

**West Geauga Board of Education
Tax Budget Hearing and Organizational Meeting
Monday, January 12, 2015 6:45 p.m.
West Geauga Middle School Conference Room**

President Pro-Tempore Mr. Thoreson called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Thoreson called the meeting to order with the following members present:
Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps and Mr. Thoreson

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Thoreson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2015-07

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore and seconded by Mr. Kotowski, to approve the agenda.

Roll call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski
Motion carried

ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

2015-08

Mr. Kotowski nominated Mrs. Dottore for Board President. Dr. Phelps nominated Mr. Thoreson for Board President.

Roll call to close the nominations: Yes: Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps and Mr. Thoreson

Roll call to elect (Vote Choice):

Mr. Douglas voted for Mr. Thoreson. Dr. Phelps voted for Mr. Thoreson, Mr. Kotowski voted for Mrs. Dottore. Mrs. Dottore voted for Mrs. Dottore. Mr. Thoreson voted for Mr. Thoreson.

Mr. Thoreson was elected as Board President.

Mrs. Penler, Treasurer, administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Thoreson.

ELECTION OF BOARD VICE-PRESIDENT

2015-09

Mr. Thoreson nominated Mr. Douglas for Board Vice-President.

Roll call: Yes: Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps and Mr. Thoreson
Motion carried

Mr. Douglas was elected as Vice-President.

Mrs. Penler administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Douglas.

2015 BOARD MEETING DATES

2015-10

A motion was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Kotowski, to set the meeting schedule for 2015 as follows:

| | | |
|---------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Meeting | January 12, 2015 | Tax Budget Hearing/ Organizational |
| | January 15, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | January 26, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | February 11, 2015 | Work Session |
| | February 23, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | March 11, 2015 | Work Session |
| | March 23, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | April 15, 2015 | Work Session |
| | April 27, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | May 13, 2015 | Work Session |
| | May 26, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | June 22, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | July 20, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | August 24, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | September 16, 2015 | Work Session |
| | September 28, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | October 14, 2015 | Work Session |
| | October 26, 2015 | Regular Meeting |
| | November 16, 2015 | Work Session |
| | December 14, 2015 | Regular Meeting |

All meetings are scheduled for Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Conference Area.

Roll call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski
Motion carried

ESTABLISHMENT OF SERVICE FUND

2015-11

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore and seconded by Mr. Kotowski, to establish a service fund in accordance with O.R.C. 3315.15 not to exceed the maximum allowable amount.

Roll call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Dottore
Motion carried

ESTABLISHMENT OF 2015 COMPENSATION

2015-12

A motion was made by Mr. Kotowski and seconded by Mr. Douglas, that each Board member shall be compensated in the amounts and for the number of meetings as outlined in O.R.C. 3313.12 (Board of Education Bylaw 0147). Current compensation for Board

members is \$80.00 per meeting, with a maximum number of meetings set at 24. Board members are paid after the end of each quarter.

Roll call: Yes: Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore and Mr. Douglas
Motion carried

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

2015-13

A motion was made by Mr. Kotowski and seconded by Mrs. Dottore, to make the following appointments on behalf of the Board:

OSBA Legislative Liaison –Mr. Phelps

OSBA Student Achievement Liaison –Mr. Douglas

OSBA Capital Conference Delegate and Alternate Delegate –Mrs. Dottore Delegate, Dr. Thoreson Alternate Delegate

WGCJRD Representatives: Susan Ebersbacher – April 2014; John Gromek – April 2015;

Bernie Mandel – April 2017

Roll call: Yes: Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, and Mrs. Dottore
Motion carried

2015 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2015 - 14

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore and seconded by Mr. Kotowski to make the following committee appointments.

Curriculum/Technology Committee (Combined Committees) –Dr. Phelps

Finance Committee– Mr. Thoreson

Operations Committee – Mr. Kotowski

Personnel Committee – Mr. Douglas

Policy Committee – Mrs. Dottore

Note: Acknowledge that the Records Commission is comprised of the B board of Education President, Treasurer, and Superintendent. R.C. 149.41 – The records commission must meet every 12 months. It is required to inventory the district's public records and adopt a records retention schedule.

Roll Call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski.
Motion carried

Operating Protocol

2015-15

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve the agenda format for the regular meeting.

- Roll Call
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of Agenda/Addendum items
- Minutes
- Remarks of the Public
- Superintendent's Report
- Superintendent's Recommendations
- Treasurer's Report
- Treasurer's Recommendations
- Standing Committee Discussions

- New Business
- Announcement of Next Board Meeting
- Adjournment

Roll Call: Yes: Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore and Mr. Douglas
Motion carried

TREASURER'S BUSINESS

2014 STANDING AUTHORIZATIONS

2015-16

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore and seconded by Mr. Kotowski, to approve the following standing authorizations:

- A. The Treasurer shall be authorized to forward resolutions to request the County Auditor to advance taxes from the proceeds of the tax levies pursuant to Section 321.340 of the Ohio Revised Code to meet current expenses as needed during the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015
- B. Under authority of Section 3313.020 O.R.C. that the Board dispense with approval of ordinary bills for purchases made under authority of the annual appropriations resolution and permit payment as seems advantageous;
- C. To waive the reading of the minutes of the Board as authorized by Amended House Bill #424
- D. To authorize the Treasurer to invest funds that are not needed to meet current expenditures – Section 135.09 O.R.C.
- E. To authorize the Treasurer to make appropriate modifications to the budgets as necessary during the year.
- F. To authorize the signature of the Treasurer or the facsimile thereof, to be used on all checks and warrants.
- G. To authorize the Treasurer to make adjustments, transfers and additional modifications to budget, revenue and appropriation accounts, as necessary to update and close fiscal year 2015 without Board action.
- H. To authorize the Treasurer to designate the following financial institutions as depositories for calendar year 2015:
 - Huntington National Bank
 - First National Bank
 - Star Ohio
- I. To authorize the Treasurer to be the Board's representative for required public records training for the following members: Dan Thoreson, Jackie Dottore, Michael Douglas, Ben Kotowski and Dr. Phelps.

Roll call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski
Motion carried

2015 DESIGNATION OF NEWSPAPERS

2015-17

A motion was made by Mr. Kotowski and seconded by Mrs. Dottore, to approve the following newspapers for meeting notices:

- News Herald – Geauga County Edition
- Plain Dealer
- Chagrin Solon Sun
- Chesterland News
- Gauga County Maple Leaf

Roll call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski
Motion carried

2015 APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL COUNSEL

2015-18

A motion was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mrs. Dottore, to approve the following list of firms for legal counsel representation during 2015:

- John A. Podgurski, Attorney at Law
- Britton Smith Peters & Kalail Co., LPA
- McDonald Hopkins, LLC
- Ohio Schools council’s Legal Hotline Program
- Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, LLP
- Roetzel & Andress
- Walter and Haverfield, LLP

Additionally, the Ohio School Boards Association and the Geauga County Prosecutor’s may be used as appropriate.

Roll call: Yes: Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore and Mr. Douglas
Motion carried

DESIGNATION OF INSURANCE BROKER/CONSULTANT

2015-19

A motion was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mrs. Dottore to approve Taylor Insurance Group as the District’s health insurance broker/consultant for calendar year 2015.

Roll Call: Yes: Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson and Mrs. Dottore

AUTHORIZATION TO SEEK PERSONAL BONDS FOR BOARD AND SPECIFIC ADMINISTRATORS

2015-20

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore and seconded by Dr. Phelps to authorize the Treasurer to seek personal bonds for the Board President and members, Superintendent, Treasurer and Business Manager

Roll Call: Yes: Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mrs. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski and Dr. Phelps

AUTHORIZATION TO BORROW FUNDS

2015-21

A motion was made by Mr. Kotowski and seconded by Mr. Douglas to authorize the Board President and Treasurer to borrow funds.

Roll Call: Yes: Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs., Dottore and Mr. Douglas

FISCAL YEAR 2015 TAX BUDGET

2015-22

Treasurer Penler presented the tax budget for fiscal year 15/16 (Public hearing and discussion was from 6:45 p.m. – 6:55 p.m.). Public Notice of the meeting to discuss the budget was made on December 29, 2014 in the Geauga County Maple Leaf.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore, and seconded by Mr. Kotowski, to approve the Fiscal Year 14/15 tax budget as presented.

Roll call: Yes: Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps and Mr. Thoreson
Motion carried

SUPERINTENDENT'S BUSINESS

2015-23

A motion was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mrs. Dottore, to approve the following resolutions:

To grant authority to the Superintendent of the West Geauga Local School District to excuse teachers and other school employees for attendance at, and provide all approved expenses for professional and/or in-service meetings in 2015;

To grant the Superintendent or his designee authority to file applications for all projects considered desirable for the West Geauga Local School District;

To designate the Superintendent or his designee as purchasing agent for the West Geauga Local School District for 2015;

To recognize the Superintendent or his designee (an administrator of the Geauga County Educational Service Center) as appeals officer for out-of-schools suspensions and expulsions;

To authorize the Superintendent to hire personnel and accept resignations on behalf of the Board, pending final Board approval;

To appoint the Superintendent as the representative to the Ohio High School Athletic Association for matters including but not limited to student transfers;

To authorize the Superintendent to invoke emergency action to repair or replace property or otherwise make possible the continuous operation of schools, and further close schools or dismiss schools early in event of hazardous weather or other emergencies;

To authorize the Superintendent to seek and participate in grants and contracts for various funded programs from outside sources;

To authorize the Superintendent to update instructional materials, courseware and textbooks as needed;

To authorize the Superintendent to delegate to principals the authority to enter into contracts, as needed, in areas of photography, yearbook, graduations, and related school events. Principals will notify Superintendent of such agreements.

Roll call: Yes: Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore and Mr. Douglas
Motion carried

2015 CURRENT YEAR COMMITTEES

2015-24

A motion was made by Mr. Douglas and was seconded by Mrs. Dottore to establish the 2015 committees on behalf of the District Administrative leadership as follows:

Audit Committee
District Communications Committee
District Technology Committee
Insurance Committee
School Safety Task Force
Wellness Committee
WGPDC

Roll call: Yes: Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson and Mrs. Dottore
Motion carried

APPOINTMENT OF STAFF TO POSITIONS FOR THE 2015 YEAR 2015-25

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore and was seconded by Mr. Kotowski, to appoint administrators to the following positions:

Director of Pupil Services
Title IX Hearing Officer
Anti-harassment Grievance Officer
Disabilities Act Coordinator
504 Compliance Officer
Civil Rights Coordinator
Homeless Liaison

Business Manager
Asbestos Manager

Roll call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF SUPPORT GROUPS BY SUPERINTENDENT 2015-26

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore and seconded by Dr. Phelps to authorize the Superintendent to approve support groups. Currently approved groups are as follows:

- West Geauga Secondary PTO
- Lindsey Elementary PTO
- Westwood Elementary PTO
- West Geauga Band Boosters
- West Geauga Athletic Boosters
- Lacrosse Club
- Swim Club
- West Geauga Fencing
- West Geauga Hockey
- West Geauga Destination Imagination
- Wolverine Gridiron Club
- West Geauga After Prom

Announcement of Next Board Meeting

Special Meeting, 5:00 p.m. (Executive Session Only)
January 14, 2015
Middle School Community Room
8611 Cedar Road
Chesterland, OH 44026

Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
January 15, 2015
Middle School Community Room
8611 Cedar Road
Chesterland, OH 44026

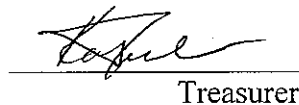
Adjournment

2015-27

A motion was made by Mrs. Dottore, and seconded by Mr. Kotowski, to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Roll call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski
Motion carried


Board President


Treasurer