

TO: All Staff
FROM: Ralph Grimm
RE: Summary of March 18, 2015, Board of Education Meeting
DATE: Thursday, March 19, 2015

At the regularly scheduled March 18, 2015, meeting of the West Central CUSD #235 Board of Education, the following items took place:

- The meeting was called to order at 6 pm in the elementary cafeteria by Board President Brent. All Board members except Mrs. White were present at roll call. Mrs. White entered the meeting at approximately 6:20 pm.
- President Brent led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- The Board heard a presentation from Ms. Diane Robertson, the consultant from School Connect Exec, the firm who is working with the Board on the search for a new district superintendent. Ms. Robertson provided the Board with the candidate profile that she had developed as a result of the input she had received from stakeholders who participated in focus groups and the on-line survey. Ms. Robertson indicated that approximately 71 people participated in the focus groups and approximately 61 people responded to the on-line survey.
- The Board heard presentations from each of the building School Improvement Teams. The Board engaged the teams in questions following each presentation.
- The Board heard from District Architect Bill Phillips on the need for a Health Life Safety amendment to replace five boilers that serve the elementary building. Following Mr. Phillips presentation of the need for this work and a discussion of what will be done, the Board approved the Health Life Safety amendment in the amount of \$187,200 as presented. The amendment will now be approved by Regional Superintendent Jodi Scott and then the Illinois State Board of Education. Following that approval the work will be bid. It is expected that this project will be completed by the middle of October, 2015.
- The Board next discussed with Mr. Phillips the results of his study of the district HVAC system. Mr. Phillips reported that he presented 11 different options to the Board Building and Grounds committee the district could consider to deal with the old, out dated and expensive equipment used to heat the districts buildings. Mr. Phillips presented 3 of those options for the full Board to consider. After a thorough discussion of the three options presented it was the consensus of the Board to ask Mr. Grimm to explore payment options for the project estimated to cost approximately \$4.3 million dollars. This topic will be placed on the April 15, 2015, Board meeting agenda as a discussion item.
- Following a short break, the Board reconvened the meeting and the following items were identified as successes:
 - The WC Sports Booster Club is purchasing a pitching machine for the district baseball programs.
 - Ms. Dana Cory had been designated as the WRAM Teacher of Week.
 - The recently completed ACT Testing at WCHS went well even after missing the first day of testing.
 - The WCHS FFA Meat Judging Team took first place in a recent contest.
 - Ben Hill had his poster designated as Best of Show in the OSF Nutrition Poster Contest.

- The WCMS Scholastic Bowl Team took second place in the recently completed Sand Valley Conference Tournament.
 - The National Honor Society Induction was well done. The students were complimented for leading the entire program.
- The Board approved the agenda with the addition of item XV. A-3 Resignation: Amanda Torrance, WCES Part Time Title I Associate.
- No one else wished to address the Board on any agenda items.
- The Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented. Items approved under the Consent Agenda included:
 - The February 19, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes, the February 26 and 28, 2015, Special Meeting minutes and the February 26 and 28, 2015, Closed Session minutes
 - Continued participation in the Illinois High School Association and the Illinois Elementary School Association
 - The Board directed the superintendent to begin working on the FY 16 district budget
 - The 2015-2016 School District Calendar
 - The creation of a WCHS Activity Account for the Class of 1964 Scholarship
- The Board approved the payment of all bills as presented, the Activity Account summaries for each building and the February, 2015 Treasurer's Report. The Board heard a report on the District Financial Summary for the month of February. Superintendent Grimm reported that at the end of the eighth month of the fiscal year, the actual expenditures and revenue figures should be at 66.67% of budget. It was reported that at the end of February, 2015, revenue received was at 80.41% and the expenditures were at 57.38%. It was also reported that the State of Illinois owes District # 235 \$157,817. Superintendent Grimm informed the Board that the district has only received one transportation reimbursement payment this fiscal year and that it was doubtful that the district would receive any of the three remaining payments.
- The Board approved the guidelines for The Sharri Richard Memorial Scholarship as presented.
- The Board approved a bid of \$54,160 from Storage & Design, Inc. This project is scheduled to begin around June 1, 2015, and conclude by August 3, 2015. This project is part of the 2013 District Ten Year Health Life Safety Survey.
- The Board reviewed the written reports submitted by the three building principals, Mr. Grimm on the district Curriculum, Mrs. Smith as District Special Ed Director and Mrs. Frakes as District Technology Director.
- The Board briefly discussed the District Special Ed Audit recently completed by District Special Ed Consultant Denise VanDaele. The Board was informed the report will continue to be discussed by the Admin Team.
- Mr. Frakes presented to the Board the results of the Bi-Annual Sports Interest Survey.
- The Board briefly discussed a summary of the recently completed Board Planning Retreat. The Board reviewed a report compiled by Superintendent Grimm. It was decided that the Board Building and Grounds subcommittee would meet with District Architect Bill Phillips to review and discuss plans to possibly expand the high school cafeteria in order to add an additional teaching period during the high school day. This topic was studied by the Board approximately 8 years ago. The rest of the items discussed at the Planning Retreat will be discussed with the new superintendent.
- There was no additional discussion on the Building School Improvement Plans.

- The Board discussed the potential sale of the lots in Stronghurst. It was decided by consensus of the Board to not go through the process of selling the lots again at this time.
- The Board discussed establishing protocols for purchasing and displaying state tournament banners. The Board asked Mr. Frakes to prepare guidelines for displaying state tournament guideline and to prepare an estimate to purchase and display the banners for those sports or individuals that have previously participated in a state tournament series.
- The Board reviewed proposals from two golf courses interested in hosting the WCHS Golf Team for the 2015 season. Mr. Frakes was asked to prepare some additional information for the Board so they can take action on one of the proposals at the April 15, 2015, Board meeting.
- The Board discussed moving forward with the search for the new middle school principal and the new elementary assistant principal.
- The Board entered closed session to discuss matters pertaining to Personnel at 9:35 pm. The Board exited closed session at 10:40 pm. Upon leaving closed session the Board took the following action:
 - Accepted the resignation of Ralph Grimm as District Superintendent
 - Accepted the resignation of Lynn Halcomb as WCES Special Ed teacher
 - Accepted the resignation of Amanda Torrance as WCES Part-time Title I Associate
 - Employed Samantha Swisher as an associate
 - Employed Lynn Ragar as a long term substitute teacher at WCES
 - Employed Brenda Steck and Megan Endress at WCHS Cheerleading Sponsors
 - Employed Adam Boyle as WCHS Golf Coach
 - Accepted the resignation of Sarah Bigger as WCHS Volleyball Coach
 - Accepted the resignation of Shelley Morrison and Lisa Johnson as WCMS Sixth Grade Girls Basketball Coach
 - Approved Eric Vancil as volunteer WCHS Softball Coach
 - Approved Kelli Vancil and Laura Pirtle as volunteer WCHS Cheerleading sponsors
- The Board was reminded the next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 15, 2015 beginning at 6 pm in the WCES Cafeteria.
- There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 pm.