

Western Wayne Schools
Minutes
October 11, 2023

The Western Wayne Board of School Trustees met on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at 205 East Parkway Drive. Board members present were Phil Pflum, Sarah Pennington, Dave Sturgis, Alan Austin, and Brent Fortman. Also, in attendance: Andy Stover, Chad Lieberman, Robin Hokey, Peggy Huesman, Renee Lakes, Elizabeth Miller, Karen Hinkein, Grady Munchel, Kelsey Agee, Bob Hanson, Jim Antle and the Randall Family.

1. President, Alan Austin, called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Upon a motion of Sarah Pennington, seconded by Brent Fortman, the minutes for the following meetings, were approved as presented. Special Meetings on September 27 & October 3, 2023, the Executive Sessions on September 13 & 27, 2023, the Collective Bargaining Special Hearing on September 13, 2023 and the regular board meeting on September 13, 2023.

Motion carried, 5-0

3. Patron Comments:

Mr. Jim Antle thanked the board for their service and that he understands that they have a thankless job. Mr. Antle also shared his knowledge of legislation and what could be coming soon. He also expressed to the board that he understands they will have some difficult decisions to make about how the bond funding will be used. Mr. Antle encouraged them to be transparent with the community of how the funds will be used and allow input from the community. In conclusion, Mr. Antle stated “follow Mr. Stover’s lead he is doing great things”

The board all thanked Mr. Antle for his comments.

4. Discussion items:

4.1 Elizabeth Miller, WWES Principal, updated the board on events that have taken place Fall I-Ready scores were back. For ELA (English) 11% of our students were 3 or more grades below grade level. For Math, 12.9% were 3 or more grades below grade level. They have already implemented times in the schedule to help the students. Mrs. Buhl and Mrs. Keen are pulling students that need the extra help and giving it to them. Mrs. Miller said she has great teachers that take a lot of pride int their students’ growth.

4.2 Renee Lakes, LMHS Principal, updated the board on events at the high school. Fall I-Ready scores were back for the Middle School. For ELA (English) 36.9% of the students were at 3 or more grades below grade level. For Math 49.5% of the students were at 3 or more grades below grade level. Diana Bell has been hired as the RTI Math teacher and is working with the students to improve their skills. They are implementing resources to help the students in

English as well. Hopefully starting Monday, October 16th they will have an Honors English section at the middle school.

Mrs. Lakes expressed there has been a lot going on this past month at the school with student activities. They had a great homecoming week where every student was able to participate. A huge shout out to Brandon Pennington and the Student Government for all the planning and to Kevin Munchel for the use of the manufacturing shop to build the floats.

Boys Tennis Team finished their season 15-3 with Christian Davis being named to the All TEC team.

Girls Golf had a great season, best they have had in years. Addyson Pitcock was named to the All TEC team.

FFA has been busy at contests. The Soils team is sending teams again this year to compete at the State Contest.

Mrs. Lakes introduced her Student's of the Month for September as follows:

Seniors – Brody Puckett, Elijah Berry, and Brady Collins

Juniors – Addyson Pitcock, Tupelo Troxell, and Fisher Brown

Sophomore – Leon Lucas

Freshman – Reilynn Ferguson

8th - Abby Myers

8th – Chad Daniels

7th – Reese Sturgis

4.4 Strategic Planning Update:

Mr. Andy Stover updated the board on this. Stated that they had their first meeting for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner that we will be doing again this year. The date will be November 16, 2023. They are hoping to serve as many if not more than the 500 they served last year. Jeff Munchel has been collecting coats to give away and he has had 117 coats donated.

4.5 Grant Updates:

Chad Lieberman updated the board on two grants.

The Next Gen Grant is giving us the opportunity to work with EES (Equitable Education Solutions) to give us guidance on resources to help the MS in math. The teachers and Administration have been working with Chris Cates, from EES on how to implement these resources.

The school was just awarded the RoboKind grant. This is a Special Education grant that specializes in building robots to help with autistic children. This grant is for \$47,000.

Mr. Lieberman stated he has also applied but not heard back yet for the Science of Reading grant for grades K-3. This is a \$150,000 grant with \$75,000 to be used for new curriculum.

4.6 Collective Bargaining Tentative Agreement (TA)

Mr. Stover updated the board that a TA has been met with the Western Wayne Education Association (WWEA). Highlights of what has been agreed upon: Salary range will be \$42,000 - \$65,000 and the Compensation Model was updated. The increase in cost for insurance will be absorbed by the school. Extra-Curricular Activities (ECA) were updated, deleting some that have

not been used in several years, dispersing that money ECA's with low rates. The last thing that was updated is the Indiana Code 20-29-5 will be added.

4.7 Receipts Reported:

Jean Irvin-Memory of Joe Miller Vocational Donation	\$ 100.00
Verizon-Refund on closed account	\$ 38.68
Lincoln Middle/High School-Athletic/ECA trips	\$ 561.29
State Auditor-Summer Food Service Program	\$ 10,196.33
State Auditor-CSL 12 reimbursement	\$ 7,956.00
Union County CCJSD-Salary & Benefit reimbursement	\$ 52,140.00
State Auditor-Basic Grant	\$ 469,311.49
State Auditor-Employability Skills Grant reimbursement	\$ 12,000.00
State Auditor-ESSER III Reimbursement	\$ 31,625.46
State Auditor-ESSER II Reimbursement	\$ 13,204.15
State Auditor-Title IV reimbursement	\$ 2,631.63
State Auditor-Title II FY22 reimbursement	\$ 752.88
State Auditor-Summer Food Service Program	\$ 1,894.42
Wayne County Auditor-Local Option Tax	\$ 6,254.92
State Auditor-Supply Chain Crisis funds	\$ 1,294.16
State Auditor-Summer Food Service Program	\$ 7,567.81
Gerald Gerard-Dollars for Scholars Donation	\$ 2,000.00
Lincoln Middle/High School-Athletic/ECA trips	\$ 514.17
State Auditor-Formative Assessment FY24 funds	\$ 9,386.00
Lincoln Middle/High School-Athletic/ECA trips	\$ 389.89
Wayne Bank & Trust-Interest	\$ 12,140.49
Wayne Bank & Trust-Interest	\$ 579.39
Western Wayne Schools Cafeteria-Monthly lunch receipt	\$ 1,829.90

5. Action Items:

5.1 Upon a motion by Sarah Pennington, seconded by Phil Pflum, Resolution No. 2-2023, Resolution to Transfer Appropriations within a Fund, was approved.

Motion carried, 5-0

5.2 Upon a motion by Sarah Pennington, seconded by Brent Fortman, Resolution No. 3-2023, Resolution to Transfer Funds from the Education Fund to Operations Fund, was approved.

Motion carried, 5-0

5.3 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Sarah Pennington, Resolution No. 4-2023, Resolution to Approve Reduction in Appropriations was approved.

Motion carried, 5-0

5.4 Upon a motion by Sarah Pennington, seconded by Dave Sturgis, the re-appointment of Kris Bex to the Cambridge City Library Board was approved.

Motion carried, 5-0

5.5 Upon a motion by Sarah Pennington, seconded by Dave Sturgis the following donations were approved.

- \$300 in memory of Jenna Hayden to LMHS student activities
- \$3,000 from the American Legion Post 169 for the Football Team
- \$3,000 from Western Wayne Music Boosters to the Music Department Drum/Marching Band Fund
- \$1,000 from Western Wayne Athletic Boosters to the Athletic Department for All Sports Passes for Students.
- \$800 from Winding Branch Golf Course for the Boys Golf Team.

Motion carried, 5-0

5.6 Upon a motion by Sarah Pennington, seconded by Dave Sturgis the contract amendment for Jan Lunsford was approved.

Motion carried 5-0

5.8 Upon a motion by Sarah Pennington, seconded by Brent Fortman the following resignations were approved.

Theresa Benedict - High School Instructional Aide
Holly Filler - Elementary School Instructional Aide

Motion carried, 5-0

6. Upon a motion by Phil Pflum, seconded by Sarah Pennington the bills were approved for payment.

Motion carried, 5-0

7. Corporation / Department Comments:

For the board comments, Mr. Phil Pflum would like the board to discuss the Football program. For the Superintendent's comments, Mr. Stover expressed his excitement for the energy in the buildings this year and says he feels we are headed in the right direction.

8. Upon a motion of Sarah Pennington, seconded by Brent Fortman, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm

Motion carried, 5-0

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Member

Member