

Western Wayne Schools
Minutes
July 9, 2025

The Western Wayne Board of School Trustees met on Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at 215 East Parkway Drive. Board members present were Kris Bex, Jenni Risch, Brent Fortman and Ryan Riggs. Others in attendance: Alice Johnson, Amber Rushton, Robin Hokey, Elizabeth Miller, Renee Lakes, Kailey Winchester, Jim Antle, Grady Munchel, Misty Ingalls, Kelsey West, Karen Hinkein, Millie Martin-Emery (WW News) and Ben Burris.

1. Kris Bix, called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Amber Rushton was accepted as the board member replacing Mr. Phil Pflum.
3. Upon a motion by Jenni Risch, seconded by Brent Fortman, the minutes from meetings on June 11th, June 19th, June 25th, and July 8th were approved as presented.

Motion carried, 4-0.

4. Discussion Items:

4.1 Elizabeth Miller, WWES Principal, updated the board on what is going on in the elementary school.

4.2 Renee Lakes, LMHS Principal, updated the board on what is going on the middle/high school.

4.3 Fund Report:

| Fund Title | Beg Month Bal | MTD Rev | MTD Expend | Current Bal |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| EDUCATIONAL FUND | \$ 1,410,723.62 | \$ 558,468.03 | \$ 405,430.91 | \$ 1,563,760.74 |
| REFERENDUM | \$ (138,160.62) | \$ 392,010.23 | \$ 38,388.59 | \$ 215,461.02 |
| DEBT SERVICE FUND | \$ 33,541.53 | \$ 989,718.97 | \$ 670,413.38 | \$ 352,847.12 |
| OPERATIONS FUND | \$ 253,280.80 | \$ 930,621.48 | \$ 189,207.54 | \$ 994,694.74 |
| LOCAL RAINY-DAY FUND | \$ 1,643,477.39 | | | \$ 1,643,477.39 |

4.4 Receipts Reported:

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|--|--------------|
| Wayne County Auditor - F.I.T Taxes | \$17,280.71 |
| State Auditor - Teacher Residency Grant Reimbursement | \$5,150.50 |
| WWES - ECA Reimbursement | \$400.05 |
| Laura Bush Foundation for Libraries - Laura Busch Foundation Grant | \$5,000.00 |
| Richmond Family YMCA - Meal Reimbursement | \$1,176.00 |
| Indiana University - Field Trip Reimbursement | \$72.74 |
| LMHS -VICA & Plant Palace Receipts | \$6,937.94 |
| LMHS - ECA Reimbursements | \$412.57 |
| State Auditor - Basic Grant | \$472,181.94 |
| State Auditor - SIG Next Gen Reimbursement | \$44,606.21 |

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|---|----------------|
| Wayne County Auditor - F.I.T Taxes | \$17,280.71 |
| State Auditor - SpEd Paraprofessional Grant Reimbursement | \$13,352.54 |
| State Auditor - Stronger Connections Grant Reimbursement | \$0.10 |
| State Auditor - EARN Grant Reimbursement | \$1,065.33 |
| Wayne county Auditor - Local Option Tax | \$7,367.42 |
| WWES - Food for Special Functions | \$782.60 |
| Wayne County Treasurer - License Excise Taxes | \$78,793.61 |
| Wayne County Treasurer - Property Taxes | \$2,124,655.60 |
| State Auditor - SIG Next Gen Reimbursement | \$39,728.97 |
| State Auditor - Title 1 FY25 Reimbursement | \$25,746.08 |
| State Auditor - Stronger Connections Grant Reimbursement | \$11,221.99 |
| LMHS - Special Functions | \$1,253.00 |
| State Auditor - CTRF Funds | \$3,335.97 |
| Public Consulting Group - INMac Reimbursement | \$4,274.56 |
| Richmond Family YMCA - Meal Reimbursement | \$915.00 |
| Premier Rebates - WIC Rebate | \$104.28 |
| Western Wayne Schools - Common school funds withheld | \$73,563.38 |
| Western Wayne Schools - Transfer Medicaid Funds | \$5,784.77 |
| Wayne Bank & Trust - Interest | \$30.04 |
| Wayne Bank & Trust - Interest | \$15,236.11 |

Public Comment:

Board President Kris Bex informed the public that the Board is considering reinstating the practice of requiring individuals who wish to make public comments to complete and submit a request form prior to the meeting. Board member Karen Hinkein inquired about how this would work given that the meeting agenda is often not posted until the day before the meeting. Mr. Bex clarified that public comment request forms would be made available at the sign-in table on the day of the meeting. Mr. Bex said that they will keep the public informed if they do move forward with this.

5. Action Items:

5.1 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Ryan Riggs the request to apply for all Applicable 2025-2026 State, Federal, and Competitive Grants and all Common School Fund Technology Loans for the calendar year 2025-2025 was approved.

Motion carried, 4-0

5.2 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch the YMCA & WWS Early Childhood program agreement extension for one year, ending June 30, 2026 was approved.

Motion carried, 4-0

5.3 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Ryan Riggs the 2025-2026 Student Handbooks for LMHS and WWES were approved.

Motion carried, 4-0

5.4 Upon a motion by Jenni Risch, seconded by Brent Fortman the following contracts for food purchase for the cafeteria were approved.

- US Foods/Premier
- Piazza Produce & Specialty Foods
- DNO Produce & US Foods
- Prairie Farms
- Commercial Food Systems
- Velvet Ice Cream
- SMART Systems
- Atlantic Foods

Motion carried, 4-0

5.5 Upon a motion by Jenni Risch, seconded by Brent Fortman the Adjunct Spanish Teacher Contract with Andi Melerowicz was approved.

Motion carried, 4-0

5.6 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Ryan Riggs, Douglas McDonald was hired as the HS Special Education teacher.

Motion Carried, 4-0

5.7 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Jenni Risch, Pam Gregory was hired as the Elementary Cafeteria Manager.

Motion carried, 4-0

5.8 Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Ryan Riggs Andy Stover the following resignations were accepted.

- Randy Lear - MS/HS Art Teacher
- Khyleigh North - 4th Grade Teacher

Motion carried, 4-0

6. Upon a motion by Brent Fortman, seconded by Ryan Riggs the bills were approved for payment.

Motion carried, 4-0

7. Board comments:

Kris Bex thanked the community and staff members for attending the meeting. He emphasized that everyone shares the common goal of doing what is best for the students and expressed appreciation for those who attend, show support, and voice their concerns.

8. Upon a motion of Brent Fortman, seconded by Ryan Riggs, the meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm
Motion carried, 4-0

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Member

Member