

# West Central School Corporation

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*"Encourage Every Student Every Day" \*Engage \*Empower \*Educate*

## Regular Session

**Thursday, October 5, 2023  
Board Room 7:30PM**

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in a regular session on Thursday, October 5, 2023. The following members were present: Todd Miller, Dennis Gutwein, Mandy Sharpe, Kyle McTeigue, Jake Tanner and Jeff Lowry

Also present were: Superintendent Cathy Rowe, West Central Middle/Senior High School Principal Angie Radtke, West Central Elementary School Principal Mike Carlson and Erica Kerns Corporation Secretary.

**BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PRESENTATION:** Dr. Rowe introduced the Boys and Girls Club of St. Joseph County who presented to the Board and families about their programming.

**STUDENT OF THE MONTH:** Board member Jake Tanner was pleased to present the MS/HS winner Conner Huber as the WCMHS Student of the Month.

**NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMI-FINALIST RECOGNITION:** The Board was pleased to recognize National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist Spencer Leman's family on Spencer's accomplishment and hope to have Spencer recognized at the November 2023 board meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** AMEND Agenda to include FFA to National Convention and SOAR Leadership. Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the October 5, 2023 agenda. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the agenda was approved 6-0.

**MINUTES:** Todd Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular session on September 7, 2023. Jake Tanner seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved 6-0.

**REQUISITIONS:** Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve requisitions 23247 through 23268 for the corporation. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved 6-0.

**RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND RETIREMENTS:** Jake Tanner approved the following resignations and retirements as presented:

1. Amy Gulyban-Resignation
2. Maribeth Benesh-Resignation

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the resignations were approved 6-0.

EMPLOYMENTS:Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the following employments as presented:

1. Kathy McBride-Cafeteria Staff
2. Shannon Scott-Cafeteria Staff
3. Karl Harris-Custodian (4 hours)
4. Brittany Spoonemore-Sunshine
5. Haley Tapper-Math Bowl
6. Samantha Heims-Lego/Robotics
7. Kellis Gutwein-Unit Leader K
8. Marilyn Bernal-Unit Leader 1
9. Joy Schlatter-Unit Leader 2
10. Terri Ray-Unit Leader 3
11. Leanna Nielsen—Unit Leader 4
12. Haley Tapper-Unit Leader 5
13. Kathy Minnick-Unit Leader 6
14. Kasey Lowry-Unit Leader Specials, Special Education, Counselor
15. Mike Lattimore-7th Grade Boys Basketball

Todd Miller seconded the motion and the employments were approved 6-0.

LEAVE REQUESTS:

1. Shannon Scott, November 20-21, 2023
2. Haley Tapper, December 4-8, 2023

Kyle McTeigue made a motion to approve the leave requests as presented. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the leave requests were approved 6-0.

2024 BUDGET ADOPTION: Jeff Lowry made a motion to adopt the 2024 budget, Capital Projects Plan and Bus Replacement Plan. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the budget was adopted 6-0.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB MOU: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the Boys and Girls Club of St. Joseph County. Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion and the MOU was approved 6-0.

WC GIRLS BASKETBALL LEAGUE FACILITY USAGE: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the WC girls basketball league use of facilities as presented. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the facilities usage was approved 6-0.

WC FOOTBALL LEAGUE FACILITY USAGE: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the WC football league use of facilities as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the facilities usage was approved 6-0.

WEST CENTRAL MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK ADDITION: Jake Tanner made a motion to approve the addition to the West Central Middle/High School Handbook in regards to an updated cellphone/earbud policy. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the handbook addition was approved 6-0.

BUS RENTAL USAGE FRANCESVILLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the bus rental agreements for the Francesville First Baptist Church as presented. Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion and the usage agreements were approved 6-0.

WEST CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the West Central Elementary School Improvement Plan as presented. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the plan was approved 6-0.

WEST CENTRAL MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: Jeff Lowry made a motion to approve the West Central Middle/High School Improvement Plan as presented. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the plan was approved 6-0.

SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES FIRST READING: Kyle McTeigue made a motion to approve the first reading of board policies as presented. Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the first reading was recognized and approved 6-0.

WC FFA TO NATIONAL CONVENTION NOVEMBER 1-3, 2023: Todd Miller made a motion to approve the West Central FFA to attend the National Conference held November 1-3, 2023. Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion and the trip was approved.

WC FFA TO SOAR LEADERSHIP CENTER OCTOBER 6-8, 2023: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the West Central FFA to attend the SOAR Leadership Conference October 6-8, 2023. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the trip was approved 6-0.

#### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Mr. Carlson shared that the PTC continues to be invaluable in supporting the students. They staffed a successful Book Fair, and during that week hosted Grandparents Day. Hundreds of Grandparents and special friends were welcomed in. Students enjoyed doing activities in their classrooms, sharing a snack, having their picture taken, and shopping at the Book Fair with friends and family. Many positive comments were given. The great weather has been perfect as field trips began. Fifth grade visited Beyond Boundaries for team-building activities. First grade tried somewhere new and went to South Bend to visit Potawatomi Zoo, and Second Grade all returned with their own pumpkins from Kent's Cucurbits. The early release time was used to work on math curriculum maps, look at textbooks to align the reduced standards, and add iReady Standards Mastery tests to the grades 3-5 maps. Dyslexia screening is complete and that is one piece that will be shared at the upcoming conferences.

Mrs. Radtke said September was a busy month! We celebrated Homecoming. The student council did a great job of planning fun activities. Queen candidates were: Jaden Erb, Madison Rodriguez, Mara Sharpe, and Allie Sanders. King candidates were: Josiah Rodriguez, Connor Marlatt, Blake Hughes, and Hayden Fritz. Jaden Erb and Blake Hughes were crowned queen and king. The seniors won Hike 'em Spike 'em. Freshman won the golf cart theme and the pep session relays. The Francesville American Legion Post 228 donated a much needed new flagpole and flag to the school. The West Central Youth Football League and the Booster Club purchased a 25 foot WC logo for the middle of the football field. The seniors won the attendance competition at 98.5%. Spencer Leman is a 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalist, which is a huge honor! I took six teachers to Monticello last week to learn more about The Science of Reading. We learned the neuroscience behind reading and many great strategies to help our students. The staff members came back and presented the material to the rest of the staff during our professional development time last Friday. Teachers are already implementing the strategies, and we are getting lots of great feedback.

Dr. Rowe noted that there were 46 responses to the Boys and Girls Club survey that had been sent out to parents which was very promising! She gave a quick construction update on the band/choir project. Information was shared with board members concerning the ISBA Fall Regional meetings with several board members indicating that they were interested in attending. Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on October 16th, we are currently having student information system vendor presentations since our contract with ALMA expires next summer. Fall Break is October 19-23. Textbook rental alerts went out to parents so that information could be collected for a state report, but textbook rental fees for the 2023-2024 school year are not being assessed. Information concerning an ADM of 620 was shared with the public as well.

**PAYROLL AND CLAIMS:** Todd Miller made a motion to approve payroll and claims for the corporation. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the payroll and claims were approved.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Jake Tanner 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, October 5, 2023  
Immediately Following Regular Mtg.**

The Board met in Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining  
IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(2)(a)

The following attended the Executive Session: Todd Miller, Mandy Sharpe, Dennis Gutwein, Jake Tanner, Kyle McTeigue, Jeff Lowry , Cathy Rowe