

**West Plains R-VII Board Meeting
June 23, 2026**

Opening Items - 5:00 PM

- Call to Order by President Tyree
- Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum - (B Mitchell absent & J Laughary attending virtually)
- Approval of Agenda - Approved 6-0
- Motion to enter into Closed Session Pursuant to Section 610.021.3 Personnel Matters and Section 610.021.17 Security Operations - Approved 6-0
- Motion to return to Open Session - Approved 6-0

Open Session - 5:30 PM

- Call to Order by President Tyree
- Pledge of Allegiance led by President Tyree

Student/Staff Spotlight

- Spring Sports Showcase - Coach Gunter brought members of the state track team to the board to be recognized for their outstanding spring achievements.



Consent Agenda - Approved 6-0

- Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)
- Approval of Monthly Finance Reports
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/e4351a40-7135-49ca-a084-8b7f835f684f>
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/d52fc94e-495b-4f83-9762-d0a8e9da8e59>
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/1508ed52-0a8b-47c4-bad1-863d23d15cbd>
- Approval of Request for employments, resignations, retirements, terminations, transfers, and volunteers of individuals as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools
 - **New Hires – Board Action Required**
 - Certified Positions
 - Kristi Aldrine - WPMS 7th Grade ELA Teacher
 - Nicole Paoella - WPES Music Education Teacher
 - Non-Certified Positions
 - Janet Brewer - WPHS Renaissance Sponsor
 - Ashley Gunter - School Nurse
 - Ashley Smith - Paraprofessional
 - Dray Henry - Paraprofessional
 - Shayla Brazeal - Paraprofessional
 - Julien Dussault - Paraprofessional
 - Alec Shrable - Paraprofessional
 - Natayla Kharitonova - Paraprofessional
 - Abigail Dutka - Paraprofessional
 - Alison Jones - WPHS Asst. Wrestling Coach
 - Cole Barton - Theater Musical Productions & Assistant Theater Director
 - Dustin Jennings - Full Time Route Driver
 - Larry Campbell - Maintenance
 - **Transfers – Board Action Required**
 - Sam Appleby - WPMS 8th Grade ELA Teacher to 7th Grade ELA Teacher
 - Kaley Wake - WPMS 6th Grade Teacher to WPMS 8th Grade ELA Teacher
 - Michaela Grannemann - Paraprofessional to WPMS 6th Grade ELA Teacher
 - Cole Barton - WPES Music Education Teacher to WPMS/WPHS Music Teacher
 - **Volunteers – Board Action Required**
 - None at this time
 - **Resignations – Board Action Required**
 - Derek Culpepper - District Maintenance (5/29/26)

- Aldrick Drennen - Custodian (6/2/26)
 - Lianna Ward - Paraprofessional (6/16/26)
 - Marc Hubbell - Paraprofessional (6/12/26)
 - Nicholas Collins - WPHS Science Teacher (6/23/26)
- **Retirements - Board Action Required**
 - None at this time
- Set Tax Rate Hearing - August 25, 2026
- Designation of Amy Ross as ESL & Migrant Contact; Matthew Orchard as Primary Safety Director; Virginia Uphaus as Foster Liaison, Primary Homeless Liaison, & Title IX Director; Michelle Miller as Secondary Homeless Liaison; Wesley Davis as Secondary Safety Director; & Tiffany Young as AI Coordinator for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Approval of CSIP Update
- Approval of PL 94-142 Child Find Public Notice for the 2026-2027 School Year
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/9f24c976-97ac-41b6-9aae-a47880dad88f>
- Approval of 2025-2026 Budget to Actual Revenues, Expenses, and Transfers
- Approval of 2026-2027 Missouri Head Start Memorandum of Understanding
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/f8b37b68-26c1-482e-9e06-fb1017bf9cd5>
- Approval of 2026-2027 Tooth Truck MOU
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/94443bcd-ce40-49f2-9342-5d030a57531a>
- Approval of 2026-2027 AMI Plan
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/4c40debc-16f8-4f8c-b671-869df05dce01>
- Approval of 2026-2027 MSBA Policy Service
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/287a984c-7a5c-450b-8dc0-37fe7302a731>

Previous Business

- Approval of 2026-2027 Non-Certified Hourly Salary Schedules (CSIP S7) - Schedules will be uploaded to website in July - Approved 6-0
- Approval of 2026-2027 Salary Schedules (CSIP S7) - Schedules will be uploaded to website in July (SLP-A, SLP, Transportation, Index, Certified Teachers, Tiered Stipend) - Approved 6-0
- Approval of 2026-2027 Budget
 - Budget Highlights
 - Expenses - \$34,439,447.08
 - Revenues - \$34,476,784.58
 - Same FY26 and FY 27 Tuition Collections

- Same TBSG as FY26 - \$591,000
- Homeless grant was not renewed (Initial 3 year grant)
- Supply budgets are reduced and based on student enrollment
- School business days are reduced
- Curriculum workdays are reduced
- Travel budgets are reduced
- Custodian supplies are increased
- Property insurance (10% increase)
- Advertising budget reduced
- Bus lane on West Side of WPHS is included
- Carpentry classes - Canopies/Pavillions at Ballpark, Tennis, WPES, and SFES
- Limited facility improvements
- Chromebook replacement has been reduced by 1/3
- Fuel budget has increased - \$175K - \$250K
- Parking Lot sealing included but we have moved to 4 year rotation
- Two buses (Expected to arrive in October)
- Tennis courts refinish (Summer 2027)
- Enrollment concerns that are affecting the district's future
 - Preschool and Kindergarten enrollment
 - The large graduation class from 2026
- 2026-2027 Budget Message Document -
<https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/de5dd831-82bb-4f2c-b0d2-e20b3a611cc2>
- 2026-2027 Budget Revenue Document -
<https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/449f1cc1-eba6-442d-9af5-7701a3aa13fa>
- 2026-2027 Budget Expenditure Document -
<https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/3fa40102-4923-462f-80fb-0b6750dbaf09>

Regular Agenda

- Payment of Bills - Approved 6-0
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/dc78bec7-f734-452f-9769-db25458d453b>
- Payment of Buro Bill - Approved 5-0-1
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/21497ea9-a3e6-4f92-a3d7-a8caf1c95742>

New Business

- Approval of Surplus Property Bids - Approved 6-0

- <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/ba162be0-067d-4b40-b11d-6e774ed93986>
- Approval of 2026-2027 Breakfast and Lunch Prices - Approved 6-0
 - <https://zizzers-org.community.highbond.com/home/document/6fc4d56b-1761-49be-b814-8e58bebaee41>

Updates & Reports to the Board

- Administrative Reports
 - Matthew Orchard
 - Mr. Matthew Orchard provided several district-wide operational and program updates, beginning with the completion of and current work being done on multiple facilities improvement projects. The track resurfacing/restriping project is complete. Various parking lot and classroom updates are currently underway.
 - Mr. Orchard also reported on damage done by multiple storms that have passed through the area this summer. Insurance claims have been filed for damage done at West Plains Elementary and various technology-related issues.
 - He also reported on the district's multi-agency emergency response training that was held on June 10, 2026 on the WPHS Campus. This training was the next step in testing and updating emergency response plans in the district. Specifically, he extended thanks to the following agencies for the resources they devoted to the preparedness training: MSBA's Center for Education Safety, Howell County Sheriff's Office, West Plains Police Department, South Howell County Ambulance, West Plains Fire Department, Howell County Emergency Management, Howell County 911, Missouri State Highway Patrol, State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), City of West Plains, City of West Plains Transportation Department, West Plains Civic Center, Staff Volunteers, and Student Volunteers.
 - Virginia Uphaus
 - Mrs. Uphaus shared that the Tooth Truck was able to see and treat all students who had signed up for dental services in April and May. This year the tooth truck completed \$68,028 in dental cleanings and fillings for the 25-26 school year. This program is beneficial to so many students in our district.
 - Mrs. Virginia Uphaus shared that on June 4th the administration team participated in two meaningful training sessions. The first part of the day was spent working with NEE (Network for Educator Effectiveness) on the evaluation process of teachers. The administrators had a great morning preparing for the upcoming school year. The afternoon session was led by Mrs. Uphaus and Mr. Orchard. This session focused on personnel and legal issues. Both training sessions were beneficial and have everyone looking forward to August.

- Finally, she reported on the Zizzer Clinic and the numbers of students that were seen in May. Although numbers were down historically, she noted that the on site case managers from BHC still saw their students throughout summer school.

Month	Medical Visits	Behavioral Visits	Total Visits
April 2026	164	50	214
May 2026	112	7	119
May 2025	205	18	239

- Superintendent Report - Wesley Davis
 - Dr. Davis began by reviewing the Summer School attendance hours. He thanked the staff and teachers for their work for summer school. He informed the school that attendance hours generated would be higher than his budget figure and that would have a positive impact on the budget next year. Below are the attendance hours based on the 2025 vs the 2026 summer school. He did mention the drastic increase in WPMS and WPHS hours. He also pointed out the reduced Kindergarten hours which he correlates to the low enrollment in Kindergarten for upcoming school year.

	2025 Hours	2026 Hours
WPES K	11,078	8,114
WPES 1	10,243	11,036
WPES 2	13,631	10,766
WPES 3	12,010	12,293
WPES 4	12,093	11,179
<i>WPES</i>	<i>59,055</i>	<i>53,388</i>
WPMS 5	8,728	11,721
WPMS 6	4,649	8,680
WPMS 7	4,643	7,804
WPMS 8	6,577	5,962
<i>WPMS</i>	<i>24,597</i>	<i>34,167</i>
WPHS 9	6,667	14,717
WPHS 10	10,803	11,923
WPHS 11	7,316	7,881
WPHS 12	5,031	6,411
<i>WPHS</i>	<i>29,817</i>	<i>40,932</i>
District	113,469	128,487
ADA Generated	108.6867816	123.0718391

- Finance Update

- Revenue for the year

- Dr. Davis mentioned that a few more things would be added including tuition from one district, bank interest, and possibly some DESE deposits.
 - Classroom Trust Fund (gambling and gaming funds)
 - \$44.5 million short in the state
 - This is coming in about \$70,000 less than expected
 - Transportation
 - 5.53% reduction came this month
 - The district's allocation should be \$675,280
 - Dr. Davis had budgeted \$650,000 budgeted
 - The district received \$640,817
 - Dr. Davis informed the board that he received an email at 3:56 today that some ECSE Funds - would either be prorated, delayed, *"as we do not have funding available to reimburse in full at this time"*

- The district did receive breakfast reimbursement for May which was approximately \$10,000 but has not received the lunch reimbursement. This could come late in June or next fiscal year. Dr. Davis commented he fears this might not be reimbursed. This is approximately \$30,000.
- Expenditures for the year
 - Several payrolls during June were processed
 - June 1: Regular Payroll
 - June 15: Regular Payroll & (Accumulated leave payout for employees leaving the district)
 - June 18: Summer School Payroll
 - June 22: July 1 Payroll
 - June 23: July 15 Payroll & June Curriculum Days
 - Finished WPES roof (split between years)
 - Three Buses (1 Special needs)
 - Finished ballpark building (split between years)
 - Insurance required BB goal repairs (not budgeted)
 - Track reseal (budgeted last year also)
 - WPHS Gym speakers (majority was donated funds)
 - MEUHP Assessment (not budgeted)
 - 2026-2027 Tuition Collections
 - Invoiced - \$4,010,428.76
 - Collected - \$3,892,156.84
 - Also collected an additional \$130,592.14 from an area district that was delinquent payment from the 2024-25 school year
 - Tuition for students in an area district from Transportation hardships
 - 2023-24 - \$115,856
 - 2024-25 - \$88,809
 - 2025-26 - \$51,524
- Additional Expenditures before the end of the fiscal year
 - P-Card charges - \$50 - 75k - Dr. Davis mentioned that several teams and clubs are at camps and out of town events during June. These charges will be paid at the end of the month.
 - He also referenced the district will try to pay all completed projects and capital project purchases before July 1 if possible.
- The district has some flexibility in transferring funds from the General Fund (Fund I) to the Capital Projects Fund (Fund IV) at the end of the year. Dr. Davis informed the school board that he felt with the district's current balance in the Fund IV account, along with the concerns of the future of state funding, he is

choosing not to do any transfers into the account this year. He reminded the school board that he placed ample funds in that account a few years ago to pay the district's debt off if that need comes up.

- Dr. Davis closed with discussing the future of the district and funding. He reminded the board that he had begun cutting spending and staff back in December. He also told them that through the reduction of staff and those spending reductions; the district should be able to put some funds into reserve for the year. He told them this would help moving into the next few years but that more needs to be done to make the district stay financially healthy.
 - Board President Tyree and other board members thanked Dr. Davis and the admin team for continuing to be conservative in spending and keeping the district financially responsible. Board Vice President Grigsby then thanked the admin team and the board for the district's commitment to keeping board paid insurance as a priority for the staff. Grigsby felt this was an important thing for our district and mentioned that he is proud that we still do this.
- **Closing**
 - Motion to adjourn - Approved 6-0
 - Next Regular Meeting - August 25th, 2026 (Regular and Tax Rate Hearing)