

West Central School Corporation

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

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Training

Thursday, April 2, 2026 6:45PM

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation did not meet for board training due to the inability of the trainer to be at the meeting.

Regular Session

Thursday, April 2, 2026 7:30PM

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in a regular session on Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 7:30PM. The following members were present: Jake Tanner, Todd Miller, Dennis Gutwein, Heather Reese, Jeff Lowry, and Darin Gudeman.

Regular Session also present were: Superintendent Cathy Rowe, West Central Middle/High School Principal Mike Carlson and Corporation Secretary Erica Kerns.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice President Darin Gudeman called the regular meeting to order.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH: Jake Tanner was pleased to present Londyn Villareal as the West Central Elementary School Student of the Month. Karlee Delisle was recognized as the West Central Middle/High School Student of the Month.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kasey Lowry addressed the Board with concerns.

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

MINUTES: Jake Tanner made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Session on March 5, 2026. Heather Reese seconded the motion and the minutes were approved. 6-0

REQUISITIONS: Todd Miller made a motion to approve requisitions 26074 through 26092 for the corporation. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved. 6-0

CONSENT AGENDA: PERSONNEL REPORT: Jake Tanner made a motion to approve the personnel report as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the personnel report was approved. 6-0

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION 401A PROPOSAL ACCEPTANCE: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the Security Benefits 401a proposal as presented. Heather Reese seconded the motion and Security Benefits was approved as a 401a provider. 6-0

WEST CENTRAL-INDIANA ONLINE CONTRACT RENEWAL: Todd Miller made a motion to renew the West Central-Indiana Online contract as presented. Jake Tanner seconded and the contract was renewed. 6-0

WEST CENTRAL FACILITIES USAGE CONTRACT REVISION: Jake Tanner made a motion to approve the West Central Facilities Usage Contract as presented. Darin Gudeman seconded the motion and the contract was approved. 6-0

ADMINISTRATOR ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT-SUPT. EVALUATION INSTRUMENT: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the Administrator Assistance agreement for a superintendent evaluation instrument. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the agreement was approved. 6-0

ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS-M/SHS ROOF HAIL DAMAGE: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to accept the best and most responsive bidder as presented for the middle/high school roof damage from hail pending insurance approval. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the bid(s) were approved pending insurance approval. 6-0

NON-PROFIT BUS RENTAL-MEDARYVILLE ASSEMBLY OF GOD APRIL 25, 2026: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the Medaryville Assembly of God Non-Profit Bus Rental as presented. Darin Gudeman seconded the motion and the bus rental was approved. 6-0

TAG (TEACHER APPRECIATION GRANT) DISTRIBUTION: Heather Reese made a motion to approve the TAG Distributions as presented. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the distributions were approved. (5-1) Heather Reese-Yes, Todd Miller-Yes, Darin Gudeman-Yes, Dennis Gutwein-Yes, Todd Miller-Yes, Jeff Lowry-Nay

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Mr. Carlson shared March was a very quick month. Juniors took the SAT. Middle School Student Council went shopping for their donations to the Pulaski Animal Shelter. For the third nine weeks, 78% of the Middle School met the behavior and academic goals to attend a movie at ISIS Theatre and enjoy pizza at the park. The High School students had 70% reach the same goals to choose a lemonade from the Life Skills coffee cart. During the professional development time, we worked on updates to the handbook, artificial intelligence policy, and discussed new legislation that will impact us next year. The cellphone guidelines have had the most attention. The band had a great month. Middle School earned two gold ratings at ISSMA. For Solo and Ensemble, at the district level, they earned 11 gold and 9 silver awards, and at the state level, a trio and two solos competed, earning a gold award and two silvers. The girls basketball team shined on and off the court this year. They earned Academic All State as a team. To be recognized, the team needed an unweighted team GPA average of 3.5. Our team was 3.95. Mrs. Johns' CNA class again had 100% pass their certification tests. This is the fourth year in a row. The week before break was very busy. It began with the Middle School wrestling team being conference champions. Then 12 members were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society and another 12 inducted into the National Honor Society. Students enjoyed an assembly by Attaboy. It was a very engaging program. The week wrapped up with the annual Sports Spectacular. After much fun and great competition, Juniors came out on top. We're now preparing for the final Checkpoint test and then the summative ILEARN.

Dr. Rowe noted that Mrs. Ball's classroom was the winner of a pizza party for the Coins for Kids competition. We have one perfect IREAD score for a second grader who will be recognized in May. West Central pass rates or IREAD surpassed the state average with 60% passing compared to 49% state results. The average IREAD score also surpassed the state average. Kindergarten Roundup was held in March and we currently have approximately 32 students signed up. 7th grade teachers will be at the elementary next week to talk with 6th graders about some of the things they can expect as they transition to the middle school. April 20th, the high school band will perform at the elementary to get students excited about ILEARN, and April 27th is our Book Fair and Family Literacy Night.

We will be conducting an evacuation drill for all staff on our April 24th early release day. ISBA spring regional meeting will be held next Tuesday in Merrillville.

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

ADJOURNMENT: Vice President Darin Gudeman asked the board if there was any further business. Being none, the vice president adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:

_____, President

_____, Secretary