

TO: WC CUSD #235 Employees
FROM: Ralph Grimm, Superintendent
DATE: December 20, 2013
RE: December 18, 2013 Regular Meeting of the WC CUSD #235 Board of Education

On Wednesday, December 18, 2013, 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 6 pm by Board President Brent. All board members were present at roll call.
2. President Brent then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
3. The Board next conducted a Truth in Taxation Hearing for the 2013 District Tax Levy. This hearing was necessary because the 2013 Tax Levy extension amount was greater than 105% of the 2012 Tax Levy extension amount. Dr. Brent called the public hearing to order. All Board members were present for the hearing.

Dr. Brent opened the hearing by reviewing a brief Power Point presentation regarding the district finances. Following that presentation, several members of the audience spoke about the proposed property increase. Many of the questions asked were about district revenues. A few questions asked dealt with the district expenditures. After about 40 minutes of discussion, questions and answers, President Brent declared the public hearing adjourned.

4. The Board next approved the 2013 tax levy certificate which requested a total extension amount of \$4,465,539. When the Bond and Interest payment for district health life safety work is added to that figure the total amount of local property tax money to be collected for tax year 2013 will be \$4,780,587, an increase of approximately \$352,500 or 7.96%.
5. Under good news items, Board President Brent and the board then recognized four West Central High School students for becoming Illinois State Scholars. President Brent informed the audience that the criteria to be selected as an Illinois State Scholar is based on SAT, ACT and/or Prairie State Achievement Exam scores, and/or class rank at the end of the junior year. The students recognized were Sydney Bigger, Tom Lewis, Andy Lewis and Caleb Paulus.

Other items highlighted as good news items were as follows:

- 64 Christmas Angels were taken care of by the West Central community this year. Special thanks to Deb Gillam, Jaime Shultz, Joanne Hilligoss and Mrs. Farniok for leading this project again this year;
- Mr. Schneider informed the Board that there was significant improvement in the Freshman Explore test since the early Fall administration;
- The middle school and high school winter concerts were highlighted as being well done;
- The WCHS Girls Basketball team was highlighted for winning the Cranberry Classic Tournament;
- WCMS Teacher Rachel Reynolds was awarded a \$500 grant for her classroom library;
- The WCES sixth grade boys basketball team won the recently held St. Paul Tournament;
- The eighth grade students recent visit to the elementary school was highlighted;
- The sixth grade visits to Oak Lane were highlighted and appreciation was expressed for the visits;
- The WCMS students raised money for Sharri Richard and had their money matched by Mr. Nichols;
- The elementary canned food drive netted 988 items. Those items will be shared with food banks from around the county;

- Bethel Lutheran Church was recognized for their recent donations for supplies for the district nurse;
 - District Librarian Renee Russell recently submitted a grant that has been funded by the Books for Schools PaperBack Swap program;
 - A recently retired English/Language Arts teacher from the Chicago Suburbs is donating her entire classroom library of books to West Central;
 - The third grade team was complimented for their efforts raising their students reading levels since the beginning of the year;
 - Mrs. Lumbecks third grade class is donating books to a Drs. Office for patients to take home and read;
 - Jerry Spikers retirement party was held recently and deemed a success. Mr. Spiker retired on November 29, 2013, after 40+ years of service to school district in Henderson County.
6. The board approved the agenda with the following changes:
- Item 12D. Consider Approval of Request to Pay Stipends to WCES RtI Team Members
7. During Recognition of Audience Requests for Presentation, WCHS Boys Basketball Coach Richard Clifton updated the Board on the Boys basketball season. Mr. Clifton informed the Board that there were approximately 39 boys playing basketball: 14 Freshman; 11 Sophomores and 14 Juniors and Seniors. Mr. Clifton requested the Board consider adding an additional coach to help with the high number of players and when the Freshman team is at their games. The Board took no action on that request.
8. The board then approved the consent agenda as presented. Items approved under the consent agenda included:
- The minutes of the regular and closed session meeting of November 19, 2013;
 - The WCHS graduation ceremony to be held on Sunday, May 18, 2014, at 2 pm; The WCMS promotion ceremony to be held on Monday, May 19, 2014, at 7 pm;
 - Approved on first reading and adoption revisions to the following Board policies: : Policy 3:60 – General School Administration – Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal, Policy 4:100 – Operational Services – Insurance Management, Policy 5:50 – General Personnel – Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace: Tobacco Prohibition, Policy 5:90 – General Personnel – Abused and Neglected Child Reporting, Policy 5:100 – General Personnel – Staff Development Program Policy 5:120 – General Personnel – Ethics and Conduct, Policy 5:200 – Professional Personnel – Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal, Policy 6:60 – Instruction – Curriculum Content, Policy 6:250 – Instruction – Community Resource Persons and Volunteers, Policy 6:130 – Instruction – Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitutions, Policy 7:185 – Students – Teen Dating Violence Prohibited, Policy 7:300 – Students – Extracurricular Activities, Policy 8:30 – Community Relations – Visitors to and Conduct on School Property
 - A request to pay the building level SIP team members a \$1,000 stipend for the 2013-2014 school year.
9. Under financial activity, the Board approved the payment of all bills as presented as well as several additional bills that were added at the table. The Board approved the November activity accounts as well. The Board was informed that the Treasurers Report for November will be presented to them for approval at the January 15, 2014, Board meeting. The board heard that as of the end of November actual expenditures and revenue to budget should be 41.67%. It was noted that actual expenditures were 34.33% of budget and actual revenue received was 75.35% of budget as of the end of November 2013. The Board was also informed that as of Wednesday, December 18, 2013, the state of Illinois owed the district \$263,190.

10. The Board approved a request to pay a \$1,000 stipend for the 2013-2014 for the WCES RtI team.
11. The board heard reports from the building Principals Mr. Nichols, and Mr. Schneider. The board reviewed the report submitted by WCES Lead Teacher Kathy Lafary as well.
12. The board heard an update on the district curriculum from Supt. Grimm.
13. The board briefly reviewed the reports submitted by Mrs. Frakes regarding district technology and Mrs. Farniok regarding special education. During Mrs. Frakes report it was noted that the bids for the district fiber project have been received. It was reported that 4 venders were expected to bid and three complete bids were received. Superintendent Grimm informed the Board that a bid letter of recommendation was expected from district consultant Guy Cahill and that he would bring the bid to the Board for approval at their January 15, 2014, Board meeting. Mrs. Frakes also reviewed with the Board the recently completed parent meetings that were held regarding the distribution of the district owned Chrome Books that will be given to our students in grades 3 and 8 when school resumes in January.
14. The Board briefly reviewed an update on the progress that Superintendent Grimm has made on his performance objectives.
15. The Board briefly reviewed the minutes of the recently completed Board Buildings and Grounds committee meeting. The board was updated on the progress on the installation of the water line from Biggsville to the north campus; that the stage curtains will be replaced over Christmas Break; that the boiler work in the high school may or may not be completed during Christmas Break depending on the temperatures and that the clock system in the high school has been repaired.
16. The Board heard a presentation from Mr. Schneider and Ms. Smith, WCHS Math Teacher on the progress of students who have successfully completed the Power Math Class and the Math Lab at WCHS. As part of the report, the Board heard a presentation requesting the inclusion of an accelerated Algebra and Geometry class into the WCHS Curriculum. After discussing the request, the Board directed Mr. Grimm to bring the request to them for approval at the January, 2014, Board meeting.
17. Board President Brent briefly discussed the process for board members to complete the Superintendent's evaluation.
18. The board entered closed session at 8:10 pm to discuss matters pertaining to personnel. The board exited closed session at 9:15 pm.
19. The board took the following action regarding personnel:
 - Accepted the resignation of Tyler Klossing as WCMS Assistant Boys Basketball Coach
 - Employed Mike Lenahan as WCMS Assistant Boys Basketball Coach
 - Employed Scott Schneider as WCHS Boys Baseball Coach
 - Employed Wade O'Neal as WCHS Play Director
20. The board was reminded that the next regular board meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2014. This meeting will be held in the elementary cafeteria and will begin at 6pm.
21. There being no other business to come before the board, the board adjourned their meeting at 9:22 pm.