

Western School Corporation

Russiaville, IN 46979

January 20, 2009

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Western School Board of Trustees held on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 6:46 p.m. immediately following a 6:00 p.m. Executive Session.

Members Present: Harry Kenworthy, Jon Marley, Mike Koloszar, Jeff Davidson, Don Wells, Linda Singer, and J. Conrad Maugans.

Others Present: Dick Taylor, Pat Grzesiak, Pam Carter, Taffy Cooke, Randy McCracken, Abby Rodgers, Peter O'Rourke, Brooke Gibson, Glenn Grundman, Audrey Dailey, Lori Meeks, Chris Taylor, Rick Davis and Julie Pownall.

Mr. Maugans opened the meeting with prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #1 – Opening of the Meeting

Mr. Maugans called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

Item #2 – Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Koloszar made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Davidson seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #3 – Approval of the Minutes

Mrs. Singer made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2008 regular meeting. Mr. Marley seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #4 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Item #5 – Panther Pride

1. Dr. O'Rourke read an email from Michael Ladd, a recent graduate and current freshman at IUPUI commending teachers Mrs. Suffield, Mr. Hole, and Mrs. Lester for preparing him for college.
2. Dr. O'Rourke congratulated teacher Pat Berry for having been awarded Picturing America, a free education resource of the National Endowment for the Humanities.
3. Glenn Grundman, VISION Teacher Enhancement Program Director, congratulated the following recent Western School Corporation program graduates:
 - a. Judy Sand
 - b. Audrey Dailey

c. Brooke Gibson

Mr. Grundman explained that a key goal of the VISION program was to help teachers bring relevancy to their classroom. Mr. Maugans then presented program completion plaques to each of the teachers.

Item #6 – Presentation: Chris Taylor

Mr. Chris Taylor gave a summary of the training he received at a recent NOVELL Advanced Technical Training Seminar. Of particular interest is the ability to produce a corporation wide event calendar using some of this new technology. Mr. Kenworthy asked if it would be possible to produce a pictorial staff directory for Western. Mr. Taylor said he thought it would be possible.

Item #7 – Reports

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

WESTERN SCHOOL CORPORATION
TREASURER'S REPORT
BOARD MEETING 01/20/09

Bank Balance

CB - Checking Account Balance 12/01/08	\$6,132,873.68
Non-Revenue Receipts	340,439.98
MTD Revenue	5,468,881.32
Disbursements from Clearing Accounts	349,354.93
MTD Disbursements	<u>3,354,256.82</u>
Checking Account Balance 12/31/08	\$8,238,583.23

Total Depository Balance 12/31/08 \$8,238,583.23

Vendor Claims Submitted For Approval

#54490 – 54563 of 12/17/08 – 12/31/08	\$1,913,567.01
#54564 – 54649 of 01/01/09 – 01/20/09	<u>\$854,802.28</u>
TOTAL:	\$2,768,369.29

Payroll Claims Submitted for Approval

#11 of 12/05/08	\$458,117.14
#12 of 12/19/08	<u>\$450,370.04</u>
TOTAL:	\$908,487.18

Interest on Checking 01/01/08 to 12/31/08 \$124,256.70

pc

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and additional reports and the claim docket.
Mr. Marley seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

b. Director of Transportation: Mrs. Cooke submitted the following report:

January 2009 School Board Meeting

- ✚ Our first three-day bus driver's school went very well and the new "training area" was ideal for this application. There were approximately 25 in the class and I was able to sit in on several presentations that were made by Pete Baxter (from the DOE). He has been in school transportation for over twenty-five years and knows best practices and state statutes better than anyone. Hopefully, we will host another 3-day school in the second quarter of 2009.

- ✚ We continue to be extremely pleased with the interest that has been generated to become a sub driver. We had another driver pass his test last month, a driver that is ready for her skills test, and another driver that just completed his 3-day school. Our sub list is in better shape than it has been since I have been in the transportation office.

- ✚ On December 10th, I attended a presentation on hybrid school buses and the 2010 new EPA emission standards. They did have a hybrid bus there for us to see – they are extremely expensive (over \$100,000) and utilize a lithium ion battery which costs around \$50,000 to replace (needs replaced about every seven years), so I don't imagine there will be a huge rush to buy these at this point.

- ✚ I attended the second of a series of five sessions on transporting students with disabilities at Wayne Township schools last Tuesday. This session covered the various types of child restraint systems, proper securement, and appropriate specifications for buses that transport pre-schoolers.

- ✚ We did have a bus slide off the road last week during the "wintry mix" that came in mid-day. It happened on 480W just north of West Middleton at

the beginning of the second route. We did a rear door evacuation (which, fortunately, we practice twice a year) and got the students safely on a spare bus. Once again, the School Messenger system proved invaluable.

- ✚ We continue to build on our keyless entry and camera system. We have the cameras installed in the new commons area and on the exterior door to that area. I met with Netch last week to outline our goals for 2009. Among those goals are:

1. Scanning driver's license for pick-up in the Primary and Intermediate buildings
2. Addressing concerns with the courtyard doors in the Primary and Intermediate buildings
3. Photo badging system for employees and visitors
4. Sliding gates with keyless entry at the bus parking lot

Other goals include:

1. Emergency kits for classrooms and office areas
 2. Flip charts
 3. First aid DVD
- c. Director of Maintenance: Mr. Grzesiak submitted the following report:
1. As part of the requirements stipulated in the federal Virginia Graham Baker Act our swimming pool has been inspected and was found, with minor corrections, to be in compliance.
 2. The bus barn construction project is scheduled to start on Wednesday, January 21, 2009
- d. Director of Technology: Mr. Taylor submitted the following report:

Technology Director Report

January 13th, 2009

Tech Grant Planning

We are in the process of planning for how we want to implement the State Tech Plan Grant Funds for 1:1 computing. We are planning a site visit to Peru High School this Thursday to observe how they have used the state grant funding extensively to provide 1:1 access in their English classrooms. We will also be observing a dual credit class for IUK's W131 Composition course that utilizes significant amounts of on-line learning activities.

Universal Service & Technology Planning

I have spent considerable time working on applications for Universal Service discounts for our phone system. As part of the Universal Service requirement, I have completed our annual Technology Plan update and submitted it to the Department of Education.

Regional Tech Contact Meeting

Western has been selected to host the February Regional Technology Contact meeting on Wednesday, February 11th. These meetings are sponsored by the Department of Education and are designed for Technology Leaders to meet to share information and explore the latest developments in educational technology applications. We were chosen to host the meeting as a result of our recent construction project and our ability to share our recent technology acquisitions including:

- ⌚ Extron PoleVault classroom projection/audio systems
- ⌚ Lenel video security/access control
- ⌚ Video Furnace video over IP solution
- ⌚ DIBELS Early learning assessment program

School Messenger

Here are some statistics as of January 14th to provide you with some insight as to how extensively we are using the phone notification system.

Total Call Jobs – 373

- ⌚ This includes daily attendance calls for each school on a daily basis
- ⌚ Also includes calls for low/negative lunch balances on Tuesdays/Thursdays

School	Emergency	Attendance	General	Total
High	3035	416	3134	6585
Intermediate	1903	397	2502	4802
Middle	2804	471	3425	6700
Primary	2187	610	2781	5578

Additionally, Mr. Taylor indicated that Video Furnace had been used to allow students to view the inauguration ceremony of the new President of the United States.

e. Assistant Superintendent: Mr. McCracken submitted the following report:

1. WESTAG Update

- Next BBPC meeting is January 22 from 4:00 – 5: 30 p.m.
- The committee will review the program and make recommendations for any program changes in April.
- The primary and intermediate are currently planning for identification testing.

2. Special Education
 - Speech Position – Initial deadline was Friday, January 16. As of January 13, we have had only one inquiry.
 - Non-Diploma Track Special Education Position – Deadline is January 30. Currently we have five applicants.
 - ISTART7 – Our Special Education Teachers are doing a great job with the transition to the State IEP computer program. There is a lot to learn and they have worked hard and remained positive.

3. Social Studies Textbook Adoption– First meeting was on January 13. Recommendations will be brought to the Board in March.

4. Annual Performance Report – The Annual Performance Report will be handed out and reviewed at the February meeting.

5. Suspension and expulsion information for the first semester of the 2008-2009 school year will be shared at the meeting.

6. Current Planning
 - Textbook Adoption
 - Remediation
 - Beginning to look at Summer School
 - Curriculum Mapping

Mr. Kenworthy asked clarifying questions regarding the suspension and expulsion information.

- f. Superintendent: Dr. O'Rourke submitted the following report:

January 2009

1. Legislative Bulletin 09-1, dated December 17, 2008 from Frank Bush, ISBA. This is an excellent document containing pertinent and important information concerning the upcoming legislative session. Please review it and keep it handy.

2. Fund Report Comparisons

	<u>12/31/2006</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	<u>12/31/2008</u>
General Fund	2,741,672.40	3,463,787.14	3,956,993.81
Debt Service Fund	787,430.40	994,651.20	1,379,376.87
Retirement/Severance	2,025.66	137,881.49	139,902.16

Bond Fund

Capital Projects Fund	1,301,949.45	1,469,187.50	1,516,928.59
Trans. Operating Fund	227,423.22	183,668.80	304,612.89
Trans. Bus Replacement	29,288.18	161,347.35	209,517.72
Special Ed Fund	123,680.59	165,821.95	166,221.45

Providing solvency and increased programs and services to our students.

3. 2008 Public Opinion Survey on K-12 Education in Indiana

A timely, well researched and documented study which I thought you would find interesting.

Additionally Dr. O'Rourke indicated that the school corporation was currently undergoing a financial audit of both it's state and federal activities.

Item #8 – Transfer of Funds Certificate

Mr. Marley made a motion to approve the Transfer of Funds Certificate. Mr. Davidson seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #9 – 2009-2010 New Courses of Study at Western High School

After Mr. Davis provided an explanation of the new courses proposal for 2009-2010 at Western High School, Mrs. Singer made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marley and passed 7-0.

Item #10 – Approval of Strategic Plan

Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve the 2009-2014 Western School Corporation Strategic Plan, including the Plan's Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals Documents. Mrs. Singer seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Mrs. Singer complemented Dr. O'Rourke on the organization and implementation of the strategic plan process.

In response to Mr. Maugans question concerning next steps, Dr. O'Rourke said that a major communication effort will be undertaken to familiarize the community with the plan contents.

Mr. Kenworthy asked how the corporation was doing on the alternative school goal contained in the plan. Dr. O'Rourke said that he and Mr. McCracken were working on the identification of students for the alternative school, and that the new action research related to emerging remediation strategies were part of the alternative school goal research.

Item #11 - Remediation Plan

Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve the Remediation Staffing Pilot for the second semester, SY 08-09 submitted by Dr. O'Rourke and Mr. McCracken. Mr. Marley seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #12 – Change to HS Handbook

Mr. Davidson made a motion to change the current 2008-2009 Western High School student handbook as follows:

Strike the current sentence regarding 8th grade algebra and replace with the following:

“Students completing Algebra I and passing the end of course assessment (ECA) at the 8th grade level will receive high school math elective credit; however the grade earned will not be calculated into the student’s high school grade point average.”

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

Mr. Kenworthy asked clarifying questions regarding the impact on the selection of the valedictorian.

Mr. Marley asked that since this would encourage these students to take four years of mathematics in high school, does the possibility exist that students may be able to take courses elsewhere, such as IUK. Dr. O'Rourke said that this was a distinct possibility.

Item #13 – Approval of SY 2009-2010 Calendar

Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve the SY 2009-2010 calendar. Mr. Koloszar seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #14 – Bus Purchase Recommendation

Mr. Kenworthy made a motion to approve the purchase of two Midwest IC eighty-four passenger buses through the Central Indiana Educational Service Center. Mr. Wells seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Mr. Kenworthy indicated that it was a very good time to lock in fuel purchases. Dr. O'Rourke and Ms. Cooke agreed and said they would take care of it on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 and report back to the Board at the February 2009 regular meeting.

Item #15 – NEOLA:1st Reading

The Board was provided the following new/revised/replacement policies for a first reading: 0165.3, 1537, 2340, 3437, 4437, 5111, 5111.01, 6650, 7440, and 8310.

Item #16 – Establishment of Board of Finance

Mrs. Singer made a motion to establish a Board of Finance consisting of the members of the School Board. Mr. Kenworthy seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Item #17 – Personnel

Mr. Davidson made a motion to approve the following personnel items:

1. Prep period purchase for Mrs. Harrold and Mrs. Funk.
2. Retirement of Mr. Dickison at the end of the 2008-2009 school year.
3. Resignation of Beth Sorrell, ICP/Chem 1 teacher.
4. Recommendation for employment of Becky Burke, ICP/Chem1 teacher, effective January 6, 2009, through the end of the 2008-2009 school year.
5. Creation of new Bus Mechanic position.
6. Recommendation for employment of the following spring coaches:
 - a. Softball: Steve Nagy –Varsity Girl’s Assistant –paid
Larry Talbert-Junior Varsity-paid
Brett Davenport, volunteer
Lyle Snyder, volunteer
Jamie Shepherd, volunteer
Randy Cline, volunteer
Kent Melburn, score keeper, volunteer
 - b. Baseball: Ron Brantley, Dwight Singer, and Kevin Ricks, volunteers
 - c. Track: Marvin Boswell-Head Girl’s Coach –paid
Michelle Nicholson-Varsity Girl’s Assistant-paid
 - d. Middle School Golf: Paul Henning-paid

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

Item #18 –Field Trips

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the Little Hoosiers Overnight Trip to Southern Indiana on April 17-18, 2009.

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

Item #19 –Professional Improvement Requests

Mr. Davidson moved and Mr. Wells seconded that the Board approve all of the attached professional improvement requests:

Professional Improvement Requests

January 2009

Kim Deardorff-Tour of Commercial Food Systems-Indianapolis-January 20, 2009

Bobbi Myers-Tour of Commercial Food Systems-Indianapolis-January 20, 2009

Christy Frazier-Tour of Commercial Food Systems-Indianapolis-January 20, 2009

Lori Larimore-Tour of Commercial Food Systems-Indianapolis-January 20, 2009

Emily Klingler-Tour of Commercial Food Systems-Indianapolis-January 20, 2009

Maureen McCarthy-Indiana Computer Education Conference-Indianapolis-January 28, 2009

Jill Newby-Prentice Hall Book Presentation-Indianapolis-October 1, 2008

(This was submitted late because Mrs. Newby didn't realize that she needed board approval for reimbursement until after she had submitted the forms. The forms were first submitted in November)

Kelly Tuberty-LAS Links English Proficiency Assessment Pre-Test Workshop-Indianapolis-January 14, 2009

Brandie Oliver-LAS Links English Proficiency Assessment Pre-Test Workshop-Indianapolis-January 12, 2009

Kathy Wood-LAS Links Proficiency Assessment Pre-Test Workshop-Indianapolis-January 14, 2009

Cami Wyatt-Improving ISTEP+ Scores-Lafayette-February 20, 2009

Brooke Gibson-Improving ISTEP+ Scores-Lafayette-February 20, 2009

Beverly Austin-Improving ISTEP+ Scores-Lafayette-February 20, 2009

Hope Chambers-Improving ISTEP+ Scores-Lafayette-February 20, 2009

Kay Lazar-Improving ISTEP+ Scores-Indianapolis-January 27, 2009

Chris Tuberty-Improving ISTEP+ Scores-Indianapolis-January 27, 2009

Matt Nuss-Improving ISTEP+ Scores-Indianapolis-January 27, 2009

Tracy Reigler-Improving ISTEP+ Scores-Indianapolis-January 27, 2009

Steve Arthur-MClass Dibels Data Assessment for Administrators-Lafayette-February 12, 2009

Janel Baker-The Indiana Music Educators State Conference-Indianapolis-January 23-24, 2009

Nathan Schmidt-Textbook Caravan for Social Studies-Lafayette-January 21, 2009

Rick Ryan-HASTI Annual Conference-Indianapolis-February 5-6, 2009

Dawn Pemberton-HASTI Conference-Indianapolis-February 5-6, 2009

Jill Newby-Textbook Caravan-Lafayette-January 21, 2009

Josh Larsh-Textbook Caravan for Social Studies-January 21, 2009

Bill Dickison-Textbook Caravan-Lafayette-January 21, 2009

Audrey Daily-Textbook Caravan for Social Studies-January 21, 2009

Peggy Obermeyer-HASTI-Indianapolis-February 5-6, 2009

Patricia Young-HASTI-Indianapolis-February 5-6, 2009

Brian Caldwell-Indiana Music Educators Assoc. State Conference-Indianapolis-January 22-24, 2009

Brandie Oliver-Improving ISTEP Scores-Indianapolis-February 18, 2009

Kristy Wiechmann-Improving ISTEP Scores-Indianapolis-February 18, 2009

Stacy Smith-Improving ISTEP Scores-Indianapolis-February 18, 2009

Courtney McClure-Improving ISTEP Scores-Indianapolis-February 18, 2009

Allison Turner-Improving ISTEP Scores-Indianapolis-February 18, 2009

Jeff Hunt-Improving ISTEP Scores-Indianapolis-February 18, 2009

Kelly Tuberty-Wireless Generation DIBELS Training-Lafayette-February 17, 2009

Nancy Erb-Co-teaching that works-Indianapolis-January 16, 2009

Heidi Pearcy-Co-teaching that works-Indianapolis-January 16, 2009

Randy Messner-Co-teaching that works-Indianapolis-January 16, 2009

Jean Walls-Co-teaching that works-Indianapolis-January 16, 2009

Donna Gossman-Co-teaching that works-Indianapolis-January 16, 2009

Christy Unger-Co-teaching that works-Indianapolis-January 16, 2009

Carla Smith-Site visit to Peru High School-Peru-January 15, 2009

Kate Glick-Site visit to Peru High School-Peru-January 15, 2009

Kristi Leap-INSSWA East Central Regional Meeting-Kokomo-January 29, 2009

Patricia Waterman-Indiana Computer Educators Conference-Indianapolis-January 27-29, 2009

The motion passed 7-0.

Item #20 – Board Member Roundtable

Mr. Kenworthy complemented Mr. Taylor on his upcoming hosting of a regional technology conference.

Item #21 – Signing of Documents

The proper documents were signed.

Item #22 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

