

Regular Session

**Thursday, September 2, 2021
Board Room (B-113)
7:30 PM**

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in a regular session on Thursday, September 2, 2021. The following members were present: Dennis Gutwein, Todd Miller, Mandy Sharpe, Jonathan Gutwein, and President Jeff Lowry.

Also present were: Dan Zylstra, Superintendent, Mike Carlson, Elementary Principal, Angie Radtke, MS/HS Principal, Megan Galbreath of the Pulaski County Journal, and Sherri Cameron, Corporation Secretary.

MINUTES: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 11, 2021. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

REQUISITIONS: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve requisitions 21154 through 21172 for the corporation.

Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved.

RESIGNATION: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the following resignation as presented:

1. Jerry Norman - Instructional Assistant

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the resignation was approved.

EMPLOYMENT: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the following employments as presented:

1. Sandy Prater - Custodian
2. Jennifer Bryant - Elementary Teacher
3. Jerry Norman - ½ time Bus Driver
4. Bianca Radtke - Science Lab Monitor/Instructional Assistant
5. Brooklyn Radtke - Elementary STEM Instructor
6. Dylan Ingram - Instructional Assistant

Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the employments were approved.

LEAVE REQUESTS: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the following leave requests as presented:

1. Haley Tapper - personal leave
2. Lisa Marlatt - personal leave
3. Harold Rogers - personal leave
4. Becky Reed - writing conference/personal leave

Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the leave requests were approved.

PERFORMANCE REQUEST: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the additional fall play performance for Sunday, October 17 at 3:30 PM.

Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the performance was approved.

INSURANCE RENEWAL: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 insurance rates as presented.

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the insurance rates were approved.

2021-2022 TEACHER EVALUATION PLAN & TEACHER APPRECIATION GRANT PLAN: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 Teacher Appreciation Grant Plan. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the plan was approved.

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL SERVICES CONTRACTS: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 Cooperative School Services Employee Contracts. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the contracts were approved.

PERF RESOLUTION: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the PERF resolution allowing certain food services staff into the Public Employee Retirement Plan. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the motion carried.

BUDGET HEARING: President Jeff Lowry opened the hearing for the 2022 budget, capital projects plan, and bus replacement plan. Superintendent Zylstra went over items in the budget. President Jeff Lowry asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, the 2022 budget hearing was closed.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Elementary Principal Mike Carlson reported that the school year is progressing very well and the elementary is happy to have a few new students. Lifewise Academy has started and is going smoothly, about 169 students are attending which exceeds half the enrollment. Benchmarking in reading and math is complete except for just a few students, and the data will be used for classroom and success planning. Thursday professional development will return on September 16, with the first topic being the new Social Studies curriculum. Study tables will begin after progress reports.

Middle/High School Principal Angie Radtke noted that the math and English teachers finished up the NWEA assessments this week. Mrs. Radtke and Mr. Carlson are working on professional development plans for the E-learning day on September 20. They are planning on having some teacher-led breakout sessions in the afternoon. These sessions will allow teachers to choose professional development topics that will be beneficial to them and their classroom needs. The sessions will also allow others to share the great things they are doing in their classrooms that will benefit others. Last Saturday the cross country team hosted the annual 421 Run with nine participating teams. The West Central middle school girls, middle school boys, and high school boys all took first place. The new speakers at the football field sound amazing, and the student support at athletic events has been so awesome to see with many students taking advantage of free admission. Mr. Warren has teamed up with Bethel University in Mishawaka who has agreed to co-host clinics in boys and girls basketball, volleyball, baseball, and softball. This will expose our athletes to college coaches and provide professional development opportunities for our current coaching staff. All clinics will take place on our West Central campus. The plan is to also offer this to students from surrounding school corporations, which will hopefully become a fundraiser for our athletic department.

Superintendent Dan Zylstra reported that he and some consultants reviewed the pool area, the band and choir rooms, and other grounds overall. They will continue to get estimates about potential improvements for the future. The calendar committee met for the district, and Superintendent Zylstra inquired about the possibility of moving graduation Sunday. After some discussion, it was determined to continue with current practice. Recent changes to covid protocol in the state were discussed. West Central has been blessed with very few positive cases among staff and students and has not needed to quarantine large numbers of students. The district wants to stay the course with its current COVID-19 practices. The HVAC was also discussed, as delays in the rooftop unit's arrival have stalled the progress of the project and resulted in sub-optimal temperature control on campus.

CLAIMS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve claims 2297 through 2414 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.

APPROVED:

Jeff Lowry, President

Kyle McTeigue, Secretary

Executive Session

Thursday, September 2, 2021
Board Room (B-113)
8:30 PM

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in an executive session on Thursday, September 2, 2021 following the regular board meeting. The following members were present: Dennis Gutwein, Mandy Sharpe, Todd Miller, Jonathan Gutwein, and President Jeff Lowry.

Also present was: Dan Zylstra, Superintendent.

The executive session was held in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b) (1) "For discussion of strategy with respect to collective bargaining."

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

APPROVED:

Jeff Lowry, President

Kyle McTeigue, Secretary