



West Plains Schools Board Notes

West Plains Schools Administration Building

August 29th, 2011

Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge was led by members of the administration.

Regular Agenda

Tax Rate Hearing –

The board approved Dr. Boyer's recommendation to set the tax rate at the same level as the previous year. Although the board could have raised the tax rate to the ceiling, they decided that it would be prudent to keep the same rate at this time. The tax rate ceiling is dependent on the increase/decrease of our assessed valuation. The tax rate for 2011-12 will be \$3.6536.

MSBA Conference (September 29-October 1) -

All board members will attend the Missouri School Board Association conference this year. Dr. Czerwonka said that he is very pleased the entire board of education will be in attendance as there are very few Missouri school districts that have 100% participation from their board members at the conference.

Accept Bank Depository Bid –

The district has accepted the depository bid from Community 1st Banking Company. The contract is for one year with the option to renew annually for up to five years.

Reduction in Force (RIF) computer repair instructor from full time to half time –

SCCC computer repair courses are now offered on a half-time basis rather than full-time based on decreasing enrollment. The need for SCCC courses are driven by enrollment of both secondary and adult students. As a result, programs experiencing low enrollment may be subject to reduction in staff or even elimination of the program all together. The SCCC's primary goal is to provide programs for high school students and adults that meet the demands of the job market.

Preliminary Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Report– Dr. Julie Thompson presented a summary of student performance released on the 2011 AYP report. Even though West Plains Schools did not meet the AYP targets, the district performed above state average and continues to show steady improvement. The school board was commended the efforts of the district's faculty and staff.

POINTS OF PRIDE

West Plains Schools has helped set the standard for academic excellence in Missouri. We will continue to make progress toward meeting the needs of all children, but recognize that most children in the West Plains School District are achieving at levels above state averages and we should be proud of our school district and its accomplishments. For example:

- West Plains Schools' AYP Communications Arts Average is 57.6%, **3% above** state average.
- West Plains Schools' AYP Math Average is 60.9%, **6.7% above** state average.
- The West Plains School District is 98% proficient in Algebra II which is at the top of all state scores.
- For the sixth time overall and fifth consecutive year, West Plains Schools has met all 14 standards required to be designated as a Distinction in Performance district.
- The 2011 Student Growth Pilot Project met all 14 indicators on the Value Added Annual Performance Report (APR) and received a bonus point for overall proficiency.

Adopt Fast ForWord Reading Program-

The school board adopted the Fast ForWord Reading program. The Fast ForWord Reading Program is educational brain fitness software designed to help struggling readers improve brain fitness and strengthen brain processing.

Set milk prices for the 2011-2012 school year-

The board agreed to an increase milk prices from \$.30 to \$.35 for the 2011-12 school year. This increase is a result of increasing cost to the district for purchasing milk. The district currently pays \$.34 per carton of milk.

Capital Improvements Update

Playground equipment at South Fork has been delivered and will be installed soon.

The intercom and bell system at the high school has been replaced.

The preschool playground equipment at West Plains Elementary has been installed.

Dr. Mulford recognized the custodial and maintenance staff for their hard work over the summer. He said the buildings looked great for the start of school and many compliments from the faculty, parents, and students have been received.

Superintendent Report

The West Plains Schools Band & Colton's Steakhouse & Grill will premiere the Zizzer Burger on Friday, September 2nd. Colton's will donate a portion of the sales to the band for every Zizzer Burger sold all year long. Colton's of West Plains is the first Colton's in the country to have an item on the menu that was created based on a school district's mascot.

A SCCC MODOT student project was to create a bumper sticker/magnet for a "No Texting While Driving" Arrive Alive campaign. The magnet was chosen by MODOT and will be used around the state of Missouri.

Resignations

Vonnie Thompson – Food Service
Debbie Tripp – Lunch Room Supervisor
Melba Walker – Custodian

New Hires

Dusty Craft – HS History
Michelle Matsfield – Paraprofessional
Seth Johnson – HS Personal Finance
Penny Merriman – Paraprofessional
Ken Martin – Paraprofessional
Katie McKee – SF Nurse
Barbara Franks – Before & After School Site Coordinator
Patricia Rodriguez - Before & After School Site Coordinator
Misty Hathcock – Surgical Tech. Instructor

Next Regular Meeting

Next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20th at 5:15pm.

School board meetings are held monthly on the third Tuesday of each month at the West Plains Schools Administrative Offices, 613 W. First St., unless otherwise posted.