

Western Wayne Schools  
Minutes  
February 13, 2025

The Western Wayne Board of School Trustees met on Wednesday, February 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at 215 East Parkway Drive. Board members present were Jenni Risch, Dave Sturgis and Brent Fortman. Board members absent, Phil Pflum and Kris Bex. Also, in attendance: Andy Stover, Chad Lieberman, Robin Hokey, Peggy Huesman, Elizabeth Miller, Renee Lakes, Grady Munchel, Jim Antle, Jenni Hamric, Jessica Williams, Shannon Brooks, Robert Miller and Ben Burris.

1. Dave Sturgis, called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch, the minutes for the Regular meeting and the Board of Finance meeting of January 8, 2025, were approved as presented.

Motion carried, 3-0

**3. Patron Comments:**

Grady Munchel asked about the possible outcome on our school district and what are we planning to do if legislation goes through for the proposed property tax caps, noting that she has read WWS would be cut \$300,000. Mr. Sturgis replied that he has also read this and that the IASBO does not support this. This is in committee being discussed now so we are just waiting to see how this plays out before making any decisions.

Mrs. Munchel also asked about the bond, how long is the bond process for, what is the budget for the gym and why was it the first item that was being addressed?

Mr. Stover explained that the bond process is a 20-year payment on the debt. Gym was not the top priority but with the timeline it was being started first. The bids for the gym project came back at 7.8 million and 7.6 million. Neither of these have been accepted yet. Mr. Sturgis also stated that these bonds became available as other bonds fell off and basically if we do not take the money someone else will. Mr. Fortman stated that the highest priority are things like roofing, heating, and other upgrades that have been neglected for years.

**4. Discussion items:**

**4.1** Elizabeth Miller, WWES Principal, updated the board on what is going on in the elementary school and presented her January students of the month.

**4.2** Renee Lakes, LMHS Principal, updated the board on what is going on the middle/high school and presented her January students of the month.

**4.3** Chad Lieberman, Director of Titles and Grants, gave updates on grants. He and Ben Burris, Director of Technology, worked on a Cybersecurity grant and received \$35,000 for Next Generation Firewalls for sensitive information.

Mr. Lieberman helped Mr. Randy Lear; MS/HS Art Teacher write a grant for the Lilly Foundation Fellowship Grant. This grant is awarded to teachers to use to rejuvenate their dedication to teaching. He was awarded this grant and will be spending 2 weeks in Italy to study the artwork.

#### 4.4 Fund Report:

EDUCATIONAL FUND	\$ 1,413,560.36	\$ 513,288.52	\$ 359,128.11	\$ 1,567,720.77
REFERENDUM	\$ 100,347.95	\$ 0.00	\$ 52,634.29	\$ 47,713.66
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$ 209,595.54	\$ 0.00	\$ 229,011.15	\$ (19,415.61)
OPERATIONS FUND	\$ 686,474.78	\$ 21,978.84	\$ 179,680.51	\$ 528,773.11
LOCAL RAINY-DAY FUND	\$ 1,643,477.39	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,643,477.39

#### 4.4 Receipts Reported:

State Auditor - Teacher Residency Grant Reimbursement	\$9,000.00
State Auditor - CTRF Funds (School Lunch)	\$3,857.33
HC Claim - Medicaid Reimbursement	\$1,488.79
AFLAC - Refund overpayment	\$109.20
Premier Rebates - WIC Rebate	\$109.20
State Auditor - McKinney-Vento Reimbursement	\$2,491.50
State Auditor - Basic Grant	\$481,813.52
HC Claim - Medicaid Reimbursement	\$3,704.43
Wayne County Auditor - Local Option Tax	\$7,367.42
LMHS Athletic/ECA Trips	\$132.37
Blue River Schools - Sal/Benefit Reimbursement Burris Semester 1	\$31,475.00
State Auditor - Stronger Connections Grant Reimbursement	\$7,961.44
State Auditor - Title 1 FY25 Reimbursement	\$15,242.79
State Auditor - STEM Integration Grant Reimbursement	\$2,579.26
State Auditor - SIG Next Gen Reimbursement	\$69,399.53
State Auditor - STEM Robotics Reimbursement	\$16,159.74
State Auditor - Teacher Residency Grant Reimbursement	\$8,149.50
Wayne Bank & Trust - Interest	\$14,481.22
Wayne Bank & Trust - Interest	\$100.54
WWS Cafeteria - Monthly Lunch Receipt	\$1,339.50

#### 5. Action Items:

- 5.1 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch the first reading of New/Revised Board Policies were approved.

C625-R -Test Security Provisions for Statewide Assessments (AG)
C625 - Test Security Provisions For Statewide Assessments
G-475 - Audio + Video Recording
E125-R - Retention Appeal Procedure
C100-R Student Admission Enrollment

C625-R -Test Security Provisions for Statewide Assessments (AG)
A275-R - School Wellness
F125 - Purchasing
C450 - Medical Needs at School
E125-E - Appeal Request From (3rd Grade Retention)

Motion carried, 3-0

- 6.2** Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch Wayne Bank & Trust and First Bank Richmond were approved as designated depositories for Western Wayne Schools.

Motion carried, 3-0

- 6.3** Upon a motion by Jenni Risch, seconded by Brent Fortman the Non-Certified Employee 2025 Contract Negotiations were approved.

Motion carried, 3-0

- 6.4** Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch the Technology Agreement between Western Wayne Schools Peru School Corporation was approved.

Motion carried, 3-0

- 6.5** Upon a motion by Jenni Risch, seconded by Brent Fortman the following donations were approved.
- \$500 from Sharon Baker for Cheer
  - \$1000 from Post 169 to archery
  - \$300 from Keystone Co-op to FFA
  - \$200 from Miller Wood for Archery
  - \$100 in memory of Charlene Cloyd Ervin to girls' basketball
  - \$200 from Chamber to FFA
  - \$550 from Contract Industrial Tooling to FFA
  - \$250 from Quick Pix to Archery

Motion carried, 3-0

- 6.6** Upon motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch the following certified personnel were hired and approved.
- Sonia Wayt – HS Spanish Teacher
  - Michael Lathery – HS Science Teacher
  - Amanda Ewing – Maternity leave Coverage for ES SPED teacher

Motion carried, 3-0

- 6.7 Upon a motion by Jenni Risch, seconded by Brent Fortman the following resignations were approved.  
Ben Burris – IT Director  
Jadelyn Neagle – AG teacher

Motion carried, 3-0

- 6.8 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch the following coaching staff were approved.  
Caleb Craig – MS Assistant Trach Coach  
Houston Cornett – Volunteer Varsity Baseball Coach

Motion carried, 3-0

- 6.9 Upon a motion by Jenni Risch, seconded by Brent Fortman the overnight trip for BPA to attend the State Leadership Conference in Indianapolis March 9-11 was approved.

Motion carried, 3-0

7. Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch the bills were approved for payment.

Motion carried, 3-0

8. Upon a motion of Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch, the meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm

Motion carried, 3-0

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President

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Vice-President

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Secretary

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Member

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Member