

Dear WCS Staff, Families, and Community Members,

As we conclude the first quarter and shift into November, I want to reflect on the steady efforts and accomplishments we've seen this year. Our students have shown commitment and growth in academics, athletics, and the arts, setting a positive tone for the rest of the school year. As we move into the second quarter, we look forward to building on this progress and diving into the new opportunities and challenges the upcoming months will bring. Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we journey through this school year together.

Below are several highlights from the regular Board of Education (BOE) meeting on Monday, October 28, 2024. I'll continue to share information after our meetings to connect you with essential updates.

You will find links to the agenda and meeting video from the October BOE Meeting below. At this meeting, the minutes for the September 23rd BOE meeting were approved, and they are also linked below. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

- September 23rd BOE Meeting: [Agenda](#), [Minutes](#), and [Video](#)
- October 28th BOE Meeting: [Agenda](#) and [Video](#)

Sincerely,

Tim Weber

Committee Updates - Board of Education and Superintendent Committees focus on work within specific areas and play a critical role in updating the Board of Education and Wyoming community on particular topics. As these committees meet, information is shared monthly during the Board of Education meetings. Committees are listed below, and this month's updates can be viewed through the following link - [Committee Updates: October BOE Meeting \(timestamp 00:20\)](#).

- Belonging and Inclusion Collaborative
- Citizens Advisory Committee
- District Leadership Team/Student Achievement
- Facilities Committee
- Finance Committee
- Policy Review Committee

Primary Facilities Update - The Wyoming Primary Schools Bond Issue passed with 69% of the vote, according to the unofficial vote count for the November 5, 2024 election. We truly appreciate the outstanding support from our Wyoming Community and are excited to continue the process of developing new primary schools that will best support the needs of our youngest learners now and in the future!

The 7.98 mill bond issue will raise \$72.5 million for constructing three new K-4 primary schools on the sites of the current primary schools. A 7.98 mill levy would normally increase taxes by \$279.21 annually for each \$100,000 of market home value. However, through the district's strong fiscal stewardship, the current Wyoming High School bond levy is being paid off three years early, decreasing taxes by \$117.60 annually for each \$100,000 of market home value at the end of 2024 and removing 3.36 mills from the community's residential taxes.

What Happens Next?

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, the Board of Elections has 21 days after the date of an election to certify the election results. During that time, the Wyoming City Schools Board of Education will plan for a resolution certifying the placement of the tax on the 2024 tax duplicate for first collection in 2025. This resolution must be approved by the Hamilton County Auditor prior to November 30.

The Board will also consider a small issuance - approximately \$15 million - of tax anticipation notes before the end of 2024. (Issuing the bonds is a lengthier process that is likely to occur in early Spring 2025.) With these notes, the Board can begin the statutory process for selecting an architect, with the first step of sharing a Request for Qualifications from architecture firms.

The draft project schedule includes:

- **January-December 2025:** Hilltop School Design Phase
- **January 2026-July 2027:**
 - Elm School & Vermont School Design Phase
 - Hilltop School Construction - Hilltop students in temporary school at WHS
- **August 2027:** *Hilltop School opens*
- **July 2027-December 2028:**
 - Vermont School Construction - Vermont students in temporary school at WHS
 - Elm School Construction - Elm students in temporary school at WMS
- **January 2029:** *Elm School & Vermont School open*

Wyoming Historical Society - 1st Lt. John R. Fox Dedication - The BOE approved a plaque dedication recognizing 1934 Wyoming High School graduate John R. Fox for extreme acts of heroism in the US Army during World War II. You can view information for this dedication in the following link - [John R. Fox Dedication](#). The Wyoming Historical Society will present this dedication ceremony to Wyoming Middle School students on Veterans Day, November 11th.

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Student Therapy - The BOE approved an agreement between Wyoming City Schools, Mindpeace, and Cincinnati Children's Hospital that creates opportunities for supporting the mental health needs of students. During the summer, the district partnered with [MindPeace](#) to facilitate the process of choosing a

new partner to address critical mental health needs for students. MindPeace completed a mental health needs assessment with stakeholder input. In this needs assessment, Wyoming stakeholders reported a need to increase access to a continuum of on-campus mental health services. After interviewing potential providers, we are excited to welcome Cincinnati Children's Hospital to fill this critical role. Cincinnati Children's Hospital currently has therapists in each of our building levels to provide this support. Please reach out to your school counselor if you have any questions.

Intervention and Special Education Audit - Wyoming has partnered with the Hamilton County Educational Service Center (HCESC) to complete a full review and audit of our intervention and special education practices to identify areas of strength and opportunities for growth. The process began this summer and included a stakeholder survey and interviews in the fall. During the meeting, we reviewed the plan for this audit, the timeline for feedback from the Hamilton County Educational Service Center, and the goals for continuous improvement that this feedback will help to support.