

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

****Regular meeting taking place at the District Office on March 21, 2016**

MEMBERS

Position	Present	Absent
Presiding Officer		Jack Caldwell
	Matt Seman	
	Teresa Benner	
	Pam Kovacevich	
	Corey Conklin	
	Tom Ray	
Superintendent	David Root	
Building Principals	Doug Furlow, Adam Eucker, Clay Shoufler, Adam Ibbotson, Janis Lindsey and Becky Miller	
Board of Education Secretary	Charlie Waugh	

Call to Order / Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance / Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Matt Seman. Roll call was taken by the Recording Secretary. Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Teresa Benner and seconded by Tom Ray that the agenda be approved as amended.

Discussion: Action item 8f – removed, added non tenured teachers to Action Item 8e

Motion carried

Recognition of Employees and Public

Byron Painter – South County Publications

Mr. Root thanked Mr. Painter for continually highlighting and publicizing our students.

Faculty Spotlight

Adam Ibbotson, Assistant Junior High Principal and Education Specialist

- Elective structure at the JH is undergoing updates and changes
- Spoke about issues with the prior elective system
- JH is the time to figure out what they like, what they don't, introduce more STEM options
- Changes to 6th-8th grades



- Have moved to 'exploratory tracks' and elective options
 - Fitness elective
 - Intro to Art
 - Cultural studies
 - Google Apps and Google Drawing
 - Sports Nutrition
 - You and the Law
 - Computer Apps
 - STEM and Economic options
- STEM Initiative
 - Man on Mars
 - Science Fair
 - Computer coding class - SCRATCH
 - Project Ignite – engineer something and print it to a 3D printer
 - Be an Engineer
- The registration has taken place for students and they are very excited about all the new options
- Making these changes in the junior high is our first step. As curriculum comes up, we will look at adding more options at the high school
- Study halls are gone, but they still have a wrap up at the end of the day
- Those teachers who had a study hall will be teaching during that period
- Moved to more of a 'student driven schedule' from an 'adult driven schedule'
- Shout out to the faculty who have worked hard on this as well

A question was asked about if we will apply for federal funding for some of these programs. It was noted that this type of funding is dependent on the low income rate of the school district. Federal funds account for only 1% of our total budget. If the District were to qualify, that would be great, but it is somewhat unlikely.

A question was asked about how the new structure was presented to the junior high students and it was stated that Mrs. Damery was instrumental in these explanations and demonstrations shown to the students.

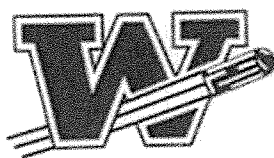
Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Pam Kovacevich and seconded by Corey Conklin to approve the consent agenda containing items a, b, c, d, e, f and g: namely Approval of the following minutes as written and distributed: Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2016, Approval of the Executive Session Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2016, Approval of the Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2016, Approval of the Bills in the amount of \$619,152.19, including reimbursement of the revolving fund in the amount of \$746.98, Approval of the Treasurer's Report, Approval of the Lunch Report and Receipt of Resignations:

- Brittany Woods – 6th Grade Girls' Basketball
- Matt Farley – 7th Grade Girls' Basketball
- Caroline Sturgeon – HS Science

Discussion:

- On roll call the following members answered aye:
 - Charlie Waugh
 - Teresa Benner
 - Corey Conklin
 - Pam Kovacevich



Tom Ray

Matt Seman

- On roll call the following members were absent:
Jack Caldwell

Motion carried

Information Items

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Financial Update

Mr. Root presented a 2005-2016 cash flow analysis and reiterated where we are at the end of February with a balance in all funds of \$3,368,166 and a balance in the Operating Funds of \$3,324,306. By comparison, at the end of February 2015, our balance in all funds was \$4,265,180 and in the Operating Funds was \$4,044,494.

Mr. Root noted the following:

- The Administration knows to freeze budgets as much as possible
- Salary and benefits make up about 80% of the District's budget
- We have yet to get the levy back, but may get between \$300,000-\$400,000 in new money, but will lose 1/3 of that in general state aid
- The State's late payments combined with money from the TIF make up some of the difference

2. 2016-17 School Calendar/Board Meeting Calendar

The Board is opting to move board meetings that fall on school holidays. This changes the following meeting dates:

- The January 16, 2017 will be moved to January 17, 2017 in observation of Martin Luther King Day
- The February 20, 2017 will be moved to February 21, 2017 in observation of Presidents' Day

3. Reductions in Force (Overloads)

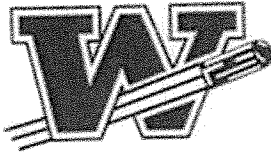
Mr. Root stated that 8 staff members have an overload in the current school year and they will be released from those overloads for the next school year, as is the practice each year.

4. 2016-17 IHSA/IESA Membership

IHSA has a fee, IESA does not. These agreements must be renewed each year in order to participate in IHSA and IESA sporting events.

5. Food Allergies

Mr. Root provided an overview of the evolution of the snack break process - from a milk break, to the current snack break. Some classes participate in the snack break and some do not. All classes participate in the milk break.



As student allergies have become more and more prevalent, trying to minimize allergic outbreaks while maintaining snack options has become very cumbersome. In speaking with the District Dietician, it is being contemplated to go back to a milk break only format.

A question was asked to see if purchasing a qualifying snack directly from the kitchen would be an option, but since we do not contract out for our service, this is not a current option here, but one that could be looked into.

Sherman Elementary has roughly 40 students with allergies, 30-35 of those with epi pens.

For birthdays and holidays, the District would encourage trinkets, pencils, etc instead of snacks.

A question was asked if we could look into something for the holidays - possibly contracting something out. Mr. Root will check with the District Dietician on this.

Medical exceptions would be allowed for those who need a snack, such as students who are diabetic. The topic will be revisited with the District Dietician and information will be brought back to the Board next month.

6. Handbook Updates 2016-17

Mr. Eucker stated that the discipline section of the athletic handbook has been revised. The change is as follows:

- Eligibility for athletic awards will be lost if the incident occurs during the season
- If a violation occurs outside of the season, athletes will not lose eligibility for awards, but will still sit out 1/3 of their season

Mr. Furlow stated that student credit language in the handbook will now match what is in the online course guide, and that language has been added related to the library and using it the correct way.

Mr. Root noted that we will not approve handbook changes until next month as there will be a statement likely added about transgender students. The language is not yet final.

Mrs. Lindsey added that the SES handbook will add language about being approved through the volunteer program in order to volunteer at the school.

B. Principal's Report

Janis Lindsey – full report submitted to the Board
Recommendation to hire Morgan Ladage for Kindergarten for 2016-17
Great music program last week
Trivia Night was Sat night - Pre K teachers won, benefitting PTO

Doug Furlow – full report submitted to the Board
Recommendation to employ Jeff Surbeck for high school Science for the 2016-17 school year.
Jeff is completing his student teaching at Southeast High School in Springfield. He graduated



from Rochester High and is currently attending Eastern Illinois University. Jeff is also a member of the Illinois National Guard.

Congratulations to our February Student of the Month - John Beal

Congratulations to all of the WHS music students who participated in the IHSA Solo & Ensemble Contest on March 5th @ PORTA High School! WHS music events received 65 Excellent or higher ratings including 60-Superior I ratings!

Additionally, 6 WHS music events were named "Best of the Day" in their performance rooms by their respective adjudicators as the most excellent performance of the festival "**Best of the Day**" event winners were:

- Emily Cotner (xylophone-solo)
- Tucker Hirsch - alto sax solo
- Summer Tiarks - flute solo
- Jacob Hinds - Trombone solo
- Emily Smith - Soprano vocal solo
- WHS Vocal Jazz Ensemble

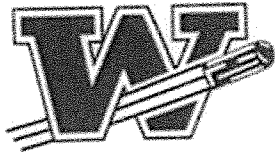
Ethan Bloomberg and Austin Brown – robotics club contest – get details from Doug on this, have implemented some courses related to STEM as well

Adam Eucker –

- Winter sports have wrapped and we had 7 all conference selections between boys and girls
- Scholastic bowl missed State by 1 question
 - JV had an undefeated season
- Spring sports have started – baseball and softball both doing well
- Dedicating Jane Grebner field on Thursday – if the weather does not hold, we will move it to after spring break
- April 21 – track will be dedicated to Don Williams
- Next year – similar to our banners in the gyms – we will have signage placed on the scoreboards and dugouts that show conference titles, regionals, post season appearances, etc

Clay Shoufler

- County spelling bee was held 5th and 6th grade – Wyatt Cole and Dylan Hembrough won their respective grade levels
 - SJR will sponsor the County Spelling Bee next year
- Jen Thomas, 8th grade science teacher, to work with NASA on an airborne observatory. She is going with a professor from Illinois State. This is the final year they are accepting applications, they will pick them going forward. She applied for 10 years and it finally went through. She shares her passion for astronomy in the classroom. The news will feature a story on her.
- A sub will come in for 2 weeks while she is gone and they will reimburse us the cost of the sub.



Side Note: Mr. Root showed the Board the story on the district website about the PARCC exam and not allowing students to opt out.

A motion was made by Corey Conklin and seconded by Charlie Waugh to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel and legal matters

Discussion:

- On roll call the following members answered aye:
Charlie Waugh Teresa Benner
Corey Conklin Pam Kovacevich
Tom Ray Matt Seman
- On roll call the following members were absent:
Jack Caldwell

Motion carried

The Board entered executive session at 8:14pm and returned to open session at 8:54pm.

A motion was made by Pam Kovacevich and seconded by Teresa Benner to return to open session.

Discussion: None

Motion carried.

Action Items

A motion was made by Tom Ray and seconded by Charlie Waugh to approve 2016-17 school calendar:

Discussion: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Teresa Benner and seconded by Pam Kovacevich to approve 2016-17 board meeting calendar:

Discussion: Two changes noted

Motion carried

A motion was made by Corey Conklin and seconded by Tom Ray to renew membership in IESA and IHSA for 2016-17:



Discussion: None

- On roll call the following members answered aye:
Charlie Waugh Teresa Benner
Corey Conklin Pam Kovacevich
Tom Ray Matt Seman

- On roll call the following members were absent:
Jack Caldwell

Motion carried

A motion was made by Pam Kovacevich and seconded by Teresa Benner to approve the Reduction in Force for overload assignments:

- Kyle Muskopf – Band
- Nick Williams – HS English
- BJ Halford – HS Government
- Tonia Faloon-Sullivan – HS History
- Jon Hampton – HS Science
- Patty Lorton – HS Science
- Caroline Sturgeon – HS Science
- Jamie Vicich – HS Spanish

Discussion: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Pam Kovacevich and seconded by Matt Seman to approve employment of personnel:

- Morgan Ladage – SES
- Jeffrey Surbeck – HS Science

Discussion: Also approving the retention of recommended non-tenured staff:

- 4th year: Eric Hendrickson, Tyler Casson, Elyse Matulevich, Brant Trimpe and Nick Williams
- 3rd year: Dan O'Connor, Josh Patrick, Matt Mead, Lindsey Mundstock and Scott Weller
- 2nd year: Courtney Beard, Robert Howard, Jennifer Smith, Jamie Vicich and Megan Baugher
- 1st year: Betsy Ingram, James Doerfler, Kody Kirkpatrick, Julie Root, Shannon Swaney, Jenna Wernsing, Breana Havens, Lanie Buttry, Flora Darnell, Beth Held and Jennifer Oglesby

- On roll call the following members answered aye:



Charlie Waugh
Corey Conklin
Tom Ray

Teresa Benner
Pam Kovacevich
Matt Seman

- On roll call the following members were absent:
Jack Caldwell

Motion carried

Adjournment

A motion was made by Charles Waugh and seconded by Pam Kovacevich to adjourn the meeting.

Discussion: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm

Board Approval

Dated this 21st day of March 2016

Board Vice President

Board Secretary

**Submitted by Jenny Brennan, Recording Secretary