



## WPS BOARD BRIEFS

### Regular Board Meeting

May 12, 2025 ~ 6:00 PM

#### WHS Robotics Team:

The WHS Robotics Team had an outstanding trip to Houston Texas representing Wyoming Public Schools at the FIRST Robotics international competition. The team expressed their gratitude to the WPS school board for their continued support and for providing the opportunity to attend this prestigious event. As part of Monday night's meeting, a few students shared their personal experiences and highlights from the competition.

Gabe mentioned that once eliminated from the international competition, he spent a great deal of time learning from other teams how to be more efficient throughout the building process.

Rachel spoke of talking to other teams about strategies. She mentioned that attending the conference helped her "get out of her bubble" and meet others.

Julio attended several of the conferences that aligned with the competition learning more about the program and the vision system. He plans to implement several of the things learned next year. Julio also said the conference impacted his future by sparking more interest in software engineering.

Cade said that participating in robotics has led her to explore more opportunities in the field. Meeting and connecting with others was also a highlight of the competition.

Sofia spent quite a bit of time at the competition managing social media for the team and taking photos. She was able to connect with others about marketing strategies and fundraising efforts. She also discovered the abundance of scholarship opportunities in the field of robotics.

Ethan, an exchange student from Vietnam, said attending the international competition was a significant part of his American experience. He learned a great deal in the competition and was able to spend quality time with the friends he has made.

Jeff said he learned a lot about the importance of networking. He mentioned networking at the state competition led to the Wyoming High School team being able to share trailer space with another Michigan team traveling to Houston.

Alec, who was on vacation with his family in Houston, said the competition was very cool!

Spring 2025 WHS Alpha Wolf 11  
Champions of Character:

Amy Oostdyk, WHS Robotics Coach, mentioned that the Wyoming High School robotics team is very unique in that it is a very diverse team with a large number of female members. The team is also student driven with student leaders in all roles.

Superintendent Hoekstra thanked the adults involved for their leadership and for creating opportunities for our students. He also congratulated the students on their accomplishments and wished them success in the upcoming robotics season.

WHS Principal Josh Baumbach and teacher John Doyle were in attendance on Monday (05/12/25) evening to share the Wyoming High School building spotlight presentation which recognized the newest Alpha Wolf 11 award recipients (Keegan Decator, Ivetz Pablo-Bautista, Sofia Barajas-Gutierrez, Aiden Ocampo, Allan Barrientos Caceres, Bradley Lewis, Alyceson Chavez, Yareli Mejias). These scholars were recently selected by staff and peers at Wyoming High School as Alpha Wolf 11 Champions of Character for displaying kindness, compassion, and gratitude in all that they do.

Ivetz thanked the Board and staff for creating the program. She was very happy to receive the award and happy to hear her family was proud.

Sofia thanked the group for creating the AW11 program. She said the program has played a role in shaping who she is as her sister also won the award as a sophomore at WHS. Sofia said the teachers and staff at WHS are amazing and encouraging. She was also thankful to have the opportunity to participate in the retreat experience.

Allan thanked the Board. He appreciated being recognized and was honored to receive the award. He said the program reminds you that things that may be small to you may mean a lot to others. He mentioned that winning the award encourages the recipients to keep growing.

Brad thanked the Board and high school leadership. He said that he had looked up to previous winners and it inspired him. He now looks forward to being an inspiration to others. He mentioned that the program makes the school a better place.

Alyceson thanked everyone for putting this program together. She said it made her feel good to be nominated. In her narrative, a classmate said she checked in on friends and was welcoming to a new student. She was pleased that people saw her for who she truly is, someone who cares.

Superintendent Hoekstra thanked the parents and families in attendance for raising such wonderful individuals. He also

	<p>recognized the scholars for their character noting that the traits they are being recognized for will carry with them beyond the walls of Wyoming High School. He also thanked Mr. Baumbach and Mr. Doyle for their continued commitment to the program and its success.</p> <p>Mr. Baumbach and Mr. Doyle thanked the Board for their continued support of the WHS scholars and Alpha Wolf 11 program and noted that next school year will mark the 11-year anniversary of the program.</p>
<p>04/28/25 Board Minutes: <b>Action Item – Approved</b></p>	<p>The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the regular session WPS Board of Education meeting held at 6:00 PM on Monday, April 28, 2025.</p>
<p>Personnel Transactions: <b>Action Item – Approved</b></p>	<p>The Board reviewed and approved the following personnel transactions:</p> <p><b><u>New Hires:</u></b> Christopher James Carnes, Associate Superintendent, Eff 07/01/25</p> <p><b><u>Position Changes:</u></b> Andrew Kallemeyn, Custodial &amp; Maintenance Supervisor, Eff 7/01/25</p> <p><b><u>Leaves of Absence:</u></b> Custodian, WIS, FMLA Eff 4/23/25-4/22/26 Intermittent Dean of Students, WJH, FMLA Eff 4/16/25 - 4/15/26 Intermittent Food Service, WJH, LOA EFF 4/18/25 Intermittent Teacher, WIS, FMLA Eff 4/30/25-5/30/25 Teacher, Glad, FMLA Eff 8/18/25-TBD</p> <p><b><u>Resignations:</u></b> Matthew Lewis, Associate Sup, Eff 6/30/25</p> <p><b><u>Retirements:</u></b> Mary Tolodzieck, Bus Driver, Eff 5/30/25</p>
<p>Organizational Resolution Amendment: <b>Action Item – Approved</b></p>	<p>The Board resolved to amend the organizational resolution policy listed below by removing references to individual names and replacing them with job titles. It was resolved that the designated Electronic Officer (ETO) in accordance with Policy 6144, shall be the Associate Superintendent. It is resolved that designation of persons authorized to sign checks shall be the Associate Superintendent, Director of Finance, and Superintendent. Authority to sign vendor contracts shall be the Associate Superintendent and Director of Finance, authority to sign employment contracts shall be the Superintendent, Associate Superintendent, Director of Finance, and Director of Human Resources. The authority to sign purchase orders shall be the building/departments administrator for an</p>

<p>WMHIP Resolution Authorizing Membership: <b>Action Item – Approved</b></p>	<p>amount up to \$20,000. Purchase orders over the amount of \$20,000 shall be authorized by the Associate Superintendent.</p> <p>The Board reviewed and approved a resolution to authorize membership in the Western Michigan Health Insurance Pool (WMHIP), a Public Employer Pooled Plan (PEPP) established under the Public Employees Health Benefit Act, Act 106 of 2007. The Board and Superintendent reviewed the obligations and benefits of participation, including the WMHIP Amended Trust Agreement and Bylaws. If approved, membership in the WMHIP would be for a minimum of three years. The resolution would also authorize the Superintendent, Manager, or CFO to execute all necessary documents, and accepted WMHIP's provision of self-funded, pooled health insurance coverage. Conflicting prior resolutions were rescinded.</p>
<p>Wyoming High School Commencement 2025:</p>	<p>2025 Wyoming High School commencement is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM. The ceremony will be held at the WHS football stadium. Board members should plan to arrive by no later than 6:00 PM. Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> has been held as a backup date in case of inclement weather on the 21<sup>st</sup>.</p>
<p>Kent ISD Board Election Resolution: <b>Action Item – Approved</b></p>	<p>The Board approved the designation of Jeff Norton as the representative of this Board for the electoral body, which body will elect two candidates to the vacancies on the Kent ISD Board at 6:00 p.m. Monday, June 2, 2025, and Jennifer Lewis as an alternate representative in the event the designated representative is unable to attend.</p> <p>The designated representative, or the alternate in the event of the absence of the designated representative, is further directed to cast two (2) votes on the first ballot on behalf of this Board for David Drake and Laura Featherstone.</p> <p>David Drake, Six-Year Term (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2031) Laura Featherstone, Six-Year Term (June 1, 2025 – June 30, 2031)</p> <p>The Secretary of this Board is hereby further directed to cause a certified copy of this resolution to be filed with the Secretary of the Kent ISD Board at or prior to the election of the ISD Board on Monday, June 2, 2025.</p>
<p>Substitute Teacher Daily Rate of Pay: <b>Action Item – Approved</b></p>	<p>The Board reviewed and approved an increase in the daily rate for substitute teachers, raising the full-day rate from \$100 to \$120 and the half-day rate from \$50 to \$60.</p>
<p>2025-26 Kent ISD Budget: <b>Action Item - Approved</b></p>	<p>The Board reviewed and approved the 2025-26 Kent ISD budget.</p>

WHS Scholar Trip Request -  
Chicago:  
**Action Item – Approved**

The Board reviewed and approved the WHS band scholar trip request for travel to and from Chicago, Illinois on March 26 and 27, 2025. This trip offers students a valuable opportunity to perform in one of the nation's largest cities while experiencing cultural and educational landmarks such as the Field Museum, Museum of Science & Industry, a Broadway show, 360 Chicago, and Medieval Times. In addition to the performance aspect, the trip serves as a transformative experience—broadening students' worldviews, fostering independence, strengthening peer relationships, and allowing them to navigate a new environment responsibly. For many, it will be their first overnight school trip making it a significant milestone. The experience will not only enrich students' lives but also highlight the exceptional opportunities available through Wyoming Public Schools. Early approval was requested to begin fundraising efforts.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Board Committee Work Session**

Thursday, June 5, 2025 – 4:30 PM

Thursday, June 19, 2025 – 4:30 PM

**Board Meetings:**

Monday, June 9, 2025 – 5 PM

Monday, June 23, 2025 – 4:45 PM – Budget Hearing

Monday, June 23, 2025 – 5 PM

**Other:**

WHS Class of 2025 Graduation – May 21, 2025 – 6:30 PM

Memorial Day Holiday – May 26, 2025

Feeding America Food Pantry – WHS – May 27, 2025 - 4:30 PM

Gladiola School Picnic – May 29, 2025 – 4 PM