

Board Work Session
Monday, May 11, 2026 6:00 PM Eastern

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

A. Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order by President John Sheets at 6:00 pm.

B. Hearing of Citizens:

None.

C. Committee of the Whole:

C.1. Finance

C.1.a. Financial Reports

C.1.b. Check Register

Dave Hood, Operations Director, and Amber Moore, Finance Director, provided clarification for various check register items.

C.1.c. Budgets to Date

C.1.d. Budget Hearing Date

Information has been released from the state regarding next year's budget. There are many similarities. However, some differences still exist with regard to proposed formula-weighted funding models.

Action will be taken regarding the budget hearing date at the next regular board meeting on May 18.

C.1.e. Gymnastic Floor Purchase

Action will be taken at the next regular board meeting regarding the proposal to utilize the Alro Grant Funds to purchase a new gymnastics floor.

C.1.f. JCISD Budget FY27

An update was provided regarding the adjustment of the special education formula and reimbursement decrease for Western. MiCI classrooms are now staffed and run by the ISD rather than Western, contributing to financial changes.

Action will be taken on the proposed JCISD FY27 budget at the next regular board meeting.

C.2. Facilities

C.2.a. Bean Tenants

A few partners have requested to lease rooms or office space at Bean Elementary. Formal Action regarding these opportunities will be take at the May 18 board meeting.

C.2.a.1) Falling Waters Bible Church

C.2.a.2) Alternative Choices

C.2.b. Parking Lot Paving

Quotes for full replacement of the Bean parking lot have been received and action will be taken at the next regular board meeting.

C.2.c. Woodville Tenant

Early Impressions plans to lease the Woodville building for the 2026-27 SY, and possibly beyond.

Lease paperwork is pending and action will be take at the next board meeting.

C.2.d. MS Gym Painting

Action regarding a bid to paint the WMS Gymnasium will be taken at the next regular board meeting.

C.3. Personnel

C.3.a. Resignations

C.3.a.1) Julie Roberts- MS Teacher (Retiring End of School Year)

C.3.a.2) Morgan Beckman- MS Cross Country

C.3.a.3) Kyle Luke- MS Basketball

C.3.b. Appointments

C.3.c. Job Sharing-MS

A plan has been proposed for Kim Bowden (6th gd teacher) and Karen French (6th gd teacher) to job share the Student Intervention Specialist position as Gina Fortress plans to retire this year. There is a slight increase in FTE from 1.0 to 1.2 to make this position work for Western Middle School.

Action will be taken regarding this proposal at the next regular board meeting.

C.3.d. Technology/Operations Duties Reassigned

Next school year the Director of Programs will oversee/supervise technology, and the Superintendent will oversee/supervise operations.

C.3.e. WCPHS/WHS Consultant Position

During the first semester of the 2026-27 school year, Steve Kim will serve in a flexible dual-support role between Western High School (WHS) and Western Career Prep High School (WCPHS), providing targeted student intervention, elective instruction, operational assistance, and staff support.

C.3.f. Media Tech

C.4. Curriculum

C.4.a. Health Standards

Western School District recently began reviewing the updated Health Education Standards adopted by the Michigan Department of Education, which include revisions that better reflect modern student needs and technological changes compared to older instructional materials and lessons. Collaboration among staff will continue throughout the coming year, with implementation beginning next school year and continuing over time as curricular materials and instructional resources are updated.

Action will be taken at the next regular board meeting.

C.4.b. WHS Course Correction for 2027-2028 School Year

Discussion was held regarding the reimagining of flex for the 27-2028 academic year. Meaningful elective courses will be developed and made available.

C.4.c. JAMA Partnership Proposal

Superintendent Smajda presented the partnership proposal with JAMA, to provide a training center opportunity for manufacturing. Alro funds will be used to fund this program during 2026-27 and allow up to 20 students to register for each course.

Action will be taken at the next regular board meeting.

C.5. Policy

C.5.a. Cell Phone Policy

Director of Programs, Ryan Tripp, presented the recommended cell phone policy in response to Michigan law requiring schools to limit device use, including the policy exceptions (ie. medical). The district recognizes this is a major change, and the policy will be in the student handbook.

Formal action regarding this policy will be taken at the next regular board meeting.

C.5.b. Handbook Changes

Updates to the cell phone policy are reflected in updated parent/student handbooks, along with other modifications. High school and middle school administrators provided clarifying answers to board member questions.

Formal action will taken regarding handbooks at the next regular board meeting.

D. Other Business:

D.1. 2026-2027 Calendar

The proposed 2026-2027 calendar was presented.

Action will be taken at the next board meeting to approve the PD as Instrutlional Time Committee and the calendar itself.

D.2. MHSAA 26-27 Resolution

Conversations were had regarding Schools of Choice, Dual Enrollment, AP Classes and Early College Programs at Western.

D.3. Western Way Discussion

E. Closed Session:

None.

F. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.



