



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

Approved Minutes December 15, 2025

The West Ottawa High School Vocalaires performed holiday selections prior to the board meeting.

WOHS VOCALAIRES

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7 p.m. at West Ottawa Public Schools' Administration Office, 1138 136th Avenue.

President C. Lebster opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: C. Lebster, J. Otteman, L. Rutan, R. Schipper, D. Duistermars, M. Remenschneider, and C. Martinez. Superintendent Tim Bearden was also present.

Members Absent: None.

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by C. Martinez, that the minutes from the November 17, 2025, work session and regular meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by D. Duistermars, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried 7-0-0.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Superintendent T. Bearden reported on the following:

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Report

- 31aa
- Los Lagos Expansion
- AI Plans
- MLK Day—January 19

Student Senate Representative Riley Jernigan provided an update on the following WOHS events:

Student Senate Update

- Toy Drive
- Senior Survivor
- WinWO

L. Rutan reported the Instructional Services committee met on December 2 to discuss MiLeap grant, programs, AI community challenges, and Jake's outstanding leadership at Macatawa Bay Middle School.

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D. Duistermars reported the Student Services committee met on December 1 to discuss GSRP program overview and preschool research.

**INFORMATION ITEMS
(Cont'd.)****COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Student Services

Finance & Operations

HR & Wellness

M. Remenschneider reported the Finance & Operations committee met on December 10 and discussed the following: Monthly Financials, 2025-2026 Mid-Year GF Amendment, capital projects, financial and operational compass, and action items.

C. Martinez reported the HR & Wellness committee met on December 4 and discussed administrative guidelines, community and aquatic center planning, and future teacher explore grant.

Opportunity was given for communications from the audience regarding agenda items. There was no response.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM
THE AUDIENCE**

(regarding agenda items)

Moved by D. Duistermars, supported by M. Remenschneider, that a probationary contract for the 2025-2026 school year be awarded to the following:

- Raelyn Statler - MS Manufacturing Technology
- Jivka Jeliazkova - GSRP Woodside
- Lauren Kussmaul - 5th Grade Riley Farms
- Anna Robertson - 3rd Grade Riley Farms
- Breanna Slagh - District Occupational Therapist
- Brooke Ondersma - Resource Pine Creek

ACTION ITEMSApproval of
Probationary Contracts

Motion carried 7-0-0.

Moved by R. Schipper, supported by L. Rutan, that the 2025-2026 General Fund budget be amended as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

2025-2026 General Fund
Budget Amendment

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve the Letter of Agreement with the WOEA for the district contribution toward medical insurance as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion 7-0-0.

Letter of Agreement
WOEA

Moved by L. Rutan, supported by J. Otteman, that the Board approve the purchase of elementary furniture for Waukazoo, Woodside, and Great Lakes Elementary for an amount not to exceed \$3,501,688, as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Summer 2026 Elementary
Furniture Purchase

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Moved by R. Schipper, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve the purchase of administration office furniture for an amount not to exceed \$336,170, as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

ACTION ITEMS**(Cont'd.)**

Administration Office
Furniture Purchase

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve the construction of two outdoor bathroom / concession facilities for an amount not to exceed \$1,246,710, as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Outdoor Bathroom /
Concession
Facilities

Moved by D. Duistermars, supported by L. Rutan, that the following travel applications be approved as presented, pending consideration of the world situation at the time of the proposed trip:

- **December 13 & 14, 2025** – Varsity Cheer to the Winter Workshop Clinic in Portage, Michigan
- **January 22 – 30, 2026** – WO Global Initiatives Sister School Exchange to Barcelona, Spain
- **January 30 & 31, 2026** – West Ottawa Wrestling Team to the Women's Midland Chemics Tournament in Midland, Michigan
- **February 27 & 28, 2026** – Adventure School trip to Eagle Village in Hersey, Michigan
- **March 5 – 7, 2026** - West Ottawa Wrestling team to the MHSAA Wrestling State Championships in Detroit, Michigan
- **March 13 – 15, 2026** – FIRST Robotics to the Lake City District event in Lake City, Michigan
- **March 23 – April 2, 2026** – WO Sister School Exchange to Yssingeaux, Paris / France
- **March 27 & 28, 2026** – FIRST Robotics to the West Michigan District event in Allendale, Michigan
- **April 16 – 18, 2026** – FIRST Robotics to the Michigan State Championship in Saginaw, Michigan
- **April 29 – May 3, 2026** – FIRST Robotics to the World Championship in Houston, Texas
- **May 1, 2026** – WOHS Orchestra Symphony trip to Chicago, Illinois

Motion carried 7-0-0.

Opportunity was given for communications from the audience. 4 community members addressed the Board of Education.

FUTURE CONSIDERATION**COMMUNICATIONS FROM
THE AUDIENCE**

(regarding items
not on the agenda)

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During communications from the Board, D. Duistermars recognized coach Melissa Aguilera.

The next meeting is a work session on January 26, 2026, at 5:30 p.m., followed by an organizational/regular meeting 7 p.m. in the Administration Office Training Room.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

FUTURE CONSIDERATION
(Cont'd.)

NEXT MEETING 1/26/2026

Work Session, 5:30 p.m.

Organizational/Regular
Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by M. Remenschneider, that the meeting adjourn at 8:32 p.m. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Otteman, Secretary