION:**

Motion by Knapke, second by Lindsey, to accept the resignation of Greg Price from his Football: Junior High Assistant Coach position effective 10/12/2023. Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

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024-2510 APPROVAL OF INDIVIDUALS FOR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR:

Motion by Cummins, second by Knapke, to approve the following individuals for a period of one (1) year pending satisfactory background checks (BCI & FBI) and completion of all requirements for the volunteer supplemental position as listed for the 2023-2024 school year. All volunteer positions will expire on June 30, 2024.

INDIVIDUAL:	Volunteer Position(s):
Greg Price	Football: Volunteer

Voting aye on roll call: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

Upon completion of business, the Board had a brief discussion regarding the format and logistics of the upcoming Town Hall meetings scheduled for OCT 25 and OCT 30. The purpose of those Town Hall meetings is to provide information to the public about the Substitute (Operating) Levy on the ballot NOV 7.

COMMENTS BY THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mr. Maklem congratulated Zane Wright as our October Moment of Excellence recipient, and encouraged him to continue pursuing his passion in Art (and Math!). He thanked all our donors for their generous support of our students, and our school district. He also thanked Mrs. Stith for her years of service as our Middle School Track Coach. Mr. Maklem would also like to thank the PTA for their support of our annual Grandparent Days and congratulated both the PTA and the entire WES staff for hosting another truly exceptional event. Furthermore, he thanked the Grant Career Center students and staff for making a difference with their service projects in and around the Burg Community. Finally, he congratulated all our sports teams for a great fall campaign and wished them luck in their respective state tournaments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Knapke, second by Cummins, to adjourn. Voting aye: Maklem, Lindsey, Cummins, Knapke, and McManus. Nays: none. Motion carried. Board adjourned 9:01 pm.

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Board President

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Treasurer