

Western School Corporation

Russiaville, IN 46979

December 20, 2016

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Western Board of School Trustees held on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Donna Shepherd, Don Wells, Scott Gaskins, Linda Singer, J. Conrad Maugans, Mike Koloszar, and Harry Kenworthy (arrived at 6:02 p.m.)

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Randy McCracken, Abby Rodgers, Heather Hendrich, Pam Carter, Lissa Stranahan, Craig Shearer, Brittani Adams, Nathan and Isaac Robinson, Nate Schmidt, Katie Sundheimer, Ashton Bray, Rick Davis, Allison Turner, Tracy Horrell, Astin, Melissa and Nick Watson, Suzie Reagle, London, Autumn and Matthew Brady and Steven Cecil

Mr. Wells led prayer and Mr. Maugans led the Pledge of Allegiance prior to the official start of the meeting.

Item #1 –Opening of the Meeting

Mr. Maugans called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Item #2 – Approval of the Agenda

Mr. McCracken indicated that there was an addition to agenda item #6, reports and to table item #14, NEOLA. Mr. Koloszar made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mrs. Shepherd seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

Item #3 – Approval of the Minutes

Mrs. Shepherd made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2016 regular meeting. Mr. Gaskins seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

Item #4 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Item #5 – Panther Pride

Mr. McCracken shared the following with the Board:

- Kristi Leap and Leslie Guy – Organized donations to supply Christmas gifts to 125 children

- Angie Watson, Kristi Harden and Tricia Harlow – Organized and delivered donations to students in need
- WHS Spell Bowl team qualified for State
- Kokomo Tribune Article featuring Ty Spangler, WMS Teacher
- Kokomo Perspective Article featuring former Western student Austin Richard
- Employee and Students of the Month
 - Steven Cecil, Employee of the Month
 - Isaac Robinson, WPS Student of the Month
 - London Brady, WIS Student of the Month
 - Astin Watson, WHS Student of the Month

Mr. Kenworthy arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Item #6 – Reports

1. Director of Finance: Mrs. Carter submitted the following report:

Bank Balance

FIRST BANK OF BERNE:

Checking Account Balance 11/01/16	\$6,324,010.44
Non-Revenue Receipts	328,174.09
MTD Revenue	2,771,056.48
Disbursements from Clearing Accounts	333,631.19
MTD Disbursements	2,282,716.04
Checking Account Balance 11/30/16	\$6,806,893.78

Total Depository Balance 11/30/16 \$6,806,893.78

Vendor Claims Submitted For Approval

#71412 – 71660 of 11/16/16 - 11/30/16	\$607,870.05
#71661 – 71888 of 12/01/16 – 12/20/16	<u>\$2,005,751.76</u>
TOTAL:	\$2,613,621.81

Payroll Claims Submitted for Approval

#09 of 11/04/16	\$519,497.58
#10 of 11/18/16	<u>\$577,847.45</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,097,345.03

Interest on Checking 01/01/16 to 11/30/16	\$66,302.68
pc	

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report and claim docket. Mrs. Shepherd seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

2. Assistant Superintendent: Dr. Hendrich submitted the following report:

Important Items from Wednesday Nov 9, 2016 – Tuesday, Dec 13, 2016

Special Education

- Received notification from IDOE that Western was 100% compliant for Indicators 9, 10, and 13. Indicator 9 represents disproportionality in the identification of racial and ethnic groups in special education. Indicator 10 represents disproportionality in specific disability categories for racial and ethnic groups. Indicator 13 represents the percent of youth aged 14 and above with an IEP that includes coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals. The secondary special education teachers attended professional development sessions last school in preparation for this review and updated IEPs to more accurately reflect the requirements established for compliance with Indicator 13.
- Have been providing homebound services 3 hours per week to a special education student
- Attended the KASEC Special Education Coordinator's meeting

Grants

- ***Title II***
 - Submitted the 2016-17 Title II grant application.
- ***High Ability***
 - Submitted the 2016-17 High Ability grant application and received approval for the amount of \$39,835.

Title III

- Participated in the Title III Director's Winter Meeting through WVEC via Webinar

4. Superintendent: Mr. McCracken submitted the following report:

1. Drug Abuse Prevention – Attached is the letter that I recently sent to parents and staff regarding the drug issues that we are facing in our communities and schools, and steps that we are taking at the school to help address the problem. A few of the steps we are taking include: updating and expanding our drug testing panel, putting the drug issue under the umbrella of the school safety committee, and providing staff and parents with information and training. Also attached are Board Policies 5530 and 5530.01. Over the next few months, we will be looking at these policies and making recommendations on how they might be updated and improved.
2. United Way's Early Learning Coalition – Attached is information regarding the United Way's Early Learning Coalition's Education Initiative Strategy and Planning. The goal of the United Way is to assist parents in helping their children to be kindergarten ready when it is time to send them to school. Currently, it is estimated that only about 45% of the children in Howard county entering Kindergarten have the skills needed for Kindergarten readiness. This is based on varying assessments each school corporation may use. The goal is to have 75% of Howard County children ready for Kindergarten by 2022 and to have a common assessment to measure those skills.

Our teachers do a great job with the children who enter our Primary, some with little or no preschool or pre-k skills.

3. 2015-2016 ISTEP+ Results (see attached)

4. School and Corporation Letter Grades

	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Corporation	B	A	A	A	A
High School	B	A	A	A	A
Middle School	B	B	B	B	A
Intermediate	B	A	A	A	B
Primary (Based on Intermediate)	B	A	A	A	B

5. 2015-2016 Updated Evaluation Results

- Highly Effective – 61 (33.7%)
- Effective – 120 (66.3%)
- Needs Improvement – 0
- Ineffective - 0

6. Current Planning

- Teachers' Performance Award Grant
- Science and Health Textbook Adoption
- Professional Learning Communities
- Data Rooms
- Planning for Collective Bargaining – Compensation Models
- Finalizing Construction and Expenses

Mr. McCracken also added the following to his report:

This past year, the efforts of our teachers and the success and growth of our students earned our teachers a Teacher Performance Grant totaling \$165,778.73. Attached is information regarding the grant distribution and the award amounts statewide. A few requirements of the grant are; it must be discussed with the local teachers' association as to how it will be paid out, only teachers rated "Effective" or "Highly Effective" are eligible, and we must differentiate the grant amounts between the two categories. Also, the bonus is only available to teachers employed by Western on December 1, 2016 (Retired teachers are not eligible) and it must be paid out within 20 business days of receiving the funds from the state.

The Principals and Directors have now finalized the 2015-2016 evaluations and are currently in the process of meeting with all teachers to review their summative evaluation results. After discussions with Brad Bennett, Association President, my recommendation is that we pay those rated "Effective" 99% of the amount of those rated "Highly Effective" as we have in the past. I am also recommending that we combine all building amounts and use that total to calculate the pay. In order to stay within the \$165,778.73, the corporation's portion of FICA and TRF will be reduced for each individual teacher prior to the payout. We plan to pay out the grant to the teachers in a separate check on December 30, 2016.

Mrs. Singer made a motion to approve the Teacher Performance Grant, seconded by Mr. Gaskins. The motion passed 7-0.

Item #7 – Resolutions for Approval

Mrs. Shepherd made a motion to approve the following resolutions:

- Pay Claims Through End of Year 2016
- Transfer Appropriation at Year End
- Carry CPF Appropriation to 2017
- Transfer of \$1,000.00 from Computer Hardware to iPad Repair, MS Site
- Transfer of \$1,500.00 from Maintenance of Equipment to Mobile and Fixed, Int Site
- Transfer of \$2,808.00 from Maintenance of Equipment and \$563.22 from iPad Repair to Purchase of Mobile and Fixed, Admin Site
- Transfer of \$1,142.00 from Computer Hardware to iPad Repair, Pri Site
- Transfer of \$1,000.00 from Computer Hardware to iPad Repair and \$2,023.00 from Rental of Buildings and Grounds Equipment to Maintenance of Equipment, HS Site

Mr. Wells seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #8 – Technology Recommendation

Mr. Nate Schmidt shared a presentation on survey results from parents, students and teachers regarding the technology needs/wants moving forward.

Mr. Kenworthy made a motion to approve the continuation of our 1:1 technology initiative with the use of iPads, and for a team of 12 staff member to attend Apple training in Chicago in February. Mr. Koloszar seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #9 – Acceptance of Grant

Mr. Wells made a motion to accept the 2016-17 High Ability Grant in the amount of \$39,385.00. Mr. Gaskins seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #10 – School Improvement Plans

Mrs. Singer made a motion to approve the school improvement plans as presented. Mr. Kenworthy seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #11 – New HS Courses

Mr. Gaskins made a motion to approve the addition of Creative Writing and Transportation Systems for the 2017-18 school year. Mrs. Shepherd seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #12 – Overnight Field Trips

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the following overnight field trips:

- PantherTech District Robotics Competition - Indianapolis - March 23-25, 2017
- PantherTech District Robotics Competition - Huntington North HS - April 6-8, 2017

- PantherTech World Championship - St. Louis - April 26-30, 2017
- WHS All State Honor Choir - Ft. Wayne - January 13-14, 2017
- WMS Honor Choir - Ft. Wayne - January 12-13, 2017
- WHS Trip to Japan - June 2018
- WHS Trip to Spain - June 2018

Mr. Koloszar seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #13 – Acceptance of Donations

Mr. Gaskins made a motion to accept the following donations:

- Sally Ripley - \$785.00 for WMS Choir
- Bill Wyant - Lumber Valued at \$1,000.00
- Randy McCracken - \$1,000.00 for Drug Testing Assistance

Mrs. Shepherd seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #14 – NEOLA

Tabled until January

Item #15 – Personnel

Mrs. Shepherd made a motion to approve the following personnel items:

1. Recommendations:
 - a. Judy Turner – Custodian, WHS
 - b. Blake Conklin – Temp Maternity Leave Social Studies Teacher, WHS
 - c. Brandon Shawhan – Social Studies Dept Chair, WHS
 - d. Alexandra Olmstead – Homebound Instruction
 - e. Dan Macaluso – Bus Driver
 - f. Cody Shipley – Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach
 - g. Colton Summers - Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach
 - h. Devon Eaker - Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach
 - i. Dwight Singer – Volunteer Baseball Coach
 - j. Mike Rocchio – Volunteer Baseball Coach
 - k. Brett Boswell – HS Assistant Track Coach
 - l. Katie Chandler – HS Assistant Track Coach
 - m. Jarrod Shelton – HS Volunteer Track Coach
 - n. Kiersten Durbin – Freshman Girls Basketball Coach
2. Occupational and Physical Therapist Compensation and Benefit Packet
3. Salary Correction – Rachael Stewart, WHS
4. Free/Reduced Meal Applications – Lori Larimore, WPS
5. Resignations:

- a. Taya Amsbury, WPS
 - b. Leigh Magdelinskas, KASEC
- 6. Dismissal:
 - a. Melissa Hite, Transportation
- 7. Maternity Leave:
 - a. Lacey Haseley
- 8. Volunteer Nurse

Mr. Gaskins seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #16 – Professional Improvement Requests

Mrs. Singer made a motion to approve the following professional improvement requests:

Steve Kline – Basic School Resource Officer Training – Fishers –December 12-16, 2016

Nate Gibson – Basic School Resource Officer Training – Fishers – December 12-16, 2016

Cindy Long – Indiana School Safety Conference – Indianapolis – November 14-15, 2016

Keith Whitford – Midwest Band/Orchestra Clinic – Chicago – December 15-17, 2016

Tammy Norman – Feeding Strategies for Early Interventions – Daleville – November 18, 2016

Georgia Everett – STEM Conference – Purdue – January 12, 2017

Georgia Everett – Textbook Caravan – WVEC –January 18, 2017

Brooke Gibson – What Great Teachers Do – Taylor – December 2, 2016

Janel Baker – What Great Teachers Do – Taylor – December 2, 2016

Andrew Bowers – What Great Teachers Do – Taylor – December 2, 2016

Sarah Kritzman – What Great Teachers Do – Taylor – December 2, 2016

Brooke Lewis – What Great Teachers Do – Taylor – December 2, 2016

Randy McCracken – AASA National Conference – New Orleans – March 2-4, 2017

Randy McCracken – IAPSS Annual Meeting – Indianapolis – December 5-6, 2016

Randy McCracken – ISBA School Law Seminar – Plainfield – December 9, 2016

Heather Hendrich – ISBA School Law Seminar – Plainfield – December 9, 2016

Christine Truesdell – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Peggy Obermeyer – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Tracy Moon – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Jeff Hunt – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Jared Grinstead – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Georgia Everett – Experimental Biology Conference – Chicago – April 22-25, 2017

Emily Klingler – IDOE PrimeroEdge Menu Planning Training – Beech Grove HS – January 26-27, 2017

Elizabeth Douglass – Digital Science and Health Resources Fair – Lafayette – December 8, 2016

Haleigh Stipes – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Katelend Alexander – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Stacy Smith – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Kim Showers – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Steve Arthur – Textbook Caravan – Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Emily Klingler – ISNA Winter Seminar – Indianapolis – February 3, 2017

Kim Deardorff – ISNA Winter Seminar – Indianapolis – February 3, 2017

Leanna Tate – ISNA Winter Seminar – Indianapolis – February 3, 2017

Christy Frazier – ISNA Winter Seminar – Indianapolis – February 3, 2017

Lori Larimore – ISNA Winter Seminar – Indianapolis – February 3, 2017

Dawn Lytle – Autism Secondary Structure and Visual Supports Conference – Franklin – February 9, 2017

Jennifer Palmer – Digital Science and Health Resources Fair – Lafayette – December 8, 2016

Steve Arthur – High Ability Workshop – Fishers – February 2, 2017

Lissa Stranahan – High Ability Workshop – Fishers – February 2, 2017

Dawn Lytle – Autism Secondary Structure and Visual Supports Conference – Franklin – January 18, 2017

Tricia McClain – Autism Secondary Structure and Visual Supports Conference – Franklin – February 9, 2017

Tricia McClain – Autism Secondary Structure and Visual Supports Conference – Franklin – January 18, 2017

Dawn Lytle – Annual Capacity Building Institute for Indiana Cadres of Transition Leaders – Indianapolis – April 27, 2017

Melissa Burkhalter – Digital Science and Health Resources Vendor Fair – Lafayette – December 8, 2016

Autumn Smith – Indiana Music Educators Assn Professional Development Conference – Ft. Wayne – January 12-14, 2017

Janel Baker – Indiana Music Educators State Conference – Ft. Wayne – January 12-14, 2017

Lynn Guinn – Textbook Adoption Forum – W. Lafayette – January 18, 2017

Melissia Grant – Winter Ag Teacher Workshop – Indiana FFA Leadership Center – January 19, 2017

Lyndsay Fisher – Teacher Development Sub Committee Meeting – Western – January 13, 2017

Suzi Morgan – Teacher Development Sub Committee Meeting – Western – January 13, 2017

Ty Spangler – Teacher Development Sub Committee Meeting – Western – January 13, 2017

Brad Bennett – Teacher Development Sub Committee Meeting – Western – January 13, 2017

[Paraprofessional Training](#)

Mr. Wells seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #17 – Board Member Roundtable

Mr. Maugans shared information regarding an upcoming seminar and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mrs. Shepherd thanked Mr. Schmidt for his presentation and the principals for their work with the school improvement plans.

Mr. Gaskins thanked Calvin Wheeler for his help in the fieldhouse. He also wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mrs. Singer shared how much she appreciates the Panther Pride portion of school board meetings and also wished everyone Merry Christmas.

Mr. Koloszar said that he had attended the Christmas choir concert, and how wonderful it was.

Mr. Kenworthy congratulated the staff on the ISTEP scores and school letter grades.

Mr. Wells thanked the principals for their hard work with the school improvement plans, and also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Item #18 Signing of Documents

The proper documents were signed.

Item #19 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.