



**West Plains R-VII School District  
Board of Education Update  
December 19, 2023  
Regular Session Meeting  
West Plains High School Library**

**Open Session & Student/Staff Spotlight**

- President Jim Thompson called the meeting to order.
- The West Plains R-VII School District Board of Education led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Activities Director Dr. Cooley featured the fall activities during the student and staff spotlight.



**Consent Agenda**

- Before approving previous board meeting minutes, the board approved the monthly financial report, resignations, employment, transfers, program evaluations, and a request for payment to MUSIC Property Insurance and Workmans' Comp Bill. (The board approved 6-0-1; Thompson abstained)

**Regular Agenda**

- The payment of the monthly bills was approved. (The board approved 6-0-1; Purgason abstained)
- The payment of the BURO bill was approved.(The board approved 6-0-1; Grigsby abstained)

**Previous Business**

- CSIP Update (CSIP 4.1) - Strategy 4 - Early Childhood - Dr. Ross presented the information.

## **New Business**

- Approval of 2022-23 Audit Report (CSIP S1 AP1; S3 AP1 & AP2; S5 AP 2 & AP3) - The auditor provided a brief report concerning last year's audit. (The board approved 7-0).
- 2024-2025 Calendar - 1st Read (CSIP S5 AP1) - Presented by Mr. Orchard
- Review Emergency Operations Plan - Presented by Mr. Orchard.
- 2024-2025 WP R-VII Tuition Rate - 1st Read (CSIP S7 AP1) - Presented by Dr. Davis.
  - Based on the current enrollment, the rate is expected to increase by 2.9607%. The final numbers will be calculated after the end of the semester. This must be approved before February 1st this year.
- 2024-2025 SMTI Tuition Rate - 1st Read (CSIP S7 AP1) - Presented by Dr. Cotter & Dr. Davis.
  - The rate will be increased by the same percentage as the high school tuition rate. The SMTI has not had an increase in over 10 years.
- Declare PEERS Positions as Critical Shortage Areas (CSIP S3 AP2) - (The board approved 7-0).
  - Parents As Teachers was declared a critical shortage area.

## **Updates/Reports to the Board of Education**

Administrators reported on current events, projects, and plans in their respective buildings or departments.

- Building Level Reports - SFES, SMTI, WPMS, WPHS, & ZPA (CSIP S5 AP1) - Dr. Huddleston, Dr. Cotter, Dr. Miller, Mr. Smith & Mr. Samoza.
- Teaching & Learning Report (CSIP S6: AP1 & AP5) - Tiffany Young
- Facility, Security, and Capital Projects Report (CSIP S1 AP1) - Matthew Orchard.
- Federal Programs and Special Education Report (CSIP S7 AP 1 & 3) - Dr. Ross
- Superintendent's Report (CSIP S1 AP 1; S3 AP1 & AP2; S5 AP 2 & AP3) - Dr. Davis
  - Tuition Grant Update
    - \$74,000 of \$87,000 has been dispersed as of 12/15
    - 176 college hours have been reimbursed
    - This funding ends June 2024
  - Tax collections will soon start arriving.
  - District closed 12/22, 12/25, and 1/1.
  - School resumes Wednesday, January 3rd.
  - Dr. Davis discussed the possibility of a student representative on the school board. This is a program that some schools in the state currently have. The board instructed Dr. Davis to proceed with this program. The

selection will take place during the spring semester, and the student will start in August 2024.

- Dr. Davis provided an update for the 2024-25 Budget.
  - New/Additional staff requests were due December 1.
  - Facility requests are due February 1.
    - Some items he mentioned in consideration are as follows:
      - Secured entrance at ZPA
      - Roof replacements on two transportation buildings
      - Paint transportation buildings
      - Paint maintenance building
      - Continued parking lot sealing rotation
      - Replacement of locks on all trailers
      - Replacement of fuel tanks
      - Replacement of school cars
  - Continued focus on Retention and Recruitment of staff
    - Continue to push for medical insurance % increase
    - Looking into the correct teacher salary placement step
    - Looking into tiered coach/sponsor pay scales
  - Financial Planning Considering Safety and Security
  - Financial considerations needed for Literacy - such as programs, people, and processes needed to keep growth moving forward
- Dr. Davis reminded the Board of Education that board filing ends December 26th.
- Below is the attendance report and enrollment figures:

2023-2024 Attendance										
	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
<b>SFES</b>										
PK - SF	91.76%	92.90%	95.09%	92.32%						
3rd - SF	97.77%	92.90%	95.68%	95.41%						
1st - SF	97.67%	94.87%	94.41%	95.52%						
2nd - SF	97.40%	97.55%	95.67%	96.55%						
3rd - SF	93.66%	95.52%	95.15%	92.38%						
4th - SF	97.98%	94.78%	95.89%	95.27%						
5th - SF	97.88%	96.51%	93.17%	97.02%						
6th - SF	96.53%	95.97%	96.00%	96.64%						
2023-2024 SFES Attendance	96.74%	94.98%	95.10%	95.30%						
2022-2023 SFES Attendance	95.53%	93.47%	94.65%	93.99%	94.43%	94.21%	94.00%	93.57%	95.40%	94.99%
2021-2022 SFES Attendance	94.82%	93.64%	95.72%	95.82%	96.57%	91.74%	95.92%	92.71%	95.27%	95.10%
<b>WPES</b>										
PK - WPES	93.53%	89.40%	88.36%	88.32%						
3rd - WPES	96.06%	92.83%	91.99%	91.88%						
1st - WPES	97.49%	94.51%	92.96%	93.46%						
2nd - WPES	96.40%	93.15%	92.37%	93.71%						
3rd - WPES	97.34%	93.26%	94.20%	94.19%						
4th - WPES	97.00%	94.01%	93.10%	93.22%						
2023-2024 WPES Attendance	96.71%	93.49%	92.89%	93.15%						
2022-2023 WPES Attendance	94.71%	92.18%	90.62%	90.29%	91.86%	93.58%	93.21%	91.92%	93.40%	91.57%
2021-2022 WPES Attendance	95.69%	92.56%	92.50%	91.22%	90.51%	89.32%	93.44%	92.91%	91.04%	90.58%
<b>WPMS</b>										
5th - WPMS	96.83%	94.11%	93.27%	93.22%						
6th - WPMS	95.13%	91.44%	92.04%	91.97%						
7th - WPMS	93.42%	90.89%	91.78%	91.12%						
8th - WPMS	93.32%	90.56%	90.81%	90.56%						
2023-2024 WPMS Attendance	95.92%	91.52%	91.97%	91.72%						
2022-2023 WPMS Attendance	95.37%	92.08%	91.73%	88.25%	91.49%	93.39%	90.91%	90.98%	92.43%	93.45%
2021-2022 WPMS Attendance	95.46%	92.81%	92.03%	88.55%	91.03%	89.70%	91.67%	91.75%	90.57%	90.69%
<b>WPHS</b>										
9th - WPHS	92.40%	88.89%	87.45%	88.83%						
10th - WPHS	93.27%	91.41%	91.73%	90.21%						
11th - WPHS	94.84%	91.67%	91.37%	91.62%						
12th - WPHS	95.13%	91.48%	92.77%	92.13%						
2023-2024 WPHS Attendance	93.48%	90.73%	90.59%	90.52%						
2022-2023 WPHS Attendance	94.88%	92.44%	91.34%	90.02%	91.62%	92.64%	91.06%	91.24%	90.69%	91.25%
2021-2022 WPHS Attendance	95.88%	92.04%	91.83%	89.53%	89.82%	87.24%	91.77%	91.61%	91.20%	92.82%

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2023-24 Enrollment											
Current Year vs Compared to Previous Years											
	First Day	31-Aug	30-Sep	31-Oct	30-Nov	31-Dec	31-Jan	29-Feb	31-Mar	30-Apr	Last Day
<b>SPES</b>											
PK - SP	36	16	15	30	17						
Kind - SP	55	55	54	54	54						
1st - SP	29	50	51	51	50						
2nd - SP	19	19	20	20	20						
3rd - SP	16	17	16	16	16						
4th - SP	27	27	27	27	27						
5th - SP	23	22	23	25	25						
6th - SP	17	17	17	18	19						
2023-2024 SPES Enrollment	280	282	282	287	291						
Free/Reduced Percentage		53.20%	56.82%	57.75%	57.06%						
SPED Percentage		14.28%	15.30%	15.50%	15.18%						
2023-2024 SPES Enrollment	280	282	282	287	291						
2022-2023 SPES Enrollment	284	298	299	298	281	163	166	163	183	182	181
2021-2022 SPES Enrollment	254	257	252	253	254	148	149	147	148	149	148
2020-2021 SPES Enrollment	234	235	232	233	231	122	122	122	122	122	121
<b>WPMS (HC Not Included)</b>											
PK - WPMS	71	66	38	74	72						
Kind - WPMS	104	104	104	101	105						
1st - WPMS	144	144	141	140	140						
2nd - WPMS	101	100	100	99	100						
3rd - WPMS	104	102	104	104	101						
4th - WPMS	101	102	101	100	101						
2023-2024 WPMS Enrollment	287	296	298	296	298						
Free/Reduced Percentage		57.85%	66.67%	67.66%	71.17%						
SPED Percentage		14.95%	14.87%	14.72%	14.98%						
2023-2024 WPMS Enrollment	287	296	298	296	298						
2022-2023 WPMS Enrollment	290	296	299	291	281	204	200	204	201	204	206
2021-2022 WPMS Enrollment	271	268	264	271	274	206	200	204	202	202	205
2020-2021 WPMS Enrollment	236	231	229	235	238	160	164	161	161	166	167
<b>WPMS</b>											
11h - WPMS	128	127	125	125	125						
8h - WPMS	145	145	142	145	142						
7h - WPMS	142	144	142	142	141						
6h - WPMS	150	152	152	152	152						
2023-2024 WPMS Enrollment	565	568	561	564	561						
Free/Reduced Percentage		49.22%	57.54%	58.85%	59.71%						
SPED Percentage		18.88%	18.47%	18.08%	18.18%						
2023-2024 WPMS Enrollment	565	568	561	564	561						
2022-2023 WPMS Enrollment	620	621	618	618	611	610	608	608	608	608	601
2021-2022 WPMS Enrollment	628	618	630	630	600	602	602	600	610	603	603
2020-2021 WPMS Enrollment	664	664	632	624	620	621	622	622	621	620	620
<b>WPMS</b>											
9h - WPMS	452	464	466	494	481						
10h - WPMS	424	424	414	414	412						
11h - WPMS	261	254	252	250	254						
12h - WPMS	281	280	245	245	247						
2023-2024 WPMS Enrollment	1118	1116	1112	1114	1115						
Free/Reduced Percentage		28.28%	40.49%	41.23%	41.05%						
SPED Percentage		14.22%	14.32%	14.43%	14.03%						
Non-Resident Percentage		28.22%	38.88%	38.83%	39.20%						
2023-2024 WPMS Enrollment	1118	1116	1112	1114	1115						
2022-2023 WPMS Enrollment	1163	1170	1170	1157	1136	1154	1122	1120	1108	1109	1094
2021-2022 WPMS Enrollment	1166	1167	1155	1154	1144	1146	1105	1098	1100	1092	1090
2020-2021 WPMS Enrollment	1172	1164	1122	1108	1088	1087	1062	1058	1054	1053	1052
District Enrollment	2709	2640	2678	2630	2620						
District Free/Reduced Percentage		44.23%	52.37%	52.53%	54.68%						
District SPED Percentage		13.14%	15.13%	15.09%	15.03%						
District Non-Resident Percentage		18.72%	28.89%	28.82%	28.94%						
2023-2024 R-VI Enrollment	2709	2640	2644	2630	2620						
2022-2023 R-VI Enrollment	2899	2896	2878	2895	2870	2867	2842	2840	2838	2809	2809
2021-2022 R-VI Enrollment	2883	2842	2840	2844	2815	2592	2591	2594	2583	2585	2567
2020-2021 R-VI Enrollment	2725	2604	2605	2581	2564	2542	2549	2545	2532	2523	2520
2019-2020 R-VI Enrollment	2702	2607	2637	2643	2648	2648	2623	2618	2618	2618	2618
2018-2019 R-VI Enrollment	2632	2600	2608	2604	2607	2618	2598	2585	2579	2577	2577
2017-2018 R-VI Enrollment	2533	2581	2567	2539	2534	2527	2518	2510	2510	2513	2510
2016-2017 R-VI Enrollment	2464	2512	2518	2520	2511	2509	2498	2484	2494	2472	2488

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## New Hires – Board Action Required

### Non-Certified Positions

- Abigail Harris - Substitute Nurse
- Sara Kitson - Custodian
- Mackenzie Brunson - WPMS Track Coach
- Samantha Preston - Sub Custodian
- Barrett Estes - WPHS Assistant Track Coach
- Samantha Driscoll - District Payroll & Benefits Manager
- Morgan Roberts - Custodian
- Kearstin Howdeshell - Paraprofessional
- Whitney Harlan - Paraprofessional

- Michaela Lawing - Sub Nurse
- Trenton Owen - Custodian
- Sara Chapman - SMTI Receptionist/Secretary

**Transfers – Board Action Required**

- Virginia Uphaus - WPE Assistant Principal to WPE Principal
- Janet Clark-Brewer - WPHS Science to WPHS/WPMS PLTW
- Leigh Spencer - WPHS/WPMS English to WPHS Librarian
- Amy Marshall - SFE 6th Grade to WPE Assistant Principal
- Sarah Land - WPE 3rd Grade to WPE Assistant Principal
- Kara Brown - WPMS 8th Grade Math Teacher to SFE Teacher

**Volunteers - Board Action Required**

- Chris Patillo
- Ramona Talburt

**Resignations – Board Action Required**

- John Frey - WPMS Custodian (11/30/23)
- Kelly Marsh - WPMS Custodian (11/30/23)
- Kynslee Burgess - Paraprofessional (12/29/23)
- Stephanie Ashberger - WPE Teacher (End of Year)
- Jennifer Tidwell - Middle School Cheerleading
- Laura Atkins - SPED Process Coordinator (End of Year)
- Joanna Patillo - SMTI Practical Nursing Instructor (1/5/24)
- Jesse Tilson - Custodian (1/2/24)
- Heather Poindexter - Paraprofessional (2/2/24)
- Miriam Stout - SFE Special Education Teacher (12/20/23)

**Retirements - Board Action Required**

- Dianne Locke - WPHS Librarian

**Terminations - Board Action Required**

- Clayton Collins - WPHS Custodian

Next Board Meeting - Tuesday, January 16, 2024 - *The school board meetings are held monthly on the third Tuesday of each month at the West Plains High School Library unless otherwise posted.*