

Western School Corporation

Russiaville, IN 46979

February 15, 2011

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Western Board of School Trustees held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Members Absent: Linda Singer

Others Present: Peter O'Rourke, Abby Rodgers, Randy McCracken, Pam Carter, Taffy Cooke, Dick Taylor, Emily Klingler, Peggy Obermeyer, Charisse Smith, Kay Lazar, and Matt Nuss.

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

Item #1 – Opening of the Meeting

Mr. Kenworthy called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

Item #2 – Approval of the Agenda

Dr. O'Rourke indicated that he would like to add two items to the personnel section of the agenda.

Mike Koloszar made a motion to approve the agenda as amended by Dr. O'Rourke. Mr. Marley seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

Item #3 – Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Maugans moved, and Mr. Marley seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the January 18, 2011 regular meeting of the Western Board of School Trustees and of the January 18, 2011 Western Board of Finance. The motion passed 6-0.

Item #4 – Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Item #5 – Panther Pride

Dr. O'Rourke commended the following to the Board:

1. Dr. O'Rourke, on behalf of Glenn Grundmann, VISION Teacher Enhancement Program Director, congratulated the following recent Western School Corporation program graduates:
 - a. Melissa Pruett

- b. Brandon Shawhan
 - c. Kay Lazar
 - d. Greg Lockwood
 - e. Matt Nuss
2. Staff members from the Primary School for being featured in the m-Class /Dibels monthly newsletter.
3. The Middle School A-OK club for sending valentine gift items to Hoosier men and women deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Item #6 – WSC Building Corp 2001 Refunding

Dr. O'Rourke informed the Board that the Western School Building Corporation had met on February 15, 2011 to approve Third Supplemental Trust Indenture, Third Amendment to Lease, Official Statement and form of Bond Purchase Contract documents related to the upcoming lease refunding.

Item #7 – Presentation by Emily Klingler

Emily Klingler, Western's Food Service Director gave a presentation on Child Nutrition WIC Reauthorization and proposed rule changes in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs.

Item #8 – Reports

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

WESTERN SCHOOL CORPORATION
 TREASURER'S REPORT
 BOARD MEETING 02/15/11

Bank Balance

CB - Checking Account Balance 01/01/11	\$3,429,547.37
Non-Revenue Receipts	265,034.95
MTD Revenue	3,009,712.84
Disbursements from Clearing Accounts	301,971.25
MTD Disbursements	<u>1,709,139.27</u>
Checking Account Balance 01/31/11	\$4,693,184.64

Total Depository Balance 01/31/11 \$4,693,184.64

Vendor Claims Submitted For Approval

#58507 - 58577 of 01/18/11 - 01/31/11	\$568,673.63
#58578- 58693 of 02/01/11 - 02/15/11	<u>\$685,814.71</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,254,488.34

Payroll Claims Submitted for Approval

#13 of 01/07/11	\$445,934.03
#14 of 01/21/11	<u>\$454,811.74</u>
TOTAL:	\$900,745.77

 Interest on Checking 01/01/11 to 01/31/11 \$1,354.04

pc

Mr. Wells made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and claim docket. Mr. Maugans seconded the motion which passed 6-0.

2. Director of Technology: Mr. Taylor provided the following report:

ISTEP+ On-line Testing

We completed a practice test on January 28th using our 8th grade nComputing (thin client) lab and had very good success. It appears that we are going to be able to use that lab for the spring testing for our 8th graders which is required to be online. (We were originally scheduled for the practice test on the 27th, but CTB/McGraw Hill inadvertently assigned our testing session with a Pacific Time Zone setting with permission to test between 8 am and 5 pm. Since we were trying to test at 9:30 am Eastern time, the students were blocked from testing so we had to have new test tickets generated for the following day.)

State Reporting Update

- DOE-CP – With the assistance of the individual buildings I have completed the submission of the extensive Certified Positions report which includes data records for every Certified Employee and Class ID's for all core subject areas and many non-core subject areas along with Highly Qualified Teacher data. This is the first year for this report and I anticipate that there will be some significant changes and clarifications to this report next year.
- DOE-CC – I am in the process of completing the Course Completion report which basically includes a Pass/Fail/No Grade Assigned record for each student enrolled in the Class ID's that were reported in the CP report. I have completed the middle school which included over 4000 records of data and will be finalizing the other schools before the end of next week.

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee met Monday, February 7th. One of the continuing issues we have been dealing with is our school and teacher web pages. I have been looking for a solution that will allow individual buildings to more easily maintain and update their own pages and also provide a standardized platform for teachers to create web pages that can be created and maintained with minimal effort. At Tuesday's meeting we were provided a product demonstration for Mambo Schools from One Technologies, Inc. Over 200 Indiana schools are using Mambo Schools for school and teacher web pages and the overall response from the Technology Committee was very positive. I am working on applications for erate discounts that would provide a discount of approximately 50% for Mambo Schools since it is a web-hosted solution. I anticipate making the change to this new product provided we receive erate funding approval.

Transition to Skyward

Our transition to Skyward moving at a quick pace as we will be installing on February 23rd and 24th. Our high school and middle school counselors and those that will be doing next year scheduling will be trained on March 23rd and 24th. These will be the only individuals that will start using Skyward before the end of the current school year.

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

1. WESTAG Update

This school year we implemented a Pilot at grades 1 - 5 that would allow greater flexibility in identification and services for students entering and currently in our high ability program. At the March School Board meeting, we will present an update on the Pilot and share recommendations for the 2011-2012 school year.

2. Annual Performance Report – Attached is a copy of the Annual Performance Report that will appear in the local newspapers. A more detailed report with additional information will be available at the Board Meeting.

Notes from this year's report:

- Western School Corporation, page 1
 - Percent of special education students is slightly down this year and below the State average.
 - Percent of students in Gifted and Talented Education is consistent and above the state average. It is important to remember that our program not only focuses on those few at the extreme top but also the highly able or high average student that is capable of performing at an accelerated level.
 - Percent of Limited English Proficiency Students is slightly up but well below the state average. This could change at any time.
- Western High School, page 2
 - The 10th Grade Cohort Percent Passing ECA Math Standards, ECA Language Arts, and Percent Passing both are all above the State average. The ECA exams and minimum score requirements for passing changed prior to the 09-10 testing.
 - Percent of graduates who have passed Indiana's ECA remains consistent and above the State average
 - Percent of 11th and 12th graders taking Advanced Placement tests is well above the State average; however our percent of AP tests with a score of 3, 4, or 5 are below the State average.
 - Percent of students graduating with an Academic Honors Diploma and percent graduating with a Core 40 Diploma are well above the State average.
 - Percent of graduates pursuing a college education is up and well above the State average.
 - Attendance rate is slightly down from the previous year but only 1/10th of a percent below the State average.
- Western Middle School, page 3

- The Middle School is above the State average in every assessment category listed.
 - The percent of 8th Graders enrolled in Algebra I is above the State average.
 - The Middle School's attendance rate is above the State average.
 - Western Intermediate, page 4
 - The Intermediate School is above the State average in every assessment category with the exception of 5th grade Math.
 - The Intermediate School's attendance rate is above the State average.
3. Civil Rights Audit – Western School Corporation has been selected to undergo a Civil Rights Audit. A Team will visit on February 17 and 18 to conduct the audit. We are being audited because we receive Federal Funds for our Career and Technical Education classes at the high school. However, a component of the audit is to ensure compliance with other federal programs, such as Title IX and Section 504 for the high school and administration building (Buildings that high school students access). Staff that will be interviewed during the audit include; Dr. O'Rourke, Randy McCracken, Rick Davis, Sherry Yazel, Stephanie Rose, Sarah Stapleton, and Amy Sutton.
4. Primary/Intermediate HVAC Project - Two recent meetings have been scheduled/held with Performance Services regarding the Primary/Intermediate HVAC project. The first meeting on Friday, February 11 is to review the project and time-lines with Performance Services. The second meeting on Tuesday, February 15 is to meet with Performance Services and the contractors to kick off the project. The tentative start date is March 1, 2011.
5. Textbook Adoption/Curriculum Development
- Health and Science teachers are in the process of reviewing textbooks and instructional materials, along with making revisions to their philosophy statements. I will bring the Board their recommendations on March 15 for official approval on April 19.
 - On February 4, the Department of Education shared that they had prematurely released a list of recommendations and potential actions related to the adoption of additional mathematics textbooks aligned with the Common Core State Standards and that schools should now not rely on the list. The final adoption list will be posted following the March 2, 2011, State Board of Education meeting.

Our buildings are receiving sample materials; however, until the final approved list is made available, we are somewhat on hold. Our first Mathematics Curriculum Development and Textbook Adoption meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2011

6. Current Planning

- Summer School
- Textbook Adoptions
- Curriculum Mapping/Curriculum Development

Mr. Marley thanked Mr. McCracken and Mrs. Keisling for their work preparing the Annual Performance Report, 2009-2010.

4. Superintendent’s Report: Dr. O’Rourke submitted the following report:

1. 1782 Notice: We are in receipt of our 2011 notice. This financial statement sets out, by fund, the final information proposed for our taxing unit. It includes proposed revenue, levy, and budget adjustments that resulted from the application of final assessed values as certified by the county auditor.

a. A comparison of rates is provided for your information:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
General	.6253	.6453	.0000	.0000	.0000
Debt Service	.2704	.4257	.4379	.5425	.5090
Transportation	.1188	.1199	.1623	.1766	.1933
Bus Replacement	.0682	.0773	.0501	.0272	.0431
CPF	.3075	.3056	.3240	.3281	.3362
Spec. Ed/Pre-School	.0021	.0021	.0000	.0000	.0000
Pension Fund	.0561	.0360	.0471	.0504	.0530
Total	1.4484	1.6119	1.0214	1.1248	1.1346

b. A comparison of recent assessed values:

<u>SY 2006-07</u>	<u>SY 2007-08</u>	<u>SY 2008-09</u>	<u>SY 2009-10</u>	<u>SY 2010-11</u>
\$588,750,030	\$677,269,520	\$520,718,720	\$496,757,042	\$452,635,886

Note: SY 10-11 is the lowest in recent history: SY 2003-04 was \$565,121,040

c. A comparison of 2010 and 2011 levies:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Debt Service	2,694,907	2,303,917
Sch. Pension Debt	250,366	239,897
Sch. CPF	1,629,860	1,521,762
Transportation	877,273	874,945
Bus Replacement	135,118	195,086

2. Weather Make-Up Days: I'll summarize this at the meeting.

3. On-Site Civil Rights Review:

Western has been scheduled to receive said review on February 17-18, 2011. Section 11 (B) of the Guidelines for Eliminating Discrimination and Denial of Services on the Basis of Race, Color, National Origin, Sex, Handicap in Vocational Education Programs 34 C.F.R., Part 100, Appendix B (Guidelines) requires recipients of financial assistance (sub-recipients) who administer career and technical education programs to develop and implement a civil rights compliance program. Indiana Civil Rights Compliance Program for Career and Technical Education is a comprehensive review system designed to improve the delivery of career and technical education through the assurance of equal opportunity for all groups and populations. The Indiana Department of Workforce Development and Commission for Career and Technical Education select sub-recipients to receive an on-site civil rights review. The Indiana Department of Education in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security Division of Fire and Building Safety Code Enforcement conducts the on-site reviews.

4. Balanced Calendar (year round) survey results provided for your info/reflection:

Survey (parents/teachers); 592 responses; 72.5% - NO

Reasons:

- a. Don't want to be "Lone Ranger"; prefer that all "local" schools do it together.
- b. If it is so good, why isn't it popular?
- c. Those that read the research understand the positives, but...
- d. Concern on impact sports/non-sports/non-academic activities (band).
- e. Impact on "split family" contact times if not a universal "local/state" calendar.
- f. Importance of extended family time together in summer.
- g. Uncertain cost benefits – cooling during summer sessions.
- h. Impact on "tourist" revenue.
- i. Increase daycare costs during shorter vacation periods.
- j. Less time for large-scale cleaning and maintenance.
- k. Coordination with district specialist services (speech, occupational therapists, etc.)
- l. Impact on students finishing H.S., in first semester and starting college.

- m. Impact on teachers taking summer college classes.
- n. Coordination with major factory shut down periods.

4 day school week:

Results indicate that there is little support for this unless schools could “bank” time and thereby reduce total school days required.

5. MS Uniform survey results provided for your info/reflection:



WESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Julie Pownall
Principal

Lissa Stranahan
Assistant Principal

Kurt Cantlon
Counselor

☆☆ An Indiana Four Star School ☆☆

To: Dr. O'Rourke, Superintendent
From: Julie Pownall, Principal WMS
Re: Dress Code Survey

WMS conducted an online survey to establish and gain input on a pilot uniform dress code for WMS for the 2011-2012 SY. The survey was open for the month of January, 2011 through the use of technical support online with a program entitled survey monkey. Data and information is based on 742 entries. Overall, 54.2% were in support of a uniform dress code while 346 or 46.6% of the surveys showed that a dress code would not be supported.

Attached is a document showing statistics as surveyed by the public. Also included is a complete list of additional individual comments. I have broken down the individual comments and below is a summary of the comments.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS SUMMARY:

Dress code would be supported and welcomed: 31

Dress code would not be supported or welcomed due to the following:

- Dress code will not help students academically or change the school environment: 7
- A uniform dress code promotes socialism, communism as well as takes away individual student rights in a public school: 24
- A uniform dress code is not the biggest issue that school administration should be focused on at this time: 13
- A uniform dress code is not necessary but rather stricter enforcement of current dress code: 9
- MS students of all four buildings face the toughest age because their changing body and a uniform dress code will not be supported if it is not corporation wide: 17

- A uniform dress code would create financial burdens on our family: 35
- We are not IPS or a private school: 16
- A uniform dress code will not be supported if the WMS staff does not have to wear a uniform as well: 14
- A uniform dress code will not be supported (written with various degrees of vocabulary): 63

Middle School Uniform Survey Edit

Default Report + Add Report

Response Summary

Total Started Survey: 742
Total Completed Survey: 742 (100%)

PAGE: WMS UNIFORM SURVEY

1. Which shirt colors would you like to see offered? Check all that apply.		Create Chart	Download
	Response Percent	Response Count	
White	52.7%	350	
Black	58.7%	390	
Red	55.1%	366	
Gray	19.0%	126	
Navy Blue	22.3%	148	
Any color available	30.1%	200	
	answered question	664	
	skipped question	78	
2. Which pant colors would you like to see offered? Check all that apply.		Create Chart	Download
	Response Percent	Response Count	
Khaki	82.8%	546	
Black	77.5%	513	
Navy Blue	25.8%	171	
	answered question	662	
	skipped question	80	
3. Which kind of shoes should be included in the dress code? Check all that apply.		Create Chart	Download
	Response Percent	Response Count	
Dress shoes	10.3%	68	
Tennis shoes	46.1%	305	
Any type of shoes	52.3%	346	
	answered question	661	
	skipped question	81	
4. Should the uniforms be purchased from one vendor or from any vendor of the parents'/students' choosing?		Create Chart	Download

	Response Percent	Response Count
One vendor	14.4%	95
Any vendor	86.4%	571
answered question		661
skipped question		81

5. Should the uniform policy include a spirit wear day, including denim? [Create Chart](#) [Download](#)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	95.7%	629
No	5.3%	35
answered question		657
skipped question		85

6. If a spirit wear day is included, how often should it take place? [Create Chart](#) [Download](#)

	Response Percent	Response Count
One time per week	57.9%	381
One time per month	41.0%	270
One time per quarter	2.0%	13
One time per semester	1.8%	12
answered question		658
skipped question		84

7. What benefits do you see associated with piloting a uniform dress code? Check all that apply. [Create Chart](#) [Download](#)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Reduce peer pressure	83.8%	484
Reduce cost of clothing purchases	66.1%	366
Increase in unity among students	68.1%	377
Increase in self-esteem	63.7%	353
Improvement in student behavior	63.4%	351
Increase in academic performance	59.2%	328
Other (please specify) Show Responses		165
answered question		654
skipped question		188

8. What negative consequences do you think would result with the uniform dress code policy? Check all that apply. [Create Chart](#) [Download](#)

	Response Percent	Response Count
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Stifle students from expressing themselves	34.3%	236
Takes away from student individuality	44.1%	304
Uniforms take away rights from the students and/or parents	31.8%	219
Uniforms create a financial burden for parents	36.0%	248
No negative consequences will result	46.0%	317
Other (please specify)		65
Show Responses		
answered question		689
skipped question		53
9. I support a uniform dress code pilot for the 2011-2012 school year at Western Middle School.		
	Create Chart	Download
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	54.2%	402
No	46.0%	346
answered question		742
skipped question		0
10. Please state any additional comments.		
		Download
		Response Count
Show Responses		238
answered question		238
skipped question		604

6. Kokomo Area Special Education Cooperative (KASEC)

Over the past year Western School Corporation has served as Facilitator for meetings of the eight school corporations whose collective membership made up the cooperative.

These meetings were the result of a suggestion contained in a study conducted by Indiana University personnel regarding the current governance structure of the Cooperative. Key areas investigated by the group included programs/curriculum/instruction; personnel; facilities; equipment and supplies; technology; finance; transparency/communication; governance; community involvement; evaluation; and transportation.

The effort, all along, has been to preserve the membership by changing the structure. The biggest concerns voiced by seven of the eight members are:

- Desire for more transparency in the billing process
- Involvement in budget and curricula decisions
- Desire to have districts have a voice in the decision making process... governance needs to change from advisory to decision making

Currently, the Local Education Agency (LEA) for the Cooperative is Kokomo. As such, and historically they have held all of the decision making authority in all of these complicated and resource intensive areas.

The seven corporations believe that this rather archaic, one-dimensional decision making structure needs to be amended to a multi-dimensional partnership one.

Over the past several months, Kokomo has indicated that they are not interested in changing the current governance structure, but that anyone willing to assume the role of LEA could do so. Most recently, and after great reflection and analysis, Western stepped forward and said it would assume the role of LEA in the hopes of preserving all schools as members of the cooperative and bring change to the governance structure.

Kokomo has now indicated that it no longer wants to stay a member of the cooperative. We, the remaining seven members will continue the cooperative and are now investigating the legal requirements to do so.

More later.....

Item #9 – Transfer of Funds Certificate

Mr. Maugans made a motion to approve the transfer of funds certificate as submitted by Mrs. Carter. Mr. Marley seconded the motion which passed 5-0.

(Note: Mr. Davidson had left the meeting prior to this vote)

Item #10 – Disposition of Warrants and Checks

Mr. Kenworthy moved and Mr. Wells seconded that the Board approve the Disposition of Warrants and Checks as submitted by Mrs. Carter. The motion passed 5-0.

Item #11 – State Board of Accounts Audit

Dr. O'Rourke reported that Western School Corporation had recently completed an audit for the time period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2010. Mr. Kenworthy indicated that he had participated in the "out briefing" and was very pleased and proud of the results.

Item #12 – Overnight Field Trip

Mr. Wells moved and Mr. Marley seconded that the Board approve the request for a Little Hoosier's overnight field trip, April 15,16,2011, as submitted by Mr. Messner. The motion passed 5-0.

Item #13 – Approval of the 2011-12 School Calendar

Mr. Koloszar made a motion to approve the enclosed SY 2011-12 calendar for Western School Corporation. Mr. Maugans seconded the motion which passed 5-0.

**Western School Corporation
2011-2012 Calendar**

August 15, 2011	Orientation Day
August 17, 2011	First Day of Classes
September 5, 2011	Labor Day (No School)
October 17, 2011	Fall Break (No School)
November 23, 24, & 25, 2011	Thanksgiving Break (No School)
December 21, 2011	End of First Semester (Start of Christmas break at end of school day)
January 4, 2012	Teacher Record Day (No School)
January 5, 2012	Students Return to Class
January 16, 2012	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School; no make-up)
February 6, 2012	Built in snow day (No School, unless make-up necessary)
February 20, 2012	Presidents Day (No School; no make-up)
March 30 to April 6, 2012	Spring Break (No School)
April 9, 2012	Built in snow day (No School, unless make-up is necessary)
May 11, 2012	Built in snow day (No School, unless make-up is necessary)
May 28, 2012	Memorial Day (No School)
May 31, 2012	Last Day for Students
June 1, 2012	Teacher Record Day

Item #14 – Personnel

Mr. Maugans made a motion to approve the following personnel actions:

1. Resignations:

- a. Pat Grzesiak, Maintenance Director, effective February 7, 2011
- b. Kelly Hatfield, Custodian, effective February 3, 2011

2. Recommendations:

- a. Nhi Arslain, ESL aide, Western Middle School
- b. Dawn Pemberton, Kay Lazar, Kristin Bundy and Joe Orr, Homebound Instructors
- c. Spring Coaches:

Girl's Track

Recommendation to hire Skip Youngdale as Assistant Coach (position 0030) – split pay

Recommendation to hire Jordan Ousley as Assistant Coach (position 0030) – split pay

Recommendation to hire Mike Shepherd as Assistant Coach (position 0074)

Volunteer Coaches:

Duane Bishir

Bill Burkholder

Randy Everetts

Chris White

Varsity Softball

Recommendation to hire Charisse Smith as Assistant coach (position 0034)

JV Baseball

Recommendation to split pay between Josh Larsh and Caden Cline (position 0038)

Spring Supervisor

Recommendation to hire Debbie Wilson

Middle School Boy's Track

Recommendation to hire Kristy Vazquez as Assistant Coach (position 0028)

Mr. Wells seconded the motion which passed 5-0.

Item #15 – Professional Improvement Requests

Mr. Maugans moved and Mr. Marley seconded that the Board approve the following professional improvement requests:

Emily Klingler – Site visit to Northwestern to view Skyward software – January 10, 2011 – Northwestern High School

Emily Klingler – IASBO School Nutrition Issues Seminar – January 26, 2011 – Plainfield, IN

Dick Taylor – Mastering the Moment Seminar – February 17, 2011 – Plainfield

Randy McCracken – CTB Document Processing and Scoring Center – February 16, 2011 – Indianapolis

The motion passed 5-0.

Item #16 – Board Member Roundtable

1. Mr. Koloszar discussed an issue emanating from the recent Primary School Valentine’s Party process.
2. Mr. Maugans indicated that he had received complementary comments from a patron regarding Mr. Bart Miller and Mrs. Sharon Fields. Mr. Maugans also shared some information regarding electronic cigarettes and endorsed a book by Jonah Lehrer, “How We Decide” as good reading material for all interested in educational issues.
3. Mr. Kenworthy shared information on the ISBA cap points and upcoming ISBA spring meeting attendance.

Item #17 – Signing of Documents

The proper documents were signed.

Item #18 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

