WDS Board of Education Monthly Meeting Minutes

DATE: October 19, 2026

PLACE: VAC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paula Martin, Chris Mahoney, Shannon McGoran, Tim Cross, Melissa Moore, Rachel Fekken, Jimmy TenBrink

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: CJ Van Wieren, Kirsten Bolles, other staff and community members

President Fekken called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion Mahoney/Cross moved to approve the agenda as presented.
Ayes (7) Mahoney, Cross, Martin, Moore, Mahoney, McGoran, Fekken
Nays (0)
Motion Carried

Public Comment

N/A

WDS Spotlight: FFA

FFA Members Norah Ryznar, Mathilda Morneau and Jeremy Stepp some statistics and their mission to the board members. Whitehall FFA was established in 2024 as part of our Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources CTE program at WHS. The program currently has 121 students enrolled in the agricultural education program in one of 4 courses: Agricultural Biology, Veterinary Science, Greenhouse Science and AP Environmental Science. Their mission is: FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Upcoming events: January 13, 2027 - Local Competition (judges wanted); February 3, 2027 - District Competition (judges wanted); February 17, 2027 - Regional Competition; March 10-12, 2027 - State Convention.

Student Representative Update

Ms. Martin gave the student update on Mason's behalf. At Shoreline, Mr. Ziemer spoke to 2nd graders on what it means to be a good citizen; Shoreline had excellent attendance for parent/teacher conferences, with 99.7% in attendance. Ealy is getting ready for the Read & Feed Book Fair coming up on October 26-30; parent teacher conferences are also coming up on October 27-28, and Mrs. Chen is leading the fall production of The Claw which will be held at the High School on November 13-14, 2026. At the Middle School, the 8th graders took the PSAT and went to the Little Manistee Weir to learn about the Chinook Salmon. The High School held its 3rd Annual Career Fair Day following the fall PSAT. They are also excited to see the three new CTE programs grow and look forward to the visibility throughout the Whitehall community.

Consent Action Agenda

Motion Mahoney/McGoran moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.
Ayes (7) Mahoney, McGoran, Martin, TenBrink, Cross, Moore, Fekken
Nays (0)
Motion Carried

Minutes of meeting dated September 21, disbursements for the month of September, 2026, which include: general fund - $575,217.28, community education - $15,478.46, food service - $22,329.64, technology MAISD - $16,373.57, activity account - $41,007.91, common debt - $0, Capital Projects - $950.00.

Unfinished Business
N/A

Financial Audit Review - Brickley DeLong

Motion Cross/TenBrink moved to accept the audited financial statements, management letter, and single audit report as presented.

Ayes (7) Cross, TenBrink, Martin, Moore, McGoran, Mahoney, Fekken
Nays (0)
Motion Carried

Bond Refunding Resolution

Motion Mahoney/TenBrink moved to adopt as authorizing the issuance and delegating the sale of Whitehall District Schools 2027 Refunding Bonds. ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes (7) Mahoney, TenBrink, Martin, Cross, McGoran, Moore, Fekken
Nays (0)
Motion Carried

Wenger Risers

Motion Martin/Cross moved to approve the purchase of the Wenger Signature Choral Risers for $24,363.00.

Ayes (7) Martin, Cross, Mahoney, TenBrink, Moore, McGoran, Fekken
Nays (0)
Motion Carried

Monthly Financials
Mr. Van Wieren reviewed monthly financials with the Board.

Superintendent Report
Mr. Van Wieren reviewed his superintendent goals as part of the ongoing evaluation process. He highlighted the district's continued focus on improving student behavior and district culture through the work of the DIT and DLT, strengthening communication and transparency with staff, families, and the community, and moving forward with facility improvements and bond projects. He also discussed the district's focus on academic growth and improving student attendance. These areas will continue to guide the district's work as he prepares for his mid-year evaluation in January.

Public Comment
N/A

Adjournment

Motion Cross/McGoran moved to adjourn.

Ayes (7) Cross, McGoran, Martin, Mahoney, TenBrink, Moore, Fekken
Nays (0)
Motion Carried

Adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Paula Martin

Board Secretary/Designee