



West Plains Schools Board Update

December 20th, 2016

Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the West Plains High School Cross Country Team. The boys team finished 9th in the State and the Girls finished 12th, both in Class 4. Both cross country programs hold the Missouri state record for the most consecutive appearances at the state meet.

Board Candidate Filing Dates - December 13th, 2016 - January, 17th 2017

Board candidate election filing opened at 8:00 a.m. on December 13, 2016, and runs through 5:00 p.m. January 17, 2017. Elizabeth Grisham, Courtney Beykirch and Lee Freeman are in their final year of a three year term. Dr. Mulford expressed his desire for all three current members to pursue another term.

Annual Liability Insurance Renewal -

The district is currently a member of the Missouri United School Insurance Council (M.U.S.I.C.), a self-funded insurance consortium for public schools in Missouri. The district received an annual renewal proposal for the amount of \$265,624 for 2017. This is a reduction in premium of \$3,648 over the previous year as a result of low claims. The district administration has been pleased with M.U.S.I.C. and recommended that the renewal be accepted. The school board unanimously approved this recommendation.

Approval of Bus Bids

The district recently solicited bids to purchase buses for the 2017-18 school year. Three companies placed bids and the results are as follows: Thomas Buses, \$89,426 ea.; International Buses, \$93,068 ea.; Bluebird Buses, \$95,974 ea. The district has established a purchasing model through a rotational seven-year lease buying program. Due to the competitive bid placed by Thomas, Dr. Scott Smith recommended purchasing 8 new buses for the 2017-18 school year. The school board unanimously approved this request. The district will now solicit lease proposals from local financial institutions. The seven-year lease payment is projected to be around \$115,000 each year.

2017 - 2018 High School Course Offerings - 1st Read

Each year, the school board reviews and approves the course offerings for West Plains High School. The primary changes consist of adding more Project Lead The Way (PLTW) courses and an internship program. The board conducted a first read of the 2017-2018 course offerings for West Plains High School and is scheduled to approve the list at the next meeting.

Zizzer Center for Advanced Professional Studies (Z-Caps)

Mr. Randolph presented to the board a proposed internship program called Zizzer Center for Advanced Professional Studies (Z-Caps) to be piloted during the 2017-2018 school year. The program will be a partnership with local industry to provide internship opportunities for high school juniors and seniors. The primary goals of this program will be to provide students an avenue through which they can "test-drive" careers while developing a pipeline for our local workforce.

Budget Update

The board approved some amendments to the current budget. The revision reflects updated revenue and expenditure projections, closing the gap by approximately \$133,000 as a result of increased average daily attendance. The school board unanimously approved the budget revisions.

MSBA Policy Updates, 1st Read

MSBA has provided the district with some additional policy recommendations that align to legislative changes. The board will review the policy recommendations and approve at the January board meeting.

Hires:

Leslie Murray - High School Nurse

Kelsey Ragsdale - Teacher

Jessie Tilson - Custodian

Resignations (effective at the end of the school year):

Michael Hess - High School Science Teacher (retirement)

Mollie Botkin - High School Science Teacher

Shyla Simpson - South Fork Special Education Teacher

The next board meeting is scheduled for January 17th, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

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.