

# West Lafayette Community School Corporation

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## A message from WLCSC Board of Trustees President

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It is important that our community be very aware of how to communicate with the school board. Each member's name, photo, phone number and e-mail are available on the corporation website, under the "Board" tab. We are each active in the community and interested persons are welcome to ask questions or share their viewpoint when they see us out and about. Interested persons are also welcome to send inquiries via phone message or email. Board members will make every effort to answer inquiries. Sometimes those responses may come as an acknowledgement of receipt, with follow up later. Those responses may often come from the board president, not as a means of silencing other voices and opinions, but rather to streamline the conversations for the sake of efficiency and to avoid confusion. An effective board works together as a team in the best interest of the schools. Individual members have unique voices and skill sets, we were each elected by the community to conduct the business of the school board, but no one of us has any importance over another or individual authority as a single board member. Our only authority comes when we assemble together in meetings of the board held in public.

Throughout the United States school boards, including this one, have increasingly been subjected to personal insults, threats and a steady stream of destructive communication. While we all have children ourselves and understand how emotional some of these issues can be, our community can expect professional communication from us and we would ask the same from our community. We believe we can do better in West Lafayette and we know, with certainty, that our students deserve better.

We each have been and remain committed to being accessible and open to communication, change, and consideration of different perspectives. To that end, we are also pleased to announce an additional option for open dialogue. Beginning this Saturday January 15th from 9-10 am, and continuing every first Saturday of the months following, a representative of the Administrative Team and a representative of the School Board leadership will be available to hear concerns and answer questions at the West Lafayette Payless upstairs dining space. For those of you not familiar, it is near the Arni's and produce section of Payless. This 'First Saturday Feedback' is simply an invitation to members of our community for a casual drop in conversation to share their perspective. We hope you will join us.

Sincerely,

*Rachel Witt*

Rachel Witt, Board President

