

Regular Meeting

Thursday, June 10, 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, June 10, 2021. The following members were present: Dennis Gutwein, Mandy Sharpe, Jake Tanner, Todd Miller, Jonathan Gutwein, and President Jeff Lowry.

Also present were: Dan Zylstra, Superintendent, Scott Ritchie, Middle/High School Principal, Libby Ritchie, Mike Carlson, Elementary School Principal, Sherri Cameron, Corporation Secretary, Leanna Nielsen, Wyatt Nielsen, and Megan Galbreath of the Pulaski County Journal.

PUBLIC HEARING ON SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT as per IC 20-26-5-4.3: President Jeff Lowry asked for public comment on the Proposed Superintendent's Contract.

MINUTES: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the executive session and regular meeting on May 20, 2021.

Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

REQUISITIONS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve requisitions 21112 through 21122 for the corporation.

Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved.

RESIGNATIONS: Jake Tanner made a motion to approve the following resignations as presented:

1. Leanna Nielsen - Third grade teacher
2. Brittany McIlvain - Middle School cheer coach
3. Gretchen Heimlich-Cooperative School Services
4. Scott Ritchie - Middle/High School Principal
5. John Murray - Custodian
6. Abigail Birnelli-Beall - HS Art teacher

Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the resignations were approved.

Board members took the time to thank Leanna Nielsen for her service to the district. Principal Scott Ritchie was presented with a parting gift, and the board thanked him for his 2.5 years of service at West Central.

EMPLOYMENTS: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the following employments as presented:

1. Stephen Sholey - Band
2. Jamie Fritz - MS Wrestling coach
3. Shannon Fritz - JV Volleyball coach
4. Julie Reed - Cafeteria
5. Greg Buschman - HS Math Teacher
6. Mary Spiehler - Cooperative School Services Occupational Therapist
7. Taylor Burns - Cooperative School Services Speech Language Pathology Assistant

Many Sharpe seconded the motion and the employments were approved.

EMPLOYMENTS: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the following employment as presented:

1. Tonya Wall - Varsity Volleyball coach

Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the employment was approved 5 to 1 with Todd Miller as the dissenting vote.

YEAR ROUND NON-CERTIFIED EMPLOYEE CONTRACT: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the contracts for non-certified year-round employees.

Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the contracts were approved.

STUDENT TRANSFER ENROLLMENT: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the Student Transfer Enrollment request date and capacity per grade level.

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the Student Transfer Enrollment was approved.

FOOD SERVICES REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS APPROVAL: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the Requests for Proposals and the recommendations as presented from the following vendors: Dairy to Prairie Farms; Produce to Piazza Produce; and GPO (cafeteria food, supplies, and commodities) to Gordon Foods/HPS as presented.

Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

2021-2022 ELEMENTARY TEXTBOOK RENTAL FEES: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the Elementary Textbook Rental Fees as presented.

Kindergarten:	\$87.81
First Grade:	\$125.55
Second Grade:	\$125.16
Third Grade:	\$132.85
Fourth Grade:	\$123.89
Fifth Grade:	\$125.20
Sixth Grade:	\$126.45

Grades 7-12 will be determined by course selection.

Textbook rentals include the \$15.00 tech fee.

Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the book rental fees were approved.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Elementary School Principal Mike Carlson shared that the elementary had a great ending to school with many awards given and fun activities. The shaved ice was a big hit sponsored by PTC, and Mr. Pilarski planned a great Track and Field Day. Summer School started this week with great extended learning happening. Preliminary ILEARN results are in and reports have been mailed home. The scores for the summer IREAD tests are due June 14. The last of the reading professional development finished this week. The Design Studio is to be installed next week, and the training for that will happen right before school begins. Interviews are scheduled for the open position, and a team of teachers will be part of the committee.

Middle/High School Principal Scott Ritchie reported they had a great graduation to end the year. For the first time there were virtual students that did not attend rehearsal but attended graduation. It all was a success and went off for the most part without a hitch. A Senior Trip meeting was held for a NYC trip next Spring with 28 students attending the meeting, and plans for fundraisers are underway. Mr. Ritchie gave big thanks to Sara Strus for her efforts on planning a great activity day for the middle school at the end of the year for students that had good attendance and discipline.

Superintendent Dan Zylstra discussed the Stakeholder Feedback Survey for ESSER II & III funding. Survey results indicated 64% of respondents wanted additional staffing, 27% wanted stipends for staff, and the most popular categories for safe operations were "improve air quality" & "Improve facilities".

Superintendent Zylstra presented potential stipend amounts for different staff members and board members discussed the merits of a stipend and how it can be most equitably distributed based on work

contributions during the height of the pandemic. Superintendent Zylstra will continue to explore and refine a potential stipend option based on board member feedback.

Superintendent Dan Zylstra presented job descriptions for two temporary interventionist positions at the elementary school which could be funded by ESSER II & III money. Advertising will begin soon so prospective candidates can be interviewed and positions filled. Superintendent Zylstra updated the board on staffing for 2021-2022. As different staff members have taken other positions outside the district, it is less likely that a reduction in force will be required to meet staffing level targets. Potential capital improvements were discussed and an update on the status of the current HVAC and other summer projects was provided.

CLAIMS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve claims 1903 through 2013 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:

Kyle McTeigue, Secretary

Executive Session**Thursday, June 10, 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, June 10, 2021 following the regular board meeting. The following members were present: Dennis Gutwein, Mandy Sharpe, Jake Tanner, Todd Miller, Jonathan Gutwein, and President Jeff Lowry.

Also present were: Dan Zylstra, Superintendent, Mike Carlson, Elementary School Principal, and Scott Ritchie.

The executive session was held in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b) (5): To receive information about, and interview prospective employees.

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

Jeff Lowry, President

APPROVED:

Kyle McTeigue, Secretary