

Dear WCS Staff, Families, and Community Members,

As we wrap up a truly exceptional first semester, I want to celebrate the achievements of our students, staff, and the entire school community. This semester has been filled with growth, learning, and countless moments of success, and it's been a joy to see the energy in our classrooms and beyond. As we prepare for a well-deserved winter break, I'm already excited about the second half of the school year. January marks a fresh chapter filled with opportunities to build on our momentum, embrace new challenges, and continue our shared journey of excellence.

Below are several highlights from the regular Board of Education (BOE) meeting on Monday, December 16, 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 December BOE Meeting below. At this meeting, the minutes for the November 25th BOE meeting were approved, and they are also linked below. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

- November 25th BOE Meeting: [Agenda](#), [Minutes](#), and [Video](#)
- December 16th BOE Meeting: [Agenda](#), and [Video](#)

Sincerely,

Tim Weber

Committee Updates - The Board of Education and Superintendent Committees focus on work in specific areas and play a critical role in updating the Board of Education and the Wyoming community on these topics. As these committees meet, information is shared monthly during the Board of Education meetings. Committees are listed below, and this month's committee reports can be viewed through the following link - [Committee Updates: December BOE Meeting \(timestamp: 0:58\)](#).

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

Primary Facilities Update - The Board of Education approved a resolution authorizing the process to procure Construction Manager at Risk Services for the primary facilities project. This resolution initiates the process for our district to distribute a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for this work. Our goal is to post this RFQ before we leave for break.

The Board of Education also approved a resolution ranking professional design firms and authorizing the execution of an agreement for architect services related to the primary facilities construction project. The district identified Ruetschle Architects as the top-ranked firm in this process and is working with them to create this agreement.

I will continue to share the draft project schedule and any revisions to this schedule as they are made:

- **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*

Retirements - Congratulations to WHS Teacher Linda Johnson and Director of Pupil Services Dr. Tracy Wurtzler who plan to retire at the end of this school year! We wish them the best as they move on to the next chapter!

- **Linda Johnson** - Linda has spent 29 years at Wyoming High School and is fondly known as “Mama J” by students and staff. She has taught everything from Algebra I to AP Statistics; her expertise will be greatly missed!



- **Dr. Tracy Wurtzler** - Tracy has worked in Wyoming City Schools since 2018 as the Director of Pupil Services. Thanks to Tracy for her leadership in supporting Wyoming students, staff, and families! Congratulations!



Volunteers - We are incredibly grateful to have the excellent resources Wyoming parents and community volunteers provide in our buildings! During the meeting, the BOE approved volunteers who have completed the RAPTOR volunteer registration process this school year. This process provides an additional safety measure for all volunteers in Wyoming City Schools. Over 900 parents and community members have shared an interest in volunteering their time to support our students. This level of partnership positively impacts our students every day!

Student Clubs - New and renewed student clubs were approved for the 2025-2026 school year. These club opportunities are an excellent way for our students to be engaged beyond the classroom! Thank you to all the staff members who support students with these unique activities!

2025-2026 Course Proposals - Several Wyoming High School course additions, phase-outs, and changes were approved during the meeting. Departments have worked hard to make these adjustments, which will be part of the course planning process that begins with students during the second semester. These changes are being made to allow increased access for students, provide high-interest options for students, align with Ohio curriculum expectations, and provide an engaging and challenging curriculum to all students.

Optional Full-Day Kindergarten Tuition - The Board of Education approved the following rates for the optional full-day kindergarten program for the 2025-2026 school year:

- \$3,500 for families with household income above \$36,450
- \$2,000 for families with household income below \$36,450

[Information regarding the kindergarten registration process is available here.](#)

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. The audit report from the HCESC is scheduled to be finalized and shared with the district in late December. An overview of the report's findings and recommendations will be reviewed during the January Regular Board of Education meeting and highlighted in the Superintendent Update following that meeting.