

**West Carroll Regular Board of Education Meeting
Board Briefs
April 16, 2009**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, West Carroll Community Unit School District No. 314, was held in the WC Intermediate School Library/Media Center, 801 South Street, Thomson, Illinois. President Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Administration present: Superintendent Mathers
Principals Ashby, Delp, Katzenberger, Lamb and Burkholder
Members present: Boyd, Highland, Kelley, Klein and Sweeney
Members absent: Foltz and Melhus
Others present: Media, Don Enloe, Jeff Holley, Deb Kleckner,
Tim Atherton, John Brigham, and Bev Kilpatrick

Approved March 19, 2009, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Approved March 19, 2009, Regular Meeting, Closed Session Minutes.
Approved the financial reports and payment of bills as presented.

Public Comments

Don Enloe, representing the Sports Boosters, spoke to the Board regarding the organization purchasing some equipment to be used at the WC Intermediate School. The items to be purchased would include a batting/golf cage and mats for the gym floor. The issue will be included on the Agenda at the May Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Correspondence

- Thank you note from Bob and Robyn Lamb for the monetary gift to honor the memory of Martha Lamb, Mr. Lamb's mother.
- Letter from Steve Lansing.

Intermediate Principal, Pam Delp, reported that the WC Intermediate School will be hosting the Educational Foundation Radiothon on April 17th. Earth Day will be celebrated on April 22nd with the students working on activities throughout the day and week. The Fifth Grade students will travel to the Putnam Museum on April 22nd and watch the IMAX movie, "Under the Sea." Mrs. Delp thanked the Educational Foundation for helping to fund this trip. The Intermediate School Spring Concert and Art Show will be held on April 21st at 7:00 P.M. Fifth Grade Band students will travel to the high school for a band experience on April 30th and the ECO Meet is scheduled for May 1st.

Primary School Principal, Jeanette Ashby, reported that the Primary School Open House/Book Fair was held on Thursday, March 26th. Mrs. Ashby thanked Jennifer McGinnis for her extra time and effort in making the Book Fair a success and also thanked the entire staff and student body for making Open House a huge success. Eight-five preschool students were screened on March 26 and 27. Kindergarten Registration was held on Thursday, April 2nd with 45 students registering for next year. The Spring Concerts were held on April 6 and 7 and were well attended. Mrs. Ashby thanked Anne Perry for a job well done. Upcoming events include the First Grade Family Reading Night on Thursday, April 30th; FFA Barn Yard Zoo on Friday, May 1st; and Swimming Lessons will be held on Fridays in May.

High School Principal, Bob Lamb, noted that the Rotary Banquet will be held on April 29th at the WC High School. PSAE Testing is scheduled for April 22 and 23. Prom will be held on May 1st. High School Graduation will be held on May 17, 2009, at 1:00 P.M. on the WC High School Football Field.

Middle School Principal, Julie Katzenberger, reported that sixty-three student-athletes are participating in track and field this spring. Mrs. Katzenberger thanked the Educational Foundation for supporting so many Middle School activities during the 2008-2009 school year; the students benefited tremendously from the fantastic support of the community. All Middle School Choir and Band students will be performing in the Spring Concert on Monday, May 11th in the Middle School gymnasium. The Sixth Grade Band will be performing at the 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony on May 26th. The Seventh and Eighth Grade Band will be taking part in the Memorial Day Exercises on Monday, May 25th at the Middle School. The Seventh and Eighth Grade Band will also be playing at the Adventure Land/Drake University Festival of Bands held in Des Moines, Iowa on May 2nd.

Technology Director, Brad Field, was unable to attend the meeting. Superintendent Mathers highlighted some of the items included in Mr. Field's written report.

Superintendent Mathers provided the monthly attendance report. A pre-construction meeting will be held on April 24, 2009 at the West Carroll High School Office to review the construction schedule and coordination for the Life Safety Work and Asbestos Abatement Work to be completed this summer. Superintendent Mathers is working to complete a master calendar for 2009-2010 and noted that the "End of the Year Breakfast" is scheduled for May 28th.

Board Committee Reports

- Reviewed PRESS for policy recommendations.

Approved the destruction of the August 16, 2007, Regular Meeting, Closed Session tape.

Superintendent Mathers provided information regarding the revised calendar for 2008-2009. Four snow days and one early dismissal day were used. The revised calendar shows May 29, 2009, as the last day of school. The last full day of school will be May 27. Upon Board approval Superintendent Mathers will submit the revised calendar to ISBE.

Approved the final calendar for 2008-2009 as amended, by making May 29, 2009, as the final day of student attendance.

A summary sheet of the ideas that went into creating the 2009-2010 School Calendar was included in the Board packets. Teacher input was used from individual communications and information shared from Quality Circle. Half-days are being used rather than early dismissals on 2 in-service days to maximize teacher training opportunities.

Adopted the proposed school calendar for the 2009-2010 school year.

A historical view of student fees was included in the Board Packets. Based on fee waivers used by parents on free and reduced lunches, a \$5.00 increase would generate an additional \$3,200 in revenue. Due to the current economic conditions, Superintendent Mathers did not recommend a fee increase for 2009-2010.

Approved the fee structure as presented, a freeze on 2008-2009 fees.

2009-2010 Handbooks

- Parent-Student handbook
- Athletic Handbook

Under the direction of Mrs. Burkholder and Mr. McCormick, the handbooks were reviewed for alignment of procedures and policies. Mrs. Burkholder presented the recommended changes for the parent-student handbook. The changes to the athletic handbook were included in the packets. The move away from individual handbooks to a district handbook is continuing. This was the first reading of both handbooks so additional time for questions and review by new Board members can occur.

Approved the First Reading of the Parent-Student Handbook and the Athletic Handbook for the 2009-2010 school year.

Renewed West Carroll's membership with the Illinois High School Association for the 2009-2010 school year.

Property and Casualty Insurance renewal is an annual requirement as the District's Policy runs from July 1 – June 30. Superintendent Mathers worked with Randy Law to review the appropriate documents and coverage limits. The insured amount shows an increase of 3.5% to keep pace with replacement costs and assessed valuation. This insurance also includes the coverage for Board legal liability.

Agreed to let for bids for Property and Casualty Insurance.

Superintendent Mathers provided an update on the District's Workman's Compensation Insurance. When the policy was renewed, there was a discussion on the multiplier. Due to the District's past loss run, there was hope for a multiplier of less than 1.0. The final result was a multiplier of 0.87. This resulted in a refund from last year's premium and a reduction in this year's premium. Total revenue returned to the District was \$12,938.00.

West Carroll has employed a self-funding deductible on employees' health insurance in order to create additional savings. Total savings in 2008 were \$46,383.

Superintendent Mathers provided a 3rd Quarter Financial Update. The three major funds, Education, O & M, and Transportation are all running under budget.

Mr. Boyd, Mr. Highland, and Mr. Mathers reviewed new PRESS policies recommended for adoption by IASB. Policy 6:310 was also updated to align wording with current practice.

Approved the Board Policies as the First Reading.

Set a Special Meeting of the West Carroll Board of Education on April 29, 2009, at 5:15 P.M. at the West Carroll High School Library, for the purpose of seating new members and for reorganization of the Board.

Entered closed session at 8:11 P.M. for consideration the Appointment, employment, discipline, performance or dismissal or removal of specific employees; Purchase or lease of real property or setting of a price for sale or lease of district property; and Student discipline cases.

Board returned to open session at 9:34 P.M.

Resolution presented by Superintendent Mathers regarding Student Discipline Case No. 2009-03.

Approved the Resolution as presented.

Approved a request from Donna Bielema for unpaid leave tentatively scheduled from April 6 through May 1, 2009.

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of David Abney as an evening custodian at the WC Primary School, effective March 30, 2009.

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Salinda Belander as Freshmen Volleyball Coach, effective immediately.

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Harry Krahn as Freshmen Boys' Basketball Coach, effective immediately.

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Brian McCormick as a WC High School English Teacher and Athletic Director, effective at the end of the current school year.

Approved a request from Nancy Hakes to purchase a fourth Personal Day.

Approved WC High School and Middle School Coaching Assignments for 2009-2010 as presented.

Agreed to allow Eric Wiltshire to be a Volunteer High School Baseball Coach.

Approved a request from Gina Wilkinson to transfer from her current teaching position as 7th Grade Language Arts/Social Studies at the WC Middle School to the 8th Grade Language Arts/Literature position for the 2009-2010 school year.

Approved a request from Julane Bowman to transfer from her current position as a Special Education Instructor at the West Carroll Middle School to the 4th and 5th Grade Special Education opening at the Intermediate School for the 2009-2010 school year.

Approved the following people for 2009 summer mowing: George Delp, Alex Haffey, Kathy VanBrocklin, and Don Kramer.

Approved the following people for 2009 summer painting: Ron Kivisto, Kathy Raymond, and Dawn Beyer.

Agreed to move Monica Burkholder to an eleven (11) month contract with one (1) week of vacation.

Approved a 2.5% increase in administrative salaries for West Carroll Principals Jeanette Ashby, Pam Delp, Julie Katzenberger, Robert Lamb, and Monica Burkholder.

Adjourned at 9:40 P.M.