MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF WEST CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #235 HELD IN THE ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA ON AUGUST 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Schaley at 6:01 p.m. in the elementary cafeteria. The following board members answered roll call: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, and Vancil. President Schaley declared a quorum present. Also present were Superintendent Day, J. Shultz, K. Lafary, B. Taylor, B. Kugler, B. Helt, J. Kirby, S. Kreps, J. Hennings, M. Nelson, Kim Thompson, and Jessica Booton.

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

#### **GOOD NEWS ITEMS**

Under good news items the following items were highlighted:

- ROE Summerfest July 23, 2025
- We had many West Central Students who participated in the Henderson County Fair! It was a great week to watch them participate outside of their school activities.
- We had a great 1st couple of days of school!

# APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Clark, seconded by Chockley to approve the agenda as presented. Majority of ayes by voice vote.

# **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Kim Thompson and Jessica Booton were in attendance to talk to the Board about the HS Gym Scoreboard and Sponsorship. They provided their comments when the board got to that agenda item.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Clark, seconded by Gullberg to approve the consent agenda including the following items:

- The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 16, 2025;
- The minutes of Closed Session of July 16, 2025;
- The minutes of the Special Board Meeting of July 21, 2025;
- The payment of all bills;
- The Treasurer's Report for June and July 2025;
- The approval of all activity accounts;
- The approval of PressPlus Policy Issue 119 Updates on second reading;
- The approval of the 2025-2026 Bowling Agreement with Tombstone Bowling.

On roll call the following members voted aye: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley, and Vancil. 7-0 Motion carried.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Superintendent Day reported that we received two FOIA requests prior to this meeting. One from Smart ProCure and one from Starbridge App. Both were requesting information regarding vendors, costs and items purchased. The Starbridge request was for information from January 1, 2022, to the present. The Smart ProCure request was for the last quarter. Both requests were completed in the needed timeframe.

Superintendent Day and the building principals gave a quick overview of the start of the school year. We've had a great first couple of days. Transportation has gone well. The Staff Institute Days covered a lot of information and gave staff time to work in their rooms. We had great attendance at all of the Welcome Back/Backpack Nights.

Superintendent Day gave an overview of the upcoming Health-Life-Safety Bond Process. We completed our 10-year Health-Life-Safety (HLS) Survey a few years ago. Our final bond payment on our current bond happens this December. We are working with Stifel to complete the process for the new bond that will be used to pay for the needed work on the HLS Survey that is required to be done by ISBE. The first step will be to hold a hearing in September notifying the community that we will be purchasing HLS bonds. In October, we will authorize the purchase of the bonds and in November we will finalize and close on the purchase. Superintendent Day also discussed the option to invest part of the bond funds after we receive them. The District will work with ISDLAF and PMA in order to set up the investment structure, allowing us to withdraw needed funds at the appropriate time, based on project completion.

The Board discussed the next steps in the WCE playground project. We have received updated options and quotes from Team Reil and Custom Pro, with the playground equipment estimates coming in at around \$112,000. The next step will be for the elementary administration, Superintendent and PTC to meet and determine exact equipment needs, plans for funding and playground surface needs. The hope is to have the equipment ready to promote before the PTC Fall Festival.

The Board discussed the need of a new HS Gym Scoreboard (to include shot clocks that are required by IHSA). The Board received an offer from Atlantic Bottling Company to provide \$2250/year in sponsorships and rebates on cases of bottled drinks. In order to participate, we would have to go exclusively to Coca Cola products. WCAA has concerns with going exclusively with Coca Cola (or with another brand) and the impact that will have on their fundraising. Music Boosters (represented by Mike Lenahan on the Board) has similar concerns. WCAA has memorial money that they are willing to put towards a new scoreboard and the District previously received memorial money from the Nancy Tennant memorial. WCAA felt they could also work on sponsorship opportunities for local businesses/community members that would offset the remaining cost of the scoreboard. The next steps will be to get updated quotes on the scoreboard to determine funding needs. We plan to install the new scoreboard over the summer and use it during the 2026-2027 school year.

Superintendent Day discussed the need for the Board Building and Grounds committee to start meeting consistently in order to plan out future projects, especially related to our 10-Year HLS survey. Superintendent Day will work with Board Members Vancil and Gullberg to set up meetings and will report back to the Board plans at upcoming Regular Board meetings.

# **REPORTS**

The Board reviewed and heard reports from the Building Principals K. Lafary, B. Kugler, and J. Kirby. West Central High School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director S. Kreps and District Technology Coordinator J. Hennings and Special Education Coordinator M. Nelson.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

Motion by Clark, seconded by Vancil to approve the tentative FY26 District Budget 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 Vancil to approve the job description of Head Cook and Cook 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 Chockley to approve to move to Franzeck, PC for District Legal Representation. On roll call the following members voted aye: Lenahan, Schaley, Vancil, Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, and Higgins. 7-0 Motion carried.

# **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

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

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Chockley, seconded by Clark to adjourn to closed meeting pursuant of the Illinois Open Meetings Act - 5ILCS 120/2 (2) (16) at 7:54 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 8:00 p.m. On roll call the following members answered roll call: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley and Vancil.

Motion by Vancil, seconded by Higgins to return to open session at 8:36 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 elementary cafeteria at 8:38 p.m. On roll call the following members answered roll call: Chockley, Clark, Gullberg, Higgins, Lenahan, Schaley and Vancil.

# PERSONNEL ACTION

Motion by Clark, seconded by Gullberg to approve the personnel items as follows:

# West Central School District School Board Meeting Personnel Items for Board Approval Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Please note: the following new appointments are pending completion of all certifications, requirements, and clearance on the state required background investigation.

N/A N/A N/A N/A
N/A N/A
N/A N/A
N/A
N/A
WCATS
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WCATS

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

# **FUTURE MEETING DATE**

The Board was reminded that the FY26 Budget Hearing will be held on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 5:30 p.m., in the elementary cafeteria. The regular Board Meeting will be held on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Clark, seconded by Lenahan to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Majority of Ayes by Voice Vote. Motion carried.

THESE MINUTES ARE APPROVED AS WRITTEN THIS 22nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.

Brendan Schaley, Board President

Malinda Clark, Board Secretary