

WDS Board of Education Monthly Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 15, 2025

PLACE: VAC

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jimmy TenBrink

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 Cross/Martin moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes (6) Cross, Martin, McGoran, Mahoney, Moore, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Public Comment

N/A

Consent Action Agenda

Motion Martin/McGoran moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ayes (6) Martin, McGoran, Moore, Mahoney, Cross, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Designation of the following: Minutes of meeting dated August 18, disbursements for the month of August which include: general fund - \$652,215.10, community education - \$15,721.58, food service - \$27,769.41, technology MAISD - \$7,358.92, activity account - \$23,609.96, common debt - \$0, Capital Projects - \$0, HS Overnight Field Trip Request.

Unfinished Business

Mrs. Martin shared that she spent some time at the High School assemblies recently. She introduced herself, spent some time with students and plans to visit there monthly during lunches. She will work alongside our Student Representatives, Kate Beda and Emily Van Dam to help bridge the gap between the board members and students.

Monthly Financials

Mr. Van Wieren reviewed monthly financials with the Board.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Van Wieren welcomed both student representatives to tonight's meeting and allowed Kate Beda to introduce herself. Kate is a senior and is very involved in the Whitehall community, playing three sports: Volleyball, Basketball and Soccer, with Soccer being her main sport. Other clubs she's involved in include Student Council, NHS, LINK and Osteoscholars. She thanked Mr. Van Wieren and the board for allowing her to represent her peers this year. She looks forward to attending the monthly meeting to provide updates about our schools. Additional

information shared by Kate and Emily include academic opportunities with Early College, CTC, and a variety of AP classes. Seniors involved in NHS will begin their legacy projects soon that include the Haunted Trail and The Blood Drive (date TBA). WHS Homecoming Dance will be October 4, 2025 which our Student Council is working hard to plan. The Marching Band will compete in their first competition at Grand Haven on September 27, 2025 and is looking forward to a successful season.

Mr. Van Wieren gave a bond presentation that explains the ballot language, the debt millage analysis, the tax rate equation and a breakdown of the identified areas of concern in each building. The bond presentation can be found here: [WDS Bond Presentation](#). He is looking forward to hosting another community night at the Middle School on September 24, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

WDS Delegate for the 2025 MASB Delegate Assembly

Motion Mahoney/Martin moved to designate Rachel Fekken as Whitehall District Schools delegate at the MAST Delegate Assembly on October 23, 2025.

Ayes (6) Mahoney, Martin, Cross, Moore, McGoran, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Closed Session

Motion McGoran/Moore to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing student discipline.

Ayes (6) McGoran, Moore, Mahoney, Cross, Martin, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Closed session began at 6:58 p.m.

Return to Open Session at 7:17 p.m.

Reinstatement Determination

Motion Mahoney/Cross moved to deny the reinstatement of student #090623-01.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Mahoney, Cross, McGoran, Martin, Moore, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Public Comment

N/A

Adjournment

Motion Cross/McGoran moved to adjourn.

Ayes (6) Cross, McGoran, Moore, Mahoney, Martin, Fekken

Nays (0)

Motion Carried

Adjourned at 7:18 p.m.



Board Secretary/Designee