

**Worcester Central School  
Board of Education Meeting  
Wednesday, October 25, 2023  
6:30 PM Regular Meeting in the WCS Library**

---- AGENDA ----

- I. Determination of a quorum
- II. Call to Order / Pledge
- III. Approve Agenda
- IV. Executive Session if needed
- V. Faculty – Staff Sharing
- VI. Special Presentation:
  - Presentation for Property Purchase by Stewart’s Shops Corporation (Kyle Schoonmaker, Commercial Developer)
- VII. Consent Agenda Items:
  - Approval of Minutes – September 27, 2023 Audit Committee Meeting;
  - Approval of Minutes – September 27, 2023 Regular Meeting;
  - Treasurer’s Report – September 2023.
- VIII. Public to be Heard
- IX. Action Required:
  - A. Resignation – Bus Driver – Annette Southworth  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, does hereby accept the resignation of Annette Southworth and establishes that her last day of work will be November 1, 2023.
  - B. Substitute Cleaner Appointment – Ryan Birch, pending fingerprint clearance  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby approve Ryan Birch as a substitute cleaner, pending fingerprint clearance.
  - C. Substitute Bus Driver Appointment – Michael Marshall, pending required licenses, certification, and fingerprint clearance  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby approve Michael Marshall as a substitute bus driver, pending required licenses, certification, and fingerprint clearance.
  - D. Extra-Curricular (Extra Duty) Appointment – Tutor (Sheri Harrison)  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby approve Sheri Harrison as a Tutor for the 2023-2024 school year.
  - E. Student Association Quarterly Report – July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, does hereby accept the Student Association Quarterly Report for the period of July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023, as presented.

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 25, 2023**  
**---- AGENDA CONTINUED----**

- F. Claims Auditor Exception Report – September 2023  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, does hereby accept the Claims Auditor Exception Report for the period September 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023, as presented.
- G. Management Response and Corrective Action Plan to the 2022-2023 Audited Financial Statements  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby approve the Management Response and Corrective Action Plan to the 2022-2023 financial Statements conducted by Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, P.C.
- H. Management Response and Corrective Action Plan to the 2022-2023 Audited Extraclassroom Activity Fund  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby approve the Management Response and Corrective Action Plan to the 2022-2023 Extraclassroom Activity Fund Audit conducted by Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, P.C.
- I. Budget Transfer to Reserves  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby authorize a budget transfer of \$50,000 from the district's unappropriated fund balance to the district's Retirement Contribution Reserve Sub Fund, as authorized by General Municipal Law 6-r.
- J. Worcester Central School District Reserves Plan as of June 30, 2023  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby adopt the Worcester Central School District Reserves Plan as of June 30, 2023, as presented.
- K. CSE/CPSE Recommendations  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, does hereby approve the CSE/CPSE recommendations, as presented.
- L. Resolution Authorizing Partial Settlement of the Vaping Lawsuit Against Defendant Altria  
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby approve the resolution that authorizes the partial settlement of the vaping lawsuit against defendant Altria, as follows:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTIAL SETTLEMENT OF VAPING LITIGATION**

**WHEREAS**, in recent years the use and abuse of e-cigarettes and vaping devices increased dramatically among high school and middle school students, leading to significant risks of addiction and potentially life-threatening respiratory ailments; and

**WHEREAS**, students attending the Worcester Central School District (the “School District”) have not been immune to this phenomenon with the School District observing students using e-cigarettes and vaping devices in school and on school grounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of e-cigarettes and vaping devices by students has caused the School District to incur costs in the form of staff time, disciplinary proceedings, and other costs, with the expectation that these costs will only increase unless and until student use of these devices decreases and stops; and

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 25, 2023**  
**---- AGENDA CONTINUED----**

**WHEREAS**, the School District authorized the law firms of Ferrara Fiorenza PC, and the Frantz Law Group, APLC, to initiate litigation against Altria Group, Inc. and Philip Morris USA, Inc., Altria Client Services LLC, Altria Enterprises LLC, and Altria Group Distribution Company (collectively “Altria”) by board resolution relating to the production, marketing, sale, and distribution of e-cigarettes and vaping devices; and

**WHEREAS**, a tentative settlement has been reached with Defendant Altria whereby in return for discontinuing the litigation, the School District would receive certain cash payment; and

**WHEREAS**, the amount that the School District receives will be no less than \$2,524 ; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education (the “Board”) has determined it is necessary, advantageous, desirable, and in the public interest and the best interests of the School District that it settle this litigation against Altria.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of the School District, as follows:

1. The Board authorizes the partial settlement of the vaping lawsuit against defendant Altria.
2. A Settlement with the substantive terms contained herein is hereby approved in substantially the form reviewed by the Board and together with such minor modifications as are deemed necessary by the School District’s attorneys and administrators to protect the best interests of the School District.
3. The Board President, Superintendent and their designee(s) are hereby authorized to finalize, sign and enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the School District and take all actions and execute all documents necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this Resolution.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

X. Principal Reports:

- A. Katie Sill, Elementary Principal
- B. Melissa Leonard, Secondary Principal

XI. Board Member and/or Superintendent Item(s):

- A. Capital Project Update
- B. Board of Education Retreat Dates
- C. NYS Council of School Superintendents (NYSCOSS) Recap
- D. Rural Schools Association Membership

XII. New Business

XIII. Old Business

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 25, 2023**  
**---- AGENDA CONTINUED---**

- XIV. Informational
  - A. Bus Mileage Reports – September 2023
  - B. The Catskill Area School Study Council (CASSC) Fall School Boards Institute:  
Strategic Long-Term Fiscal Planning for Schools to be held on Tuesday, November 28  
from 5:30-7:30 PM at SUNY Oneonta. Registration Deadline: Thursday, November 16
  - C. Board of Education – The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday,  
November 29, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the library.
  
- XV. Executive Session if needed
  
- XVI. Adjournment