



# Welcome to the West Lafayette Community School Corporation Board Meeting

**Mission Statement:**

*“The mission of the West Lafayette Community School Corporation (WLCSC) is to engage all students in valuable academic, artistic, physical, and social experiences so that they will be able to enjoy a fulfilling personal life and to participate as productive members in a diverse society in which global competition is a reality and democracy is a way of life.*

*We, the educators and Board of School Trustees of the West Lafayette Community School Corporation, in order to make it possible for our students to develop into citizens capable of participating in, contributing to, and benefiting from the cultural, economic, political, and social life of the community and larger society, do establish this statement of beliefs for our corporation.”*

## WHAT IS THE SCHOOL BOARD?

The Board is an elected governmental body charged with the responsibility of providing educational programs for children who reside within the attendance boundaries of the West Lafayette Community School Corporation.

The seven Board members are state officials who live within school corporation boundaries and are elected to serve four-year terms. All seven members are elected at-large.

## WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD?

		<u>Years on the Board</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Dianne Sautter	President	2004-current	463-2869	<a href="mailto:dsautter@insightbb.com">dsautter@insightbb.com</a>
Roland Winger	Vice President	2004-current	743-8012	<a href="mailto:roland@thewingers.org">roland@thewingers.org</a>
Kathy Anderson	Secretary	2004-current	497-4208	<a href="mailto:kanderson@insightbb.com">kanderson@insightbb.com</a>
Scott Homan	Member	2004-current	430-6193	<a href="mailto:srhoman@purdue.edu">srhoman@purdue.edu</a>
Alan Karpick	Member	2006-current	464-3292	<a href="mailto:akarpick@aol.com">akarpick@aol.com</a>
Dottie Rausch	Member	2002-current	497-2152	<a href="mailto:dotr1968@yahoo.com">dotr1968@yahoo.com</a>
Karen Springer	Member	2006-current	743-3905	<a href="mailto:k.springer5@verizon.net">k.springer5@verizon.net</a>

## IS THE SUPERINTENDENT A MEMBER OF THE BOARD?

The Superintendent is a professional educator employed by the Board to carry out adopted policies and to be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the schools. The superintendent works with building level administrators who assist with building level responsibilities. The superintendent is not a member of the Board.

The superintendent prepares the agenda for each Board meeting. This agenda becomes the order of business for the meeting. The agenda for each Board meeting is posted for public information prior to the meeting. Once a meeting is called to order, no changes in the agenda can be made without the consent of a majority of the Board members present.

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## **WHAT IS DONE AT BOARD MEETINGS?**

Board meetings are held in public, but are not public meetings, and are for the purpose of acting upon recommendations of the superintendent, adopting the annual budget and tax rates, adopting policies, and authorizing the spending of funds. Although any matter may come before the Board, most school-related issues are handled through administrative channels.

## **WHEN AND WHERE ARE BOARD MEETINGS HELD?**

Regular Board meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month in the conference room of the Administrative Center, 1130 North Salisbury Street, West Lafayette, Indiana. Board Work Sessions are held at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the same location. On occasions when special meetings are called or when other times and places of regular meetings become necessary, an effort is made to announce the change at least two days prior to the meeting. The announcements are always sent to the local newspapers, radio stations and Channel 18. However if last minute circumstances affect the time and place of the meeting, it will be posted on the door of the Administrative Center.

## **ARE BOARD MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?**

School Board meetings are meetings held before the public. They are not public meetings unless they are announced as public meetings or hearings. On occasion, executive sessions, closed to the public, are held to discuss matters of personnel, negotiations, purchase of land, security, and items where public discussion could be damaging to an individual or work against the public interest (such as inflation of land prices). No matter what the issue, however, all official action must be taken in public session. Privacy issues sometimes do not allow School Board member to discuss issues in public. That could make it appear that the Board is voting against the information presented in public. There could be information presented to the Board that cannot be presented or discussed in public.

## **HOW CAN I BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA IF I WANT TO ADDRESS THE BOARD?**

Any individual residing within the West Lafayette Community School Corporation or group representing residents of the corporation wishing to make general comments to the Board may do so during the “COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE—CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS” and/or “COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE—NON-AGENDA ITEMS” sections of the regular School Board Meeting Agenda. Remarks are to be kept to three minutes in length. A speaker will address the comments to the presiding officer (in most cases, the Board President); no person may address or question individual Board members.

You may also present your comments and concerns to the Board in writing.

Any individual residing within the West Lafayette Community School Corporation or group representing residents of the corporation who wishes an item to be placed on an agenda may submit, in writing, a request to the Superintendent of Schools, stating whom he/she represents and the nature of the presentation to be made. This request should be made at least 10 days prior to the Board Meeting at which the individual wishes to speak. The Superintendent will confer with the Board President to determine if the item is appropriate for the agenda and if there is time at that particular meeting.

Items related to problems with individual personnel may not be addressed in a public meeting. Such concerns should be handled by meeting first with the teacher, then the principal, and then the superintendent. If the problem is not resolved and you still have concerns, feel free to address your concerns in writing to the Board.

## **WHAT IF I HAVE A QUESTION OR WANT SOME INFORMATION?**

The Board’s administrative staff is capable of handling most questions and requests for information. Matters relating to an individual school or teacher should be directed to the principal of that building. For your convenience in obtaining information or in determining who can answer your questions, you may contact Ken Barnes, the Public Information Officer at (765) 746-1602.