

TO: West Central Staff and Community
FROM: Stacey Day, Superintendent
DATE: April 20, 2026
RE: Summary of April 20, 2026, Board of Education Regular Meeting

At the April 20, 2026, Board of Education Regular Meeting the following took place:

1. The Board of Education Regular Meeting was called to order by President Schaley at 6:01 pm. Board members present were: Mindy Clark, Brendan Schaley, Josh Higgins, Dillan Vancil, Karl Gullberg, Mike Lenahan and Lauren Chockley. Also present for the meeting were: Superintendent Stacey Day, District Administrators: Kathy Lafary, Bryan Taylor, Jason Kirby, Stacey Kreps, Brittney DeWeese, Byron Helt, Special Education Coordinator Mallory Allen, District Technology Director Jeremy Hennings and Board Recording Secretary Jaime Shultz. Also present was Diane Robertson, consultant for School Exec Connect.
2. President Schaley led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. The following items were presented as Good News Items:
 - a. Raritan State Bank is partnering with WCE during the month of April in recognition of Community Banking Month. Our 4th grade students visited the bank and they also sponsored a coloring contest.
 - b. Our District. Our Legacy Recognitions: Mallory Allen, Joyce Bass, Tabitha Cooper, Ariel Dillard, Trisha Forquer, Jennette Johnson, Emily Klossing, Maddie Leath, Lene Lox, Laura Lewis, Sheila Moore, Tiffany Ouellette, Julie Ricketts, Megan Rodeffer, Jaime Shultz, Peyton Steck, Brian Sterett, P.J. Thompson.
4. The agenda was approved without any changes.
5. There was no one in attendance wishing to address the Board.
6. The following items were approved by a 7-0 roll call vote as part of the Consent Agenda:
 - a. Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting, March 18, 2026
 - b. Meeting Minutes of the Closed Session, March 18, 2026
 - c. Meeting Minutes of the Special Meeting, March 23, 2026
 - d. Meeting Minutes of the Closed Session, March 23, 2026
 - e. Payment of Bills
 - f. Approval of Activity Accounts
 - g. Approval of Treasurer's Report
 - h. Proclamation Regarding National Teacher Appreciation Week
 - i. 2026 - 2027 Registration/Technology/Lunch Fees
7. Diane Robertson, consultant from School Exec Connect, made a presentation on the results of the survey and focus groups to design the new superintendent profile, which will be used to select candidates for the superintendent position. Ms. Robertson presented positives and areas of concerns that were reported in the focus groups as well as on the survey. Her full report will be posted on the District website and on social media pages. Ms. Robertson explained next steps of the superintendent search process which will include a Board training on May 3, Ms. Robertson will present a slate of candidates for Board consideration for interviews and then start the interview and

selection process. If things all go well, then the Board will have a candidate to negotiate a contract with in the mid-May. Ms. Robertson reminded the Board that if none of the candidates are a fit and acceptable to the position, then the Board is able to consider an Interim Superintendent while they continue searching for a replacement.

8. Superintendent Day shared with the Board the FOIA requests since the last month. The District received four requests: Public Info Access wanted information about department heads (library, curriculum, CTE, etc) and their emails, Starbridge asked for vendor information from January 1, 2025-Present, Databranch USA asked for vendor information from January 1, 2022-Present and Michael Henry asked for information regard legal firms (names, contract/agreements and total costs) for the last 8 years. All responses were submitted within the required timeframe.
9. Superintendent Day provided the Board an update on the Strategic Plan. A Stakeholder Meeting was held on March 31 to talk with that group about the updates as well. The District has focused on the curriculum alignment process this year in all of the buildings. We have also worked on starting our projects in the 10-year life safety work, continued our work with 2nd Step for SEL support for students and provided career exploration opportunities to students at all levels. Later this spring the District Student Handbook will be given an overhaul to implement for next school year.
10. Superintendent Day shared with the Board a few updates on building projects that are in the works. The Board will discuss the roof project and elementary exterior doors as part of the action items on this agenda. Superintendent Day has started ordering equipment for the MS Kitchen and is waiting on a price for the HVAC portion of the MS Locker Room project to use towards the FY25 Maintenance grant that needs to be spent by June 30, 2026. This is a matching grant with the state, so the District needs to spend at least \$100,000 on the project in order to keep the \$50,000 match from ISBE. Superintendent Day also discussed the need to consider removing the pea gravel from the south side of the Middle School due to the concern of window damage with the new windows being installed this summer. This is on the 10 year life safety project, but currently is not on the list of projects for this summer. Board Member Vancil discussed the possible project for an additional baseball field. Vancil was able to get a quote for fencing for the project, for materials and labor the fencing portion would cost about \$46,000. The baseball project will be put on the list, but not a project that the District will undertake immediately.
11. The Board heard an update on the elementary playground project. All items have been ordered, with expected delivery of the equipment to be sometime near the second week of June, then the equipment will be installed. The Board was reminded that the PTC fundraising event, SINGO, is scheduled for Friday, April 17.
12. The Board discussed the draft, updated job descriptions for the Athletic Director job descriptions for both the Middle School and High School positions. The Board will read them over and provide feedback to the Athletic Committee and will take final action at the May Board meeting. The updated job description will be used to hire a new HS Athletic Director, after they are approved.
13. The Board discussed the current 1:1 Chromebook Plan for the District. They would like to look into the current usage and ensure that chromebooks are used to supplement

instruction, not replace instruction by a teacher. There was a discussion about making sure that the benefits of what we are using the technology for outweighs the possible harm to students by more time on a device. Mr. Hennings shared that one of our current technology programs is able to track device usage for students who are on their chromebooks during the school day. We will track this information for the rest of the school year and present that data at the May Board meeting for determination of next steps. The Board asked for a check-in on the data at the end of April (about 2 weeks worth of data), that information will be shared with the Board and the staff. The intention is not to remove all chromebooks throughout the District, but to ensure that they are being used to the best of their ability to support instruction and improve learning for students.

14. Superintendent Day discussed with the Board the current lease agreement for the Driver Education car expires at the end of this school year. For years, we have leased a vehicle for \$1800 with Bruce Foote, who has notified us that after the 26-27 school year, we will no longer be able to lease. The Board asked for information on lease agreements with other companies and details on purchasing a driver education car. The information will be gathered and presented at the May meeting.
15. The administrators, technology director, and the special education coordinator presented their monthly reports to the Board.
16. The Board approved the 2026-2027 School Calendar by a 7-0 roll call vote. The calendar is similar to the current school year with the following changes: added institute day on October 9 for an ROE-wide training, spring parent-teacher conferences will be reduced to 4 hours on Thursday evening, instead of Thursday evening and Friday morning. The calendar will be posted on the District website and submitted to the ROE and ISBE for approval.
17. The Board approved the bid by Laverdiere Construction for the Elementary Door Project for a total of \$178,931 to be completed this summer, by a 7-0 roll call vote.
18. The Board approved the bid by R. A. Oldeen for Phase 1 of the High School Roof Replacement Project for a total cost of \$773,409. The estimate of this phase of the project was \$1,300,000. The project will be completed this summer.
19. The Board approved PRESS Issue 121 on the 1st Reading. These policies will be discussed and final action taken at the May meeting.
20. President Schaley asked for the West Central Logo to be placed on the next meeting agenda and reminded the Board to submit requested agenda items to Superintendent Day or to President Schaley.

21. The Board took the following action after returning from Closed Session:

- a. Approved the following as part of the Winter Coach Rehires by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Winter Coach Rehire Recommendations			
Approved: April 16, 2026			
High School		Middle School	
Varsity Girls Basketball	Open due to resignation	8th Grade Boys Basketball	Casey Goff
JV Girls Basketball	Jordain Johnson	7th Grade Boys Basketball	Open due to resignation
Varsity Boys Basketball	Doug Dennison	6th Grade Boys Basketball	
JV Boys Basketball	Trey Goff	8th Grade Volleyball	Open due to resignation
Bowling	Jimmy Register	7th Grade Volleyball	Gwen Kahlke
Basketball Cheer	Bailey Garner	6th Grade Volleyball	Ariel Dillard
Swim Volunteer	Heather Hinshaw	Basketball Cheer	Open due to resignation
		Athletic Director	

The Board tabled 6th grade boys basketball coach until the next meeting.
The Board did not rehire EJ Santos as Middle School Athletic Director

- b. Approved the following as part of the Personnel Agenda by a 7-0 roll call vote:

- i. Employment - Gary Fryrear - Seasonal Groundskeeper
- ii. Employment - Bailey Garner - HS Football Cheerleading Coach
- iii. Employment - Tracy Mason - MS Assistant Principal
- iv. Employment - Alicen Hand - District Paraprofessional
- v. Change of Assignment - Byron Helt - MS Assistant Principal to MS Principal
- vi. Change of Assignment - Bryan Taylor - Elementary Assistant Principal to Elementary Principal
- vii. Leave - Kara Keating - Maternity Leave
- viii. Resignation - Stacey Day - Superintendent
- ix. Resignation - Andrew Chockley - WCMS 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
- x. Resignation - Lene Lox - WCMS 8th Grade Volleyball Coach
- xi. Resignation - Sierra Torrance - WCES Part-time Paraprofessional

c. The Board approved a 3-year administrative contract for Byron Helt as the Middle School Principal for 2026 - 2029, on a 7-0 roll call vote.

d. The Board approved a 3-year administrative contract for Bryan Taylor as the Elementary School Principal for 2026 - 2029, on a 7-0 roll call vote.

e. The Board approved a 3-year administrative contract for Tracy Mason as the Middle School Assistant Principal for 2026-2029, on a 7-0 roll call vote.

22. The Board was reminded of the following, upcoming meeting dates:

- a. Superintendent Search Meetings
- i. Special Board Meeting, Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m in the West Central Library.
 - ii. Special Board Meeting, Friday, May 8, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Henderson County Library in Biggsville

- iii. Special Board Meeting, Saturday, May 9, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. at the Henderson County Library in Biggsville.
 - iv. Special Board Meeting, Saturday, May 16, 2026, Unit Office Conference Room
 - b. The Next Regular Board of Education Meeting, Wednesday May 20, 2026, at 6:00 pm in the West Central Elementary Cafeteria.
23. The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 pm