Board Work Session
Monday, March 9, 2026 6:00 PM Eastern

Conference Room of the Administration Building
1400 South Dearing Road
Parma, MI 49269

Kacy Cooper:	Present
Gale Easton:	Present
Blaine Goodrich:	Absent
Jason Herrington:	Absent
Brent Oliver:	Present
Dr. John Sheets:	Present
Taryn Watterson:	Present

Present: 5, Absent: 2.

A. Call To Order:
The meeting was called to order by President John Sheets at 6:02pm.

B. Hearing of Citizens:
None.

C. Committee of the Whole:

C.1. Finance
The governor released her proposed budget for the 2026–2027 school year, increasing foundation allowance and shifting to a weighted per-pupil funding. Michigan meals would remain in the plan, along with money for higher education, mental health, GSRP and math intervention. The impact for Western would be an increase of approximately $800,000. Western plans to budget for 2,675 students, with more information being available after Kindergarten Round-Up in April.
An update of the current status of remaining bond funds was also given.

C.1.a. Financial Reports

C.1.b. Check Register

C.1.c. Budgets to Date

C.1.d. 2026-2027 Budget Discussion

C.1.e. Bond Budget Update

C.2. Facilities

C.2.a. Additional W.E. Furniture
The additional furniture needs for Western Elementary were discussed. Principals have provided a list of requests for essential items.

C.2.b. Deposition of Assets

C.2.b.1) Cafeteria Equipment

The district has been having conversations with a local church interested in purchasing kitchen and cafeteria equipment from the former elementary buildings that are no longer needed by Western.

C.2.b.2) Warner Playground Equipment
The district is holding discussions with Spring Arbor Township regarding the authorization for relocating playground equipment to Gallagher Park.

C.2.b.3) Building Disposition (Parma & Warner)

Discussions are ongoing with Spring Arbor Township. There is interest in the land at Warner, and the district has requested that Spring Arbor formally communicate its position in April. Conversations have not begun with the Village of Parma regarding Parma Elementary, but the preference is to collaborate with Spring Arbor Township and the Village of Parma.

A meeting was held with Early Impressions regarding the use of the space for daycare and GSRP programming. Negotiations are ongoing.

There is considerable interest in relocating Western Career Prep High School to Bean Elementary. Additionally, the BFF program expresses a desire for a few classrooms, and Early Impressions is interested in accommodating 2–4 classrooms for the GSRP program. We are looking at getting the costs of painting specific spaces. In addition, Western is seeking demolition costs for the Old Bean School, while still negotiating about relocation.

C.3. Personnel

C.3.a. Resignations

C.3.a.1) William Zegarlowicz-MS Football Coach

C.3.a.2) Angela Burzynski- WE Teacher (Retiring End of Year)

C.3.a.3) Steve Weller-HS Teacher (Retiring End of Year)

C.3.a.4) Barb Weller-WE Teacher (Retiring End of Year)

C.3.a.5) Steve Kim- HS Teacher (Retiring End of Year)

C.3.a.6) Tina Dane- WE Parapro (Retiring End of Year)

C.3.a.7) Gina Fortress-MS Teacher (Retiring End of Year)

C.3.b. Appointments

C.3.b.1) Riley Watterson-MS Track

C.3.c. 27L Compensation (WEA/WSD LOA)

C.4. Curriculum

C.4.a. WCPHS-CSI Plan

Ryan Tripp, Director of Programs, provided an update on the CSI identification at Woodville. Career Prep staff have worked very hard to get and keep kids engaged. Graduation rates are up, testing rates are up, and additional funds are available for this program to increase SAT math and ELA scores using the Regional Assistance Grant through JCISD. The district would like to propose using these funds to purchase iPads with keyboards for the students at Career Prep. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with JCISD, and board action will be taken at the next regular board meeting.

C.4.b. iPad Refresh

The district proposes a lease with Apple to replace iPads for grades 3-12, including cases, AppleCare for four years, and keyboards for upper grades. Amber Moore, Finance Director, highlighted the financial benefits of the Apple lease program. The district has budgeted for technology refreshes and plans to use these devices for five years, entering a 4-year lease at 0% interest. This ensures consistent payments and allocates funds for future technology needs, such as access points and cameras. A new lease would follow after five years to sustain the refresh cycle.

C.4.c. Flex

Superintendent Smajda discussed the future of Flex at the high school. The high school team aims to update and add electives that enhance problem-solving and critical thinking, allowing students to explore passions. HS Principal Jared Vickers mentioned that planning phases are underway, with the Guiding Coalition discussing freshmen transition, elective ideas such as broadcasting, digital marketing, debate, manufacturing, and support courses for students needing extra help. This offers great opportunities for students to take additional courses during the year.

C.5. Policy

D. Other Business:

D.1. W.E. Update

Matt Desmarais, Western Elementary 2nd & 3rd grade Principal, provided an update on the daily operations at Western Elementary.

The E3 Family Services and Aid program is scheduled to begin this week. The morning drop-off process is functioning effectively, however preference would be that more families take advantage of bus transportation.

W.E. hosted their first author visit, with an illustrator coming this week. Staff are also finding ways to connect in positive ways, such as monthly potlucks.

D.2. Memorial Day Parade- May 25, 2026

E. Closed Session:

None.

F. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm.