

## Work Session

**Thursday, February 10, 2022**  
**Board Room**  
**7:00 PM**

A work session was held on Thursday, February 10, 2022. The following members were present: Mandy Sharpe, Todd Miller, Jake Tanner, Jonathan Gutwein, Dennis Gutwein, Jeff Lowry, and President Kyle McTeigue.

Also present were: Dan Zylstra, Superintendent; Kris Aschbrenner, Director of Technology; and Megan Galbreath of the Pulaski County Journal.

The purpose of the work session was to receive information to assist with future plans for West Central.

Discussion Items: Kris Aschbrenner presented on recent technology improvements, including using stimulus money to purchase new chromebooks, a laser engraving machine to better track chromebook chargers, and an updated firewall. He also spoke of the upcoming installation of a new PA system, and future needs which include projector upgrades, new wireless access points, and a whole-scale rewiring of the campus. Dan Zylstra reviewed recent capital improvements, including the 2021 HVAC project. He shared cost projections for further HVAC upgrades in the pool area and main gym, as well as improvements to the band and choir rooms. For long-term planning, large-scale pool renovations were discussed in conjunction with the district's current debt obligations and long term debt capacity. With changing leadership in both the maintenance and superintendent positions, the board discussed different options for working with a construction management company to better plan for and execute the necessary capital project needs for the 10 to 20-year horizon.

ADJOURNMENT: President Kyle McTeigue asked the board if there was any further business. Being none, the president adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:

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Kyle McTeigue, President

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Todd Miller, Secretary

## **Regular Session**

**Thursday, February 10, 2022**

**Board Room**

**7:30 PM**

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in a regular session on Thursday, February 10, 2022. The following members were present: Jake Tanner, Todd Miller, Mandy Sharpe, Dennis Gutwein, Jonathan Gutwein, Jeff Lowry, and President Kyle McTeigue.

Also present were: Dan Zylstra, Superintendent; Mike Carlson, Elementary School Principal; Megan Galbreath of the Pulaski County Journal; and Henry Lowry.

MINUTES: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the board of finance meeting, regular meeting, and executive session on January 6, 2021. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

REQUISITIONS: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve requisitions 22009 through 22029 for the corporation.

Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved. Mr. Zylstra noted that the Purchase Order for the Records Scanning Proposal would be reduced by \$3,300.

RESIGNATIONS: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the following resignation as presented:

1. David Allen - Director of Maintenance

Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the resignation was approved.

TRANSFER: Jake Tanner made the motion to approve the following transfer as presented:

1. Jamie Fritz - Director of Maintenance

Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion and the transfer was approved.

EMPLOYMENT: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the following employments as presented:

1. Cameron Owens - MS Assistant Wrestling Coach
2. Nathan Williams - Assistant Director of Maintenance

Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the employments were approved.

LEAVE REQUESTS: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the following leave requests as presented:

1. Kenley Newbauer - Maternity leave
2. Sally Smidler - Personal
3. Marci Kennedy - Personal
4. Haley Tapper - Maternity leave
5. Rebecca Reed - Personal
6. Jennifer Mellon - Personal

Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the leave requests were approved after discussion. There was significant reservation from the board in approving some leaves, as personal leave requests from staff members have increased over the last several years. In light of the difficulty of finding substitutes and the benefits of having a certified and trained teacher in front of students as often as possible, the board and administration will be exercising greater scrutiny over future requests.

FIELD TRIP REQUEST: Jeff Lowry made a motion to approve the following field trip request as presented:

1. Angie Radtke - Senior trip to Florida

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the trip was approved.

SUNDAY PERFORMANCE REQUEST: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the Sunday Performance request for Cabaret on May 1, 2022.

Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the performance request was approved.

POLICY MANUAL UPDATE: Dan Zylstra presented the first reading of updates for the Board Policy Manual. The updates clean up language regarding non-certified vacation allotments, insurance contributions, and contractual days.

RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING PLAN UPDATE: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the updates to West Central's Return to In-Person Learning Plan as presented. The plan includes a 5-day quarantine for students who are close contacts if they are willing to wear a mask for the subsequent 5 school days. Positive cases will still be required to quarantine for 10 days.

Kye McTeigue seconded the motion and the update was approved.

Kyle McTeigue made a motion to approve Superintendent Dan Zylstra advertising publicly for bids for the band/choir room renovations as discussed in the Work Session.

Mandy seconded the motion and the permission to advertise was granted.

#### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Elementary Principal Mike Carlson reported that it seems like January went by quickly with a few virtual and E Learning days. Elementary attendance and participation on those days were just a bit lower than normal attendance rates. Thank you to the parents, students, and staff for making the most of those days. They were also able to hold conferences and committee meetings virtually. The elementary students and staff enjoyed a convocation yesterday with Christopher Tyler from Zonda Dance. The students got up moving and danced with the theme of building confidence, and everyone had a great time. Mr. Carlson would like to thank the Student Council for contributing funds to this, and also PTC provided staff with a great lunch on Monday.

Middle/High School Principal Angie Radtke stated that with six e-learning days since Christmas Break, time has been flying! Mrs. Kennedy has been busy finishing up the WIDA testing and making preparations for the SAT in March. Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Radtke have been running the Catch Up Cafe during lunch to get students caught up on their missing assignments. The choir students participated in solo and ensemble. Aiden Conley and Faith Hooper both received silver, and Skye Witham and Kylea Bailey both earned golds. Our girls basketball team, while with fewer players this year, actually finished up their season with a better record. The future looks bright for Lady Trojan Basketball. The boys team has also been having some success, and if you haven't been able to make it out to a game, Mrs. Radtke highly suggests it. In addition to Trojan Basketball providing excitement, our band is second to none. They are small in number, but they are mighty! We receive many compliments from visiting fans about our band, as we should because they are awesome! Trace McIlvain, Drake Fritz, Hayden Fritz, Jacob Pilarski, Zach Gilger, Buzz Beiswanger, and Nate Davis all made it to Regionals for wrestling. Hayden Fritz finished second in the 132 pound weight class, and Drake Fritz was the 126 pound weight class Regional Champion. There will be a pep session tomorrow afternoon to recognize the whole wrestling team and to wish Drake and Hayden good luck at Semi-State.

Superintendent Dan Zylstra discussed the band and choir room renovations further. He noted the benefits of the HVAC project from this summer in the overall climate of the building. The districts' financial and back-end processes have been running on the new financial software for a full calendar year. It made processing the year-end reports much simpler and cleaner for office staff. The district is exploring adding an additional pathway to the high school for Graphic Design. An existing staff member can become certified in this pathway, which would include extra funding for students who participated in

this class. The high school guidance counselor, Marci Kennedy, is gauging student interest and other staff are researching acquiring the necessary equipment to begin the program.

CLAIMS: Todd Miller made a motion to approve claims 2935 through 3035 for the corporation. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the claims were approved.

ADJOURNMENT: President Kyle McTeigue asked the board if there was any further business. Being none, the president adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:

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Kyle McTeigue, President

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Todd Miller, Secretary

## **Executive Session**

**Thursday, February 10, 2022**

**Board Room (B-113)**

**8:30 PM**

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in an executive session on Thursday, February 10, 2022 following the regular board meeting. The following members were present: Dennis Gutwein, Mandy Sharpe, Todd Miller, Jonathan Gutwein, Jake Tanner, Jeff Lowry, and President Kyle McTeigue.

Also present were: Dan Zylstra, Superintendent.

The executive session was held in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) (9) "To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employee(s), apart from the budget process."

President Kyle McTeigue asked the board if there was any further business. Being none, the president adjourned the meeting.

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Kyle McTeigue, President

APPROVED:

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Todd Miller, Secretary