

West Central School Corporation

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*"Encourage Every Student Every Day" *Engage *Empower *Educate*

Regular Session

Thursday, March 7, 2024 7:30PM

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in a regular session on Thursday, March 7, 2024. The following members were present: Todd Miller, Jonathan Gutwein, Dennis Gutwein, Jake Tanner, Mandy Sharpe and Jeff Lowry.

Also present were: Superintendent Cathy Rowe, West Central Middle/Senior High School Principal Angie Radtke, West Central Elementary School Principal Mike Carlson and Erica Kerns Corporation Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER: President Jake Tanner called the meeting to order.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH: Jonathan Gutwein was pleased to present Braya Kyburz as the WCMS/HS Student of the Month and Todd Miller was pleased to present Thiago Rodriguez as the WCES Student of the Month.

RETIREMENT RECOGNITION: Mandy Sharpe was pleased to present Bertha Todd with a retirement clock for her many years of service to West Central Schools.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jeff Lowry made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the agenda was approved 6-0.

MINUTES: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular session held on February 1, 2024. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the minutes were approved 6-0.

REQUISITIONS: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve requisitions 24049 through 24085 for the corporation. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved 6-0.

RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND RETIREMENTS: Jake Tanner approved the following resignations and retirements as presented:

1. Sheryl Fritz-Bus Driver and Instructional Assistant retirement
2. Aliza Daniels-Custodian
3. Johanna Sampson-CSS Psychologist Paraprofessional

Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the resignations and retirements were approved 6-0.

EMPLOYMENTS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the following employments as presented:

1. Tyler Napier-MS Track Head Coach

2. Greg Buschman-Track Assistant, HS
3. Hunter Schultz-Volunteer Assistant Boys Golf Coach
4. Mandi Hettinger-JV Softball coach
5. Corey Howat-Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach
6. Eric Rodriguez-JV Baseball Coach
7. Ralph Sharpe-Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach
8. Tyson Mellon-8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
9. McKenna Boerner-CSS part time Job Coach, Psychologist Paraprofessional

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the employments were approved 6-0.

LEAVE REQUESTS: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the leave requests as follows.

1. Brad Odom, March 21-22, 2024
2. Marilyn Bernal, School Safety Advanced Training April 1-2, 2024
3. Devin Green, Indiana School Safety Advanced Training April 1-2, 2024
4. Jamie Fritz, Alliance Indiana Rural Water Conference-French Lick, March 12-14, 2024
5. Kay Allen, March 22 pm
6. Kyra McGraw March 15 pm (Before SN spring break)-CSS

Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the leaves were approved 6-0.

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 calendar as presented. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the calendar was approved 6-0.

ITEMS TO DECLARE SURPLUS: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to declare school corporation items as surplus as presented. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the items were declared surplus 6-0.

APRIL 8, 2024 EARLY RELEASE (ECLIPSE): Jake Tanner made a motion to approve the early release for April 8, 2024 due to the solar eclipse as presented. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the early release was approved 6-0.

FAST LANE INTERNET AGREEMENT: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the internet agreement with Fast Lane Internet. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the agreement was approved 6-0.

WEST CENTRAL CABARET SUNDAY PERFORMANCE: Jeff Lowry made a motion to approve the Cabaret performance on March 17th at 2:00pm. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the Cabaret was approved 6-0.

WEST CENTRAL BAND TRIP TO KING'S ISLAND :Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the West Central band trip to King's Island to Ohio on April 26-27, 2024. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the trip was approved 6-0.

WEST CENTRAL 2024 SENIOR TRIP: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the West Central 2024 Senior Trip to Orlando, FL on April 30-May 4, 2024. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the trip was approved 6-0.

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the agreement with Grand Canyon University for West Central High School. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the agreement was approved 6-0.

TECHNOLOGY CONTRACT TO REPLACE NETWORK SWITCHES, ACCESS POINTS: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the quote to replace access points and switches as presented. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the quote was approved 6-0.

ENA SERVICES: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the ENA services agreement as presented. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the agreement was approved 6-0.

AP-TIP AGREEMENT FOR WEST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the AP-TIP agreement between the University of Notre Dame and West Central High School as presented. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the agreement was approved 6-0.

SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES-FIRST READING: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to accept the first reading of board policies presented. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the policies were reviewed for a first reading.

PROJECT HEARING-PURSUIT OF FUNDING FOR BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT: *Public Comment was taken.*

PROJECT RESOLUTION: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the Project Resolution as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the resolution was approved 6-0.

REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION: Jake Tanner made a motion to approve the Reimbursement Resolution as presented. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the resolution was approved 6-0.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LITIGATION AGAINST SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANIES: Todd Miller made a motion to table indefinitely the resolution authorizing West Central to join other schools in litigation against social media companies as presented. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the resolution was tabled.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Radtke shared that MORP 2024 took place on February 17th and was sponsored by the HS Student Council. The theme for this year was Hawaiian. Around 50-60 students attended and fun was had by all.

FFA Week began on February 16th and ran until February 23rd. There were dress-up days and a daily raffle with prizes to those who participated. The highlight of the week, as always, was the petting zoo which was held on February 16th. The HS wrestling team had 6 wrestlers qualify for semi-state this year. Zach Gilger, Hayden Fritz, Israel Williams, Cameron Nuest, Nathan Peter, and Drake Fritz. Hayden was able to pick up a major decision over a Portage opponent to punch his ticket to his 2nd straight state finals.

The Girls Basketball team had 3 players selected to the All-Conference team this year. Annika Smith, Kailee Bishop, and Mara Sharpe were named to the MWC All-Conference team.

Jacob Pilarski, Josiah Rodriguez, Hayden Fritz, and Drake Fritz were selected 1st Team Academic All-State by the wrestling coaches association. Zach Gilger was selected 2nd Team, and Tia Peter was selected 1st Team Junior Academic All-State.

Spencer Leman made it to the next round in the National Merit Scholarship Program. He is one of only 15,000 students in the entire nation. He was also selected as an Indiana Academic All -Star. Spencer chose Coach Hall as his most influential teacher, and they will both be honored at a banquet in Indianapolis in April. A team of administrators and teachers went to Plainfield to learn more about Early College Schools from the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning and have decided to partner with CELL in this endeavor so that we can offer the Indiana College Core to our students. We have been working hard meeting with Higher Eds to decide which one will best suit our students' needs and get our teachers credentialed. In addition, we have signed on with AP TIP which will also raise our rigor, help our students achieve the ICC, and set our students on a successful path whether they decide to enroll, enlist, or head straight to employment after graduation. There are exciting things happening at WC!

Mr. Carlson shared that there has been plenty of activity at the elementary. We again enjoyed being included in FFA Week and attending the Petting Zoo. It's always a great time and appreciated. Mrs. Heims' class visited Parkview Haven for some reading and dancing. The professional development time was used for more on Science of Reading. The state released the approved reading curriculum. Samples are coming in to make a decision to meet the new requirements. The middle of the month CoGAT testing was completed. It is used with the High Ability program. We are also almost finished with IREAD for third grade. There are just a few to finish next week. The Boys and Girls Club is off to a great start. Thirty kids are currently attending on varying days. Family Literature Night has returned. Over 100 attendees had dinner, created a craft, and learned more about farming and agriculture. A special thanks to our PTC for helping pull this together, and to Stacy Walker from Indiana Farm Bureau Ag in the classroom, the Gutwein Agency for their donation, and readers Darin Gudeman and Phil Huber.

Dr. Rowe reminded about an early release that will take place on March 15th, Spring Break is March 25-29, 2024, April 12th will be a Senior Summit with North White seniors, March 17th will be the Cabaret at 2:00pm and the district is looking into bus route efficiencies for this fall.

PAYROLL AND CLAIMS:Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve payroll and claims for the corporation. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the payroll and claims were approved 6-0.

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

APPROVED:

_____, President

_____, Secretary