



West Plains Schools Board Notes

September 18th, 2012

Pledge of Allegiance- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the West Plains High School Student Council. The board congratulated Mrs. Dixie Huff and the student council for their dedication, hard work, and successes related to the 2012 West Plains High School Homecoming celebration. Homecoming was held on Friday, September 14th.

Regular Agenda

Capital Improvements Update-

Dr. Mulford gave an update of the capital improvement projects around the district.

Projects include –

1. **Roof repair at Admin** – Sealed bids were opened on Friday, September 14th, at 2:00 pm. The bid opening took place at the administration building. The district architect reviewed the credentials of the bidders and recommended the lowest bidder, Blackjack Roofing, to the School Board for approval. The board accepted the bid of \$103,459.69 from Blackjack Roofing.
2. **Thornburg Campus Phase 1** – The offices are nearly finished. Feller's Construction is currently addressing the roof repairs and from there they will finish the touch up work inside. The district expects to be able to begin moving to the new facility on Monday, October 1st.

Another grant has been submitted to the EDA for funds to help with Phases 2 & 3 of the renovation. Invensy's has provided the district with a letter of support that has been the missing piece in past applications. The district is optimistic about its chances of receiving additional funding that will allow for completion of both of the remaining phases. Without the grant, the district has the necessary funding to complete Phase 2, but Phase 3 would have to wait until additional funds are accrued or acquired.

3. **Early Childhood Special Education Building** – we are still working on an Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) grant that would allow for the purchase of a facility for this program. After receiving feedback on the initial application, it is very likely that we could be funded. The ECSE program is currently housed in the lower level of West Plains Elementary. The awarding of this grant would free up space at the existing elementary facility and provide the current ECSE program an opportunity to expand.

2012-2013 Bus Route Approval-

Each year, the state requires school boards to officially set and adopt bus routes and bus schedules for the current year. Transportation Director, Bob Pekarek, provided the school board with a list of these routes and schedules. The school board unanimously adopted all routes.

Awarding High School Credit to 8th grade students – Algebra I (1st read of policy)

Recently, K-8 schools were informed of a new MSIP 5 standard for which they will be held accountable. This standard relates to high school preparedness and End-of-Course (EOC) testing. K-8 school districts will now be required to test 8th grade students in an EOC area. As a result, our

district has been asked to consider awarding high school credit to any student who scores proficient or above on EOC testing, specifically Algebra I.

A policy has been drafted and submitted to the school board for review. The policy specifically addresses Algebra I and how students can earn credit for taking this advanced course during their 8th grade year. The policy was a first read, with a second read and approval in October should the board accept the amendment.

Resignations – All approved by the board.
Kelli Dern – Multi Media Arts

New Hires - All approved by the board.
Christy Combs – Surgical Tech Instructor
Amber Switzer – Part Time AEL Instructor (Alton)
Linda Erzinger – Part Time AEL Instructor (West Plains)
Lindsey Murphy – Paraprofessional
Cody McKee- Paraprofessional
Karylenn Zimlich- Deal – Paraprofessional
Melissa Girdley – West Plains Elementary Nurse
Amelia Sisco – West Plains Elementary Playground Supervisor
Greta Baily – Middle School Head Custodian
Mike Kramer – West Plains Elementary Custodian

Superintendent Report-

Dr. Czerwonka discussed the West Plains Elementary Watch D.O.G.S program with the board. Watch D.O.G.S. invites fathers, grandfathers, uncles, or other father figures to volunteer at least one day, all day, at their child's/student's school during the school year. The elementary recently held a kickoff event and was very successful with over 160 father figures and children in attendance.

Mrs. Dianna Locke and the *Ridgerunner* magazine staff was also recognized at the meeting. The 2011-2012 *Ridgerunner* magazine once again received first place with special merit at the American Scholastic Press Association's annual magazine contest. The annual contest is a nationally recognized student publication contest.

Next Regular Meeting

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 16th at 5:30pm
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.