

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at West Ottawa Public Schools' Administration Office, 1138 136th Avenue.

President Lebster opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: D. Duistermars, C. Lebster, J. Otteman, M. Remenschneider, L. Rutan, and Cynthia Martinez.

Members Absent: R. Schipper (*with notice*)

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by L. Rutan, to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2025, regular meeting as presented.
Motion carried 6-0-0.

Moved by M. Remenschneider, , supported by J. Otteman, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried 6-0-0.

West Ottawa administrators were recognized by the Board of Education and the West Ottawa Education Association (WOEA).

President Lebster expressed the Board's gratitude for the administrators' passion and leadership, and thanked them for their relentless efforts.

Nikki Walworth, representing the WOEA, shared their appreciation for the administrative team and emphasized the importance of their partnership in education.

West Ottawa Board members received tokens of appreciation and thanks from Nikki Walworth on behalf of the WOEA for their leadership and commitment.

Superintendent T. Bearden provided an update on global initiatives, online registrations, outdoor learning, The Dunes, and the AI initiative.
He also acknowledged the hard work of the administration team and announced that Jens would be leaving the district.

Student Senate Representatives Fatima Correa Morales reported on the following student events:

- February updates
- Blood Drive Update
- Solutions for WO events and preparations

**REGULAR MEETING
CALL TO ORDER**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOGNITION

West Ottawa Administrators

Board of Education

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Update

Student Senate Update

The West Ottawa High School Counseling Team introduced the high school counselors and presented on their purpose, Counseling Department Instructional Compass, success story, goals, and hopes for the future.

Student's presented on their Spain Exchange Program experience and their trip to Spain.

L. Rutan reported the Instructional Services committee discussed the following during its February 4 meeting: MS Math Curriculum Pilot, AI and the future of learning, GVSU & WO Digital Wallet Micro Credentialing Project, and West Ottawa Alumni Club.

D. Duistermars reported the Student Services committee discussed the following during its February 3 meeting: ELA & Math Curriculum update, elementary classroom furniture update, elementary outdoor classroom spaces update, and new Science Exploration Special Update.

C. Lebster reported the Finance & Facilities committee discussed the following items during the February 12 meeting: monthly financial reports, economic / financial update, action items, and district updates.

M. Remenschneider reported the HR & Communications committee discussed the following items during the February 6 meeting: new hires, early retirements, postings, library, legislative updates and elementary Science specials.

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

Moved by D. Duistermars, supported by M. Remenschneider, that the Board approve the following probationary contract for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year:

- Jordan Kuiper Social Worker

Motion carried 6-0-0.

Moved by L. Rutan supported by J. Otteman, that the Board approve the Superintendent's Contract Addendum as presented. Motion carried 6-0-0.

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by M. Remenschneider, that the Board approve the purchase of elementary furniture for an amount not to exceed \$2,999,333, as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Business & Finance. Motion carried 6-0-0.

INFORMATION ITEMS
(Cont'd.)

National School Counseling Week

Global Initiatives Program

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Instructional Services (6-12)

Student Services & K-5 Instruction

Finance & Facilities

HR & Communications

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

(regarding agenda items)

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Probationary Contract

Superintendent Contract Addendum Approval

Summer 2025 Elementary Furniture

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve the purchase of Harbor Lights PAC/Band furniture for an amount not to exceed \$56,595, as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Business & Finance. Motion carried 6-0-0.

ACTION ITEMS (Cont'd.)

Harbor Lights PAC /
Band Furniture

Moved by M. Remenschneider, supported by C. Martinez, that the Board approve new school bus purchases for an amount not to exceed \$670,824, as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Business & Finance. Motion carried 6-0-0.

School Bus Purchases

Moved by L. Rutan, supported by J. Otteman, that the Board approve the 10-passenger vans purchase for an amount not to exceed \$196,953, as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Business & Finance. Motion carried 6-0-0.

10-Passenger Van
Purchases

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by D. Duistermars, that the Board approve the Daktronics video & scoreboards purchase for the North high school gym for an amount not to exceed \$376,369, as presented by the Associate Superintendent of Business & Finance. Motion carried 6-0-0.

North High School Gym
Video & Score-
boards

Moved by D. Duistermars, supported by C. Lebster, that the Board approve the following travel applications, pending consideration of the world situation at the time of the proposed trip:

Approval of
Travel Applications

1. **March 7 – 10** – FIRST Robotics to the Escanaba District Event in Escanaba, MI
2. **March 13 – 15, 2025** – DECA to the 2025DECA State Career Development Conference in Detroit, MI
3. **April 2 – 11, 2025** – WO Sister France Exchange in Yssingaux, Paris, France
4. **April 2 – 5, 2025** – FIRST ROBOTICS to the Michigan State Championship in Saginaw, MI
5. **April 5 – 12, 2025** – West Ottawa Softball on a Spring Break trip to Charleston, SC
6. **April 16 – 19, 2025** – FIRST Robotics to the World Championship in Houston, TX

Motion carried 6-0-0.

During board communications, D. Duistermars commented on the positive outcomes at district events and recognized the Food Service and Maintenance Department for their excellent work.

The next meeting is a work session on March 17, 2025 at 5:30 p.m., followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m. in the Administration Office Training Room.

Moved by J. Otteman, supported by M. Remenschneider, that the meeting adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Motion carried 6-0-0.

FUTURE CONSIDERATION

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

NEXT MEETING 3/17/25

Work Session, 5:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Otteman, Secretary