



**WPS BOARD BRIEFS**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**March 8, 2021 ~ 6:00 PM**

02/22/21 Board Minutes:  
**Action Item – Approved**

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the regular session WPS Board of Education meeting held virtually at 6 PM on Monday, February 22, 2021.

Personnel Transactions:  
**Action Item – Approved**

The Board approved the following personnel transactions:

**Retirements / Resignations:**

Aura Ortiz-Romijn, Paraprofessional – West, Effective 2/23/21

WPS Safety Drill Update:

Superintendent Hoekstra reminded the group that even during the pandemic, safety drill expectations for the school year have not changed. Each building must complete five (5) fire drills, three (3) lockdown drills and two (2) tornado drills over the course of the school year. Monthly updates of drills completed can be found on the WPS website by clicking [here](#).

KIASB Virtual Meeting –  
March 4, 2021:

WPS Board of Education members Frick and Hanselman attended the March 4, 2021 KIASB virtual meeting. The virtual meeting included a panel discussion of legislative experts who provided insight on the priorities in education under the Biden administration and the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress. A recording of the meeting will be provided by the ISD.

KIASB Board of Directors:

The ISD is currently accepting nominations for the Kent Intermediate Association of School Board (KIASB) Executive Board of Directors. There are three current board members with terms set to expire. The KIASB Board of Directors serve three-year terms, which begin on July 1, 2021. Nominations must be submitted by no later than Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup> to be included on the April 22<sup>nd</sup> ballot.

Updated Executive Order – In  
Person Board Meetings:

On Tuesday, March 2nd, Governor Whitmer released an update executive order which takes effect on Friday, March 5th and runs through Wednesday, March 31st. The new order allows for in person board meetings as long as there are no more than 25 people in attendance. A Zoom link will be posted to the WPS website to allow for public access to the March meetings. Those wishing to make public comment should continue to submit their requests via email at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

Senate Bills 199-202:

Senate bills 199-202 are asking for pause in the following areas for this school year: read by grade 3 retention (SB199), administrator and teacher evaluations (SB200 & SB201) and the school rating/grading system (SB202).

Banking Update:

The transfer of our District banking to Lake Michigan Credit Union has begun. Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Matt Lewis, anticipates the process to be completed by early June.

State Budget Update:	The state budget has been proposed but there are a lot of details to work out. Over the next three years, the state and District budgets will be heavy with federal funds.
2022 Bond Proposal:	The District is considering a bond proposal for ballots in 2022. This would be a no-tax-increase proposal and funds would be used primarily for Wyoming Junior High but also for finishing touches at the elementary buildings that were never able to be budgeted in the original scope of work from the 2017 bond authorization.
Records Retention:	The District has started the process of digitizing paper records at the administration building. The process will soon begin districtwide. In addition to the desire to free up space occupied by file cabinets, the COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced how important it is to be able to access files securely and remotely for business continuity. To prepare for the project, employees regularly handling records will join a Zoom meeting with Thrun Law Firm on March 15th to cover the legalities around student records.
Course Updates:	WHS submitted three new course proposals for the Board to consider adding to the 2021-2022 Secondary Curriculum Guide. <b>Problem Solving &amp; Innovation:</b> This course will cover a broad range of topics/subject areas that will require students to use complex cognitive & conceptual skills taught through The Design Thinking model. <b>Dystopian Novels:</b> Students who elect to take this class will study novels about fictional dystopian worlds and the fears about development of such societies. <b>Educators Rising: Teach 11:</b> Students will be provided the opportunity to explore the planning, thinking, field experience and work that goes into becoming a great teacher. The curriculum showcases teaching as a complex and rewarding profession and will INSPIRE students to pursue it as a future career. The long-term goal of this program is to provide a great learning experience, surrounded by positivity and add diversity to the teaching workforce throughout Wyoming Public Schools.
2021-2022 Secondary Curriculum Guide: <b>Action Item – Approved</b>	Revisions to the Secondary Curriculum Guide were reviewed, which included the elimination of 8 courses and the addition of 3 courses.
Extended Continuity of Learning (ECOL) Plan – Reconfirmation:	Weekly participation rates were reviewed for the month of February. Instructional delivery for in-person and virtual students were reconfirmed for the month of March.
State Assessment Update:	The USDOE will not be granting blanket waivers for state assessments this year. States will need to submit a waiver to the USDOE for flexibility in administering the assessments. Michigan submitted a waiver in January and we have not heard back if there will be any flexibility for us at the federal level. Buildings are working to put together their state assessment plan for Spring 2021.

WHS Comp TIA IT+ Certification  
Recognition:

Recently, two (2) Wyoming High School students, Jake Ballard (senior) and Toby Ensing (junior), passed the COMPTIA Fundamentals exam and received CompTIA IT+ Certifications! It is no small task to receive this certification and it has become an industry standard requirement for most all IT professionals.

Upcoming Events:

**Board Committee Work Sessions:**

Thursday, March 18, 2021 – 4:30 PM

Thursday, April 22, 2021 – 4:30 PM

**Board Meetings:**

Monday, March 22, 2021 – 6 PM

Monday, April 26, 2021 – 6 PM

**Other:**

Feeding America Mobile Food Pantry–Parkview – March 29, 2021–5 PM

WPS BoE Student Awards – April 26, 2021 – 6 PM

WHS Class of 2021 Graduation – May 25, 2021 – 7PM