

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in regular session on Thursday, September 1, 2016. The following members were present Gary Gudeman, Dennis Gutwein, Jeff Tanner, Jim Bergens, Mandy Sharpe, Todd Miller and President Jeff Lowry. Also in attendance were Gerald Shepherd, Kim Shepherd, Corri Shepherd, Stephanie Thilges, Dan Zylstra, Pat Culp, Shannon Fritz and Superintendent Don Street.

MINUTES: Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and the budget work session of August 4, 2016 as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

REQUISITIONS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve requisitions 16154 through 16176 for the corporation. Jeff Tanner seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved.

FCCLA PRESENTATION: Corri Shepherd presented on the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America National Conference. Corri Shepherd and Renee Conner along with sponsor Mrs. Stephanie Thilges attended the conference in July. Corri and Renee earned a silver medal in a presentation competition on muffins. The West Central Board of Education congratulates Corri and Renee on placing and representing West Central.

RESIGNATIONS: Gary Gudeman made a motion to approve the following resignations as presented:

1. Connie Dunn – Title 1 Instructional Assistant
2. Janet Kruger – 8th Grade Volleyball Coach

Jeff Tanner seconded the motion and the resignations were approved.

EMPLOYMENT: Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the following employment items as presented:

1. Ashley Burge – High School Instructional Assistant
2. Thea Rodriguez – Assistant Night Maintenance High School
3. Jeremy Glasford – MS Cross Country
4. Josh Cooper – JV Boys Basketball
5. Melvin Wireman – 8th Grade Boys Basketball
6. Ross Davis – 7th Grade Boys Basketball
7. Natalie Wenzel – 6th Grade Girls Basketball
8. Brian Pilarski – 8th Grade Volleyball
9. Paige Anliker – transfer from Cafeteria Cashier to Title 1 Instructional Assistant
10. Diana Bahler – Cooperative School – School Psychologist

Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the contracts were approved.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the following leave of absence:

1. Lindsay Hopkins – Maternity Leave
2. Laurel Linback – Personal Leave - Elementary

Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the leave of absence was approved.

CONFERENCE REQUESTS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the following conference requests:

1. Monica Gainor and Lauren Gudeman – Indiana School Counselors Conference – Paid for by the Small Rural School Grant
2. Ashley Reinhold, Amber Leman, Melvin Wireman and Jordan Stevens – ICTM (Indiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics)- Paid for by the Small Rural School Grant

Jim Bergens seconded the motion and the conference requests were approved.

FIELD TRIP REQUEST: Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the following field trip request:

1. West Central High School Choir – Sunday performance – September 18, 2016
2. Student Council – IASC @ Indiana Convention Center – November 5-6, 2016

Gary Gudeman seconded the motion and the field trip request was approved.

2017 BUDGET HEARING: President Jeff Lowry opened the hearing for the 2017 budget, capital projects plan, transportation plan and bus replacement plan. Superintendent Street went over line items in the budget. President Jeff Lowry asked for questions or comments, hearing none, the 2017 budget hearing were closed.

PROPERTY INSURANCE RENEWAL: The board reviewed the renewal with Regions Insurance for the 2016-2017 school year. Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the property & liability insurance renewal with Regions Insurance as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried.

WEIGHTED GRADE COURSE ADDITIONS: A recommendation was made to add Honors Algebra I, Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II, and Pre-Calculus to the courses to be weighted for GPA calculation. The honors mathematics courses are new courses to the curriculum and are comparable to other honors courses that are weighted. Jim Bergens made a motion to add the honors mathematic courses and pre-calculus to the list of courses for weighted grade calculations. Jeff Tanner seconded the motion and the motion carried.

FALL DRIVER EDUCATION: Driver education is a self-funded program through student tuition and takes place after-school. The program would be coordinated by Mr. Mike Harter during the fall. Students would drive after-school from 3:30 – 5:30 PM as arranged. The fees would be the same as this past summer. A \$25 fee would be paid for the online required class and is paid online. A \$200 fee would be paid to West Central for driving. Out of corporation students will be charged \$300. Todd Miller made a motion to approve fall driver education and Mr. Mike Harter as the instructor. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: Mr. Zylstra reported that the school year is off to a great start. The elementary specials classes, PE, music, art, computer, and library, are in the afternoon this year. The midday recess occurs before lunch. The elementary school thanks Dr. Moyer for coming in to check 1st grader's vision on September 9. Fall student pictures are Tuesday, October 4. Progress Reports will go home on Tuesday, September 13. The Title I Department will host Title I Parent Meetings at 3:10 on September 26 and 6:30 on September 29. Professional development time has been and will be spent on familiarizing staff with the new software for the school's math program and working on student learning objectives for the upcoming year. The West Central Elementary Parent Teacher Council (PTC), which helps pay for special events, field trips, and special classroom supplies, is trying something different for our fundraiser this year. Instead of typical fundraising activities, where 40-60% of the overall donations go to an outside fundraising group, we are doing a straight-up "No Hassle" fundraiser. Class and individual incentives will be offered. Donations from the community are also accepted. If the fundraising goal is met, then there will be no more PTC fundraisers for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year. The "No Hassle" fundraiser will run through September 16. Mr. Culp informed the board that the annual West Central Trojan Scholarship golf outing was a success!! A special thanks to all the teams and sponsors who participated. On behalf of the West Central athletic department, your contributions to support student scholarships is greatly appreciated. The 2016-2017 school year is off to an excellent start. Students and staff are quickly adjusting to the 7-period day. Also, West Central is excited about several new programs being offered including the CNA certificate course and the middle school incentive program. The CNA class taught by Mrs. Jennifer Johns, is off to an excellent start. Upon completion of the course, students will have the opportunity to earn a CNA certificate. A big thank you to Mrs. Johns for the hard work, planning, organization, and collaboration for the program. Also, a big thank you to our local business partner, Parkview Haven, for allowing our students the opportunity to obtain "real world" training. At the middle school, Mrs. Kathy Minnick and Mrs. Mary Chesser along with other middle school teachers have spearheaded an incentive program for students in grades 6-8. Students with good grades, perfect attendance and no tardies, are recognized in several different ways including extra gym time, tech time, and end of year field trips. Mrs. Minnick and Mrs. Chesser have worked diligently on the implementation of the program!! Upcoming events include Red Cross Blood Drive at West Central and Jasper-Pulaski Regional College Fair at Kankakee Valley High School on Wednesday, September 14. On Sunday, September 18, the High School Choir will perform at the Fall Festival. On Saturday, October 1, the FFA is sponsoring a Farmer's Breakfast in the WCHS cafeteria.

Mr. Street reported on the timing and process concerning the possibility of a future redesign of the building entryways and reconfiguring of space in the buildings. West Central middle/high school had very good reports on its annual water lead and cooper testing. Results were significantly below the maximum levels. The evaluation plan for the staff was submitted to the Indiana Department of Education. Discussion took place concerning recent internet connection issues on campus. Indiana Small and Rural Schools are communicating with State legislatures concerning the need to provide additional funding for small and rural schools. West Central like many small and rural school have been negatively impacted by the change in the State funding formula. West Central is developing plans to have a time capsule to celebrate the 50th year of West Central.

CLAIMS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve claims 817 through 929 for the corporation. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the claims were approved.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jeff Lowry asked the board if there was any further business. Being none, the president adjourned the meeting.

Jeff Lowry, President

APPROVED

Jim Bergens, Secretary