

TO: West Central Staff and Community Members
FROM: Stacey Day, Superintendent
RE: August 17, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Summary
DATE: August 22, 2022

At the Wednesday, August 17, 2022 Regular West Central #235 Board of Education Meeting, the following took place:

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in the West Central Elementary Cafeteria by Board President Brenden Schaley. Board members present at roll call were: Brenden Schaley, Mike Lenahan, Jodi Arnold, Mindy Clark and Sarah Bigger, Dillan Vancil and Steve Lumbeck. Also present were: Superintendent Stacey Day, Board Recording Secretary Jaime Shultz, West Central High School Principal Jason Kirby, West Central HS AD Joel Zaiser, West Central Middle School Principal Sara Ryner and West Central Elementary Assistant Principal Joe Peters, West Central Technology Coordinator Jeremy Hennings, Stronghurst Summer Ball Directors Alyssa Hawk and Emily Schaley
2. President Schaley led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Under Good News Items the following was highlighted:
 - A. All commented on the great start to the year, two teacher institute days and the first day with students. Administrators commented on how staff appreciated the 2 days of in-service and the training on Tuesday.
 - B. Thank you was also mentioned for the district breakfast on Monday and the Board of Education Lunch on Tuesday. As well as appreciation from the Middle School staff for delivering lunch to their building.
4. The agenda was approved with no changes.
5. There were no comments from the public.
6. The Board approved the Consent Agenda. Items approved under the Consent Agenda included the following:
 - A. Minutes of the July 19, 2022 Regular and Closed Session Meetings
 - B. The July 2022 bills, July 2022 Treasurer's Report
 - C. Approval of Activities accounts for the Elementary, Middle and High School for June and July 2022.
7. The board discussed allowing Emergency Leave through the WCATS Contract for staff members who are certified CASA Advocates. CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates and they will work with students in Henderson County whose families are involved in the court system. They will be able to advocate for the needs of those students (West Central Students). The request comes from the possibility that they may need to attend specific court hearings to support their students, which would fall during school hours. The leave would be handled by creating an MOU with the WCATS Association to follow the same restrictions and procedures already listed in the

contract for Volunteer Firefighters or EMTs that are on staff. The MOU agreement will be presented in September for approval.

8. Alyssa Hawk and Emily Schaley presented an update and thank you to the Board of Education for the Stronghurst Summer Ball Program (Henderson County Heat Summer Ball Association). They had 182 students playing ball this summer in Stronghurst! They shared thanks for being able to use the school district ball fields and asked about planting some trees near Little Wrigley and looking into the purchase of bleachers for the field. They received many compliments on how nice the grounds looked all summer.
9. There was one FOIA request this month and it was related to our TRO Lawsuit legal fees, which are paid by our insurance agency. The attorney handling the TRO for West Central has been directed to respond to the FOIA Request.
10. 2022 – 2023 Registration was discussed briefly. Each administrator stated that registration went smoothly and only had a few students left to register or determine the details for their enrollment. It was discussed briefly to move the start of registration up earlier in July for next year to allow more time for both parents and district employees.
11. The HVAC and Sewer projects were discussed to provide an update on their status. The sewer project is now in need of a new wet well. The pumps that are required by EPA for the system do not fit in the current well as originally planned. The new well will be installed ASAP and then the project will proceed to completion. The HVAC system has been impacted by the supply chain problems and will not be completed until Summer of 2023. The high school gym and cafeteria were not originally in the project for AC to be installed and the architects are working on providing the requirements to include those spaces and the prices to install additional equipment to cool them.
12. The high school greenhouse project was discussed with updated pricing. Due to the increase in pricing to complete the project (estimated over \$100,000) and the work needed to ensure that it follows state requirements and timelines, the project is currently being put on hold. We will continue working to determine funding sources and working with the West Central FFA Alumni to find a way to proceed with the project in the near future.
13. The building principals, technology coordinator and high school athletic director presented their monthly reports. All principals discussed the successful start of the school year and fall athletics. Mr. Hennings (District Technology Coordinator) updated the board on the Technology Departments summer work and status for starting the year.
14. The Board approved updated Student Handbook information regarding Middle School Athletic Eligibility. This puts a focus on our athletes being Students first and being successful in the classroom.
15. The 2022 – 2023 Return to Learn Plan was approved by the Board. This is a federal requirement to update and approve the plan in order to continue receiving ESSER funding, which is paying for our HVAC project. The plan contains the steps we

followed regarding COVID last spring. The only changes to the previous document was to make the adjustments for the mitigations we were doing in May.

16. In the fall of 2021 the Board of Education approved a 3-year agreement with the bus drivers regarding a sign-on bonus and retention bonus. This action item clarified the intention of that action from last fall. There were no changes to the previous agreement, just clarification in language to prepare for our auditors.
17. The Board approved the purchase of new windscreens for both the softball and baseball fields. The current windscreen at the softball field was purchased with the Class of 2020 activity fund money and it will be moved back to the high school prior to the first football game. The new screens will be installed as soon as they arrive.
18. The Board approved the West Central Safe and Secure Schools Plan – Student Threat Assessment Protocol. Board approval and submission of this plan to the ROE and local Law Enforcement Agencies is a new state law. The district plans to take time this school year to review and update the Threat Assessment Plan and School Safety Plans. The plan approved at the board meeting is the current plan in place and implemented by the school district.
19. The Board approved purchasing a watering system for the WCHS Football field.
20. The Board approved the Tentative FY23 Budget and placed it on file for review in the District Office. The final budget will be presented and adopted at the September 2022 Regular Board Meeting.
21. The Board entered closed session at 7:10 pm to discuss the following:
 - a. Personnel - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
 - b. Negotiations - Collective negotiating matters between the school board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.
 - c. Litigation - Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

The board exited closed session at 8:10 pm.

22. The Board took the following action in regards to personnel:
 - a. Accepted the retirement of Kathy Lafary, WCES Principal, at the end of the 2025 – 2026 school year.
 - b. Accepted the retirement of Brenda Steck, WCES 1st Grade Teacher, at the end of the 2025 – 2026 school year.
 - c. Accepted the resignation of Matthew Stewart as District Band Director.
 - d. Accepted the resignation of Tammy Bundy as District Bus Driver.
 - e. Approved the hiring of Danielle Brill as full-time District Cook.
 - f. Approved the change in job position for Lene Lox to Longterm Sub for 1st semester and Teacher for 2nd semester of the 2022 – 2023 school year.
 - g. Approved the hiring of Jacalyn Kendall as part-time district cook.
 - h. Approved the hiring of Amy Reathaford as WCES and WCHS Art Teacher.
 - i. Approved the hiring of Lisa Ravenscraft as WCES 3rd Grade Teacher.
 - j. Approved the hiring of Amanda Billingsly as part-time Title 1 Paraprofessional at WCES.
 - k. Approved the hiring of Edward Santos as WCMS PE Paraprofessional
 - l. Approved the hiring of Debra Paulus as part-time District Cook.
 - m. Approved the hiring of Kathy Wiegand as full-time District Cook.
 - n. Approved the hiring of Sara Dittner as WCMS Teacher.
 - o. Approved Amanda Corzatt as a volunteer Middle School Softball Coach.
 - p. Approved the hiring of Lene Lox as 6th grade Boys Basketball and 7th grade Girls Basketball Coach.
 - q. Approved hiring Hallie Eisnicher and WCMS Assistant Softball Coach
 - r. Approved a 1-year contract extension for Jason Kirby, WCHS Principal.
 - s.
23. The Board was reminded that the next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 6:00 pm in the West Central Elementary Cafeteria. The annual Budget Hearing will take place at 5:30 pm that same night, prior to the Regular Board Meeting.
24. That concluded the business before the Board and the Board adjourned their meeting at 8:18 pm.