



West Plains Schools Board Update September 16, 2014

Pledge of Allegiance- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by South Fork Elementary students.

Regular Agenda

SCCC Accreditation Process-

The technical education accreditation team from the Council Occupational Education (COE) visited this week. On Tuesday the team began reviewing documents and meeting with instructors. A successful exit interview was conducted this morning. It is anticipated the accreditation will be made official at the November board meeting.

Academic Update – Annual Performance Report (APR)

Missouri's Top 10 by 20 plan holds as a primary goal that all students will graduate high school college and career-ready. To measure progress toward this goal and to distinguish among school and district performance, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education computes an Annual Performance Report (APR) score for each Local Education Agency (LEA) and school. This overall score is comprised of scores for each of the fifth version of the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP 5) Performance Standards (1) academic achievement (2) subgroup achievement (3) high school readiness (K-8 districts) or college and career readiness (K-12 districts), (4) attendance rate and (5) graduation rate (K-12 districts). Three distinct metrics focusing on status, progress, and growth (where applicable) are used to calculate a comprehensive score used to determine the accreditation level of a school district.

The West Plains School District is proud to announce, once again, that it has received the required percentage of points (92.5%) on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's 2014 Performance Report (APR) to receive full accreditation. Districts that receive 70% or better are considered accredited. The district received all of the 56 possible points for the areas of academic achievement in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Further, the district received all of the 30 possible points for graduation rate.

The district did not score as well as it would have liked in the areas of Attendance, receiving 6 out of 10 possible points, and College and Career Readiness, 25.5 of the 30 points. The district is focusing progress efforts on the areas of college and career readiness exams, advanced placement course participation, and improved attendance. Dr. Williams believes student learning depends on more than the value of textbooks and programs alone. Success comes from a combination of student motivation, parent participation, and high-quality instruction in the classroom. Our teachers are top-notch and understand the goal of learning is to provide high level skills needed to foster college and career readiness, which is a paradigm shift from our traditional focus on academics alone. Nowhere does the quality of education exceed the quality of teachers. We are truly blessed and thankful for our faculty, staff, and community.

2014-2015 Bus Route Approval-

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

Alternative School Logo Approval -

Last month, the board was shown a preliminary name and design for the district alternative school. The board has adopted the name change of Zizzer PRIDE Learning Academy. PRIDE is an acronym which stands for: Pride, Responsibility, Integrity, Determination, and Excellence. The board unanimously approved the recommendation. The Zizzer Pride Learning Academy will move from its current Howell Street location to the Jackson Street facility once minor renovations have been made. The move is tentatively scheduled for mid-October.



SCCC Open House, September 22nd 3:00pm

Beginning at the 3:00p.m. on Monday, September 22nd an official ribbon cutting with the West Plains Chamber of Commerce will be held. In addition, tours will be provided as well as refreshments. All are invited to attend.

Amendment 3 Board Resolution-

The West Plains Board of Education has adopted a resolution opposing Amendment 3. This issue will be on the ballot for November and will change the face of public education, taking away local control of our schools. The board unanimously approved the resolution. The resolution language can be found at the district website www.zizzers.org

Homecoming Parade, October 16th at 1:00pm, Game October 17th at 7:00pm

The 2014 Homecoming parade will be held on Thursday, October 16th at 1:00pm. The Homecoming game will be held on Friday, October 17th at 7:00pm with the dance to follow. School will not be session on Friday, October 17th. The Homecoming theme is “Humble the Hounds.”

Gifted Handbook Approval-

As with all building and district handbooks, the district’s Gifted Handbook requires annual board approval. The board approved the gifted handbook as presented and the changes will be implemented as of September 16, 2014.

Resignations

Sara Sydow – HS Secretary

Jill Lawson – Paraprofessional

New Hires

Vickie Free –Paraprofessional

Brandon Vandiver – Custodian

Jeff Holland - Custodian

Next Regular Meeting-

The next board meeting is scheduled for October 21st, 2014 at 5:00pm

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.