The Winton Woods Board of Education met in special session on Monday, September 14, 2020 at the Board of Education, 825 Waycross Road, Cincinnati, Ohio. Vice President Ruggles called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

On the roll call the following members were present: Mr. Jeff Berte (via zoom), Dr. John Cuppoletti (via zoom), Mr. Gino McGowens, Mrs. Katrina Rugless. Absent Dr. Viola Johnson. Also present were: Mr. Anthony Smith, Superintendent and Mr. Randy Seymour, Treasurer.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Transition Plan to Alternate Instructional Model
  Superintendent Smith presented and discussed with the Board a proposed model for bringing students back to in person instruction. Parents are going to be surveyed and select the plan that best meets their child’s instructional needs. (A copy of the letter sent to parents is attached.)

TREASURERS REPORT

- Review of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Appropriations
- Review of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Five Year Forecast
- Resolution or Five-Year Financial Plan

The Board will be asked to approve these items at the September 28, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Financial Advisory Committee
- Student Achievement Committee
- Community Engagement Committee
- Political Jurisdiction Liaisons

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice President Rugless declared the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

ATTEST:  
Randy L. Seymour, Treasurer

APPROVED:  
Katrina Rugless, Vice President
September 15, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I would like to take this time to present some very important long-awaited news regarding our district’s transition plan. First of all, I want to personally thank you for your patience and perseverance in facilitating the virtual educational experience for your children in the midst of challenging circumstances. The week of September 14 began our fourth full week of virtual school. We have been very intentional in creating a safe reentry plan for all students and staff as well as your family members at home. We began this transitional plan with phase I - staff returned first - to make sure that all of the safety regulations from the CDC were followed and adhered to. As you may be aware, our students are assessed every five weeks to determine their rate of academic progress. In order to maintain continuity, the five-week strategy is by far the best plan of action.

On Wednesday, September 16, you will receive a brief questionnaire asking if you want your child to remain in our virtual academic experience or transition to our blended educational opportunity. In order to create a safe educational environment, it is critical that you complete this questionnaire and provide us with as much information as possible by this Friday, September 18. We will review all surveys the week of September 21. During this data week we are planning to offer half-day virtual educational services for your child in order for the staff to compile important data and contact you with information that will enable us to reopen school in a safe, predictable, transparent manner. Please note: If you want your child to remain virtual, please complete the questionnaire specifying that you would like to continue with the virtual educational plan.

On Monday, September 28, which is an official professional development day, students will not have face-to-face technological services. Services will resume on Tuesday, September 29 regarding phase II – our blended approach. During this transitional phase, students in preschool, kindergarten, ESL, and students with special needs will report to school in person. The teachers that serve these students will provide you with the necessary information regarding your child’s new service delivery plan, better known as blended or phase II.
During the week of October 5, phase III will be implemented for those students who did not want to remain virtual. Students will begin attending school twice per week. Some students will begin on Warrior Blue Days, every Monday and Tuesday. The other students will attend on Warrior Green Days, every Thursday and Friday. In order to create the optimal plan, this requires students to safely distance themselves every 6 feet, wash hands for at least 20 seconds, and wearing a mask at all times is required. A Warrior Blue/Green day was the only way to accomplish this safety goal. All students will remain home and participate in the virtual experience every Wednesday. This will give the custodial team the ability to provide a deep, intense cleaning prior to students returning on their official green and blue days.

Please rest assured, we are putting all safety plans into place in order to provide students and staff with a safe, comprehensive environment. During phase IV, all students are scheduled to report on Monday, November 30, five days a week, in person. We are hopeful that this plan can be implemented all the way up to winter break, which officially begins at the end of the day on Friday, December 18. We will continue to work closely with our partnered pandemic experts, LJB, with the goal of maintaining our final phase of implementation. Please look forward to receiving a phone call, a text message, or an email from your teachers specifying the plan that your child will follow in the first semester. Please note: If there are extenuating circumstances contact your child’s principal for assistance. Thank you for your patience. Transportation and food service will be provided to your child as scheduled. Thank you for sending your child to Winton Woods City Schools, a district of destination.

Sincerely,

Anthony G. Smith
Superintendent

AGS/jjj