

**TO: West Central Staff and Community**  
**FROM: Stacey Day, Superintendent**  
**DATE: December 1, 2025**  
**RE: Summary of November 18, 2025, Board of Education Regular Meeting**

At the November 18, 2025, Board of Education Regular Meeting the following took place:

1. The Board of Education Regular Meeting was called to order by President Schaley at 6:00 pm. Board members present were: Mindy Clark, Brendan Schaley, Dillan Vancil, Josh Higgins, Karl Gullberg and Mike Lenahan. Board member Lauren Chockley arrived at 6:50 pm. Also present for the meeting were: Superintendent Stacey Day, District Administrators: Kathy Lafary, Bryan Taylor, Jason Kirby, Brittney Kugler, Byron Helt, Jeremy Hennings and Board Recording Secretary Jaime Shultz. Also in attendance was Miranda Gullberg, District SLP.
2. President Schaley led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. The following items were presented as Good News Items:
  - a. A big thank you to all of our families for supporting reading and our schools by purchasing items at our most recent Scholastic Book Fair at both the elementary and the middle school.
  - b. The Middle School Veteran's Day Assembly on Monday was a great success. Thank you to all of our Veterans for attending and to the students and staff who planned the event.
  - c. WCE joined the Cereal Box Domino Challenge: We Collected, We Created, We Conquered! We were able to donate 1,182 boxes of cereal to our local food pantries. Congratulations to Ms. Lewis and her 5th grade crew!
  - d. Rebecca Hinshaw, WCHS Junior, qualified for the IHSA Swim State Finals for the second year in a row! She tied for 18th!
  - e. Keaton Ruebush was named to 1st Team All-State and we had six football players named to the 1st Team All Conference!
  - f. One of our MS Speech groups earned 1st place at Rockridge Invitational and will come present at the next Board Meeting.
  - g. School Board Appreciation Day was earlier in the weekend. We thanked all of our school board members for their time and work for our District.
  - h. The following staff members were recognized as part of Our District Our Legacy: All Bus and Van Drivers, Alyssa Hawk, Amy Chandler, Brooke Day, Bryan Taylor, Cindy Boyd, Connie Sue Torrance, Deb Paulus, Dylan Brooks, Elementary Kitchen Staff, Emily Schaley, Heidi Crane, Jackie Biggs, Jamie Hennings, Jenny Ford, Jessica Burrell, Jordain Johnson, Karri Wallace, Kayla Crum, Kilene Chapin, Kim Thompson, Laura Lewis, Lauren Chockley, Megan Bailey, Megan Rodeffer, Miranda Gullberg, Nikki Mills, Paige Leath, Peyton Jack, Rose Garner, Shelby Johnson, Sherri Walters, Stacey Kreps, Taylor Carpenter, Tiffany Kaup, Tiffany Ouellette, and Tracey Richers.
4. The agenda was approved without any changes.
5. There was not one from the public in attendance to speak to the Board.

6. The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda, by a 6-0 roll call vote:
  - a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting, October 15, 2025
  - b. Minutes of the Closed Session, October 15, 2025
  - c. Payment of Bills
  - d. Approval of Activity Accounts
  - e. Approval of Treasurer's Report
7. Superintendent Day reported the District received two FOIA requests since the last meeting. SmartProCure requested vendor information and Steve Watts (from Texas) wanted information about employees, email address, positions and salary details. Both requests were completed in the required timelines.
8. Superintendent Day gave a presentation on the 2025 Summative Designations for each of the buildings. Designations are given to each school building annually. Our schools maintained the same designation they received last year. The High School and Middle School were both Commendable and the Elementary School was Targeted, for their Children with Disabilities subgroup.
9. The Board heard a short update on the Playground project. The PTC has started fundraising and working on the paperwork to gain 501c3 status. The first Drinks at Drop-Off went really well and they earned about \$300 towards the playground! The Playground committee will meet again in December.
10. The Building and Grounds committee gave a short update as well. The Local Contractor meeting was held at the end of October and had about 11 different contractor companies show up to learn more about school construction projects. It was a big success. Superintendent Day talked to the Board about investing the new Health-Life Safety Bond and will work with ISDLAF to invest those funds while we work on completing projects. The Building and Grounds committee will meet with the architect before the December meeting to receive an update on the projects scheduled for Summer 2026.
11. The building administrators gave a short recap of their monthly reports. The District Technology gave an update to his report as well. Superintendent Day gave the update on Special Education and Miranda Gullberg, District SLP, spoke about the increasing SLP needs for students as well.
12. Superintendent Day presented options for the 2025 Tentative Tax Levy. The Board was presented with five different options for consideration. The estimated EAV (which is what the tax is based off of) is expected to be about 6.5% higher than last year's EAV. The Board looked at options that kept the District under the 5% Truth in Taxation requirement. The 2024 tax rate (not including the Bond rate) was \$3.6772, the current TENTATIVE 2025 tax rate (not including the Bond rate) is estimated to be \$3.625. In December the Board purchased \$8,000,000 in Health-Life-Safety Bonds to complete items on our 10-year Health-Life-Safety Survey. That will impact the estimated tax rate by an additional \$0.4391 (for 2024 it was \$0.2252), this will increase the overall tax rate to about \$4.0640, an increase of about \$0.16 from last year. The Board will take final action on the 2025 Tax Levy at the December meeting, after receiving updated EAV values from the county.
13. The Board approved the FY25 Audit as presented by Wifli. There were no findings in the audit and they reported clean, strong financials.

14. The Board approved the FY26 Maintenance Grant on a 7-0 roll call vote. The grant is a \$50,000 matching grant from ISBE and will be used towards the playground project, if the grant is approved by ISBE.
15. The Board approved the first reading of PressPlus Issue 120 on a majority ayes, voice vote. The Board will consider final adoption at the December meeting.
16. The Board was reminded to send any agenda requests to President Schaley or Superintendent Day.
17. The Board moved to go into Closed Session at 8:06 pm to discuss Personnel and Negotiations, and returned to Open Session at 9:03 pm.
18. The Board approved the following items as part of the Personnel Agenda, by a 7-0 roll call vote:
  - a. Volunteer - Bailey Stombaugh - WCHS Cheer Coach
  - b. Employment - Jaime DeCrane - District Paraprofessional
  - c. Employment - Gwen Kahlke - WCMS 7th Grade Volleyball
  - d. Employment - Bailey Garner - WCHS Cheer Coach
  - e. Employment - Julie Colwell - District Paraprofessional
  - f. Resignation - Renata Conway - WCHS Cheer Coach
  - g. Resignation - Brian Kreps - Transportation Director
  - h. Resignation - Lene Lox - MS Boys Track Coach
19. The Board was reminded that the Next Regular Board of Education Meeting will be on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:00 pm.
20. The Board adjourned at 9:04 pm.