

West Branch Local School District Board of Education Meeting (Tuesday, December 17, 2024)*Generated by Adam J Fisher on Wednesday, December 18, 2024***Meeting was held in the West Branch High School Media Center, 14277 S. Main Street, Beloit, OH 44609****Members present**

Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

*Also present were Superintendent Micki Egli and Treasurer Adam Fisher***Meeting called to order at 5:31 PM****A. Call to Order**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call

B. Executive Session**1. 2024-166 Executive Session**

Recommend the West Branch Board of Education enter into Executive Session at 5:41 P.M. for the purpose of discussion with regard to:

- ☒ Employment of a public official
- ☐ Appointment of a public official
- ☐ Dismissal of a public official
- ☐ Discipline of a public official
- ☒ Promotion of a public official
- ☐ Demotion of a public official
- ☐ Compensation of a public official
- ☐ Investigation of chargers or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or student
- ☐ To confer with an attorney for the board of education concerning disputes involving the board that are the subject of pending or imminent court action
- ☐ To consider legal matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes
- ☒ To consider confidential information related to marketing plans, specific business strategy, or production techniques
- ☐ To consider the purchase of property for public purposes
- ☐ To consider the sale of property at competitive bidding
- ☐ To prepare for negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment
- ☐ To conduct negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment
- ☐ To discuss details relative to security arrangements and emergency response protocols or the board of education
- ☒ To consider matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes.

Action will be taken.

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Joe Courtwright.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright, Aaron Hawk

Abstain:

2. 2024-167 Return to Regular Meeting

Recommend the West Branch Board of Education exit Executive Session and return to the Regular Meeting at 6:47 P.M.

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Joe Courtwright.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright, Aaron Hawk

Abstain:

C. Agenda Approval

1. Consent Agenda Discussion

a. Mrs. Kanagy asked about a check on the Detailed Check Report:

1. Check #350755 to Trane. Mrs. Egli informed that it was for a change order on the Trane project because they originally had a chiller going where the new Wood Shop Addition was going, and had to make a change in the plans and do some extra work to put the chiller in a different place.

b. Mrs. Kanagy asked about the difference between the Choral account and the Musical account on the Cash Summary Report. Mr. Fisher explained that the difference is the different choirs that Mrs. Clay oversees, like Young and Alive, have their own account, and the musicals like Beauty and the Beast has its own account. She keeps them separate because she gets different donations and expenditures for each of her accounts and doesn't want to keep them in the same account.

c. Mrs. Egli and Mr. Fisher initiated a discussion on a request from Teacher and Wrestling coach Chris Dorris. Since we had enough girls to make a girls wrestling team, the agenda is asking for approval for a new assistant coach supplemental for two individuals that have already been approved as volunteers. Since the agenda was made public, Mr. Dorris had come to Mrs. Egli and Mr. Fisher about possibly getting a stipend for the extra work that has come as a result of being the head coach of the girls team as well as the boys team. Since the negotiated agreement does not allow for the creation of a new head coach supplemental, it was suggested that to ask for approval to take the new assistant coach supplemental and split it three ways between Mr. Dorris and the two volunteers, essentially making that position a supplemental for girls wrestling. The board agreed that would be a good idea, so the agenda item was changed to include Mr. Dorris for approval.

2. 2024-168 Approve Agenda

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer, approve the agenda for the 12/17/24 Board of Education Regular Session. If any board member wishes to move any consent agenda items to the regular agenda for further discussion, please let it be known now.

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Aaron Hawk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

D. Comments

1. Visitor's Comments - None
2. WBEA Comments - The WBEA representative thanked the board for the Nacho Bar lunch.
3. WBCEA Comments - The WBCEA representative wished the board a Merry Christmas.
4. Recognitions

a. Students of the Month - English - Kenzie Bonnot, Vo-Ag - Brock Boyle, Fine and Performing Arts - Alaina Schluneker, Business - Noah Baird, Social Studies - Maxine Hinchliffe, Global Language - Mason Brown, Mathematics - Ashton Clay, Health & Phys Ed - Max Cutchall, Science - Judson Weingart, Engineering Tech - Robert Libert, Work Study/CBI - Moriah Hupp, Consumer Science - Gavin Szijj

b. Elks Teenagers of the Month - November - Evan Hancock and Gracie Leask; December - Carson Graham and Carter Shepherd

E. Building Reports

1. Building Reports - Please see reports on Board Docs

F. Superintendent's Report

1. Monthly Updates

a. 3rd Grade Ohio State Tests - Fall ELA

1. Received results earlier this month
2. 44.92% of students tested proficient or above (compared to 42% in 2023 and 2022, 40% in 2021 and 41% in 2020)
3. 50% of students have already met the 3rd grade reading guarantee (compared to 51% in 2023, 60% in 2022 and 61% in 2021)

We are in line with our current typical West Branch achievement at the beginning of the 3rd grade school year. Administrators are conducting a deep dive item analysis to determine what standards we are consistently scoring high and/or low in.

b. Department Updates

1. TRANE: Due to safety concerns and the limited timeframe available over the Christmas break, the ELC boiler project has been delayed until spring. We want to ensure that the project is completed to the highest safety standards, and this requires more time than the holiday period allows.

2. ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT: Representative Lauren McNally has invited the 2024 Baseball Team to be recognized for winning the state championship in the House of Representatives on Wednesday December 18, 2023.

G. Consent Items

1. 2024-169 Consent Items

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer, approve the following items by consent action:

Treasurer's Consent Items

1. Minutes
 1. November 21, 2024 Work Session
 2. November 21, 2024 Regular Meeting
2. Financial Reports
 1. Cash Summary Report November 2024
 2. Cash Reconciliation November 2024
 3. Monthly Investment Statement November 2024
 4. SM2M Report November 2024
 5. Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources November 2024
 6. Detailed Check Register November 2024
 7. Appropriation Summary Report November 2024
3. Dominic Panezott Scholarship Fund
 1. Create Trust and Agency Fund 007, Special Cost Center 9967 for the purpose of recording income and expenses of the Dominic Panezott Scholarship.
4. Accounts Payable
 1. Pay ESC of East Central Ohio \$109,688.80 for invoices from February 2024 thru August 2024
 1. These invoices are accumulated and paid twice a year when we receive money from the state for this program. We pay the exact amount received from the state.
5. Gifts and Donations
 1. Reading Church of the Brethren - \$1,000 - Donation to National Honor Society's Share A Christmas

Superintendent' Consent Items

1. Personnel
 1. **Employment (pending certification)**
 1. Recommend approval to employ Matthew Vizzuso as a bus driver effective December 3, 2024.
 2. **Continuing Contract**
 1. Recommend approval to award a continuing contract to Alice Cartwright effective at the beginning of the 2024 - 2025 school year.
 3. **Certificated Substitutes**
 1. Recommend approval to employ the following as certificated substitutes for the 2024 - 2025 school year (pending certification):
 1. Robin Woolf - effective December 4, 2024
 4. **Classified Substitutes**
 1. Recommend approval to employ the following as classified substitutes for the 2024 - 2025 school year (pending certification):
 1. Jacob Weese - effective December 9, 2024
 5. **Student Worker**
 1. Recommend approval to employ Adam Corallo for the 2024 - 2025 school year at the approved student rate on the 2024 - 2025 on the 2024 - 2025 Substitute and Miscellaneous Rates.
 6. **Athletic Supplementals** (pending certification)

Wrestling Assistant Coach (1/3 stipend) due to new Girls Wrestling team.	Marcus Adelman
Wrestling Assistant Coach (1/3 stipend) due to new Girls Wrestling team.	Chris Dorris
Wrestling Assistant Coach (1/3 stipend) due to new Girls Wrestling team.	Luke Bardo

7. **Indoor Track**
 1. Recommend to recognize West Branch's participation in indoor track for the 2024 - 2025 school year with Bryce Ostheimer as a volunteer coach.
8. Recommend approval of professional days per attached list.

Motion by Aaron Hawk, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

H. Old Business

1. **2024-170 Technical Correction**

Recommend approval to amend the approved NEOLA policy # 7530.03 to read as policy #7540.03.

Motion by Mikki Kanagy, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

I. New Business

1. 2024-171 Construction Manager

Recommend approval to hire Ken Hoopes of CAPLEA Studio Architects to serve as the Construction Manager for renovations to the Meiter Building and construction of the Vocational Agriculture Barn.

Discussion: None

Motion by David Yaggi, second by Joe Courtwright.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

2. 2024-172 NEOLA Policy

Recommend the West Branch Board of Education adopt Policy #2265 and waive the second reading.

Discussion: None

2265 - PROTECTIONS OF INDIVIDUAL BELIEFS, AFFILIATIONS, IDEALS, OR PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL MOVEMENTS AND IDEOLOGY

The Board of Education is committed to establishing a school and work environment that supports the free exchange of ideas and allows employees and students to maintain their own beliefs, affiliations, ideals, political opinions, and ideology without fear of repercussion.

To that end, the Board will not solicit or require employees or job applicants to affirmatively ascribe to or express opinions about specific beliefs, affiliations, ideals, principles concerning political movements, or ideology. The Board shall not use statements of commitment to specific beliefs, affiliations, ideals, or principles concerning political movements or ideology as part of any evaluation criteria for employees or job applicants, or as a factor in determining an employee's career advancement, assignment, or job benefits.

Likewise, the Board shall not solicit or require current or prospective students who seek enrollment in the District to affirmatively ascribe to specific beliefs, affiliations, ideals, or principles concerning political movement or ideology, nor will the District use any statements of commitment to specific beliefs, affiliations, ideals, or principles concerning political movements or ideology to evaluate the student's academic performance.

The Board maintains its authority to take disciplinary and other types of action against employees and students who violate State and Federal laws, including anti-discrimination laws, in accordance with Board Policy, administrative guidelines, the provisions of an adopted collective bargaining agreement, and the student code of conduct where applicable.

Nothing in this policy is intended to modify or limit an educator's academic freedom, or an educator's ability to research or write publications about specific beliefs, affiliations, ideals, or principles concerning political movements, ideology, or social actions.

Motion by Joe Courtwright, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

3. 2024-173 Small Wonders Lease Agreement

Recommend approval to enter into an agreement with Small Wonders Daycare & Learning Center, LLC to lease space and operate a daycare at Knox Elementary from September 1, 2024 and ending on July 31, 2026.

Discussion: None

Motion by Aaron Hawk, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

4. 2024-174 Ohio School Boards Association Membership Renewal

Recommend the West Branch Local Schools Board of Education approve the renewal of their annual membership to the Ohio School Boards Association as well as their Legal Assistance Fund Membership for the calendar year 2025.

Discussion: None

Motion by Aaron Hawk, second by Mikki Kanagy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

5. 2024-175 AED Action Plan

Recommend approval of the AED Emergency Action Plan, as required by Ohio Revised Code 3313.717.

Discussion: None

Motion by Mikki Kanagy, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

6. 2024-176 Special Education Model Policies and Procedures

Recommend the Board adopt the Special Education Model Policies and Procedures as provided per state and federal mandates.

Discussion: None

Motion by Aaron Hawk, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

7. 2024-177 Roth 457 Option for Ohio Deferred Compensation

Recommend the approval permitting participants to make Roth 457(b) contributions to the existing Ohio Deferred Compensation 457(b) Plan.

Discussion: Mrs. Kanagy asked what this was. Mr. Fisher explained that at this time we offer the regular 457(b) plan for Ohio Deferred Compensation, and some employees had asked us to offer the Roth option as well, and that takes board approval to do so.

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Mikki Kanagy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

8. 2024-178 Board Member Compensation - Meetings

Recommend the board of education set compensation for Board Members for 2025 at \$100 per board meeting, including the county board meeting, for up to 20 meetings. (3313.12)

Discussion: None

Motion by Aaron Hawk, second by Bryan Hobbins.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

9. 2024-179 Organizational Meeting President Pro Temp

Recommend approval to elect Mikki Kanagy as President Pro Temp for the January 2, 2025 organizational meeting.

Discussion: Mr. Hobbins nominated Mrs. Kanagy and Mr. Hawk seconded the nomination.

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Aaron Hawk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

10. 2024-180 Set Organizational Meeting

Recommend the Board set the Organizational Meeting date and time for Thursday, January 2, 2025.

Time -- 4:30 p.m.

Place - West Branch High School Library

Discussion: None

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by Aaron Hawk.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

L. Adjournment

1. 2024-181 Adjourn

Recommend motion to adjourn at 7:07 P.M.

Motion by Bryan Hobbins, second by David Yaggi.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Mikki Kanagy, Aaron Hawk, Bryan Hobbins, David Yaggi, Joe Courtwright

President

Attest:

Treasurer