

Western School Corporation

Russiaville IN 46979

March 18, 2008

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Western School Board of Trustees held on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Administration Building.

Members present: Linda Singer, Jon Marley, Don Wells, Harry Kenworthy, Mike Koloszar, and Connie Maugans.

Members absent: Jeff Davidson

Others present: Peter O'Rourke, Randy McCracken, Kellie Turner, Jim Watkins, Dick Taylor, Taffy Cooke, Pat Grzesiak, Pam Carter, Jamie Beeler, Mr. & Mrs. Wilson and their son Drew.

Mr. Maugans led prayer and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item # 1—Opening of Meeting

Mr. Maugans called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

Item # 2—Approval of Agenda

Dr. O'Rourke added additional items to the Personnel Section. Mr. Koloszar moved to approve the Agenda as amended, Mr. Marley seconded the motion, **and the motion passed 6-0.**

Item # 3—Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Singer made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2008 regular meeting. Mr. Kenworthy seconded the motion **and it passed 6-0.**

Item # 4—Opportunity for Public Comment

Jamie Beeler requested that she be allowed to speak on an Agenda item. It was ascertained by Mr. Maugans and communicated to Mrs. Beeler that the particular item was not on the Agenda.

Item # 5—Panther Pride

Drew Wilson, an eighth grader at Western Middle School was honored by the Board for winning the Kokomo Tribune Regional Spelling Bee. Mr. Maugans presented a certificate, on behalf of the Board, to Drew and his parents.

Dr. O'Rourke indicated that High School student Ryan Troy Nees had been selected as one of the Finalists in the 2007-2008 Coca-Cola Scholars Program.

Additionally, Dr. O'Rourke commended the choral and band students who had excelled in recent state level competitions. Dr. O'Rourke congratulated the Middle School Staff and students for the exceptional Read across America program; he also honored Matt Koscica & Michael Andreas for placing 3rd place at the Indiana Japanese Olympiad competition at DePauw University. Dr. O'Rourke complemented Donna Walden, Mrs. Rushing, and Mr. Chris Smith for all their help with the choir program.

Item # 6—Reports

- a. Director of Finance: Mrs. Carter gave the following report:

Bank Balance

Checking Account Balance 02/01/08	\$5,716,043.45
Non-Revenue Receipts	472,343.46
MTD Revenue	2,444,447.76
Disbursements from Clearing Accounts	426,409.07
MTD Disbursements	<u>3,354,856.41</u>
Checking Account Balance 02/29/08	\$4,851,569.19

Total depository Balance \$4,851,569.19

Vendor Claims Submitted for Approval

#52603-52637 of 2/20/08-2/29/08	\$461,024.18
#52638-52778 of 3/01/08-3/18/08	<u>\$384,968.39</u>
Total:	\$845,992.57

Payroll Claims Submitted for Approval

#15 of 2/01/08	\$428,212.74
#16 of 2/15/08	\$419,788.51
#17 of 2/29/08	<u>\$424,425.59</u>
Total	\$1,272,426.84

Interest on checking 1/01/08 to 2/29/08 \$33,085.76

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Claim Docket. Mrs. Singer seconded **the motion and it passed 6-0**. Mrs. Carter provided copies of the Western High School ECA Accounts.

- b. Director of Operations: Mr. Kenworthy asked Ms. Cooke and Mr. Taylor if the new keyless/camera system represented an upgrade in capabilities. Both Ms. Cooke and Mr. Taylor indicated that the new system will be significantly better. Additionally, Ms. Cooke provided information on the statewide tornado drill, activities of the safety committee, and the analysis of bus route needs.
- c. Assistant Superintendent: Mr. McCracken addressed Advanced/High Ability testing for kindergarten and second grade, LAS Links testing, and GQE retesting. Mr. McCracken also discussed Window Replacement bid status, World Language/Language Arts Textbook Adoption timelines, Summer School Plans, and the Curriculum Mapping project. Mrs. Singer asked several questions concerning the focus of the curriculum mapping project. Mr. McCracken indicated after some discussion with Board members that he would plan on a Building Dedication Ceremony for the fall. Mr. McCracken announced that he would conduct a construction tour following the regular meeting.
- d. Director of Technology: Mr. Taylor indicated that the Pole Vault Projection System that the corporation obtained through a grant had been installed. Mr. Taylor presented a tentative time-line for work/installation associated with preparation for occupancy of the new buildings. Additionally, Mr. Taylor addressed e-mail retention requirements and telephone extension re-numbering.
- e. Superintendent's Report: Dr. O'Rourke summarized the progress being made by the Corporation Strategic Planning Committee and the Corporation Wellness Committees. Dr. O'Rourke also previewed the maintenance/custodial realignment plan and the cafeteria workers plan; additionally, he reminded Board members of the upcoming Farm Bureau Dinner, and the ISBA Region Meeting. Dr. O'Rourke informed the Board that the additional Teacher Professional Development Day, scheduled for August 12, 2008, to begin the curriculum mapping process will not take place. He indicated that the corporation had decided, instead, to train a specific curriculum mapping team per the recommendation of the presenter. Dr. O'Rourke summarized the major provisions of the recently approved General Assembly HB 1001.

Item # 7—Bus Bid Recommendation

Mr. Kenworthy moved to award the purchase of two 72 passenger buses and one special needs bus to Midwest Transit. Mrs. Singer, Mr. Kenworthy and Mr. Maugans commented on the inclusion of air conditioning. Ms. Cooke indicated that the corporation thought it was a good time to try air conditioning in buses and analyze the impact on students and costs. Mrs. Singer expressed that she was pleased with the generous trade-in allowances provided by Midwest. Mr. Koloszar seconded **the motion and it passed 6-0**.

Item # 8—Donations

Mr. Marley moved and Mr. Wells seconded that the Board accept the \$1,000 donation of Mr. Hector Angel in support of the 2008-2009 Reading Across America program for Western Middle School. Mr. Wells seconded **the motion and it passed 6-0.**

Item # 9—Richard R. Rea Scholarship

Mrs. Singer moved that:

1. Mrs. Donna J. Walden be appointed president of the 2008 Richard R. Rea Scholarship and also as a member of the 2008 Scholarship Selection Committee.
2. Mr. William Dickison be appointed as vice president of the 2008 Richard R. Rea Scholarship and also as a member of the 2008 Scholarship Selection Committee.
3. Mrs. Roselyn Lewis be appointed secretary/treasurer of the 2008 Richard R. Rea Scholarship and as a member of the 2008 Scholarship Selection Committee.
4. Joshua D. Evans be approved as the recipient of the 2007, \$1,000 scholarship, renewable for the next three years. Mr. Marley seconded **the motion and it passed 6-0.**

Item # 10—Personnel Items

Mr. Kenworthy moved and Mr. Wells seconded that the Board accept the retirements of Winnie Rockey and Emily Meyers, both at the end of the 2007-08 school year and Jean Douce, on Friday, May 30, 2008. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Mr. Kenworthy moved and Mr. Koloszar seconded that the Board accept the resignations of: Tracy Reigler, Middle School Science Super Bowl Team Coach; Cara Tarrh, Primary Teacher; Mitzie Johnson, Intermediate Head Cook; Megan McCoy, Choral Director High School /Middle School; Kay Lazar, Middle School Spell Bowl and Language Arts Super Bowl Coach; Lisa McClaine, Intermediate Cook; and Christy Unger, Varsity Volleyball Coach. Mr. Marley discussed the current policy/procedures associated with the sharing of students by various co and extra-curricular activities. He wondered if it was time to change the current processes. Dr. O'Rourke commented that he thought the current policy was okay. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Mr. Wells moved and Mr. Maugans seconded that the Board approve the following recommendations for employment:

Lois Dickison, First Grade Temp. beginning 3/5/08; Jackie Huffer, Primary Prime-Time Aide beginning 3/3/08; Jeanine Kelly, Primary Prime-Time Aide beginning 3/10/08; Gregg Lockwood, Middle School Math beginning 8/11/08; Jamie

Montgomery, Temporary Second Grade Teacher (maternity leave) beginning 3/5/08; Christy Frazier, Head Cook Intermediate beginning 3/10/08. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Mrs. Singer moved and Mr. Wells seconded that the Board approve the maternity leave for Heather Hendrich. **The motion passed 6-0.**

The Board was made aware that Tricia Harlow had indicated that she will be returning for the 2008-09 school year (she had been on leave).

Mr. Kenworthy moved and Mrs. Singer seconded that the maintenance/custodial realignment presented by Pat Grzesiak, Maintenance Supervisor, be approved by the Board. (See attached) Mr. Kenworthy asked a question concerning the chain of responsibility associated with the realignment. Mrs. Singer complemented Mr. Grzesiak on the collaborative nature of the development process, the inclusion of an accountability factor, and the presence of a worker's pride concept in the proposal. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Item # 11—Professional Improvement Requests

Mr. Wells moved and Mr. Marley seconded that the Board approve all of the attached professional improvement requests. Mrs. Singer asked about the number of ESL students in the corporation. Mr. Taylor indicated that he thought the number was between 23 & 32 students. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Item # 12—Board Member Roundtable

Mr. Maugans distributed the Board self-evaluation instruments to the Board members. He also indicated that the ISBA Board Member Academy is July 10-11 and that Board members should contact Kellie Turner about their plans. Mr. Maugans gave similar instructions to Board Members concerning the ISBA September 29-30 conference. He asked Board Members to let Kellie know if they would be attending the Farm Bureau Dinner. Mr. Wells reminded Board Members to contact Kellie concerning attendance at the ISBA National Convention.

Item # 13—Signing of Documents

The proper documents were signed.

Item # 14—Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT REQUESTS—April 15, 2008

Carol Cole/Erika James—Kokomo-Lincoln School Speech Information Meeting—Lincoln School—March 26, 2008

Sarah Kenworthy—Indiana Dietetic Association Spring Meeting—Marten House, Indianapolis—April 16 & 17, 2008

Kelly Wells—ICASE Roundtable Discussion on ART7—Ball State—April 18, 2008

Louise Lehman—Differentiated Instruction Workshop for Japanese Teachers—Bloomington—April 18 & 19, 2008

Laura Groves—2008 Music Technology Clinic—Ball State University—April 19, 2008

Roger Guinn—Indiana Conference on Educational Programs for Students—Brown County Inn—April 24 & 25, 2008

Christy Frazier/Lori Larimore/Sarah Kenworthy/Roberta Myers/Kim Deardorff—Stanz Food Show—South Bend—April 24, 2008

Sherry Yazel—Recognizing, Understanding & Implementing the New State Graduation Requirements—Purdue—April 24, 2008

Sherry Yazel—IUK Guidance Counselors Workshop—IUK—April 25, 2008

Randy McCracken/Lissa Stranahan/Heather Hendrich/Rick Davis/Steve Arthur—ISTEP+ Assessment in Indiana—Indianapolis—April 29, 2008

Bev Austin/Brooke Gibson/Tara Smith/Cami Wyatt—How to Raise the Achievement of ALL Students—Indianapolis—April 30, 2008

Carrie Worland/Kelley Engle/Melissa DeWeese/Gail Bouslog/Randy Messner—Curriculum Writing—Western Tech Lab—May 1, 2008

Randy McCracken—High Ability Coordinator Meeting—West Lafayette—May 13, 2008

Laura Groves—Teaching Guitar in a Classroom Workshop—Indianapolis—July 14-18, 2008