

## REGULAR MEETING

**FEBRUARY 4, 2016**

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in regular session on Thursday, February 4, 2016. The following members were present Jim Bergens, Jeff Tanner, Todd Miller, Gary Gudeman, Dennis Gutwein, Jeff Lowry and President David Allen. Also in attendance were Laurie Linback, Mike Lattimore, Shelley Lattimore, Shaylynn Lattimore, Emily Lattimore, Brooklynn Lattimore, Cassidy Lattimore, Deborah Madlung, Barb Shidler, Steve Shidler, Aaron Shidler, Kim Shidler, Cameron Shidler, Brian Bailey, Haley Bailey, Kylea Bailey, Brandi Kappes, Karen Srull, Sarah Sensibaugh, Amber Tomilson, Principal Dan Zylstra, Shannon Fritz, and Superintendent Don Street.

**STUDENT OF THE MONTH:** Dennis Gutwein presented Kylea Bailey with a certificate honoring her for being selected as Student of the Month at the elementary school level. Gary Gudeman presented Shaylynn Lattimore with a certificate honoring her for being selected at the middle school level. Jeff Lowry presented Cameron Shidler with a certificate honoring him at the middle school level. Jaydin Payne and Taylor Day were unable to attend. Congratulations are extended to these students!

**MINUTES:** Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and the Board of Finance meeting of January 7, 2016. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

**REQUISITIONS:** Jeff Lowry made a motion to approve requisitions 1600 through 16028 for the corporation and 16074 through 16087 for the Cooperative School Services. Gary Gudeman seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved.

**RESIGNATIONS:** Todd Miller made a motion to approve the following resignations as presented.

1. Karen Wettstein – Resigning at the end of the school year

David Allen seconded the motion and the resignations were approved.

**EMPLOYMENT:** Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the employment of the following individuals as presented:

1. Sue Schultz – Permanent Substitute
2. Marlana Lewark – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Girls Basketball Coach
3. Shelby Powell – Softball Assistant Coach

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the contracts were approved.

**LEAVE REQUESTS:** Jeff Tanner made a motion to approve the following leave requests as presented:

1. April Patton – Medical Leave

Gary Gudeman seconded the motion and the leave requests were approved.

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

1. Glazier Clinic – February 19-21, 2016 – Marc Hall
2. Glazier Clinic – February 26-28, 2016 – Melvin Wireman

3. FCCLA State Leadership Conference – February 25-27, 2016 – Jessica Murray, Brittany Mendiola, Stephanie Thilges and students
4. Glazier Clinic – March 4-6, 2016 – Marc Hall and Melvin Wireman

Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the requests were approved.

**POLICY MANUAL ADDITIONS SECOND READING:** The second reading of Threshold for Material Loss, Shortage, or Theft of School Funds or Property and Review and Second Audit of Free and Reduced Lunch Application was held. Jeff Tanner made a motion to approve the second reading of the policy manual revisions as presented. Jim Bergens seconded the motion and the policy manual revisions were approved.

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS:** Todd Miller made a motion to approve the transfer of funds from the General Fund, Rainy Day Fund, Capital Projects, and Debt Services Fund to close out the 2015 budget. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the transfers were approved.

**2016-17 and 2017-18 SCHOOL CALENDARS:** Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the 2016-17 and the 2017-18 school calendars as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the calendars were approved.

**WIND TURBINE:** Gary Gudeman made a motion to approve the wind turbine maintenance contract with PowerGrid Partners as presented. Jim Bergens seconded the motion and the contract was approved.

**POLICY MANUAL REVISIONS FIRST READING:** The first reading of the revisions of the Substitute Teachers, Reduction In Force and Student Teachers policies was held. Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the first reading of the policy manual revisions as presented. David Allen seconded the motion. There will be a second reading at the next school board meeting in March.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:** Mr. Zylstra reported to the board that representatives from the staff went to the textbook caravan on January 26 to look at math textbooks for the adoption next year. The staff is looking very carefully at the options available to help us bolster our math instruction. Starting February 1 students in grades 3-5 will take the last round of Acuity prior to ISTEP+. The data will be informative for preparing for the multiple-choice ISTEP test which starts in April. Progress reports at the elementary school went home on Thursday, February 4. On February 5 students in 5th grade will be going to hear the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra. The symphony provided the tickets to the students for free. That same day students will be receiving their 1st month's Accelerated Reader prize for meeting their monthly goal in our yearly reading incentive. On February 26 the FFA will host their annual petting zoo, a yearly event the elementary students always look forward to. On Monday, February 29 the ISTEP+ applied skills test will begin. This is the paper-based test of applied skills. For professional development, staff has spent time reviewing Acuity and other student data. We have also spent time investigating possible math textbooks for the upcoming adoption. Mr. Zylstra will be part of an AdvancED review team at the Crawford County School Corporation February 8-10. The information he gleans there will help West Central as it looks forward to its accreditation renewal visit in the spring 2017.

Mr. Culp informed the board that both the middle school and high school staff have been working extremely hard in preparation for the upcoming ISTEP tests. At the middle school, the Thursday morning staff development time has been dedicated to

reviewing data from Acuity and classroom performance, to better guide classroom instruction. At the high school, staff has reviewed data from the ISTEP+, End of Course Assessments, and the PSAT. Both staffs have used data to differentiate instruction for students. On Thursday, February 11, Parent/Teacher conferences will be conducted at the middle school and high school from 3:30-6:00. Parents/guardians and students are encouraged to discuss progress with teachers at that time.

Mr. Street reported that the February student count is 822 students. This is up six (6) students from the September count. The Indiana Department of Education announced that West Central teachers will receive a total of \$29,546.67 from the State for the Teacher Performance Grant. The criteria for receiving the teacher performance grant were reviewed. Congratulations to Mrs. Hart and Mrs. Cotner for receiving a \$500 grant from the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services. West Central participated in the statewide readiness test for the ISTEP. There have been some difficulties with the state testing system. A letter from the Central Time Coalition was shared. Legislation from the Indiana General Assembly was shared. IRS filing requirements for health care was reported. Mr. Jordan Stevens was given an IHSAA Exemplary Sportsmanship Report by a basketball official for his positive actions on the sideline. Financial discounts provided by the Northern Indiana Educational Service Center were shared. The wind turbine production has been very positive this winter.

CLAIMS: Todd Miller made a motion to approve claims 23 through 132 for the corporation and 623 through 731 for Cooperative School Services. Gary Gudeman seconded the motion and the claims were approved.

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

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David Allen, President

APPROVED:

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Todd Miller, Secretary