

# ACROSS THE BOARD



Board of Education Meeting • September 18, 2013



washington local schools

## Approved:

- Board Minutes from August 19 and August 21
- Financial Reports and Investments and Payment of Legal Fees
- Purchases over \$25,000:
  - ★ *Ports Petroleum* not to exceed: \$27,000.00  
Fleet Fuel Purchase actual: \$26,538.75
  - ★ *Charles Harris & Associates*  
FY13 Audit of Financial Statements fixed fee: \$32,000.00
- Appropriation Modifications at Fund Level
- Advances and Return of Advances
- Extension of Contract with Signature Associates *(through 2/22/14)*  
Real Estate Broker Services for remaining Trilby property
- Parent's Week 2013 Proclamation *(see last page)*
- Mission Statement for the Washington Local Schools
- \$4,000 Donation to Whitmer Athletic Club for Hall of Fame
- Final Payment:
  - ★ *Windstream* \$63,044.66  
WLS Wi-Fi Projects
- Purchases over \$25,000:
  - ★ *City of Toledo, Dept. of Police Operations* \$65,064.91  
Two School Resource Officers (2013-14 year)
- Changes to the SAAWLS Reference Handbook
- Job Description: General Maintenance/Driver *(REVISED)*
- Resignations, Nominations, Leaves of Absence, and Changes of Contracts

## Accepted:

- Gifts and Donations:
  - \$500 donation to Whitmer Student Council for candy for the Community Halloween Party on October 30, 2013, from the Whitmer Athletic Club (Eric Teel, President)
  - Washer and Dryer to Kim Tyrrell's MD classroom at Whitmer H.S. from Fort Meigs SERTOMA (Rick Kranz)

## 2013 BOARD CALENDAR

### Regular Meetings:

Wed.	Oct. 16	6:00 p.m.
Wed.	Nov. 20	6:00 p.m.
Wed.	Dec. 11	*5:00 p.m.

### Saturday Board Work Sessions:

Sat.	Sept. 21	*8:00 a.m.
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

## SPECIAL PRESENTATION

### Number One Badge Hand-off: Certified Staff

Police and fire departments recognize their longest serving member with a "Number One" badge. We have adopted the tradition here in our district by recognizing our longest serving classified and certified employees. We take the person who was serving the longest and have him or her present the badge to the new senior family member (person with the most years of service) when he or she retires.

Superintendent Hickey and the Board of Education recognized teachers **Mary Beth Dock** and **Libby Schmitt** for their years of service. Mary Beth retired in June from Shoreland Elementary where she spent her entire career. She passed on the number one badge to Libby Schmitt, who was hired in September, 1978, and has taught at McGregor, Trilby, Hiawatha, and Monac (where she currently teaches third grade).



*Seated:* **Mary Beth Dock**, **Libby Schmitt**.

*Standing:* Board members **Steve Zuber**, **Frank Erme**, **Thomas Ilstrup**, **John Adler**, and **David Hunter**; Superintendent **Patrick Hickey**.

**Audio:** <http://www.wls4kids.org/board/meetings/2013/upload/-1-Badge-Presentation.mp3>

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



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



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

## Superintendent's Report & Communications

Patrick Hickey, Superintendent

### Superintendent's Report - Audio:

<http://www.wls4kids.org/board/meetings/2013/upload/Supt-Report-3.mp3>



**Top Workplace Recognition** -- The Washington Local School District has been nominated as one of the top workplaces in the country. WLS staff will be receiving a survey to fill out as part of the process. It is an honor even to be nominated; being selected would be wonderful recognition on the national level. Only three schools in the entire country were so recognized last year.

More information is available at: <http://www.topworkplaces.com>

## VIDEOS CELEBRATE WHITMER ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

### Whitmer Commercial: "We Rise in the Fall - Part III"

The football commercial for 2013 was envisioned by language arts teacher **Matt LaPoint** who worked with Whitmer alum **Brad Rittner** (who engineered the original score). Social studies teacher **Michael Punsalan** produced the commercial. The video is another home run from this talented team. The trio even rented a Cessna plane to get an aerial shot of the stadium.



**Video:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13aTT9\\_KZCg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13aTT9_KZCg)

### "Whitmer Without You" by Dave Holmes, WTVG-13



Channel 13 sportscaster **Dave Holmes** wrote and recorded a musical parody of the U2 love ballad "With or Without You."

Holmes' version -- "Whitmer Without You" -- pays tribute to the success of Panther teams which have reached state competition.

*"...It's not STATE, Whitmer, without you..."*

**Video:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xx66o9NjgGA>



## Washington Local Celebrates Victory Day

Victory Day was created by **Aaron Segedi**, a high school coach in Michigan. Washington Local held its first Victory Day this year, partnering Whitmer football players with WLS students with special needs for a unique game day experience.

Whitmer student **Megan Webb** created a highlight video for Victory Day. Megan has been a part of **Gary O'Connor's** video class for the past two years and aspires to be a videographer and reporter. Megan also created a commercial for the upcoming Kids in Action (KIA 2014) and was an integral part of the award-winning "Love on Hold" video at the Sylvania Film Fest last spring. She is currently working on the Queens Video for Homecoming.

**Sharon Giles** put together the photo highlights which follow Megan's video.

**Video:** [http://www.ihigh.com/wls4kids/video\\_922149.html](http://www.ihigh.com/wls4kids/video_922149.html)



Coach **Jerry Bell** received the thank-you email below from a parent and sent back a reply:

*Hi, Mr. Bell -*

*My daughter Maddy participated in Victory Day last Saturday. I wanted to thank you and your staff and all the students who participated. It was a wonderful experience for my daughter and for our whole family.*

*I wanted to say a special thank you to the two young men who spent their time with Maddy. I did not get their names, but the numbers on their jerseys were 49 and 1. They both were patient and kind to Maddy. They held her hands throughout the entire event and seemed genuinely to be having fun themselves.*

*Maddy had a blast. She loves her jersey. She wore it today to school and she was so very proud. Thank you again for a fantastic inclusive event."*

Maddy's mom also emailed Mr. Hickey thanking him for the photo of Maddy he tweeted, which she said was better than any of the photos they took at Victory Day. That must have been a God moment, because the photo was Mr. Hickey's first tweet ever.

**Follow him on Twitter @SuptHickey**

*I would like to thank you for sharing your daughter with us. Maddy is a true inspiration to all of us. She is victorious each and every day in her life. She was so much fun to watch as she scored her first touchdown to her last. Maddy is part of our family. Maddy is what makes WLS so special and we need to celebrate the diversity of our students.*

*My players, such as Zach Smith #1, talked about Victory Day all week. Connections were made and this week some of my players went and visited their athletes on their own. It was a very powerful and moving day, a day for all of us to remember. The pictures I have seen show how much fun the athletes had and how special it was as their names were announced!*

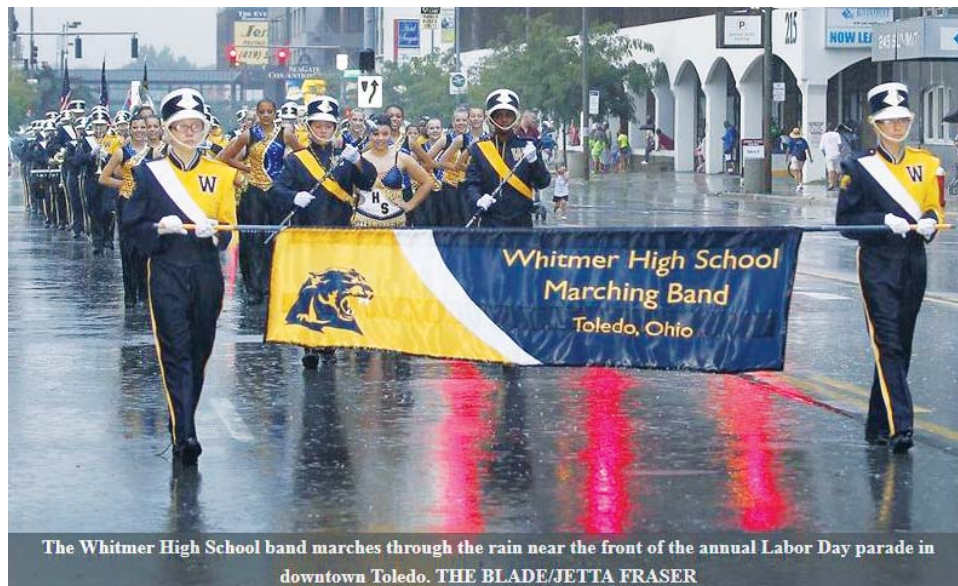
*I hope Maddy and your family can join us next Friday at our home opener. We would like to have the Victory Day athletes be our honorary captains before the game. An invitation will be sent home today. We plan on showing a short video of Victory Day during our pre-game.*

*We will also be sending home Maddy's picture with her medal later next week.*

*Thank you again. Take care!!  
Go Panthers!!!*

*Jerry Bell*





The Whitmer High School band marches through the rain near the front of the annual Labor Day parade in downtown Toledo. THE BLADE/JETTA FRASER

## Labor Day Parade

The Whitmer Marching Band led the Labor Day Parade and was featured in *The Toledo Blade* in a photo by Jetta Fraser.

It was a very wet day in the driving rain, and we appreciate the efforts of our music students and staff, as well as TAWLS and OAPSE. Members of both unions participated and carried banners.



## WLS Umbrella in New York

**Bob Schwartz** was also caught out in the rain recently.

Bob, who retired as a special education coordinator in 2011, was seen sporting a WLS umbrella in Times Square.

*Where have you taken YOUR WLS umbrella?*



## Goodwill Success Story

**Precious Taylor** is a fifth year senior at Whitmer (that ODE counts as a dropout!) She was recently honored online as a Goodwill Industries success story for the volunteer work program she completed as part of the janitorial crew.

**Read Precious' story online:**

<http://www.goodwillnwohio.com/sstory7.html>



# 2013 Focus Art Show

Whitmer Artists Sweep Show, Take Top



**Amanda Wisniewski**  
*Mad Ratter*  
Ceramic Teapot  
Superintendent's Award



Whitmer swept the 2013 Focus Art Show. Of the 270 pieces selected for exhibition from over 1,300 entries, **87 pieces were created by Whitmer students.**

Whitmer artists also received **five of the prestigious Juror Awards** -- more than any other school in NW Ohio or SE Michigan.

The Washington Local Superintendent's Award was presented by **Patrick Hickey** (*far right*) to **Hunter Hawkins, Ashley Armstrong, Amanda Wisniewski, and Taylor Marsh** (*not pictured*).



**Taylor Hanes**  
*Blue Memory* - Photograph  
Juror Award



**Hunter Worstell**  
*2 Faced* - Photograph  
Juror Award



**Kendra Pratt**  
*Barbara Roberts & Friends*  
Digital Photo  
Juror Award



**Korie Sharrar**  
*B. Plaza 86*  
Mixed Media Photo  
Juror Award



**Tricia Kimmel**  
*Crystal Castles*  
Digital Graphic  
Juror Award



**Stephanie Hart**  
*Blue Iris*  
Printmaking Mezzotint  
Principal's Award



**Lindsey Johnson**  
*Feral*  
Drawing  
Principal's Award



**Taylor Marsh**  
*A Better View*  
Drawing  
Superintendent's Award

## Featured Whitmer Artists\*

- |                      |                        |                       |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Krystal Anderson     | Kara Hatfield          | Ashley Ray            |
| Ashley Armstrong (3) | Hunter Hawkins (3)     | Nicole Richardson (2) |
| Monica Avelar        | Heather Hicks          | Lexi Ritchie          |
| Corey Baker (3)      | Nathan Holley          | Brandy Roose          |
| Megan Buehler (2)    | Lindsey Johnson (2)    | Korie Sharrar         |
| Hannah Burkholder    | Tricia Kimmel          | Sierra Stahl (2)      |
| Carlie Burton        | Allison Kohn           | Courtney Steeple      |
| Karsten Camargo (3)  | Taylor Marsh           | Delana Stickler       |
| Matthew Carner       | Taylor Massingill      | X'zandra Tammerine    |
| Hunter Carr (2)      | Emily McIlhargie       | Amber Thomas          |
| Jazmyn Cole          | Taylor McLeod          | Rebecca Toth          |
| Sydney Cook          | Katelyn Meszaros       | Toilynn Towbridge     |
| Sarah Cousino (3)    | Mackenzie Michalak (2) | Joshua Van Sant       |
| Jacob Critten (2)    | Avery Murnen (2)       | Cienna Villarreal     |
| Cristen Curtland     | Haley Myers            | Chloey Wilburn (2)    |
| Elijah Elliott (2)   | Lauren Myers           | Amanda Wisniewski     |
| Kyle Evanoff         | Haleigh O'Brien (2)    | Hunter Worstell       |
| Jodi Franks          | Tyler Pagona           | Jacob Wyrostek        |
| Megail Frisch        | Marissa Penrod         | Lamis Younes          |
| Taylor Hanes (3)     | Brandon Perez          | Alexandria Zolciak    |
| Jeff Harman          | Ryan Pietrowski        |                       |
| Stephanie Hart       | Kendra Pratt           |                       |

\*A number indicates multiple show pieces

View the Whitmer Focus Show Gallery at:  
[http://www.ihigh.com/whitmer/gallery\\_108438.html](http://www.ihigh.com/whitmer/gallery_108438.html)



**Ashley Armstrong**  
*Baby Blue*  
Drawing  
Superintendent's Award



**Hunter Hawkins**  
*Activity*  
Digital Photo  
Superintendent's Award

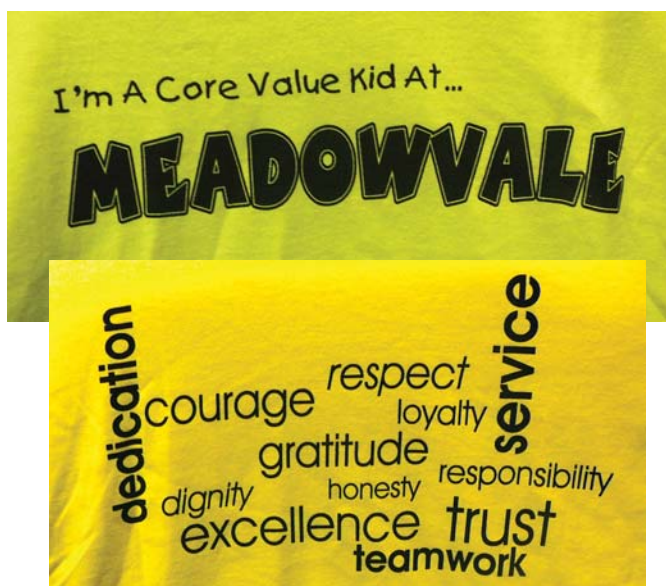
## AP Scholar Awards

Five Whitmer students received the College Board State AP Scholar Awards for their outstanding performance on the 2013 Advanced Placement Exams.

**Kyle Craig** qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. **Jacob LaPoint** qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Three Whitmer students -- **Sydney Cook**, **Christopher Kelly**, and **Nolan Thomaswick** -- qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams with scores of 3 or higher:

Additionally, **Patrick McCauley** earned a 5 (the highest score possible) on both the Chemistry and Calculus B/C Exams.

## Meadowvale's Core Value Kid T-shirts



The Meadowvale Parent Club is giving out "core value kid" t-shirts monthly to a student in each class who has exhibited the core value.



James Nino, Aida Sheehan, Kathy Dimitroff, Jill Loesel, Nancy Bengel, Krista Balwinski, Laura Geronimo-Riggs, and Superintendent Patrick Hickey.

## So Many Ways to Say: "Go Blue!"

At a recent pep assembly, Whitmer Foreign Language teachers demonstrated a wonderful esprit de corps by wearing t-shirts proclaiming, "Go Blue!" in the language each one teaches -- Spanish, French, or German. The Exchange Programs are underway. Twenty-four guests from Germany were welcomed with an assembly on September 16. Guests from Spain will arrive September 28.





## Teambuilding Activities

Building Bridges,  
Cultivating  
Community

Students at Washington Junior High School participated in Team Building Days at Powertrain Park, at the end of August.

Each team of students attended one day, taking part in activities utilizing teamwork and cooperation. A trust game called "The Spiderweb" required a group of students to work together to pass each member through a spiderweb-looking-contraption without anyone touching the ground. A relay race required students to walk on giant ski-like objects in a synchronized fashion.

Teachers and volunteer parents ran each station, and the students also enjoyed a cookout while they were there.

The Team Building Days are used as an opportunity for staff and students to get to know each other and build bonds at the beginning of the year.







## Hair Cuts and Bird Houses -- Jackman Staff Inspire Students

Third grade teacher **Micah Vogt** challenged the students in his Jackman class to reach a certain criteria for the OAA's. They met his challenge, and he kept his promise of a hair cutting ceremony. The following week, two female teachers got their hair colored in multiple shades as a result of students achieving their OAA goals.

The Jackman staff who attended the Ron Clark Academy returned excited and invigorated. Jackman chose 8 rules from Ron's Essential 55 to really focus on and identified 11 more that they're calling Life Lessons. They have also created the "**Twelve Houses of Jackman**" based on the district's 12 core values. Three staff members are in charge of each house, and very child, K-6, is assigned to a house. Older kids are encouraging younger ones and vice versa. Each house has a bird house, built by a teacher or a teacher's spouse, and they deposit coins as members earn coins for exceptional behavior demonstrating the core values.

## Spirit Rock Serves Greater Purpose: Creating Awareness Of Childhood Cancer

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. The First Annual "**Ride Cancer Away**" charity ride was held September 1st in honor of **Christopher Green**, a Whitmer student who passed away from cancer in September, 2011. Chris would have been a senior this fall, and his mother, **Gwen Green**, asked permission to paint the senior spirit rock on August 31.

The rock and surrounding area were painted blue and adorned with gold cancer ribbons and names, honoring children who have battled cancer, including Chris and **Jaxson Hauser**, who have succumbed to cancer, and Jackman student **Katie Secord**, who is "fighting like a girl!"

The "ride" departed from Diggers on Tremainsville, and the route took the riders right past the beautiful rock, raising the spirits of all who saw it.

*Spirit Rock, indeed!*



**Class Sizes** -- Average elementary class sizes across the district are kindergarten - 21, 1st grade - 22, 2nd grade - 22, 3rd grade - 22, 4th grade - 24, 5th grade - 24, 6th grade - 24. K-6, our average class size is 23.1. I want to thank Cherie Mourlam for the fantastic job she has done, and thank our principals, because those are seriously good class sizes. We talk about individual attention and infinite opportunities... THAT'S individual attention, THAT'S walking our talk. I'd also like to report that we're up 13 student in kindergarten from 2012 to 2013.

**Tree City Film Festival** -- The executive director of the Sylvania Art Commission made this post on Facebook:

*"Let me warn that I may post many comments about the Tree City Film Festival, it's taken up so many of my hours the past few months. But please read what I write, especially this post. I have so many "favorites" of this experience, but the part that moves me the most is that the filmmakers who went "out on a limb" with us were so inspired by being a part of it. When I say inspired, I'm not just talking about being inspired to create- I think that is clear when you see the movies they made. I mean that they were inspired to give back. To know that the judges favorite movie team from "The Trust" said to keep our prize money, so that we could keep doing what we're doing- I am moved. To have the filmmakers of "Love on Hold" by Washington Local Schools that won our audience choice and Spirit of Sylvania awards decline one check, so our program can grow, and give the other check to Washington Local's Infinite Opportunity Olympics for special needs students this month- I AM SPEECHLESS. Thank you filmmakers- YOU inspire me. Sincerely, Jennifer Archer- Executive Director, Sylvania Community Arts Commission"*

Our students and staff took the prize money and gave it right back to the Sylvania Film Festival and gave it right to our I.O.O. It's exactly what we're trying to teach in this district, and another of the ways we're "not normal."

### Outstanding Teacher Website

Rachael Novak sent me the link to teacher Michael Punsalan's website. It is really well done. Check it out at:

<http://www.whitmerww2.com>

### Calendar "Thank You"

Dear Mr. Hickey,

*I would like to thank you for the terrific calendar "Voices." It is so inspiring. I do not have children nor have I ever had children in the Washington Local Schools. But you will always get my tax support. It looks like the schools are a very good place for education, fun and caring.*

*I was so impressed by the Voices that I made copies for my grandchildren as they parent my great grandchildren. Thank you so much!*

~ Paulette M. Brown

*P.S. I was so pleased to see a quote from Maggie Kuhn. I met her in the 70's while working in the field of Aging and Nursing Home Reform. I have the quote on my computer. She helped mentor many of us, very feisty and forward thinking woman.*

### LEAP Students • Community Service

Every year, WLS seventh and eighth grade LEAP students participate in a minimum of 10 hours of community service. During the 2012-2013 school year, the students collectively logged 736 hours of service helping others at 26 locations:

Toledo Lucas County Libraries  
Humane Society  
Samaritan's Purse  
The Linus Project  
Food for Thought  
Harvest Christian Church  
Shoreland Park Clean-Up  
Messiah Lutheran Church – food pantry  
St. Paul's Methodist Church – food pantry  
Oak Shade Grove  
Seagate Food Bank  
Safe-T-City  
Reformation Lutheran Church  
Mayfair Plymouth – Food pantry  
Jamie Farr Toledo Classic  
for Children's Charities  
American Red Cross  
Mustard Seed Outreach Ministry  
Charlie's Pizza and Edibles  
Hopewell Wesleyan Christian Church  
The Salvation Army  
Math Night – Washington Local  
Cedar Creek Church  
Meadowvale Elementary Parents' Club  
Wernert Elementary Christmas play  
Sylvania Veterinary Hospital  
Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek





PROCLAMATION • OHIO PARENT'S WEEK 2013 • WLS

- WHEREAS,** *House Bill 493, adopted on February 25, 2005, designates the fourth week of September as **OHIO PARENT'S WEEK**; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Nothing is more important for our future as a community, state and nation than helping our children grow to be healthy, caring, productive adults; and*
- WHEREAS,** ***PARENT'S WEEK** commends the many parents working hard to provide financial, physical, social and emotional support for their children; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Citizens of Northwest Ohio need to recognize the essential role of parents in helping to create stronger families and communities; and,*
- WHEREAS,** *By recognizing **PARENT'S WEEK**, the Washington Local Schools will have an opportunity to provide education and awareness of issues and challenges that confront parents daily; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The entire community benefits when parents are supported in their fundamental role of caring for their children -- better families, better students, fewer health problems, fewer delinquency problems, and in future years, better citizens, fewer prisons, and a more productive workforce;*
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,**  
*the Washington Local Schools' Board of Education does hereby proclaim **September 23-27, 2013**, as **PARENT'S WEEK**, and urges all members of the Washington Local Schools and the community to join in observing this very special week.*

(portions taken from [mycom.net/en-US/parentsweek.aspx](http://mycom.net/en-US/parentsweek.aspx))

## WASHINGTON LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION 2013



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Complete Board Meeting - Audio: [http://www.ihigh.com/wls4kids/video\\_922124.html](http://www.ihigh.com/wls4kids/video_922124.html)