

# Western School Corporation

Russiaville IN 46979

February 19, 2008

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Western School Board of Trustees held on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Administration Building.

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

Others present: Randy McCracken, Kellie Turner, Rick Davis, Jim Watkins, Dick Taylor, Taffy Cooke, Heather Hendrich, Steve Arthur, Alix Engle, Rick Fields, Pat Grzesiak, Polly Oliverio, Lori Miller, Joan Thomas, Joe Thomas, Jami Beeler, Doug Blacklidge, Tori Blacklidge, Ann Taylor, Deb Frey, Marcia Smith, Diane Corman, Sarah Kenworthy, Kristen Pate, Matt Pate, Joanna Maddox, Cathy Phifer, Amy Pate, Nick Pate, Shannon Anthony, Jeffrey Beeler, Shawn Fain, Patricia Hoppes, Leanna Tate, Sara Sullivan, Julie Pownall and Pam Carter.

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

## Item # 1—Opening of Meeting

Mr. Maugans called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

## Item # 2—Approval of Agenda

Mr. Maugans noted that Dr. O'Rourke was sick and would not be in attendance for the meeting. He then stated that he would do his best to go through the meeting for him. He asked Mrs. Turner if there were any changes to the Agenda from Dr. O'Rourke, she said no. Mr. Marley made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Koloszar, and the motion passed 7-0.

## Item # 3—Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Singer noted that the minutes should read that the Board of Finance Elected the Vice President as well as President and Secretary. Mrs. Turner made the change. Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve the minutes as changed, seconded by Mr. Marley, and the motion passed unanimously.

## Item # 4—Opportunity for Public Comment

Mr. Maugans, Board President, said he has been made aware that some of the people in attendance were here in regard to a pending matter involving a Primary teacher. He stated that there would not be any discussion or any decision of any kind regarding this matter. He further noted Board Policy on Public Comment reads that the public may only comment on any agenda item. Jami Beeler then asked, "I have a question, at the end of your Board meetings, do you open the floor for comments or concerns that the public has on any item whether it is on your agenda or not and especially since you are holding an executive meeting after this meeting that pertains to her employment, would it be possible for the patrons who are here to openly discuss that with you before that meeting starts?" Mr. Maugans said "The answer to your question is that we do not hold an open forum meeting time for the public. There will be no decisions made in the Executive Session that we are going to hold. Other than the fact that there are personnel items on the agenda, we are not free to discuss exactly what we will be discussing." He further said, "Believe me you will have an opportunity to be heard by various people at various times. It is not our intent to say we don't want to hear what you are thinking, it's just that tonight is not the night."

#### **Item # 5—PantherPride**

Mr. Maugans introduced Pat Grzesiak, new Head of Maintenance at Western School Corporation. Mr. Grzesiak thanked the Board for the opportunity to work for Western. He noted that everyone in the corporation has been very helpful and cooperative in his transition here. The main project he wanted the Board aware of was that they have made the waste water treatment plant a self-sustaining plant. He also noted that Kent Carter, current maintenance person, will be the licensed plant operator. Mr. Maugans thanked him and welcomed him to Western School Corporation.

Mr. Maugans then noted that Dr. O'Rourke had enclosed recognition for two High School National Merit Scholarship finalists Matthew Koszica and Ryan Nees.

#### **Technology Lease**

Mr. Taylor asked the Board to approve a lease with Covenant Financial for the technology equipment for the building project. Mrs. Singer made a motion to approve the lease, seconded by Mr. Kenworthy, **and the motion passed 7-0.**

#### **Item # 6—Building Employee Handbooks**

Mr. Maugans asked the Board to approve the presented Building Employee Handbooks. All four principals were present to answer any questions the Board might have regarding these handbooks. Mrs. Singer asked what school year these handbooks were for. Mr. McCracken said he believed that the handbooks were for this the 2007-08 school year and that next year; they will be approved for in July or August of 2008. Mr. Marley made a motion to approve all four building employee handbooks, seconded by Mr. Wells, **and the motion passed unanimously.**

### Item # 7—High School Courses

Mr. Rick Davis requested that the Board approve the following courses (he gave the Board a detailed explanation for each course ahead of time):

New Courses for 2008-2009:

English and Language Arts

- Film Literature
- Short Stories
- Mass Media
- Library Media

Mathematics

- Probability and Statistics
- Discrete Mathematics

Physical Education/Health

- Elective (Advanced) Physical Education: Lifeguarding (Adv. Swimming)

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Early Childhood Education (formerly Education and Early Childhood Careers)

Social Studies

- Honors Level United States History

Mrs. Singer asked if these courses would require adding any teachers. Mr. Davis said no, it would not require any additional staffing.

Mr. Marley made a motion to approve all of the new courses, seconded by Mr. Koloszar, and **the motion passed 7-0.**

### Item # 10—Personnel Items

Mr. Maugans asked for a consensus from the Board in order to take the ECA items out of order, so that the coaches and Athletic Director may leave the meeting. Mrs. Singer made a motion that the Board remove the item from the table that had previously been tabled in January. (This item was the Varsity Boys & Girls Head Coach, Marvin Boswell). Mr. Kenworthy seconded the motion, and it passed 7-0. Mr. Marley said that he did have a question regarding the Varsity Boys & Girls Track Coach, but the question has been answered by Dr. O'Rourke through Rick Fields and is acceptable.

### Track Coaches

Marvin Boswell	Head Varsity Boys & Girls
Mike Shepherd/Skip Youngdale	Split Girls Varsity Assistant
Courtney Rohen	Girls Varsity Assistant
Jeff Hunt	MS Girls
Brooke Gibson	MS Girls
Joe Orr	Boys Varsity Assistant
Mike Smith	Boys Varsity Assistant
Nate Schmidt	MS Boys
Jennifer Rausch	MS Boys

### Volunteer Track Coaches

Duane Bishir  
Bill Burkholder  
Randy Everetts  
Joe Harter  
Gary Jewell

Thomas Brian Maddox	Volunteer MS Wrestling
Brett Davenport	Volunteer Softball
Lyle Snyder	Volunteer Softball
Mike Oilar	Volunteer Softball
Jamie Shepherd	Volunteer Softball
Kent Milburn	Volunteer Softball
Randy Cline	Volunteer Softball
Michelle Nicholson	Volunteer Track
Dwight Singer	Volunteer Baseball
Caden Cline	Volunteer Baseball
Ron Brantley	Volunteer Baseball

Mr. Marley made a motion to accept all of the ECA recommendations, seconded by Mrs. Singer, and **the motion passed 7-0.**

### New ECA Club

Mr. Davis then recommended the new “Western Power Club” and deferred all questions to Alix Engle, Head Football Coach. Mr. Engle said that he feels that this club will greatly benefit the school in many ways. It will be available for all students and it will promote camaraderie and strength in all of our athletes. Mr. Marley made a motion to approve the new “Western Power Club”, seconded by Mr. Davidson and **the motion passed 7-0.**

**Item # 8—Reports**

a. **Treasurer's Report:**

Mrs. Carter gave the following report:

Bank Balance

CB - Checking Account Balance 01/01/08	\$7,258,082.23
Non-Revenue Receipts	314,670.92
MTD Revenue	1,170,889.74
Disbursements from Clearing Accounts	1,331,125.11
MTD Disbursements	<u>1,696,474.33</u>
Checking Account Balance 01/31/08	\$5,716,043.45

Total Depository Balance 01/31/08 \$5,716,043.45

Vendor Claims Submitted For Approval

#52437 - 52475 of 01/15/08 - 01/31/08	\$1,515,118.21
#52462 - 52602 of 02/01/08 - 02/19/08	<u>2,047,761.49</u>
TOTAL:	\$3,562,879.70

Payroll Claims Submitted for Approval

#13 of 01/04/08	\$426,151.41
#14 of 01/18/08	\$407,852.28
#14a of 01/17/08	<u>\$184.56</u>
TOTAL:	\$834,188.25

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Interest on Checking 01/01/08 to 01/31/08 \$20,189.58

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Davidson, **and the motion passed 7-0.**

- b. Director of Operations: Mrs. Cooke reported that the Mr. Taylor and she are looking into purchasing School Messenger, an automated dialer and that it would be highly beneficial for the school corporation. Linda asked Taffy where the AEDs are located. Taffy told her that there are 12 all together located outside gyms, public places, nurses' offices and several other spots, plus one portable unit. Mr. Koloszar said he had a request from an elderly patron regarding handrails on bleachers. She said that is definitely something worth looking into and she will do that in 2008.

- c. Assistant Superintendent: Mr. McCracken said that he would bring the Textbook Adoption recommendations to the Board in April of 2008. He then asked the Board to approve the Addendum to Tecton's contract. Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Wells, **and the motion passed 7-0.**

The current plan is to move into the Primary/Intermediate office area right after Spring Break. We will move into the High School wing May 1, 2008 and then begin the demolition. The Board asked if they could have a tour before the next Board Meeting, he said he would see what he could do. Mr. Marley asked if Mr. McCracken felt comfortable doing the asbestos while school is in session. Randy said he feels like Tecton has a very good handle on this issue. He said he definitely trusts and relies on Tecton to know what they are doing. Connie commented that he has seen asbestos removal before and that they are very careful with this and it is carefully monitored by the State. Mr. Davis also said that in a construction meeting they said that most of the asbestos removal items will be taken off campus and then the asbestos will be removed. The actual removal will not be done on campus. Mr. McCracken also commented that there was a water leak in the media area of the Primary/Intermediate area and we had to request the replacement of some cabinets. He also thanked Karen Keisling for her work on the Annual Performance Report. Mr. Marley complimented Mr. McCracken on the Annual Performance Report and said the audience should look at it. He also thought it would be a good idea to have it on the web site.

### **Homebound Instruction**

Mr. McCracken recommended Tracy Bramel, Kay Lazar, Kendra Metcalf, Kate Glick and Joni McCracken all for homebound instructors. Mr. Wells made a motion to approve, seconded by Mrs. Singer, **and the motion passed 7-0.**

- d. Technology Director: Mr. Maugans noted that Mr. Taylor went home sick and that they have his written report in their packet and if anyone has any questions they can ask him at the next meeting.
- e. Superintendent's Report: Kellie Turner reminded the Board that they are invited to the Farm Bureau dinner on March 27, 2008 at 6:30. She also noted the ISBA Spring Seminars will be March 19, 2008 and asked for RSVPs from the Board. All members noted that they would like to attend the meeting.

### **Item # 9—Financial Items**

Mrs. Carter requested the Board approve the list of cancelled checks. Mr. Wells made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Davidson **and the motion passed 7-0.**

She then requested the Board allow her to enforce a part of the Master Agreement states that a teacher may request to attend an educational conference relating to their educational field. The school has allowed teachers who are also coaches to attend professional development courses that were for athletics, when this actually should be paid out of athletics, not the

educational conferences/coursework. Mr. Maugans made a motion to approve the Superintendent's request that the teacher's contract will be enforced literally as stated for educational conferences and graduate coursework and not for athletic/coaching seminars, seconded by Mr. Koloszar. **The motion passed 7-0.**

#### Item # 10—Personnel Items

- a. **Retirements, Resignations:** Mr. Marley made a motion to accept the resignation from Roger Davis & Christi Ratcliff and retirement from Jerry Bradley, seconded by Mr. Wells and **the motion passed 7-0.**
- b. **Recommendations for Employment:** Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve Abby Rodgers as Corporation Receptionist, seconded by Mr. Koloszar, and **the motion passed unanimously.**  
Mr. Wells made a motion to approve Meagon Parrish as the Temporary Title Aid, seconded by Mr. Marley and **the motion passed 7-0.**  
Mr. Marley made a motion to approve Jennifer Bragg as the Middle School cafeteria worker, seconded by Mr. Maugans, and **the motion passed 7-0.**
- c. **Leave:** Mrs. Singer made a motion to approve the leave request for Christy Trent from April 28 to May 30, 2008 (returning for the 2008-09 school year). Mr. Davidson seconded the motion and it **passed 7-0.**
- d. **Field Trip Requests:** Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve the field trip request from the FCCLA to go to the State Conference in Indianapolis on March 8, 9, & 10, 2008, seconded by Mr. Marley and **the motion passed 7-0.**

#### Item # 11—Professional Development

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve all of the Professional Improvement Requests, seconded by Mr. Davidson and **the motion passed 7-0.**

#### Item # 12—Board Member Roundtable

Mr. Maugans suggested that since there is an Executive Session following the meeting that the Board decides not to go on a tour until a later date. Mr. Marley thanked the parents and patrons in the audience for coming and said he hopes they have learned something even though we did not talk about what they came for.

#### Item # 13—Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.