

**WHITEFORD SCHOOLS
OTTAWA LAKE, MICHIGAN 49267**

April 8, 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 6:00 p.m. by President Shane Hillard on April 8, 2024. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Hillard. Members present were Shane Hillard, Janelle Young, Jeff Bunge, and Jason Vida. Dave Dixon, Mike Iott, and Kristi Mock were absent.

Also present were Superintendent Scott L. Huard, Director of Finance & Business Services Marisa Tebbe-Cousino, Director of Human Resources Cathy Machcinski, Elementary Principal Marcy Anderson, MS/HS Principal Jeremy Fielder, MS/HS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Jeremy Simmons, and Director of Transportation & Buildings and Grounds Charlie Butz (arrived at 7:00 pm). There were five visitors present.

Appoint Temporary Secretary

A motion was made by Shane Hillard, seconded by Janelle Young, to appoint Jeff Bunge as temporary secretary in Mike Iott's absence. Motion approved – 4 yes, (3 absent-Dixon/Iott/Mock)

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Janelle Young, seconded by Jason Vida, to amend the April 8, 2024, Regular Meeting Agenda to remove Item 13 (Closed Session), renumber accordingly, and approve as amended. Motion approved – 4 yes, (3 absent-Dixon/Iott/Mock)

Special Presentations

Student Participation – Student Council President Aubrie Simmons reported the following to the board:

- Fast month due to Spring break and many gone on the DC trip
- Continuing with planning Battlecats and field day
- Had a Battlecats t-shirt design contest. T-shirts will be available for purchase soon to staff and students.
- Finishing the last quarter of school

Leski Wittman Agency Staff Member of the Month – Mrs. Lisa Childers, MS/HS Art Teacher, was recognized as Staff Member of the Month for March. She was unable to be in attendance; therefore, arrangements are being made for a separate date for the representative from Leski Wittman Insurance Agency to present her with a \$100 gift card. Superintendent Huard read from Mrs. Childers's nomination forms and shared that Whiteford is very lucky to have a professional artist and teacher like Lisa on staff. Her room is a fun and productive place to learn.

Special Recognition – Mr. Anthony Reyes, from Toledo Building Services, was acknowledged for his hard work and positive attitude by three Whiteford staff members. Mr. Reyes was unable to be in attendance and will be formally recognized at the May Board of Education meeting.

Strategic Plan Enrollment Vision Update – Superintendent Huard presented a refresher of Whiteford's current Strategic Plan as a means of keeping the district's values and goals at the forefront of every decision made by the Board of Education.

ACAP Safety Presentation – Mr. Scott Beard from ACAP Solutions attended the meeting and presented a brief overview of their two- day assessment of our school. This assessment was paid for by a Safety Grant from Governor Whitmer.

**Minutes Continued
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Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Jeff Bunge, seconded by Janelle Young, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented:

- a. Minutes of the March 11, 2024, Regular Meeting and Closed Session Meeting
- b. Treasurer's Report and Check Register (March 2024)
- c. Adoption of Resolution to Proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month

Motion approved – 4 yes, (3 absent-Dixon/Lott/Mock)

Administrative Reports

Business Office – Mrs. Marisa Tebbe-Cousino:

- Reviewed the property tax collection status reports (non-homestead & technology millage, 2015 school bond debt retirement millage and two 2019 school bond debt retirement millage reports)
- Good turnout for the March 12th Bond Sale for Series III Bonds (bond sold at a premium)
- April 18th the RFP for the cafeteria bid will be available. The Prebid meeting will be held April 22nd, with proposals due May 9th.
- Laura Cruz-Hartland (Accounting Assistant) will be attending the annual MSBO conference with her this year at the end of the month

Director of Human Resources – Mrs. Cathy Machcinski:

- Finishing up the application process for the 27k Student Loan Forgiveness Program. Eight staff members submitted application materials with four pending at this time. The deadline for the district application is April 11th.

Elementary School – Mrs. Marcy Anderson:

- Had a great first week back from Spring break
- Report cards were sent home on April 5th
- Kindergarten Round-Up went really well. Forty kindergarten students attended. Currently have fifty-one students signed up. Nine are SOC (Schools of Choice) siblings, three new SOC, and one COE (Child of Employee).
- Kindergarten teachers are using April 10th Testing Day as a workday. They will continue scoring the kindergarten screenings and have seven students coming in to be screened as well.
- MSTEP testing opened up April 8th. 3rd Grade through 5th Grade taking ELA and 5th Grade had Social Studies added on.
- End of the month is NWEA Testing. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade will be MDE Testing.
- Had their first Safety Meeting (Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Hillard, and three teachers)
- Partnering with the ISD to do Adventure Camp (classroom management and helping kids get along). Piloting with 3rd grade group this year.

Minutes Continued
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Administrative Reports continued...

- Have the SRO in to visit the classrooms. Goal is once a month for a short presentation. Still looking at ideas.
- Wrapped up Reading Month
- Many field trips are coming up. Kindergarten is going to Wildwood Metroparks; 1st Grade - Ritter Planetarium; 2nd Grade – The Toledo Zoo; 3rd Grade – Imagination Station; 4th Grade - Ann Arbor Hands on Museum; 5th Grade – The Toledo Zoo and Sauder Village.
- May 5th is AG Awareness Day. Students really look forward to this day.
- May 17th is Field and Carnival Day
- 4th Grade flower sale fundraiser has started to help offset costs for students for next years 5th Grade camp. Camp will be October 28th through the 31st. Will be asking the Board for approval in May.
- This Saturday, April 13th, is the Daddy/Daughter dance

Middle/High School – Mr. Jeremy Fielder:

- Mr. Schreiber's High School Musical was awesome and an excellent show to watch
- HS Concert Choral and Choir received a 1 Rating and are going to the State festival in May
- Robotics qualified for States this past weekend. Huge credit to Mr. Welling, Mr. Gapp, the students, and parent volunteers.
- On March 18th inducted 16 new members into the National Honor Society.
- 7th Grade DARE began last week with Sergeant Bomia and Deputy Benes assisting with the focus being on decision making
- 8-11th Grade have College Board Assessments on April 10th. 11th Grade have ACT Work Keys April 11th.
- April 10th is State Testing for students in Grades 8th through 11th – Science & Social Studies
- Next week MSTEP Testing begins – ELA, Math for 6th & 7th Grade; Science & Social Studies for 8th & 11th Grade
- NWEA Testing this Spring for 6th and 7th Grade
- National Honor Society is having a blood drive on April 22nd
- 8th through 10th Grade will be visiting the Holocaust Museum
- Mud Hens Field trip is May 8th for students who received a positive behavior award
- May 8th is the High School Field Day
- Teacher appreciation week is coming up – Student Council is having a Battlecats assembly
- Acknowledged Kristie Conard for her hard work and assistance with after prom

Assistant Principal/Athletic Director – Mr. Jeremy Simmons:

- The DC trip was outstanding. Layed wreaths at the Veteran's Memorial, toured the Whitehouse, met Bernie Sanders, and saw Marine One helicopter land at the Capital when visiting the Washington Monument.
- Big shout out to Aly VanBrandt who went into the Big Ten and is playing extremely well at Indiana University starting as a freshman
- MHS released the divisions. This only impacted our football program which is now Division 7.
- TCC Athletic Directors met last week. They discussed what they are going to do about the rising costs for officials. Ticket prices may need to increase for the 2024-2025 school year. The current price of \$5.00 has been the same since 1992.
- Baseball and Softball Districts will be at Blissfield. Track Regionals will be at Adrian-Madison. MS Track has 63 participants this year.

Transportation & Buildings and Grounds – Mr. Charlie Butz:

- Spring sports are underway and will start picking up now that the weather is getting nicer

**Minutes Continued
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Administrative Reports continued...

- Getting ready for summer work
- Doing a lot of outside work right now – working on the fields
- A bus driver resigned, and the job has been posted. Our main substitute driver should be back to work on April 16th. Currently doing a rotating cancellation of bus routes so the same bus is not cancelled every day.

Superintendent's Report

1. 11t Grant After School Programming – Whiteford has received grant funds to address lost instructional time from the pandemic. These grant funds can be used for any students KG-12th grade in the content areas of ELA and Math using research or evidence-based intervention materials. Students will be identified by greatest need using benchmarking or internal data. The program will run after school beginning April 8 through May 23, 2024, for students in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade.
2. Resignations – Mr. Jim DeSilvis resigned from his position as Social Studies teacher effective June 30, 2024, for the purpose of retirement. Mr. DeSilvis taught at Whiteford for 26 years. We appreciate all his hard work and dedication to our Bobcat students and community.

Mrs. Kim DeSilvis resigned from her position as Spanish teacher effective June 30, 2024, for the purpose of retirement. Mrs. DeSilvis worked at Whiteford for five years. We thank Mrs. DeSilvis for her service and dedication to her students and the Competitive Cheer Program.

Ms. Donella Kazmierczak resigned from her position as a bus driver effective April 5, 2024. Ms. Kazmierczak worked at Whiteford for nine years. We wish her well in her future endeavors.

3. Volunteer Coaching Appointments – Listed below are the additional volunteer coaching appointments for the 2024 spring season:
 - Amanda Valasek HS Robotics
 - Andrew Toda HS Baseball
 - Ty Eitniew..... HS Baseball
 - Jeremy Gapp HS Robotics

4. Acknowledgement of Gifts/Donations – The following donations were recently made by groups/individuals in the district:

Erich Drescher.....	\$50.00.....	FFA
South East Michigan Antique Tractor Puller's Assoc.	\$686.52.....	FFA
Becky Grant/Class of '63	\$50.00.....	Athletics
Erich Drescher.....	\$100.00.....	Powerlifting Club
Ottawa Lake Fire Department	\$250.00.....	Golf Program
Ottawa Lake Fire Department	\$250.00.....	Track and Field Program

5. Announcements / Reminders / Informational Items
 - April 10 State Testing Day, No School Grades KG-7th and 12th
 - April 13 WPA Daddy Daughter Dance 6-8pm Elementary Cafeteria
 - April 16 3rd Grade Field Trip: Imagination Station
 - April 16 WPA Meeting 6pm Elementary Cafeteria
 - April 19 FFA Field Trip: Skills Contests MSU 6:15-3pm

**Minutes Continued
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Superintendent's Report continued...

- April 20 Junior/Senior Prom 2023 7-11pm
- April 22 American Red Cross Blood Drive 9am Auxiliary Gym
- April 22 8th/10th Grade Field Trip: Zekelman Holocaust Center
- April 23 MC Career Expo 9-1pm MC Fair Grounds
- April 25 Track & Field Youth Camp 3-4:30pm
- April 28-May 1 FFA Field Trip: Leadership Camp
- April 30 1st Grade Field Trip: Ritter Astrophysical Research
- May 2 5th Grade Field Trip: Toledo Zoo 9:30-2:30pm
- May 2 Track & Field Youth Camp 3-4:30pm
- May 3 FFA Banquet 5pm MS Gym
- May 4-June 2 FFA Greenhouse Open
- May 6 FFA Ag Awareness Day
- May 7 Whiteford Recreation Meeting 7pm MS/HS Media Center
- May 8 MS Field Trip: Mud Hens Game 9am
- May 9 KG Field Trip: Wildwood Preserve Metroparks 9-12:30pm
- May 10 2nd Grade Field Trip: Toledo Zoo

Bond Project – Elementary/Athletic Upgrades

Superintendent Huard presented an update on the latest Elementary/Athletic Upgrades.

Adopt Resolution – Ratification of Bond Purchase (2024 School Building and Site Bonds, Series III)

A motion was made by Shane Hillard, seconded by Jason Vida, to adopt the resolution approving the offer from Bernardi Securities, Inc. for the 2024 School Building and Site Bonds, Series III. The principal sum of the bonds will be issued in the mutually adjusted aggregate principal amount of \$2,875,000. Motion approved - 4 yes, (3 absent-Dixon/lott/Mock)

Adopt PQA Document

A motion was made by Jason Vida, seconded by Janelle Young, to adopt the application for Preliminary Qualification of Bonds as outlined on Page 1 – Certificate Section as presented. Motion approved - 4 yes, (3 absent-Dixon/lott/Mock)

Board Concerns/Reports

There were no Board of Education concerns.

Adjournment

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Minutes approved _____, President

Minutes approved _____, Temporary Secretary