

West Central School Corporation

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

Board of Finance

**Thursday, January 4, 2024
Board Room 7:15PM**

The Board of Finance of the West Central School Corporation met on Thursday, January 4, 2024. The following members were present: Kyle McTeigue, Jake Tanner, Todd Miller, Dennis Gutwein, Mandy Sharpe, Jeff Lowry and Jonathan Gutwein.

Also present was Cathy Rowe, Superintendent.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Board of Finance President, Jake Tanner opened the floor for the nomination of officers. Mandy Sharpe made a motion to nominate Jeff Lowry as President of the Board of Finance. Dennis Gutwein made a motion to close nominations. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried 7-0. Jeff Lowry was elected President of the Board of Finance.

Todd Miller made a motion to nominate Mandy Sharpe as secretary of the Board of Finance. Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to close nominations. Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion and the motion carried 7-0. Mandy Sharpe was elected Secretary of the Board of Finance.

Kyle McTeigue made a motion to designate Shannon Fritz, Treasurer, as the investing officer. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion and the motion carried 7-0.

DEPOSITORIES: Todd Miller made a motion to designate Lake City Bank, Medaryville, IN branch and Alliance Bank, Francesville, IN branch as the depositories for the year. Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the motion carried 7-0.

CURRENT INVESTMENTS: Superintendent Rowe reviewed the current accounts, including checking, savings and certificates of deposit.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Superintendent Rowe reviewed the report of the district's financial condition as well as the fiscal and qualitative indicators dashboard per IC 5-13-7-8.

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

APPROVED:

President

Secretary

Regular Session

**Thursday, January 4, 2024
Board Room 7:30PM**

The Board of Education of the West Central School Corporation met in a regular session on Thursday, December 7, 2023. The following members were present: Kyle McTeigue, Todd Miller, Jonathan Gutwein, Dennis Gutwein, Jake Tanner, Mandy Sharpe and Jeff Lowry.

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

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH: Jake Tanner was pleased to present the MS/HS winner Landyn McTeigue as the WCMHS Student of the Month and board member Mandy Sharpe was pleased to present the WCES winner Myra DeMoss, as the WCES Student of the Month.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: President Kyle McTeigue opened the floor for the nomination of officers. Kyle McTeigue made a motion to appoint Jake Tanner as president. Dennis Gutwein made a motion to close nominations and Jeff Lowry seconded the motion.. Those in favor of Jake Tanner as president voted in favor 6-0. Jake Tanner was elected president.

President Jake Tanner opened the floor for the nomination of vice president. Mandy Sharpe made a motion to appoint Kyle McTeigue as vice president. Todd Miller made a motion to close nominations. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion. Those in favor of Kyle McTeigue as vice president voted in favor 6-0. Kyle McTeigue was elected vice president.

President Jake Tanner opened the floor for the nomination of secretary. Kyle McTeigue made a motion to appoint Mandy Sharpe as secretary. Jeff Lowry made a motion to close nominations. Dennis Gutwein seconded the motion. Those in favor of Mandy Sharpe as secretary voted in favor 6-0. Mandy Sharpe was elected secretary.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORMS: Board members who are applicable under this law have filled out and completed annual conflict of interest forms.

SETTING OF BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2024: Todd Miller made a motion to set the board meeting dates as the first Thursday in each month at 7:30pm, except for July 11th, in the month of July, for the 2024 calendar year. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the dates were approved 7-0.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Kyle McTeigue made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Jeff Lowry seconded the motion and the agenda was approved 7-0.

MINUTES: Mandy Sharpe made a motion to approve the minutes of the work session, executive and regular sessions held on December 7, 2023. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the minutes were approved 7-0.

REQUISITIONS: Jake Tanner made a motion to approve requisitions 24001 through 24009 for the corporation. Kyle Mc Teigue seconded the motion and the requisitions were approved 7-0.

RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND RETIREMENTS: Dennis Gutwein approved the following resignations and retirements as presented:

1. Deidre Hernandez-Cafeteria Manager
2. Kristy Wireman-CSS

Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion and the resignation was approved 7-0.

EMPLOYMENTS: Kyle McTiegue made a motion to approve the following employments as presented:

1. Sarah Buche-Elementary Teacher, WCES
2. Linda Hunter-MS/HS Cafeteria Manager

Jake Tanner seconded the motion and the employments were approved 7-0.

LEAVE REQUESTS: Jonathan Gutwein made a motion to approve the leave requests as follows.

1. Taylor Hook-Maternity Leave starting 3-25-24 through end of 2023-2024 SY-CSS
2. Devin Green-December 11-19, 2023
3. Amy Anliker-December 12-19, 2023

Mandy Sharpe seconded the motion and the leave was approved 7-0.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS: Todd Miller made a motion to approved the following appointments of the following individuals for 2024:

1. Shannon Fritz-Corporation Treasurer
2. Chassidy Leman-Corporation Assistant Treasurer/Human Resources
3. Casie Allen-Extra-Curricular Treasurer
4. Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim-School Corporation Attorneys

Kyle McTeigue seconded the motion and the annual appointments were approved 7-0.

INTERNAL VERIFICATION PROCEDURE-FOOD SERVICE: Kyle McTeigue made a motion to approve the Internal Verification Procedure for Food Service as presented. Jonathan Gutwein seconded the motion and the procedure was approved 7-0.

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES REVIEW-SECOND READING AND ADOPTION: Dennis Gutwein made a motion to approve the first reading of policies presented, with the exception of removing policy 4022: Non-Public Student Participation in Public School, which will be discussed next month. Todd Miller seconded the motion and the policies were approved 7-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Mr. Carlson shared December was a busy month at the elementary. Donuts with Dudes had a great turn-out. 353 students and friends came early in the morning for donuts, games, have their picture taken, and to choose a book. Families also enjoyed the Christmas program that kindergarten, first grade, and second grade prepared with Mrs. Mahaffey. Mrs. Bernal's class had another enjoyable trip to Parkview to read and make cookies with the residents. Benchmarking is almost complete. Absences put us behind on some testing. We're excited for fifth and sixth grades to join in a pilot program with the Middle School. Training went well yesterday, and we're excited to see how it helps our students' reading.

Mr Slys shared that December was a short but busy month. Mr. Sholey and Mrs. Mahaffey put on an absolutely amazing band and choir concert. The students took their mid-year NWEA tests. Our goal this

year is for 75% of the students to reach their growth goal by the end of the year, and the middle schoolers are well on their way in language arts. They had the highest growth we have seen in five years. The 7th grade had 70% of the students reach their goal in language usage and 70% reach their reading goals. The 8th grade had 79% of the students reach their goal in language usage and 67% in reading! Miss Struss put on another successful carnival for the middle school incentive program. She also had a record number of students who qualified to attend. Mrs. Spoonemore's Sunshine Club helped collect and organize food baskets for West Central families in need. Family Express, Rose Acre Farms, Fratco, and Fingerhut Bakery all made generous donations to help fill the baskets. Drake and Hayden Fritz, who both earned their 100th wrestling wins, were named co-athletes of the week for the 2nd week of December! Listen to WKVI for their interview this Saturday morning. We played a school-wide game of Christmas Monopoly. Parents and local businesses came through in a huge way, donating all sorts of prizes. There was a lot of participation during lunchtime for the games, treats, and trivia that we had the last five days. Everyone seemed to have fun and enjoyed themselves before they headed into a much-needed break. Grades have been finalized and report cards have been sent out.

Dr. Rowe provided an update on the district's strategic plan by reviewing the district's core values of student focus, integrity and respect. She addressed progress made in each focus area of the plan (increase pride in West Central Schools, high student and district performance, and encourage and cultivate responsible, respectful staff and students who display the highest level of integrity and respect). Baseline data was shared that showed in the 2022-2023 school year, approximately 46% of students K-12 were involved in some sort of extracurricular, co-curricular or after school activity. Broken down by building, 63.1% of students at the middle/high school level were involved, compared to 28.9% elementary students. The district is starting to catalog business partners in hopes of recognizing those partnerships with the community. There has been great strides to provide professional development and a focus on the Science of Reading and teachers have started to share the gains in student achievement as a result. One of the benchmarks is a 95% graduation rate. Data from the IDOE in December shows the graduation rate for West Central at 95.65% which surpasses the state average and the local goal. The district is on target to maintain a 15% cash balance in the Education fund, has met benchmarks with regard to spending and saving and energy efficiency. Second Step curriculum, including bullying curriculum has been purchased and is being implemented in both buildings. Building walkthroughs take place regularly and the district has been making improvements consistently in the past many months. The improvement project in the band/choir rooms is wrapping up and the difference is amazing! ProAudio by Brand was at the middle/high school before the Christmas break to set all lighting and sound settings back to default and gave the system a check-up. The Boys and Girls Club is looking for two to three more people to help, so until they get those individuals hiring, it is looking like it will be February 1st before the club starts. If anyone is interested, have them contact the Corporation Office. January 18th, teachers will be working on curriculum maps, January 26th is our next early release and February 1 is our next student count day.

PAYROLL AND CLAIMS: Kyle McTeigue made a motion to approve payroll and claims for the corporation. Jonathan 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:

_____, President

_____, Secretary