



## West Plains Schools Board Notes

June 18th, 2013

**Pledge of Allegiance-** The Pledge of the Allegiance was led by district school resource officers.

### **Regular Agenda**

#### **Student Handbooks-**

The board approved student handbooks as reviewed in the month of May. Changes to the student handbooks will go into effect for the 2013-14 school year.

#### **Employee Handbooks-**

The board approved employee handbooks as read in the month of May. Changes to employee handbook will be implemented July 1, 2013.

#### **Standard Based Grade Cards-**

Dr. Brad Owings, elementary principal, presented sample of a standards based grade card to the board. A standards-based report card puts more emphasis on learning and less on comparisons among students because students are evaluated against standards rather than against each other. Dr. Owings noted that the district has worked hard to align its curriculum and instruction to state and federal standards for what children should know and be able to do and that Standards Based Report Cards are a natural evolution in this work and will help all of us work more effectively toward sustained academic improvement.

Both West Plains and South Fork Elementary buildings are considering this shift for the coming school year. The School Board will discuss this change in more detail at the next school board meeting.

#### **Fund 1 to 4 Transfer-**

The board made and approved the motion which will allow the district to make a Fund 1 to Fund 4 transfer into the capital projects fund. The exact number will be calculated when the 2012-13 fiscal year is finalized. This motion ensures the district has the capability to make the correct transfer to cover the districts needs at the conclusion of the 2012-13 fiscal year.

#### **Bus Routing Schedule –**

Dr. Smith and Mr. Pekarek have developed a schedule that would allow the district to double-route 6 buses. This will result in a decrease of 6 driver salaries and benefits (Totaling approximately \$76,000), as well as 6 less buses in operation (\$10,000-\$25,000 in savings). Furthermore, the district would be able to put off the purchase of newer buses for at least one more year (\$140,000 in savings). The double-routing system will ultimately save the district \$216,000-\$241,000 in 2013-14.

This change in routing will require West Plains Elementary to move the start time up from 8:10 am to 7:45 am. Dr. Smith surveyed parents who dropped their kids off at summer school. 66% of the parents preferred an earlier start time rather than later, with another 9% indicating that they had no preference.

The recommendation was approved by the board.

### **Ratification of MOU-Bus Drivers**

A meeting was held with the district bus drivers to negotiate the wages for the coming school year. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was presented to the board outlining the salary schedule as well as some other components related to monetary compensation. The board ratified the agreement at the board meeting.

### **Designation of Amy Ross as ESL, Homeless and Migrant Student Contact**

Each year, school districts are required to designate a school official to serve as the ESL, Homeless, and Migrant student liaison. The Board approved Amy Ross, Special Services Coordinator, to serve in this role.

### **Adopt Salary Schedules**

The West Plains school board approved the salary schedules for the 2013—14 school year. All schedules will be posted on the district website by July 1, 2013.

### **Set lunch prices for 2013-2014 school year**

Two years ago DESE set forth a mandate that requires school districts to increase breakfast and lunch prices gradually each year until they equal the rate of federal meal reimbursement amount. The following is a list of prices set by the school board for the 2013-2014 school year:

Student Full-Pay Breakfast Price: \$1.75

Student Full-Pay Lunch Price: \$2.50

Student Reduced Rate Breakfast: \$0.30

Student Reduced Rate Lunch: \$0.40

Adult Breakfast: \$2.00

Adult Lunch: \$3.00

### **Resignations**

Jeremy Whittingham – HS Special Ed.

Jim Henry – HS Custodian

Seth Bryant – MS Assistant Principal

### **New Hires**

Becky Wernsing – Part-time LPN

JJ Corman – Part-time LPN

Len Jones – Paraprofessional.

Sarah Cobb – Elementary Teacher

**Superintendent Report-** The Superintendent report provides an opportunity for the Board of Education to be updated on various educational topics and items of interest to West Plains Schools.

The Springfield News-Leader has named Andi Haney as their female Athlete of the Year. Haney, who graduated with honors from West Plains High School this spring, finished her career as the leading scorer in school history and led the Lady Zizzers to another appearance in the Missouri state playoffs. The award combines athletic achievement with community involvement and academics. Haney will play collegiately this fall at Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas.

West Plains Elementary School received bronze level recognition as a high achiever in School-wide Positive Behavior Support (SW-PBS) implementation. SW-PBS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools by structuring the learning environment to support the academic and social success of all students. The process supports the adoption and long-term

implementation of efficient and effective discipline throughout the school environment. SW-PBS methods are research-based, proven to significantly reduce the occurrence of problem behaviors in schools, and supported by a three-tiered model.

Voting is underway for the Ozarks Sports Zone "1 Awards". West Plains High School athletes Andi Haney and Courtney Cox have been nominated by the Springfield Sports Commission for the "1 Award" as the best lady basketball player of the year (Haney) and the best lady golfer of the year (Cox). Voters are encouraged to vote once per day until July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Next Regular Meeting-**

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm

*School board meetings are held monthly on the third Tuesday of each month at the West Plains School of Education Office, 305 Valley View Drive, unless otherwise posted.*