



West Plains Schools Board Update November 17, 2015

Pledge of Allegiance- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by West Plains High School students representing the boys swim team, senior football players and the boys and girls cross country teams.

Regular Agenda

Missouri School Board Association (MSBA) Policy Updates

The Missouri School Board's Association recommended several policy updates for the board's consideration at last month's board meeting. All updates were recommended to the board and approved.

Health Insurance Renewal

The district health insurance policy is up for renewal. At the end of October, the Salary & Benefits committee made the decision to change the district health care provider to Missouri Educators United Health Plan (MEUHP). The committee cited better plans, affordability, additional plan options, and increased stability as reasons for the change. MEUHP will provide 4 plan options to school district employees which includes HMO, PPO and HSA plans. The open enrollment process is underway and coverage will begin January 1, 2016.

2015 Annual Audit Review

Bill Wood from Shultz, Wood, & Rapp presented the findings of the annual district audit to the School Board. Mr. Wood reported that the district remains in compliance with the state budgeting and finance requirements. The board voted to approve the audit. All Missouri school districts are required to have an independent audit conducted each year.

Missouri School Board Association (MSBA) Medicaid Direct Services Consortium

Dr. Smith requested the board approve the district's participation in the MSBA Medicaid Direct Services Consortium. MSBA will handle billing for all direct services provided by the district. Dr. Smith indicated by using the services of MSBA the district can expect to see a greater amount of revenue reimbursed to the district. The board approved the recommendation.

Great Ozarks Center for Advanced Technology Grant Award

Jim Laughary shared with the news of a \$225,746 grant award in partnership with the City of West Plains and MSU-West Plains from the Delta Regional Authority for the renovation of the Howell Street building for the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center initiative, now named "Greater Ozarks Center for Advanced Technology" (GOCAT). The programs will be offered by Missouri State University-West Plains utilizing contracted instruction from South Central Career Center. Missouri State University-West Plains has received approval for degrees and certificates in Manufacturing, Alternative Energy, Technology Management, and General Technology. The partners hope to enroll the first students in 2016.

Board Candidate Filing Dates - Dec. 15, 2015 - Jan. 19, 2016

Board candidate election filing opens 8:00 a.m. on December 15th and runs through 5:00 p.m. January 19th, 2016. Cindy Tyree and Sam Riggs are in their final year of a three year term. Both seats will be up for election in April.

New Hires

Matthew Orchard - Elementary Assistant Principal

Matthew Asher - Paraprofessional

Sara Sydow - Paraprofessional

Sunshine Gorskey - Paraprofessional

Kimberly Wade - Special Services Secretary

Retirements

Janey Hale - High School Art Teacher

Janet Rackley - High School Social Studies

Jennie Whisnant - Zizzer Pride Learning Academy Instructor

Joni Joice - High School Librarian

Sara Turnbull - Zizzer Pride Learning Academy Instructor

Kelly Jones - Data Process Coordinator

Karen Vaughn - Data Process Coordinator

The next board meeting is scheduled for December 15th, 2015 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.