

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF WEST CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #235 HELD IN THE ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA ON APRIL 15, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Schaley at 6:00 p.m. in the Elementary Cafeteria. The following board members answered roll call: Bigger, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley, and Vancil. Board Member Chockley absent. President Schaley declared a quorum present. Also present were Superintendent Day, J. Shultz, K. Lafary, B. Taylor, B. Kugler, B. Helt, J. Kirby, and J. Hennings.

President Schaley then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

GOOD NEWS ITEMS

Under good news items the following items were highlighted:

- Country Financial Insurance brought in drinks and snacks for the staff to show their appreciation for all their work in our District.
- Raritan State Bank is partnering with WCE during the month of April in recognition of Community Banking Month. Our 4th grade students visited the bank and they also sponsored a coloring contest.
- Mrs. Ackermann is organizing a building challenge to raise money for the Henderson County Public Library by collecting coins. We appreciate their support throughout the school year and we all know that "A Little Change Makes A Big Difference".
- The following staff members were recognized as April Rise and Shine Awards (59 different acknowledgements in total!) - Adam Boyle, All HS Paras (Petie Parsons, Bailey Stombough, Ashley Dermer and Tracey Richers), Alyssa Hawk, Ariel Dillard, Beatrice Thomas, Brittney Kugler, Byron Helt, Christina Ryba, Doug Dennison, Erin Clark, Hallie Eisnnicher, Heather Davis, Jason Kirby, Jena Goff, Jeremy Hennings, Jessica Burrell, Jessica Winters, Joel Zaiser, Jordain Johnson, Julie Ricketts, Laura Lewis, Judy Kelly, Kara Keating, Karri Wallace, Kathy Lafary, Kayla Johnson, Kim Thompson, Krystal Busch, LeaAnn Nylin, Lene Lox, Maddie Leath, Mary Casey, Molly Edwards, Payton Clark, Sara McVey, Sherri Walters, Stacie Anderson, Steve Arnold, Taylor Carpenter, Teresa Stevenson, Tiffany Byers, and Tom Williams.
- Addie Seitz threw her 800th strikeout this week and is on her way to even more during the rest of the softball season!
- Damon West came and spoke with all of our students on March 27. He had a great message that was tailored to each of the different grade levels.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Clark, seconded by Bigger to approve the agenda as presented. 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 Bigger, seconded by Clark to approve the consent agenda including the following items:

- The minutes of the Special Meeting - Board Work Session, March 12, 2025;
- The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2025;
- The minutes of the Closed Session of March 19, 2025;
- The minutes of the Special Meeting of March 25, 2025;
- The minutes of the Closed Session of March 25, 2025;
- The payment of all bills;
- The activity accounts;
- The Treasurer's Report for March 2025;
- The approval of the Proclamation Regarding National Teacher Appreciation Week;

On roll call the following members voted aye: Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley, Vancil, and Bigger. 6-0 Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The District received 10 FOIA requests this month from ACB asking for vendor information from FY1995 to FY2024. The request was for all vendors who were paid \$500 or more. The District responded to all requests within the needed timelines. This was an AI request that went throughout the state.

The Board discussed holding a Summer Board Retreat again this coming summer. Superintendent Day will check with the Henderson County Public Library for available dates and report back to the Board.

A short discussion was held on starting a wrestling program at the high school starting the 2025-2026 school year. This item will be moved to an action item for the next Board meeting. Administration and Superintendent Day will collect information on estimated costs for the program.

Superintendent Day discussed the updated Strategic Plan with the Board that came from the work of the District Team and results of the District Stakeholder Survey completed in December. The Strategic Plan will guide the focus of the District for the next 5 years. The next step is for the District Team to determine specific action steps to accomplish the items on the plan.

Superintendent Day discussed the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) assessment for this year. CEP is the program that allows schools to provide breakfast and lunch free for all students, either in a specific building or in the entire district. West Central qualifies for the program with 43% of our students meeting the requirements (directly certified to receive free breakfast/lunch) to participate. While West Central qualifies for the program, based on the reimbursement estimation tool provided by ISBE, if we were to participate at this time, West Central would lose about \$7,000 per month in reimbursement. In addition, Superintendent Day reported that there is concern with the funding for the National School Breakfast/Lunch program overall.

REPORTS

The Board reviewed and heard reports from the Building Principals K. Lafary, B. Kugler, J. Kirby, and District Technology Coordinator J. Hennings.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Clark, seconded by Bigger to declare two Art Kilns surplus as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley, Vancil, and Bigger 6-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Bigger, seconded by Gullberg to approve the 2025-2026 Registration and Technology fees as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley, Vancil, Bigger, and Clark. 6-0 Motion carried.

No action was taken on the District Magazine The Heat Index.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board requested the following items be placed on the next Board agenda Elementary Playground, Wrestling Program and District Magazine The Heat Index.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Clark, seconded by Bigger to adjourn to closed meeting pursuant of the Illinois Open Meetings Act - 5ILCS 120/2 (2) (16) at 6:55 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;

C. Student Issues - The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.

Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

The Board took a short break and reconvened in the District Office conference room at 6:57 p.m. On roll call the following members answered roll call: Bigger, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley and Vancil. Also present was S. Day. High School Principal Jason Kirby entered closed at 7:49 and exited at 7:54.

Motion by Bigger, seconded by Vancil to return to open session at 7:56 p.m. On roll call the following members answered roll call: Bigger, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley and Vancil.

The Board took a short break and reconvened in the West Central Elementary Cafeteria at 7:58 p.m. On roll call the following members answered roll call: Bigger, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley and Vancil.

PERSONNEL ACTION

Motion by Clark, seconded by Bigger, to approve the rehire of WCMS and WCHS winter coaches as follows:

High School Coaches		Middle School Coaches	
** Head Girls' Basketball		8th Grade Boys' Basketball	Trey Goff
Assistant Girls' Basketball	Hallie Eisnnicher	7th Grade Boys' Basketball	Bryce Bigger
Head Boys' Basketball	Doug Dennison	6th Grade Boys' Basketball	Open due to resignation
Assistant Boys' Basketball	Ross Parcel	8th Grade Volleyball	Open due to resignation
Bowling	Jimmy Register	7th Grade Volleyball	Lene Lox
Basketball Cheer	Renata Conway	** 6th Grade Volleyball	
		Basketball Cheer	Sierra Torrance

** The Board did not rehire: Tyler Klossing as WCHS Head Basketball Coach and Kayla Johnson as WCMS 6th Grade Volleyball Coach.

On roll call the following members voted aye: Schaley, Vancil, Bigger, Clark, Gullberg and Higgins. 6-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Gullberg to approve the personnel agenda as presented.

West Central School District School Board Meeting Personnel Items for Board Approval Wednesday, April 15, 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
Volunteer:		
Jena Goff	WCMS Track Coach	N/A
New Appointments:		
Chris Ervin	Long-Term Sub 1st Semester 2025- 2026 School Year	\$175 per day
Michelle Johnson	Long-Term Sub 2025-2026 School Year	\$175 per day
Shelby Johnson	District Music Teacher K-8	WCATS
Jennifer Shimmin	WCHS Physical Education Teacher	WCATS
Transfers:		
Kellsy Scott	WCES 5th Grade Teacher to Kindergarten Teachers	WCATS
Board acknowledges the following resignations/retirements:		
Erin Clark	WCMS 8th Grade Volleyball Coach	N/A

On roll call the following members voted aye: Vancil, Bigger, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, and Schaley. 6-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Bigger, seconded by Clark to approve the termination of Crystal Mabe as District Custodian, as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Bigger, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley, and Vancil. 6-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Bigger, seconded by Vancil to approve the two Memorandums of Understanding with WCATS, as presented. On roll call the following members voted aye: Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley, Vancil, and Bigger. 6-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Gullberg to decline the request from student number 25020 to participate at graduation. On roll call the following members voted aye: Gullberg, Higgins, Schaley, Vancil, Bigger, and Clark. 6-0 Motion carried.

FUTURE MEETING DATE

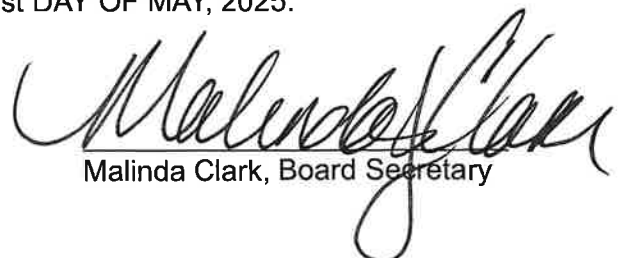
The Board was reminded that the reorganization meeting will be held on April 30, 2025, and the next regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, and will begin at 6:00 p.m., in the elementary cafeteria.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bigger, seconded by Clark to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

THESE MINUTES ARE APPROVED AS WRITTEN THIS 21st DAY OF MAY, 2025.


Brendan Schaley, Board President


Malinda Clark, Board Secretary