

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in regular session on Thursday, May 4, 2017. The following members were present Todd Miller, Jim Bergens, Mandy Sharpe, Jonathan Gutwein, Jeff Tanner, Dennis Gutwein and President Jeff Lowry. Also in attendance were Shawn Nitcher, Billie Biggs, Ava Nitcher, Makayla Libey, William Libey, Evelyn Libey, Morgan Libey, Jessica Libey, Sara Kroft, Audrey Kroft, Zane Kroft, Kent Kroft, Principals Pat Culp and Dan Zylstra, Shannon Fritz, and Superintendent Don Street.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH: Jim Bergens presented Evelyn Libey with a certificate honoring her as Student of the Month at the elementary school. Mandy Sharpe presented Audrey Kroft with a certificate honoring her as Student of the Month at the middle school level. Todd Miller presented Ava Nitcher with a certificate honoring her as Student of the Month at the middle school level. Congratulations are extended to these students!

MINUTES: Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting, executive sessions, and work session as presented. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

REQUISITIONS: Todd Miller made a motion to approve requisitions 17094 through 17111 for the corporation. Jeff Tanner seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved.

RESIGNATIONS: Jim Bergens made a motion to accept the following resignations as presented:

1. Lauren Gudeman – Elementary Guidance
2. Alicia Querry – Cooperative School Services
3. Ashton Maxwell – Cooperative School Services

Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the resignations were accepted.

TRANSFER: Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the following transfer as presented:

1. Lindsay Hopkins – Elementary Guidance

Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the transfer was accepted.

LEAVE REQUEST: Jeff Tanner made a motion to approve a personal leave request from Lori McIlvain as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the leave request was approved.

FIELD TRIP REQUEST: Jeff Tanner made a motion to approve the following field trip request as presented:

1. FCCLA National Conference – Stephanie Thilges

Jim Bergens seconded the motion and the field trip request was approved.

CONFERENCE REQUEST: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the following conference request as presented:

1. Models Schools Conference- Dan Zylstra-paid by the Lilly Grant

Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the conference request was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONTRACT: President Jeff Lowry opened the floor for public comments on the contract between the Superintendent and the School Board. Being no comments, the hearing was closed.

FFA GREENHOUSE: The board of education discussed the presentation presented by student Ethan Shannon concerning giving permission for the agriculture Program/ FFA to construct a greenhouse from the April board meeting. The agriculture program and FFA have secured donations and have applied for grants. The cost to the school corporation would be electricity and water. The location would be determined by the administration. Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to give permission for the agriculture program and FFA to construct a greenhouse on school property. Jim Bergens seconded the motion and the approval was approved.

BOARD POLICY ADDITION FIRST READING: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the first reading of the Board Policy Manual addition, Federal Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy for bus drivers. Jim Bergens seconded the motion and the first reading of the addition for the Board Policy Manual was approved.

BUDGET CALENDAR: Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the budget calendar for 2017-18 as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the dates were approved.

PAY DATES: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the pay dates for the 2017-18 school year as presented. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the pay dates were approved.

SCHOOL MEAL PRICING: The food and milk bids from the Northern Indiana Educational Service Center are not complete at this time. The recommendation will be sent at a later date.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE PLAN: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the renewal of the student accident insurance plan with Student Assurance Services as presented for the 2017-18 school year. Jeff Tanner seconded the motion and the motion carried.

STUDENT HANDBOOKS: Principals Pat Culp and Dan Zylstra went over the recommended changes in the student handbooks for the 2017-18 school year. Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the recommended handbook changes as presented. Jeff Tanner seconded the motion and the handbooks were approved.

CLASSIFIED STAFF WORK MEMORANDUMS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the classified staff work memorandums for 2017-18 as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the work memorandums were approved.

TEXTBOOK ADOPTION: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to adopt the science books as presented. The elementary textbooks are on-line and the secondary textbooks are on-line with a classroom textbook. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried.

BOOK RENTAL FEES: Jim Bergens made a motion to approve the book rental fees for 2017-18 as follows:

Kindergarten	\$98.00
First Grade	\$125.00
Second Grade	\$120.00
Third Grade	\$120.00
Fourth Grade	\$108.00
Fifth Grade	\$110.00
Grades 6-12 will be determined by course selection	
Textbook rental fees include the \$15.00 tech fee.	

Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the book rental fees were approved.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENTRANCE QUOTE: The Board reviewed the quotes received for the middle school entrance redesign. The recommendation from Barton-Coe-Vilamaa Architects – Engineers is to reject the quotes and roll the work into the larger project for redesigning all entrances. The larger project will bring in more competitive bids from more construction companies. Jim Bergens made a recommendation to reject all quotes. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and all quotes were rejected.

SUMMER SCHOOL: Todd Miller made a motion to approve summer school and the required staff for elementary, special education, high school, and driver education. Summer school is funded for by Title 1 and IDOE grants. Driver education is self-funded by tuition. Jeff Tanner seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT: The Board discussed the preventive maintenance proposals presented. Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve Precision Control Systems. Jim Bergens seconded the motion and the preventative maintenance contract with Precision Control Systems was approved.

SCHOOL PLAY REQUEST: The West Central play sponsors are requesting that the play be on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 3:00 PM. Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the Sunday play performance. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the request was approved.

INTERNET PROVIDER: The Board reviewed and discussed the internet provider quotes. Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve Hoosier Internet as the provider. Jim Bergens seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: Mr. Zylstra reported that Title I held its annual Muffins with Moms events. Special thanks go our Title I Director, Jodie Schlatter, who is retiring at the end of this year and has done such a marvelous job with all the programs. On May 5 the PTC will hold its Spring Port-a-Pit event. Students have received their last ice cream prize for their April Accelerated Reader goal. Students who make their overall goal will be a part of the movie field trip scheduled to the ISIS Theatre in Winamac on Friday, May 19. On May 10, select 3rd through 5th grade students will compete in the annual Pulaski County Spelling Bee at Eastern Pulaski Elementary. The month of May has the usual field trips for students, including a trip to the stone quarry, the Indianapolis Zoo, and Columbian Park Zoo. On Friday, May 12 the 1st grade classes will make their last trip to Parkview Haven, reading and eating lunch with the residents to celebrate a year of learning together. Another unique opportunity this year happened thanks to the

Jasper County Airport Director, who organized a career-based “Aviation Day” for local schools. Our 5th graders will be attending on May 12 to learn about possible career opportunities. Field Day is scheduled for Thursday, May 18. West Central will host its Awards Day Ceremony the morning of May 23, the last day of school, and send students home with their report cards.

Mr. Culp congratulated the high school students in the Introduction to Advanced Manufacturing class for recently passing the national certification test. West Central students scored better than both the state and national average on the certification test. Students enrolled in Intro to Advanced Manufacturing receive dual college credits from Ivy Tech with the possibility of completing 12-15 college credit hours while at West Central. Congratulations to Mr. DeMoss and the students for passing the national test. Throughout the school year, West Central students, Braylin Balough, Cassie Wuethrich, Ryan Shepherd, and Jerod Glasford have served on the Alliance Bank Jr. Board of Directors. On Sunday May 7, West Central students, along with students from Twin Lakes, North White, and Winamac, will be honored for their participation in this endeavor. The purpose of the Alliance Bank Board of Directors program is to create leaders, encourage community involvement, provide knowledge about local employers, and further develop and keep local talent. Ryan and Jerod will continue to serve our local community next year. West Central sophomores, Brittany Gasaway and Ethan Shannon will join Ryan and Jerod and the rest of the Alliance Bank team during the 2017-2018 school year. The Trojan Opportunity Academy (TOA) continues to help students at West Central High School. To date, 74 credits have been earned in the TOA room. The West Central music department will be performing two shows in May. On Friday, May 12, the Choir will perform a concert. The middle school and high school band will perform a Pops Concert on Friday, May 19. Both performances will begin at 6:30 in the high school cafeteria. On May 13, West Central students will board the Madam Carroll for prom. The theme for the prom is “Paris.” The Grand March will start at 7:30 for those parents and community members who would like to attend. Senior Awards Night is scheduled for Monday, May 15 starting at 6:00 in the high school cafeteria. Middle school students will be participating in incentive trips. The 6th grade will be camping at Camp Tecumseh on May 8-9. A 7th grade trip to the Glass Barn at the Indiana State Fairgrounds on May 15. On Thursday, May 19, those 8th graders who have earned a trip to Indianapolis will enjoy an Indianapolis Indians game. West Central students will leave for Washington D.C. on May 29 via tour bus. A big thank you to Mrs. Janet Kruger for organizing the trip for our students. The class of 2017 will graduate on Sunday, May 28. Baccalaureate services will begin at 2:00 with Logan Wuethrich providing the message to the seniors. At 2:30, the graduation ceremony will begin.

Mr. Street reviewed the Bullying and Harassment Prevention and Reporting Policy with the Board and the administration explained the process. The administration will continue to review the policy and procedures. The projected enrollment for the 2017-18 school year was shared as well as the projected 2018 general fund state budget projections. Staffing for the 2017-18 school year was reviewed. West Central has partnered with Battle for Kids to complete a second grant for a guidance grant from Lilly. The maintenance and custodial staff are preparing for summer cleaning and projects. The utility usage was reviewed with the strong spring winds the wind turbine has been building credits. Mrs. Murray and the cafeteria staff will offer a summer feeding program for our children during summer school.

CLAIMS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve claims 485 through 605 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