



## **West Plains Schools Board Update**

January 19th, 2016

**Pledge of Allegiance-** Due to the inclement weather, our middle school basketball teams were not able to attend. As such, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Scott Smith, West Plains School District Assistant Superintendent of Special Services and Transportation.

### **Regular Agenda**

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

Board candidate election filing opened at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 15th, and ran through 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 19th, 2016. Cindy Tyree and Sam Riggs are in their final year of a three year term. Both board members filed for another term and were unopposed. As a result, no election will be required and Mrs. Tyree and Mr. Riggs will be sworn in for another term during the April board meeting.

#### **2016-2017 High School Course Offerings - 2nd Read & Approval**

Each year, the West Plains School Board is presented with a list of high school course offerings for the coming year. The school board approved the high school course catalog for the 2016-2017 school year. The course catalog will soon be available to students and parents online at [www.zizzers.org](http://www.zizzers.org)

#### **2016 - 2017 School Calendar - 2nd Read & Approval**

The board unanimously voted to approve the 2016-2017 school calendar. The proposed calendar is very similar to the current year calendar using corresponding dates with the following exceptions:

- The start date has been moved back one week to August 18th, 2016
- Spring break has been moved to the last week of March in 2017
- 8th grade promotion and senior graduation have been moved to the week before school dismisses.

The calendar can be found online at [www.zizzers.org](http://www.zizzers.org) under Quick Links.

#### **Building Level Strategic Plans - 1st Read**

Building level administrators have been working to develop an action plan specific to their building that aligns to the district strategic plan created last year. Dr. Mulford presented a draft of each building's strategic plan to the board. The board will be asked to approve the strategic plans at the February board meeting.

#### **Foster Care Liaison Designation, Mrs. Amy Ross**

Each year, school districts are required to designate a foster care liaison. The board designated Amy Ross to serve in this capacity for our district.

#### **New Hires for 2016-17**

Elaina Martin – Kindergarten, West Plains Elementary  
Thomas Cooper – Project Lead the Way – Engineering, WPHS/WPMS  
Dr. Greg Carter – Library Media/Technology Specialist, West Plains Elementary  
Sonya Jones – Art, West Plains High School

#### **Resignations**

Lavada Mann (Retiring after 40+ years teaching) – 6<sup>th</sup> grade science, West Plains Middle School

#### **Transfers**

Michelle Henderson – From HS Science to 8<sup>th</sup> grade science  
Heather Mulford – From middle school computer science to Library Media/Technology Specialist at West Plains High School

### **Superintendent Contract**

The West Plains School District Board of Education voted to extend Dr. John Mulford's contract as Superintendent through June of 2019. The unanimous decision came as part of the West Plains School Board's annual review of the superintendent. Dr. Mulford is completing his third year as superintendent and has received high marks from the School Board regarding his contribution to the district. Dr. Mulford has been with the district since 2002 and began his tenure as a teacher, transitioning to a building level administrator, and later as assistant superintendent. Dr. Mulford began his role as superintendent in 2013.

The unanimous vote by the Board to extend Dr. Mulford's contract demonstrates their trust and belief in his leadership. West Plains School Board President Jim Thompson said, "The Board of Education set high expectations for our new superintendent. Dr. Mulford puts in long hours and works hard. He has a gentle but firm leadership style to which our faculty and staff have responded well. His planning and decision making consistently demonstrates that West Plains School District students and our community is the highest priority in his professional life. The Board was unanimous in our desire to continue working with Dr. Mulford to lead West Plains School District in a positive direction."

The next board meeting is scheduled for February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 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.*