

TO: WC CUSD #235 Employees
FROM: Ralph Grimm, Superintendent
DATE: April 19, 2012
RE: April 18, 2012 Regular Meeting of the WC CUSD #235 Board of Education

On Wednesday, April 18, 2012 the West Central CUSD #235 Board of Education conducted their regular meeting. As a result of this meeting the following items took place.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Board President Brent in the elementary cafeteria. All board members except Dr. Robbins and Mr. Anderson were present at roll call.
2. President Brent then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. Under good news items the following items were highlighted:
 - The High School track teams are doing very well having broken several school records;
 - The Elementary PTC Carnival was a huge success;
 - The artwork completed by Mr. Gary Ricketts looks wonderful;
 - High School Jr/Sr Prom was held last weekend and enjoyed by all who attended. The students looked great. The parent provided After Prom party was also a success with many students attending;
 - The MS held their first ever Showcase this evening and there was a large crowd and many wonderful displays. The Monmouth College Chemistry Department was also in attendance to demonstrate some chemistry experiments;
 - The MS play went extremely well with lots of improvising by the students.
4. The board approved the agenda as presented.
5. No one wished to address the board on any agenda items.
6. The board approved the consent agenda as presented. Items approved under the consent agenda included:
 - The minutes of the March 21, 2012 regular meeting;
 - The minutes of the March 27, 2012 special meeting;
 - The minutes of the March 27, 2012 closed session;
 - The resolution regarding National Teacher Appreciation Day and National Teacher Appreciation Week;
 - The 2012-2013 school improvement plans for WCES, WCMS and WCHS;
 - Revisions to the following board policies: Policy 2:120 – Board of Education – Board Member Development; Policy 2:190 – Board of Education – Mail Lists for Receiving Board Material; Policy 2:200 – Board of Education – Types of Board of Education Meetings; Policy 4:110 – Operational Services – Transportation; Policy 4:170 – Operation Services – Safety; Policy 5:10 - General Personnel – Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment; Policy 5:30 - General Personnel – Hiring Process and Criteria; Policy 5:125 – General Personnel – Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct; Policy 5:190 – Professional Personnel – Teacher Qualifications; Policy 5:220 – Professional Personnel – Substitute Teachers; Policy 5:260 – Professional Personnel – Student Teachers; Policy 5.285 – Educational Support Personnel – Drug and Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Drivers; Policy 6:50 - Instruction – School Wellness; Policy 6:110 – Instruction – Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives program; Policy 6:280 – Instruction – Grading, Promotion and Retention; Policy 7:100 – Students – Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations;

Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students; Policy 7:190 – Students – Student Discipline; Policy 7:270 – Students – Administering Medicines to Students on second reading and that they be adopted.

7. Under financial activity, the board approved payment of all bills as presented. The board also approved the March activity accounts and the March treasurer's report as presented. Supt. Grimm highlighted for the board the district's financial report. He informed the board that as of April 16, 2012, the State's backlog of bills is \$4.856 billion dollars with \$948.5 million or 19% of that amount relates to PK-12 education. He also reported that at the end of the ninth month of the fiscal year actual expenditures and revenue to budget should be 75%. It was noted that actual expenditures were 69.2% of budget and actual revenue received was 64.04% of budget as of the end of March 2012. The board was reminded again that the district had received in FY11 a significant amount of local property taxes that were included in last year's budget and the money received is in the bank. The board was also informed that as of Wednesday, April 18, 2012, the State has vouchered but not yet paid District #235 \$503,115.
8. The board discussed and later approved a request for an out of state, overnight trip for Amanda Carpenter and Madison Muff to attend the National Future Business Leader of America conference in San Antonio, TX from June 29 – July 2, 2012. Madison qualified for the National competition by earning a 2nd place at the Illinois State FBLA conference in the competitive event "Business Help Desk". In addition to granting approval to attend this conference, the board also approved providing a total of \$1,050 of financial assistance to Mrs. Carpenter and Miss Muff so that they may attend the conference.
9. The board approved a request for an overnight trip for the WCHS Dance Team. The request was to spend the night at the Pzazz Conference Center in Burlington.
10. The board approved offering a summer driver education program as we have done in the past. With that approval, the board also hired Terri Copeland to provide the classroom instruction and the behind the wheel training for those students who need this time.
11. The board approved the submission of a school maintenance grant application to the Illinois State Board of Education. Supt. Grimm informed the board that the school maintenance grant program has been absent for the last 7 or 8 years but that this was an annual grant program that school districts could apply for. The primary purpose of this grant is for districts to receive state funds to complete repair or renovation projects relative to school district buildings. The maximum amount of grant funds that can be applied for is \$50,000. The board was also informed that this is a matching grant program. The total amount of projects that the board approved to be submitted in this grant application was \$103,500 of which the State will pay \$50,000. The board was also informed that this is a dedicated source of funds available to ISBE for these grants and that they should be paid in a timely manner.
12. The board heard reports from building administrators Mr. Buss, Mrs. Hanson, Mr. Nichols, and Mr. Bradburn.
13. The board heard a verbal report from Supt. Grimm relative to the district's curriculum program. Supt. Grimm reported that he had spent time reviewing and discussing the final school improvement plans that were submitted to the board for approval. He also had been working on the three days of professional development for district staff which will be held in late May and he had also been involved in the interviewing of the candidates for the various vacancies of the district.
14. The board heard a summary of the district technology report from Mrs. Frakes and the district's special education report as presented by Mrs. Farniok.

15. The board briefly discussed the recently held board transportation committee meeting. It was reported that it appears that the placing of an associate on the afternoon route of one of our buses is making a difference in the discipline problems that were being experienced on that bus.
16. The board reviewed briefly some changes to the federal breakfast and lunch guidelines that have been proposed and adopted. Shelly Nelson, who oversees the breakfast and lunch program, presented the board with some information indicating why it is necessary for the district to consider increasing their breakfast and lunch prices. The board was informed that based on a calculation spreadsheet that is utilized, it was determined that the district is not charging enough for their lunches in order to continue to qualify for full reimbursement for the lunch program at the Federal and State level. After discussing, it was the consensus of the board that Supt. Grimm should bring back to the board in May for approval an increase in the daily lunch price of 5 cents per lunch. The board determined that at this time there will be no increase in the breakfast price. Also, as part of this report, the board heard of some changes that will be coming relative to the menus that we will be serving. The changes that are expected for school lunches and breakfasts particularly include more fresh fruits and vegetables and more emphasis on fresh foods in the other areas as well. It was pointed out that these changes will be phased into the school menus over a three year period of time. It was also noted that the board should expect to see significant cost increases in terms of food budget.
17. The board briefly discussed some issues relative to the cost of being a WCHS cheerleader. WCHS cheerleading sponsor, Kim Allaman, provided the board with some information relative to what those costs were. It was noted that anyone wishing to participate in cheerleading is given this information up front and they can then make the decision as to whether they wish to pursue being a cheerleader. Also, as part of this discussion, the board discussed fund raising in general. Supt. Grimm informed the board that he was working with the WCHS student council and administrative team to put in place a fund raising calendar that will be compiled prior to the start of school each year.
18. The board reviewed the proposed changes to each building's parent/student handbook. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the board that they handbook revisions should be brought back to the board in May for approval. The most significant item that came about as a result of this conversation was the board's desire to see some consistency between the handbook provisions on the length of shorts that may be worn in our buildings and our athletic uniforms, particularly our girls' volleyball uniforms.
19. The board briefly reviewed some information relative to a board and community planning retreat. Supt. Grimm presented the board with some ideas to consider in order to begin putting this planning retreat into effect. The board decided Saturday, September 15, 2012 would be the day they would like to hold this all day board and community planning retreat. A tentative location was discussed and a process that will be followed to determine participants in this retreat was tentatively approved by the board.
20. The board briefly reviewed a sample of a district student/family exit survey. The board gave Supt. Grimm some direction in terms of what they would like to see on a similar survey that they would use for District #235.
21. The board briefly reviewed again the district's uniform replacement schedule. Specifically, the board asked if the WCHS dance team could be added to this list. Supt. Grimm was directed to have the conversations necessary to determine what a dance team uniform should consist of.
22. There were no future agenda items listed.
23. The board entered closed session to discuss matters pertaining to personnel at 9:10 pm.

24. The board exited closed session at 9:55 pm and took the following action:
- Accepted the resignation of Ms. Jenna Crouch as WCMS language arts teacher effective at the end of the 2011-12 school year;
 - Approved the transfer of Kathy Lafary from the position of WCES fourth grade teacher to the position of WCES Dean of Students with salary and benefits to be determined;
 - Employed Amanda Waszcuk as a middle school math teacher beginning with the 2012-13 school year;
 - Employed Rachel Reynolds as a middle school language arts teacher beginning with the 2012-13 school year;
 - Employed Justin Rakestraw as a middle school special education teacher beginning with the 2012-13 school year;
 - Employed Daniel DeWeese as a WCHS science teacher beginning with the 2012-13 school year;
 - Employed Andrew Kennedy as a WCHS special education teacher beginning with the 2012-13 school year;
 - Employed Zach Freiley as a bus monitor for a PM route;
 - Employed Caralea Link as the West Central head cook effective at the beginning of the 2012-13 school year;
 - Employed Terri Cole as a WCMS cook effective at the beginning of the 2012-13 school year;
 - Employed Jennifer Lenz as a district cook effective at the beginning of the 2012-13 school year.
25. The board was reminded that their next regular board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2012. This meeting will be held in the elementary cafeteria and will begin at 7 pm.
26. There being no other business to come before the board, the board adjourned their meeting at 10:03 pm.