

**West Geauga Board of Education**  
**Monday, June 9, 2014**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Middle School Cafeteria**

**Roll Call**

Board President Mr. Thoreson called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM with the following members present:

Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps and Mr. Thoreson

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Thoreson.

**Approval of Agenda**

**2014-91**

A motion was made by Mr. Thoreson and seconded by Mr. Douglas to eliminate item 8F, extension of contracts, from the agenda, and approve the agenda as presented.

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

No: Mr. Kotowski

Motion Carried

**Meeting Minutes**

**2014-92**

A motion was made by Dr. Phelps and seconded by Mr. Thoreson to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2014 meeting.

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

Abstain: Mr. Douglas

Motion Carried

**Treasurer's Reports and Recommendations**

At this time, the treasurer presented the April 2014 financial statements.

**2014-93**

A motion was made by Mr. Thoreson and seconded by Mr. Kotowski to approve the following:

April Checks

Statement of Purpose and Budget

200-926J Middle School Student Council \$2201.50

300-961H HS Choir \$2150.00

2014-2015 School Fees-High School, Middle School, Lindsey and Westwood

Now and Then Statements

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

Motion Carried

**Standing Committee Discussions**

At this time, Bill Patterson discussed with the Board an update on the turf committee. Mr. Thoreson stated that he would like to vote to assist the turf committee on the project. Mr. Kotowski discussed his concerns about not seeing anything on paper regarding the financial

aspects of the project. Dr. Phelps also had the same concerns. Mr. Thoreson said he would like to give the committee an answer on how to proceed with the project.

Dr. Phelps stated that health services will be talked about at the next June meeting.

### **Turf Project**

**2014-94**

A motion was made by Mr. Thoreson and seconded by Mr. Douglas that the district accept a donation of \$165,000.00 from the turf committee, and to authorize Mr. Russo to initiate specifications to purchase the turf through State term contract.

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

No: Mr. Kotowski

Motion Carried

### **Superintendent's Recommendations**

**2014-95**

A motion was made by Mr. Thoreson and seconded by Mr. Kotowski to approve the collective bargaining agreements for OAPSE #225, July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017 and WGEA, July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017.

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

Motion Carried

**2014-96**

A motion was made by Mr. Thoreson and seconded by Dr. Phelps to approve the following:  
2014-2015 High School Parent-Student Handbook

Summer Camp List

Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) Annual Membership

Donations to District

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

Motion Carried

### **Board Comments**

Mr. Thoreson discussed open enrollment. Discussions will be done in public. The Interim Superintendent will be speaking to open enrollment parents. Open enrollment numbers have been increasing and needs to be re-evaluated next year.

### **Remarks of the Public**

Bob Bower in Chesterland presented information to the Board about open enrollment. Has concerns that the Burges and Burges report didn't include his comment and that the survey has no statistical basis. Wants to eliminate open enrollment and get the "local" back in West Geauga Local School.

Steve Johnson in Lyndhurst talked about open enrollment concerns and the 31 kids not coming back. Said he is not qualified to give an opinion on open enrollment.

Michael in Chesterland came to West Geauga and loved it but now has concerns with how teachers are being treated. Teachers have been moved around and need to be supported.

Patty Bower in Chesterland feels that the Board should have reinstated the open enrolled students.

Adrianna in Chesterland said it is saddening how things are going and said district is crashing and burning. Nothing is resolved and feels that Mr. Palmer did a great job and doesn't understand why the district is still paying Mr. Palmer.

Tony in Richmond Hts said he received a letter at the last minute regarding open enrollment and can't move here right now. He wishes he had more time for his child to go somewhere else.

Joan Kelly congratulated Mr. Douglas for being chosen to be on the Board. Spoke about enrichment classes and would like clarity from the Board regarding them. Asked the Board to set higher standards and not make decisions without standing behind them.

Bill Beers from Chesterland talked about open enrollment going forward and tracking trends. He has information he is willing to share with the Board.

Rick Snyder from Chesterland talked about the current population and believes student population will drop. Also talked about tax structure and age of townships. Most taxes come from Chesterland.

Henry from Lyndhurst child was denied through open enrollment and can't financially move here. Stated that the Board needs to rethink about the children that were rejected.

Sarah Mann talked about Board policies and procedures and the last recessed meeting. She is very concerned as a parent and stated the Board needs to communicate better. Also concerned about enrichment classes and teachers.

Ava in Richmond Hts. Daughter was denied open enrollment in the Middle School and was hurt she wasn't accepted. Open enrollment parents contribute to the community and parents are proud of the school.

Beverly in Newbury and Russ Dr. in Chesterland asked why the parents weren't given notice to reapply for open enrollment. Mr. Thoreson addressed the question about how open enrollment numbers were figured.

Bernard Mandel from Russell found Mr. Palmer to be very good for the community and thanked him for his time here.

Dave in Chesterland said that this is an awesome community and everyone wants to get along. Asked the Board to please reconsider the open enrollment kids.

#### Next Board Meeting

2014-97

A motion was made by Mr. Thoreson and seconded by Mr. Kotowski that the Board move the regular meeting from June 23<sup>rd</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

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

Motion Carried

#### Adjournment

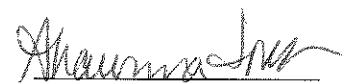
A motion was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Thoreson to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm.

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

Motion Carried

  
Board President

7-21-14

  
Treasurer