

TO: WC CUSD #235 Employees
FROM: Ralph Grimm, Superintendent
DATE: March 22, 2013
RE: March 20, 2013 Regular Meeting of the WC CUSD #235 Board of Education

On Wednesday, March 20, 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 conducted a public hearing concerning the intent of West Central CUSD #235, Henderson, Warren and McDonough Counties, Illinois to sell \$3,000,000 working cash fund bonds for the purpose of increasing the working cash fund of the district. President Brent called the hearing to order at 6:02 pm. All board members were present at roll call. President Brent then opened the floor for public comment concerning the issue. There were no comments offered from members of the audience. President Brent then declared the hearing adjourned at 6:03 pm.
4. Under good news items the following items were highlighted:
 - West Central was well represented at the 3 on 3 basketball tournament hosted by ICS;
 - The High School play was very good;
 - Congratulated Alexis Ensminger for qualifying for the indoor state track meet;
 - The IESA music contest was held this past weekend and West Central Middle School did very well with a total of 20 – first place and 10 – second place standings.
 - West Central Elementary had 8 students who were recognized at the OSF nutrition poster contest;
 - The Pre K thanked Jay Ragar and Rabeka Link for their generous donations of bicycles, Tupperware for the kitchen and a variety of treasure box and Heat store prizes.
 - The Pre K also thanked Matt and John Link for their extra attention to snow removal and parking lot repairs needed due to the plowing;
 - West Central High School had a drug sweep this morning and is proud to announce that there were no findings.
 - Mr. Gittings reported that the West Central High School FFA has several students who advanced in competition.
5. The board approved the agenda with the addition of item XVI-A-7. Retirement: Lynn Ragar, WCES teacher.
6. The board heard presentation from the building School Improvement Plan teams regarding their 2013-14 school improvement plans. Each team presented the board a presentation on the highlights of the plans that have been submitted. Each presentation was followed by a question/answer session. After the final presentation, the board thanked the teams for their work over the course of the last year in developing these plans and for their presentation on Wednesday.
7. The board approved the consent agenda as presented. Items approved under the consent agenda included:
 - Minutes of the February 20, 2013 regular meeting;
 - Minutes of the March 7, 2013 special meeting;

- Closed session minutes of November 19, 2012, December 19, 2012, January 16, 2013, February 20, 2013, and March 7, 2013;
 - Membership in the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) for the West Central High School for the 2013-14 school year;
 - Membership in the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) for West Central Middle School for the 2013-14 school year;
 - Direct Superintendent Grimm to begin working on the FY14 district budget for West Central CUSD #235;
 - The 2013-2014 West Central CUSD #235 school calendar.
8. Under financial activity, the board approved payment of all bills as presented. There were several questions asked about the bills. The board approved the February 2013 activity accounts for West Central High School, West Central Middle School and West Central Elementary School. The board approved the treasurer's reports for November 2012, December 2012, January 2013 and February 2013 as presented.

The board heard that as of the end of February actual expenditures and revenue to budget should be 66.67%. It was noted that actual expenditures were 61.32% of budget and actual revenue received was 69% of budget as of the end of February 2013. Supt. Grimm also reported that as of March 20, 2013, the State has vouchered but not yet paid District #235 \$283,908.94.

9. The board discussed a request from WCHS driver education teacher, Troy Linden to offer a limited summer behind the wheel driver program. Mr. Linden requested funding to be allowed to drive with 24 students over the summer. This request is made so that students who will turn 16 years of age during the upcoming school year will be able to have their required driving time complete prior to their birthday. In addition, Mr. Linden requested to be paid for one additional day in the summer in order to provide an opportunity for students who will be taking driver education during the 2013-14 school year an opportunity to take the Rules of the Road test in order to obtain their permit in a timely manner. Following a brief question and answer period, the board approved the funding request to offer these summer driver education opportunities in an amount not to exceed \$2960. The board also briefly discussed whether or not the current \$50 fee that is charged to district students for the driver education class is sufficient. It was suggested that this issue be reviewed by the board's finance committee.
10. The board heard reports from the building principals concerning the activities that they have been involved with since the February 20th meeting.
11. The board briefly reviewed the curriculum report as submitted by Supt. Grimm.
12. During the technology report, Mrs. Frakes and Supt. Grimm discussed with the board a potential fiber optic installation project that is under consideration by the administrative team. As part of this discussion, it was noted that the impending PARCC assessment will be done entirely on line beginning in 2016 and currently we do not feel we have the necessary band width to comply with this mandate from the State of Illinois. Also as part of this discussion, the board heard some very preliminary plans concerning a 1:1 initiative that Mrs. Frakes and the administrative team would like to pursue on a going forward basis. Specifically the board was told that the 1:1 initiative would be implemented and piloted on a limited basis during the 2013-14 school year and that the upcoming school year would be used to gather additional information about this project. After a somewhat lengthy discussion of these two topics, the board gave Mrs. Frakes and Supt. Grimm permission to move forward on these two projects and to gather additional information and then report back to the board when available.

13. The board heard a report from district special education coordinator, Jamie Farniok about the items that she has been involved with since the February board meeting.
14. The board was informed that the board's policy committee has been given some information from Supt. Grimm relative to a couple of issues that arose at the February 20, 2013 meeting. Dr. Robbins on behalf of the policy committee informed the board quite a bit of information has been gathered but the policy committee had not had time to review it and they would do so prior to the April meeting; therefore, Dr. Robbins requested that this be placed on the April 2013 board meeting agenda as a discussion item.
15. The board heard a brief report from district athletic director Roger Kerfoot on the possible merger of the Lincoln Trail and Prairieland Conferences for high school football only. Mr. Kerfoot reported that there has been a series of talks between the two conferences and he expected a decision on what this possible merger may look like and whether or not it will take place within the next month or so.
16. There were no additional comments made about the 2013-14 school improvement plans.
17. The board was updated on the talks that Supt. Grimm has had with a couple of different organizations concerning the use of the Media facility now that this facility will be vacant due to the movement of the West Central Early Childhood Program to the north campus. The board by consensus gave Supt. Grimm permission to continue talking with these groups about possibly renting part or all of the Media facility.
18. The board heard a presentation from WCHS math teacher Megan Smith regarding the addition of a trigonometry class. Ms. Smith highlighted the reasons for making the request to add this course. In addition, she informed the board that this class could be implemented without significantly impacting the current teaching schedule, there would be no need for an additional teaching slot and the cost of material to implement this course would be minimal. The board agreed that this would be a good addition to the high school curriculum and indicated to Supt. Grimm and Mr. Schneider that they would formally approve this request at the April board meeting and that it would be appropriate to go ahead and schedule the high school students with the thought that this class would be added to the curriculum.
19. Supt. Grimm reviewed with the board the potential impact of the Governor's proposed cut to transportation reimbursement to local school districts. Supt. Grimm informed the board if the Governor's cut is put into effect, West Central CUSD #235 could stand to lose approximately \$252,000 in reimbursement for transportation expenses. He offered the board a list of possible options to consider should this happen.

Those options included:

- Eliminate all shuttles between the buildings;
- Eliminate all extra curricular transportation;
- Transfer part or all of working cash fund to transportation;
- Deposit GSA to the transportation fund;
- Deposit Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax money into the transportation fund;
- Abolish the working cash fund and distribute the proceeds to the operating funds and sell new working cash fund bonds;
- Seek a transportation fund referendum to raise the transportation fund rate;
- Other

Those in attendance were encouraged to contact their legislators and let them know that there should be no cuts to the transportation reimbursement formula.

20. Under future agenda items, there was a request to have on the next agenda a discussion about the school farm lease.
21. The board entered closed session at 8:28 pm to discuss matters pertaining to personnel. The board exited closed session at 10:15 pm and took the following action:
- Approved the retirement of Karen Rima as WCMS assistant principal and the retirement salary incentive as per the WCATS contract;
 - Accepted the resignation of Sara Ryan as WCHS English teacher effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year;
 - Accepted the resignation of Melissa Bittner as WCES teacher effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year;
 - Accepted the resignation of Amanda Waszcuk as WCMS math teacher effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year;
 - Accepted the resignation of Brenda Nelson as WC Speech Therapist effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year;
 - Accepted the resignation of Robert Honeyman as WCMS Language Arts teacher effective at the end of the 2012-13 school year;
 - Approved the retirement of Lynn Ragar as WCES teacher and the retirement salary incentive as per the WCATS contract;
 - Employed Hannah Alecock as a district associate for the remainder of the 2012-13 school year;
 - Employed Ryan Casper as WCHS assistant baseball coach;
 - Accepted the resignation of Susan Bundy as WCHS dance team sponsor;
 - Offered one-year contracts beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014 to WCHS Principal Scott Schneider, WCHS Assistant Principal Randy Frakes, WCES Dean of Students Kathy Lafary and District Special Education Coordinator/Psychologist Jamie Farniok with contract salary and benefits to be determined at a later date.
22. The board's next regular board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013. This meeting will be held in the elementary cafeteria and will begin at 7 pm.
23. There being no other business to come before the board, the board adjourned their meeting at 10:32 pm.