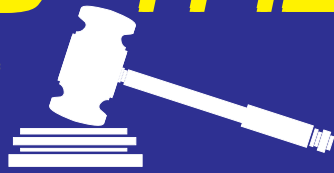


ACROSS THE BOARD



Board of Education Meeting • October 16, 2013



washington local schools

Approved:

- Board Minutes from September 18 and September 21
- Financial Reports and Investments and Payment of Legal Fees
- Purchases over \$25,000:
 - ★ *Ports Petroleum* \$25,485.00
Fleet Fuel Purchase
 - ★ *Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West* \$573,066.58
2013-2014 Auxiliary Services Personnel (estimated cost)
Christ the King, Regina Coeli, Notre Dame
 - ★ *Brondes Ford* \$25,991.00
Patrol Vehicle - 2014 AWD Interceptor Utility
- Adoption of the Five Year Forecast
- Revised Mission Statement

MISSION STATEMENT



At Washington Local Schools, we exist to provide excellent education and individual attention, as we unconditionally love all kids and families, fuel passion, define purpose, and lead all to infinite opportunities.

- Parental Contract to the Parents of Anastasia Michalak
- Final Payments:
 - ★ *TAS, Inc.* \$5,629.40
Whitmer science wing asbestos removal project
 - ★ *Industrial Power Systems* \$3,812.50
Whitmer science wing asbestos removal project
 - ★ *Van Tassel Construction Corporation* \$6,374.21
Painting of CTC panels and remodeling in the Washington Jr. High basement
- Change Orders:
 - ★ *Industrial Power Systems, Inc.* \$33,326.00
Whitmer HVAC project
- Resignations, Nominations, Leaves of Absence, and Changes of Contracts

2013 BOARD CALENDAR

Regular Meetings:

Wed. Nov. 20 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Dec. 11 *5:00 p.m.

Saturday Board Work Sessions:

Sat. Dec. 7 *8:00 a.m.

All Board meetings are held at the WLS Administration Building, 3505 W. Lincolnshire Boulevard.

Upcoming meetings, agendas, summaries, and minutes are available online at: <http://www.wls4kids.org/board/meetings/>



Washington Local Schools Board of Education

President John Adler
Vice President Thomas Ilstrup
Members Frank Erme
..... David Hunter
..... Steve Zuber

Superintendent Patrick C. Hickey
Treasurer Jeffery S. Fouke

Editor Wendy Farran

Accepted:



Gifts and Donations:

Donation to Jefferson Junior High School for student activities on behalf of Cassidy Anne Wilson:

- \$200 from Richard Ostermeier

Donations to Whitmer's Career & Technology Center's Automotive Technology Program Car Show:

- \$500 from Brondes Ford
- Five \$50 gift cards to Cintas products from Cintas Corporation
- Four \$25 gas cards from A.J. Chorney Co.
- \$100 from UAW Local 14
- \$50, a free oil change, and free two-wheel alignment from Tom's Tire & Auto
- Laser etching of show trophies from Strategic Exposure Exhibits & Displays
- Glass plates for trophies from Bomar Glass
- Five \$25 gift certificates and one birthday party package from Q-Zar

Donations to Greenwood Elementary for the 2013 Survival Race:

- \$500 from Miracle Lanes
- \$500 from Interstate Studios

WASHINGTON LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION 2013



JOHN ADLER
President



THOMAS ILSTRUP
Vice President



FRANK ERME



DAVID HUNTER



STEVE ZUBER

Complete Board Meeting - Audio: http://www.ihigh.com/wls4kids/video_922765.html

*Visit our Facebook and Twitter pages
and get updates on great things
happening in Washington Local Schools!*



District-wide Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/wls4kids>



Superintendent's Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/SuptHickey>



District-wide Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/wls4kids>

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS



Seated: Whitmer language arts teacher **Matt Kizaur** (*center*) with wife **Cheri** (*left*); Washington Principal **Katie Spenthoff**. *Standing:* Board members **David Hunter**, **Steve Zuber**, **John Adler**, **Frank Erme**, and **Thomas Ilstrup**; Superintendent **Patrick Hickey**.

Toledo Blade Honors Matt Kizaur as Teacher of the Month

Whitmer Principal **Kristine Martin** nominated language arts teacher **Matthew Kizaur**, describing his teaching as "ground-breaking, life-changing, and student-driven." Matt is the recipient of the 2013 Lucas County Inspirational Teacher Award, 2013 Washington Local Schools Achievement Award, and 2007 TAWLS Educator of the Year Award. He received an award/scholarship for over 1,200 hours of volunteer service in public interest law from Equal Justice Works and UT Law School for his work with Advocates Legal Equality. Matt studied abroad in Britain on a scholarship, has acted at the Toledo Repertoire Theatre, and was a professional actor in Chicago. He wrote and directed *The Conductor*. Matt is certified in Trauma Counseling for children and adolescents, is the Public School Faculty Administrator for the UT Law and Leadership Program, and serves as a Whitmer German Exchange facilitator.

Katie Spenthoff Receives "20 Under 40" Award

Washington Principal **Katie Spenthoff** is a 2013 recipient of the "20 Under 40" Leadership Recognition Award which honors young, dynamic leaders who are making exceptional contributions to the community and have distinguished themselves in their careers. Developing an Oz-inspired theme -- "*There's no place like Wernert*" -- Katie transformed Wernert Elementary into a magical place. Her persistence in fundraising to send every student in the school on a field trip to Barnes and Noble to purchase a book, the development of a sustainable home visit program, and partnerships with businesses to create a sensory room for students with sensory integration needs are just a few of the projects that earned her this honor.

Matt Kizaur Recognition Audio: <http://www.wls4kids.org/board/meetings/2013/upload/Kizaur.mp3>

Katie Spenthoff Recognition Audio: <http://www.wls4kids.org/board/meetings/2013/upload/Spenthoff.mp3>

Board Comments about Recognitions and Mission Statement
<http://www.wls4kids.org/board/meetings/2013/upload/Board-Comments-and-Mission-Statement.mp3>

Superintendent's Report & Communications

Patrick Hickey, Superintendent

Superintendent's Report - Audio:

http://www.ihigh.com/wls4kids/video_922779.html



Five-Year Forecast -- Thanks to Treasurer **Jeff Fouke** for his work on the Five Year Forecast. A district is rudderless without core values, a mission, and non-negotiables. It also is rudderless without a Five Year Forecast that is accurate. Jeff's work on the forecast drives every other thing we do programmatically. He met with the leaders of our unions before this Board meeting to review it, and he has been doing so for a number of years. Our openness and transparency reflects the respect and dignity we have for each other.

<http://www.wls4kids.org/treasurer/upload/6-Five-Year-Forecast.pdf>

McGregor Elementary Named "School of Promise"

Congratulations and thanks are extended to the students, staff, and parents at McGregor Elementary. McGregor is **one of only two Lucas County schools** and one of only 141 schools out of 4,000 in the state to be named a School of Promise for 2012-2013.

The Ohio Department of Education developed the Schools of Promise award program to recognize schools attaining solid student achievement in reading and mathematics while serving a significant number of economically disadvantaged students.

Past Washington Local recipients include Hiawatha, Monac, Shoreland, and Trilby.

Greenwood Running Club -- Physical education teacher **Crisy Rupp** recently invited Superintendent Hickey to visit the Greenwood Running Club on October 2nd. The group meets before school, and at 8:10 in the morning, there were a hundred kids on the playground playing soccer and running. Mr. Hickey enjoyed running with the students and won the one-mile race. Crisy has created a fun and exciting environment for Greenwood's students, because she believes in wellness and fitness.

Dual Enrollment at Owens Community College -- 141 students at Whitmer's Career & Technology Center earned 1,354 credit hours last year through our Dual Enrollment program with Owens Community College. That represents a lot of savings to our families, and the credits go right onto the transcript. Thanks to Director **Deb Heban** and the CTC staff for their work which makes this program possible.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT --

Becky Swisher, Social Worker

Washington Local's Social Worker, **Becky Swisher**, addresses an incredible range of student needs over the course of a school year. During 2012-2013, Becky dealt with such diverse issues as providing resources including food and clothing, academic concerns, pregnancy, bullying, truancy, substance abuse, family concerns, emotional and behavioral issues, and suicide. She also implements interventions such as anger management and tobacco cessation alternatives to punishment and school removal.

Becky offers services through group counseling, individual meetings, home visits, team meetings, staff and parent consultations, and referrals to other community agencies. She is making an enormous impact in the lives of our kids.

Her supervisor, **Neil Rochotte**, Director of Student Services, recognizes her efforts and notes, "Becky builds student competence, skills, and esteem so our kids are freed to reach their potential. She truly personifies our mission."



Candlelight Walk Celebrates Living Drug- and Alcohol-Free

Special thanks are extended to **Neil Rochotte** (Director of Student Services), **Becky Swisher** (Social Worker), and **Kelley Merritt** (Student Services secretary), for their outstanding work on the 2013 Candlelight Walk. Community members and businesses donated approximately \$1,350 worth of merchandise to give as prizes to our students. Hundreds of students, staff, parents, and community members turned out to support the event which promotes living drug- and alcohol-free. Washington Local received extensive TV media coverage.

Media Coverage: http://www.ihigh.com/wls4kids/video_922738.html



Each Candlelight Walk essay winner received a sweatshirt donated by Advanced Incentives. The essay topics were Washington Local's core values.

Front: **Jessi Oberski**, Greenwood, 5th grade, Service; **Lia Sanford**, Hiawatha, 5th grade, Dignity; **Justice Dupuis**, Jackman, 5th grade, Respect; **Tyler Sakowski**, McGregor, 4th grade, Dedication; **Raegan Speiker**, Meadowvale, 5th grade, Loyalty; **Sage E. Churchill**, Monac, 4th grade, Teamwork; **Ian Macknight**, Shoreland, 6th grade, Excellence; **Gabriel King**, Wernert, 5th grade, Responsibility; **Kylie Gawrych**, Washington, 7th grade, Trust; and **Abbi Kline**, Jefferson, 8th grade, Courage.

Back: **Pete Panther**; Whitmer students **Lindsey Johnson**, senior, Honesty; **Daisy Lester**, junior, Honesty; **Brandon Williamson**, senior, Gratitude; **Rebekah Haase**, junior, Honesty; and **Alena Cantrill**, senior, Honesty; Superintendent Patrick Hickey; Board members **Steve Zuber**, **David Hunter**, **John Adler**, and **Thomas Ilstrup**; **Penelope Panther**.

Winning Essays: <http://www.wls4kids.org/upload/Candlelight-Walk-2013-Essay-Winners.pdf>

More Whitmer Students Taking AP Tests -- Recognizing that many of our students live in poverty (57% now), the Washington Local Board of Education began paying for the testing fee for the Advanced Placement exams. Whitmer had a 66% increase in AP exam participation last spring. Four students scored a '5' (the highest score possible), and 30% of our students earned a score of 3 or higher which will translate to college credit. Thanks are extended to the Board for supporting the program, to our teachers, and to counselor **Sara Hoffman**.



Ron Clark Academy Prezi -- Washington special education teacher **Catie Riker** created a presentation after her visit to the Ron Clark Academy last spring; she thought it was the professional opportunity of a lifetime to go there. We will be sending 56 more teachers to the academy next month. The RCA visits showcase advanced rigor, high expectations, climate, culture, and student engagement. We look forward to seeing our staff replicate in Washington Local some of the best practices they have seen.

<http://prezi.com/prepapzragma/wls-does-rca/>

POP Sheets -- Every week, the Toledo Police Department provides POP sheets to area high schools, which are lists of students who have been arrested over the weekend. We rarely have anyone on the list, but when we do, we make instant contact with the students and offer counseling, because they are obviously troubled. Whitmer Associate Principal **Cassie Studnicha-Kusic** and our counseling staff are doing a great job reaching out to these students and helping them.

Congratulations, Bethany Wissler -- Whitmer's 2013 Homecoming Queen



Senior **Bethany Wissler** was named Whitmer's 2013 Homecoming Queen. She is the first student at Whitmer with Down syndrome to receive this honor.

The Whitmer student body made us proud as they embraced Bethany, and staff ensured she was prepared for her Homecoming Court duties and was treated with dignity.

Bethany Wissler was crowned by **Sarah McRitchie**, the 2012 Homecoming Queen. Bethany can be seen on Friday nights at home football games, in her uniform, proudly cheering for the Panthers. She is the daughter of **Larry** and **Kathy Wissler**.

Channel 13 Story:

<http://www.13abc.com/story/23664022/whitmer-teen-gets-special-homecoming-surprise>

Toledo Blade Article:

<http://www.toledoblade.com/Culture/2013/10/08/Whitmer-High-cheerleader-elected-homecoming-queen.html>



Washington Local Collects 16,880 Pounds for Impact NW Ohio Food Drive

Students and staff in the Washington Local School District collected 16,880 pounds of food for the Impact NW Ohio Food Drive. The non-perishable food will fill local food banks.

Cedar Creek showed a video to their members about the success of the WLS drive to challenge them to collect more food. Ultimately, their collection rose from 3,000 to 20,000 pounds.

Madison LaCourse, a fourth grade student at Jackman Elementary, went door-to-door to collect food, and brought in 273 cans!



TEAMING UP *for* SCHOOL SAFETY

Working together to keep Washington Local kids safe



Washington Local is teaming up with local law enforcement agencies to increase school safety. *Pictured:* Sheriff **John Tharp**, Lucas County; **Randy Sehl**, Director of Police, Security, and Safety, Washington Local Schools; Superintendent **Patrick Hickey**; Chief **Derrick Diggs**, Toledo Police; Chief **Christopher Kaiser**, Washington Township Police.

New Security Position Enhances School Safety

Channel 11 interviewed **Randy Sehl**, our new Director of Police, Security, and Safety, and highlighted Washington Local's efforts to enhance school safety.

Channel 11 Story :

<http://www.toledonewsnow.com/story/23690242/washington-local-creates-new-position-for-school-safety>



Ryan Pietrowski, a senior in Whitmer's Digital Graphic Design program created the mural installed on the Career & Technology Center. At 180 feet long and 22 feet tall, it is the largest exterior adhesive wrap in Ohio.

Whitmer Student Designs Mural Makeover for CTC

Ryan also designed new pole banners which coordinate with the CTC mural.



CTC Mural Video: <http://www.13abc.com/video?clipId=9328456&autostart=true>



SURVIVAL RACE

More than 130 Washington Local students (grades 5-8) participated in the Survival Race on September 28. The 5K obstacle course and mud run is similar to the Warrior Dash and Tough Mudder but less intense, so it is great for kids and beginners. The race fits with the district's wellness programming for our students by finding fun and unique ways to get kids active and build a life-long love for physical activity and fitness.

Mr. Hickey,

Let me start by saying how proud I am to be a Washington Local graduate and parent to three current students. Recently a large group of these great Washington Local kids and teachers participated in the Survival Race in Holland, Ohio. I raced the same course the following day. Upon completion of the course, I was greeted by the race organizer. I mentioned to him that my son had competed the day before and had a blast. When I mentioned the group from Washington Local Schools, his eyes lit up and he spoke very highly of the group, saying what a great group of kids they were and how anxious they were at the starting line to get started. He said, "my starters had to hold extra tight to the ropes that let them start, because they were THAT energized and eager to go. What a great group; I would welcome them back in a heart beat."

I just thought someone from the district should get to hear what others say about a group that we all already know -- that our kids are great as well as our staff. I hope given the opportunity, you share with these kids, teachers and staff, what an outside individual got to see on that Saturday from them, and that was greatness.

Thanks for your time, Mike Stoner



Among the race's obstacles were an A-frame rope wall, a stack of logs, and a mud pit.



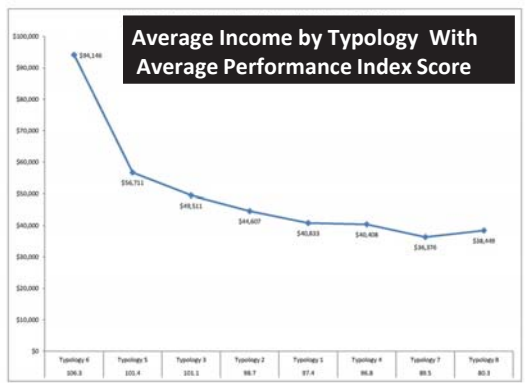
Superintendent **Patrick Hickey** (left), Assistant Superintendent **Cherie Moulam** (above), and their children joined other Washington Local students and families in the muddy race.

Whitmer Senior Jacob LaPoint Named National Merit Commended Student

Whitmer senior **Jacob LaPoint** has been named a Commended Student in the 2014 National Merit Scholar Program in recognition of his exceptional academic performance on the PSAT.

Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for being among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the competition by taking the 2013 Preliminary SAT/NMQT.

Jacob is a varsity wrestler and football player for the Panthers, an officer in the John Wallace Whitmer chapter of the National Honor Society, and a member of the math and German honoraries. He is the son of **Mike and Debbie LaPoint**.



Report Card Analysis Shows Correlation Between Poverty and Performance

New groundbreaking report card research shows a stunning and irrefutable direct correlation between poverty and student performance. Washington Local has the fourth highest poverty in NW Ohio and the fifth lowest per capita income. Taking both of these risk factors into account, our Performance Index Score is close to seven points higher than the metric.

The school district typology data also shows correlations to the percentage of residents with a college degree, and the percentage of minority population. Washington Local is outperforming the state in every category.

A MOMENT WITH Whitmer Student Morgan Cox

Gary O'Connor, who teaches the class which produces WTMR video announcements, has started making student spotlight videos called "A Moment With..."

The premise for the videos is to feature seniors or just "amazing" students in short snippets which tell about them and their involvement at Whitmer High School. The videos are being shown on the JumboTron screen at home football games and linked off the district site through ihigh. The first video highlighted **Morgan Cox**.



A Moment with Morgan Cox - Video: http://www.ihigh.com/whitmer/video_922434.html