

Work Session

**Thursday, March 4, 2021
West Central High School Library
7:00 PM**

A work session was held on March 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM. The following members were present: Kyle McTeigue, Mandy Sharpe, Todd Miller, Dennis Gutwein, Jake Tanner, and President Jeff Lowry. Also in attendance were Dan Zylstra, Superintendent, Dave Allen, Director of Maintenance, along with James Krol and Matt Ernst of Precision Control Systems.

The purpose of the work session was to receive information to assist with future plans for West Central's HVAC and other mechanical needs.

James Krol and Matt Ernst presented the results of their assessment on West Central's facilities and shared their perspectives on key enhancements for short and long-term planning.

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

Regular Meeting

**Thursday, March 4, 2021
West Central High School Library
7:30 PM**

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in a regular session on Thursday, March 4, 2021. The following members were present: Dennis Gutwein, Mandy Sharpe, Jake Tanner, Kyle McTeigue, Todd Miller, and President Jeff Lowry.

Also present were: Dan Zylstra, Superintendent, Sherri Cameron, Corporation Secretary, Angie Radtke, High School Assistant Principal, Mike Carlson, Elementary School Principal, Amber Tomlinson of the Pulaski County Journal, Leanna Nielsen, Hailey Tapper, Devin Green, Kellis Gutwein, Heather Straus, Hillary Durie, Sara Strus, Brad Odom, Jennifer Byrne, and Marilyn Bernal.

MINUTES: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the minutes of the work sessions, executive session, and regular meeting on February 4, 2021. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

REQUISITIONS: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve requisitions 21053 through 21074 for the corporation. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved.

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

1. Mackenna VanderTuin
2. Courtney Mestrovich

Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion and the resignations were approved.

EMPLOYMENTS: Jake Tanner made a motion to approve the following employments as presented:

1. Scott Owens-Asst. Baseball Coach
2. Corey Howat-Asst. Baseball Coach
3. Candace Anliker-Fourth Grade maternity leave
4. Jennepher Marrs-Kindergarten Teacher
5. David Allen - Head Baseball Coach
6. Shelby Powell- Assistant Varsity Softball Coach

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the employments were approved.

LEAVE REQUESTS: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the following leave requests as presented:

1. Marci Kennedy-personal
2. Angie Radtke-personal
3. Jessica Williams-maternity leave

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

CONFERENCE REQUEST: Kyle McTeigue made a motion to approve the following conference request as presented:

1. B.J. Aldridge-coaching clinic

Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the conference request was approved.

RELEASED TIME RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION: An agreement was presented by Superintendent Zylstra to allow students at West Central to leave campus for religious instruction during the day. In addition to adopting this handbook language today, this was the first reading for addition to the Board Policy Manual. Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the Released Time Religious Instruction agreement. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the agreement was approved.

TITLE IX POLICY UPDATE: Superintendent Zylstra presented the second reading of the updated Title IX Policy based on new guidance from the Indiana School Boards Association. Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the new policy language. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the policy language was approved.

PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: Superintendent Zylstra presented further information on the schools mechanical systems in light of recent consulting work. He asked the board for permission to advertise a Request for Proposal in order to get firm pricing for upcoming necessary improvements for heating, air conditioning, and mechanicals. Kyle McTeigue made a motion to allow Mr. Zylstra to advertise for a Request for Proposal as described. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the proposal was approved.

PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING DISCUSSION: Superintendent Zylstra noted that funding for public schools has not kept pace with inflation. West Central no longer receives the small schools grant and has a significantly diminished level of funding for the complexity index. In December of 2010 West Central received \$6,990 per student when all state funding was accounted for. In December of 2020 West Central received \$6,991 per student. Funding has been almost flat despite 10 years of inflation. Additionally, every dollar West Central receives and spends is subject to public scrutiny and accountability. The legislature is considering bills that would support the diversion of public funds to non-public entities lacking in accountability. He presented a resolution opposing this action by the legislature. There was discussion amongst board members about the positives and negatives of state policy as proposed and the effect such policies would have on West Central. Members of the West Central Classroom Teachers' Association were also present and voiced their concerns about legislative actions and expressed willingness to work with the West Central School Board to raise awareness of these concerns to the greater public.

RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO NON-PUBLIC ENTITIES LACKING IN FISCAL TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND OVERSIGHT: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion. After further discussion the resolution was approved by a vote of 5 to 1.

2021-2022 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES: Kyle McTeigue made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 School Board Meeting dates. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the 2021-2022 dates were approved.

DISSOLUTION OF CHECKS: Todd Miller made a motion to cancel checks greater than two years old for the ECA account. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the checks will be canceled.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Elementary School Principal Mike Carlson reported that the IN Mac Design Studio grant they were awarded last year had been put on hold because of COVID. They have continued to work with Mr. Carlson and he was able to receive the grant. The equipment will be installed hopefully at the end of May or beginning of June. The elementary enjoyed joining in with FFA week again and the petting zoo was a big hit. Thank you to the FFA for including them. The Student Council sponsored a food drive the last week of February, with 1586 items collected and distributed locally. Fulton County REMC came and taught lessons on circuits with fourth grade. REMC is greatly appreciated for doing this and are valued as outside partners. IREAD testing is next week, and they are ready to go. Another Book Fair is scheduled for April.

Middle/High School Assistant Principal Angie Radtke stated February was a short but busy month. The West Central wrestling program had an outstanding run in the tournament. Braden Nuest and Drake Fritz made it to state where they put up a good fight against some tough opponents. Two pep sessions were held to celebrate and honor them. The high school celebrated National FFA Week with students that dressed up, drove their tractors, and put on a petting zoo for the elementary school. Miss Strus is planning another incentive trip for the middle schoolers. Students who don't have any Fs, no Monday Night Schools, ISS, OSS, or lunch detentions may attend. As of right now, 80 out of 102 students are eligible to attend. The kids look forward to these incentives and work very hard to be able to attend. The open AD position has been posted and the applications are starting to roll in. Late-start Thursdays are being held with professional development again. Mrs. Radtke has been in contact with Barb Eckert, the activities director from Parkview Haven in Francesville. Mr. Haselby and the FFA are going to be building some wooden car frames for a future outdoor drive-in night at Parkview Haven, and the art students will be painting them for a community service project.

Superintendent Dan Zylstra shared plans for the 2021-2022 school year assuming COVID-19 protocols were mostly removed. West Central will not plan on offering a virtual option for elementary students, and will offer virtual options for 7-12 as was done prior to the pandemic. Enrollment levels for 2021-2022 will likely be lower, so West Central will be looking to reduce staff through attrition or other means if necessary. Summer projects were shared, including replacing carpeting in the elementary school, remodeling the health occupation room to accommodate one more hospital bed, paint in several key areas, and the camera project as part of the school safety grant. Potential band/music room improvements were also floated, and the update on the progress of the Softball Press Box was given. Central office staff are finishing up the audit for the 2018-2020 fiscal years.

CLAIMS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve claims 1524 through 1621 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, March 4, 2021

West Central High School Library

8:30 pm

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in an executive session on Thursday, March 4, 2021 following the regular board meeting. The following members were present: Kyle McTeigue, Mandy Sharpe, Dennis Gutwein, Jake Tanner, Todd Miller, President Jeff Lowry, Dan Zylstra, Superintendent, and Angie Radtke, High School Assistant Principal.

The Executive Session will be held in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) (9) "To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employee(s), apart from the budget process."

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