

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF WEST CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #235 HELD IN THE ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA ON MAY 21, 2025.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Gullberg at 6:02 p.m., in the Elementary Cafeteria. The following board members answered roll call: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Lenahan, and Vancil. Vice President Gullberg declared a quorum present. Board President Brendan Schaley arrived at 6:18 p.m., and Board Member Josh Higgins arrived at 6:32 p.m. Also present were Superintendent Day, J. Shultz, K. Lafary, B. Taylor, B. Kugler, B. Helt, J. Kirby, J. Zaiser, WCES SIP Team Members, WCMS SIP Team Members, and WCHS SIP Team Members,

Vice President Gullberg then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

GOOD NEWS ITEMS

Under good news items the following items were highlighted:

- Congratulations to Mrs. Clark, Ms. Reathaford, Ms. Nannen and our students on their outstanding Spring Music performances.
- The West Central Education Foundation received a \$3000 donation from the Rebecca "Becky" Hart Memorial.
- Congratulations to our "Bus Safety" poster contest winners! The student winners from West Central Elementary are Ralph Ludington Division 1 and Lexi Covert Division 2. Both students will now represent our school as they compete at the State Level.
- Elementary IPA Student Recognition Award winners: Lexi Covert and Bryer McKee
- Middle School IPA Student Recognition Award winners: Islia Rodeffer and Carter Gibb
- High School IPA Student Recognition Award winners: Addie Seitz and Kyle Lafary
- We appreciate the Stronghurst Lion's Club and the Henderson County Soil and Conservation group for partnering to provide trees to our 4th grade students in recognition of Arbor Day.
- WCMS State Track Meet Qualifiers - Jackson Adams, Wyatt Goff, Addalyn McSparen, Tyler Ricketts, Carter Gibb, Sam Deverell, and Michael Weber
- Several of our WC students participated in the 23rd Annual Courageous Smiles Invitational at Illini West High School. We are so proud of our student athletes.
- Two West Central students participated in the Special Olympics Spring Games. Ava Carpenter ran the 50m race, placing 2nd in her division and placed 1st in the softball throw for her division. She qualified for State! Kaylinn Bowling ran the 50m, placing 5th in her division and 3rd in the softball throw for her division. Great job girls!
- WCMS Play had 3 fabulous public performances and 1 private show for Oakwood Lane of "The Ransom of Miss Elverna Dower".
- Ruby Gittings was announced as an All American in the Senior Non Reasons Division and placed 12th out of 875 students in that division. Top 25 was announced and Ruby will receive a banner for her accomplishments.
- Our Seniors enjoyed the annual Senior Walk by parading down to the elementary where they were welcomed by cheers, posters of congratulations, bubbles and music.
- Congratulations to Jenny Ford, Jackie Spence, and Petie Parsons being our 2025 ROE Excellence in Education winners for West Central.
- Congratulations to Brian Sterett who was selected as a Regional ROE Excellence in Education award winner! He is one of 3 award winners throughout the entire ROE region.

- We also want to recognize the following staff members who are retiring at the end of the year: Charlotte Ackermann, Chris Ervin, Krisit Lumbeck, Natalie Ensminger, and Nancy Hull.
- May Rise and Shine - Alyssa Hawk, Amy Lox, Amy McGowen, Amy Reathaford, Ariel Dillard (and Field Day Team), Brian Kreps, Brice McBride, Bryan Taylor, Carrie Todd, Coach Kelly, Deb Paulus, Elly Olson, Emily Schaley, Jacque Clark, Jamie Hennings, Karla Bowman, Kathie Pence, Kristi Lumbeck, Laura Lewis, Michelle Sheehan, Brittney Kugler and Byron Helt, Mike Lewis, Natalie Ensminger, Renata Conway, Sara McVey, Charlotte Ackermann, Sherri Walters, Taylor Carpenter and Title Paras

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to approve the agenda with the deletion of item 11 B, Renewal of District Health Insurance. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no remarks from the public at this meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Vancil, seconded by Lenahan to approve the consent agenda including the following items:

- The minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 15, 2025;
- The minutes of the Closed Session of April 15, 2024;
- The minutes of the Reorganization of April 30, 2025;
- The minutes of the Closed Session of April 30, 2025;
- The payment of all bills;
- The activity accounts;
- The Treasurer's Report for April 2025;
- The approval of the milk and bread bids;
- The approval of the Final 2024-2025 Public School Calendar;
- The approval of the School Photographer Precision Image.

On roll call the following members voted aye: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Lenahan, and Vancil. 5-0 Motion carried.

The WCES, WCMS, and WCHS SIP Plans were presented by teams from each of the buildings. Each group shared their strengths, weaknesses and plans for improvement for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to approve the WCES, WCMS, and WCHS SIP Plans as presented. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

We had three different FOIA requests this month. SmartProCure, Civic IQ and Data Branch. All were requesting information about vendors and purchasing. All requests were responded to within the needed timeline.

Superintendent Day discussed the Triple I Conference held in Chicago for Board members each November. Board members are invited to attend the three-day conference and participate in the learning opportunities. Board members are encouraged to let Superintendent Day know ASAP if they plan to attend the conference, registration opens beginning of June.

Superintendent Day presented information about the FY25 Amended Budget. No major adjustments were needed out of the ordinary line-item movement based on actual expenditures and revenues

received. There will be a hearing for the FY25 Amended Budget at our June Board Meeting and adoption of the final budget will happen after the hearing.

Superintendent Day updated the Board of the summer projects that are planned to be completed. They are: Windows for the High School, Elementary PA System, District phone system, new copy machines throughout the district, flooring replaced in a couple of elementary classrooms, new whiteboards throughout the high school and multiple classrooms painted.

A discussion was held about the future elementary playground project. A possible timeline to start the project during the Summer of 2026 was discussed. The Board will spend more time during the summer Board Retreat on June 21 talking about details and working on a plan. Mrs. Lafary will set a meeting for a playground company to come meet with members of the Board to talk about requirements and needs for the project in order to help determine the specific next steps.

A short discussion was held regarding the status of the District Rental House in Stronghurst. Recently, it has been rented to a tenant outside of the school district. There has been a request to consider a long-term lease and/or selling the property. Superintendent Day will look into offering a long-term lease of the property and report back to the Board.

REPORTS

The Board reviewed and heard reports from the Building Principals K. Lafary, B. Kugler, J. Kirby, and HS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director J. Zaiser.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Higgins, seconded by Clark to approve the 2025-2026 student meal costs as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, and Chockley. 7-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Vancil to approve the Unland renewal quote for our district insurance package as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, and Clark. 7-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Higgins, seconded by Chockley to approve starting a WCHS wrestling program as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, Clark, and Gullberg. 7-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Lenahan to approve the PressPlus Issue 118 on first reading as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, and Higgins. 7-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Vancil, seconded by Higgins to approve the quote by Maple City Concrete at the cost of \$16,710 for the WCMS entrance concrete project as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins and Lenahan. 7-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to approve the Board Sub-Committees as presented. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

Motion by Vancil, seconded by Higgins to approve the quote by The Forgottonia Times to create, print and mail a District Magazine at a cost of \$9,986.45 and estimated shipping/mailing of \$1500-\$2000, with two publications during the 2025-2026 school year. This publication will be paid for using funds

from the federal Stronger Connections Grant as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Vancil, Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, and Schaley. 7-0 Motion carried.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Board members were asked to contact Superintendent Day with future agenda items.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Chockley, seconded by Gullberg to adjourn to closed meeting pursuant of the Illinois Open Meetings Act - 5ILCS 120/2 (2) (16) at 9:04 p.m. to discuss the following subjects:

A. Personnel - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity;

B. Negotiations - Collective negotiating matters between the school board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees;

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

The Board took a short break and reconvened in the District Office conference room at 9:10 p.m. On roll call the following members answered roll call: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, and Vancil.

Motion by Chockley, seconded by Vancil to return to open session at 9:41 p.m. On roll call the following members answered roll call: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, and Vancil. 7-0 Motion carried.

The Board took a short break and reconvened in the West Central Elementary Cafeteria at 9:43 p.m. On roll call the following members answered roll call: Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil and Chockley.

PERSONNEL ACTION

Motion by Clark, seconded by Gullberg to approve the separation agreement and resignation of Jesse Molyneux as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, and Clark. 7-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to approve the personnel agenda as follows:

West Central School District School Board Meeting Personnel Items for Board Approval Wednesday, May 21, 2025		
<i>Please note: the following new appointments are pending completion of all certifications, requirements, and clearance on the state required background investigation.</i>		
Personnel Changes		
Name	Title	Salary
New Appointments:		
Stephanie Higgins	WCHS Head Volleyball Coach	WCATS

Conner Hill	WCHS English Teacher	WCATS
Megan Rodeffer	WCHS Secretary	WCATS
Allissa Wheeler	WCES Special Education Teacher	WCATS
Leaves:		
Michelle Sheehan	Maternity Leave	N/A
Board acknowledges the following resignations/retirements:		
Colton Smith	WCMS Football Coach	N/A
Tessa Sargeant	WCHS Ag Teacher	N/A
Payton Clark	WCHS Girls' Track Coach	N/A

On roll call the following members voted aye: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Lenahan, Schaley, and Vancil. Board Member Higgins abstained. 6-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to approve the termination of Kelly Davis as a District Custodian as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil and Chockley. 7-0 Motion carried.

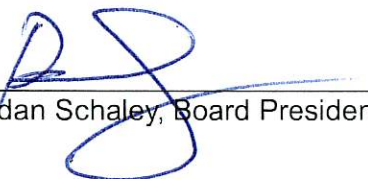
FUTURE MEETING DATE


The Board was reminded that the next regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, 6:00 p.m., in the elementary cafeteria. There will be a FY25 Amended Budget Hearing at 5:45 pm on the same night.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

THESE MINUTES ARE APPROVED AS WRITTEN THIS 18th DAY OF JUNE, 2025.


Brendan Schaley, Board President


Malinda Clark, Board Secretary