

Monday, December 18, 2023

White River Valley School Corporation

Regular Open Session

The White River Valley Board of School Trustees will meet in regular open session on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 7PM in Wolverine Center at White River Valley High School. The Executive Session will be held at 6PM in the Wolverine Center Conference Room. The Executive Session may need to continue following the public session, if necessary. There were 7 board members present: Mr. Brock Hostetter, Mr. Andy Davis, Mr. Joe Decker, Mr. Bruce Porter, Mrs. Cleta Shake, Mr. Jason Davidson, and Mr. Conner Hill. Also in Attendance: Mrs. Rachel Guthrie and Mr. Mitch Hobson.

OPEN SESSION BUSINESS and AGENDA ITEMS for December 18, 2023

I. Call to Order **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by board president Mr. Brock Hostetter.

II. Approve Minutes of the November 20, 2023 Public Meeting **Approve Minutes**

Mr. Conner Hill made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023 public meeting.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Jason Davidson. The motion passed 7-0.

III. Certification of the Executive Session **Cert. of Exec. Session Memorandum**
Memorandum from December 18, 2023

Mr. Andy Davis made a motion to approve the certification of executive session memorandum from December 18, 2023 executive session.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

IV. Consider Approval of Corporation Claims **Approval of Claims**
from November 17 to December 15, 2023

Mr. Jason Davidson made a motion to approve the corporate claims from November 17, 2023 to December 15, 2023.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Andy Davis. The motion passed 7-0.

V. Public Comment

Public Comment

The state statute requires that school boards hold open public comment prior to any old or news business information and vote. Mr. Hostetter runs this part of the meeting, and so, Mr. Hostetter, it is all yours.

There was no public comment during this time.

VI. Acceptance of Donation

Acceptance of Donation

1. WRV High School Agriculture Department--\$8,967.75 (Crop Sales for 23)
2. WRV High School Shooting Sports Team--\$5,000 from Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Mr. Joe Decker made a motion to accept the donations.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Bruce Porter. The motion passed 7-0.

VII. Old Business

A. Wolverine Enterprises Report

Wolverine Enterprises Report

Miss Thomas is here this evening to represent the Wolverine Enterprises in her monthly report.

B. Maintenance and Construction Report

Maintenance & Construction

We are finishing up the process of rounding together bids/quotes for our main bond projects. Last month, we brought you the MS roof and the ES roof projects. Last Friday, we accepted bids on our high school paving project that is expected to be completed this summer. Chriss Jobe is serving as a civil engineer in the process. We had 2 companies. Milestone was the lowest bid for this paving project.

Mr. Conner Hill made a motion to accept the bids from Milestone for the paving project.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Andy Davis. The motion passed 7-0.

I have a couple of requests to bring to you this evening.

1. Preventative Maintenance Agreement—WRV ES and HS

Atom Chemical Company has been involved at our ES and HS for the first year of the new equipment for testing the water running through our pipe systems. Scott Stenftenagel recommended that we continue that testing through a preventative maintenance agreement with them. I have the quote in your board packet, but I believe that this is part of taking care of our new equipment. I would recommend that we continue with this process at both the elementary school and the high school. The cost is \$145 per month at the elementary and \$145 per month at the high school. The contract will need to be renewed annually.

Mr. Joe Decker made a motion to approve the contracts with Atom Chemical Company.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

2. Cafeteria Line at WRV HS

As I told you earlier in the fall, Mrs. Wiggington would like to update her serving line equipment at the high school. I had her go out and take bids on the project. She has completed that process through the gathering of bids and meeting with kitchen equipment companies. Remember, she has to spend down the money in her accounts as the State Board of Accounts has rules/regulations regarding cafeteria funds in Indiana.

All of the quotes were put into your board packets. I would like to give you a month to look over the quotes. I will come back in the January public meeting and ask for questions and then approval on her projects. She would like to have the work done over the Summer months in 2024.

VIII. New Business

**A. Property/Workman's Comp/CyberSecurity
Insurance Contract for 2024**

Insurance Contract

December is also the month that we work with our Property, Auto, Workman's Compensation and CyberSecurity insurance providers. We have successfully been in a cooperative with 86 other school systems across the state, called ESCRFT. Being in a cooperative has gained us significant savings over the course of the last six years. Premiums are figured on a rolling loss history. I put a rundown of the premiums in your board packets. There is an increase this year of 5.8%. We have been up and down with

our history of premiums, but we still are recognizing some savings—some well over where we were before we went with the cooperative group.

It is my recommendation that we stay with ESCRFT for these services with this year's premium at \$177,000. This is an Operations Fund annual expense that we build into our budget. We need a motion to move forward.

Mr. Conner Hill made a motion to stay with ESCRFT for our 2024 contract.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Joe Decker. The motion passed 7-0.

B. Indiana Youth Survey Request

Indiana Youth Survey Request

Our students used to take the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Youth Survey. We have been contacted by Indiana University to participate in the resurrection of that survey in early 2024. There is a \$500 stipend that goes with the completion of this survey. It is completed in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 at no cost. They are offering the survey to all of our grade levels free of charge.

The survey asks about the use of various substances, risk and protective factors of substance abuse and gambling behaviors. We will get a full print-out of the district results. It has been since 2015 that we have been invited to take the survey and the principals and I feel that the information that we get from the survey is an excellent source of information to utilize when we update our mental health plans. The survey can be taken any time between January and April.

All local data will remain confidential unless the district provides an express written consent for release to a third party, which will have to come back before the Board of Education.

I would recommend that we move forward with the survey and the partnership with the Indiana University School of Public Health.

Mr. Jason Davidson made a motion to move forward with the survey and partnership with the Indiana University School of Public Health.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

C. Worthington-Jefferson Township Public
Library Board Member Recommendation

Library Board Recommendation

I have been contacted by Mrs. Andrea Fuller of the Worthington-Jefferson Township Public Library for the need to appoint a library board member here at the end of 2023.

The Board of Trustees of the library are recommending Mrs. Susan Bays. I have a letter of interest from Mrs. Bays, and it was included in your board packet for this evening.

It is my recommendation that the Board appoints Mrs. Susan Bays to the available seat replacing Brooklyn Stoner Provo.

Mrs. Clea Shake made a motion to appoint Mrs. Susan Bays as a board member to the Worthington-Jefferson Township public library board.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

D. Extra-Curricular Account Audit Recommendation

ECA Audit

The Indiana State Board of Accounts recommends taking Extra Curricular Accounts through an audit process every seven years. Our last ECA audit was conducted at the end of the 15-16 school year. Mrs. Enochs has contacted Bruce Hartman of Hartman-Williams Accounting in Bloomfield. That company did our first audit, and they are prepared to do so again. This is good sound financial practice. As you know, we have changed both ECA secretaries and athletic directors in that 7 year time span, so I would recommend to follow the SBOA guidelines and contract with Hartman-Williams to get this completed. The quote is \$5,250 and this expenditure will come from the Operations Fund.

Mr. Conner Hill made a motion to approve Hartman-Williams Accounting to conduct an ECA audit for WRV.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Jason Davidson. The motion passed 7-0.

**E. WRV Elementary School
Gymnasium Sound System**

WRV ES Gym Sound System

As I mentioned last month, I was asking for quotes regarding the replacement of the original PA system in the gym at WRV Elementary School. I wrote a grant this past summer to the Greene County Community Foundation for a portion of the costs. We have the first \$6,000 of costs covered by that grant. We have three quotes tonight for your consideration. Those were in your board packets. My recommendation is that we accept the low bid of \$17,200 from Andy Roo Sound.

Mr. Andy Davis made a motion to accept the low bid from Andy Roo Sound for the elementary gymnasium sound system.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Joe Decker. The motion passed 7-0.

F. Financial Contracts Recommendation

A. Administrators' Contract Recommendation

Admin. Contracts

We have taken care of our certified and non-certified staffs already for the 23-24 school year with both groups receiving salary and hourly increases. I am recommending that our building administrators also receive an increase. I am proposing a \$1,250 increase in base contracts for our building administrators. I am also recommending a \$627 dollar Teacher Appreciation Stipend (as was received by all highly effective teachers) for all certificated staff. They work very hard and with each being recruited last summer, I think it is important for us to reward their hard work and dedication to our district.

Mr. Joe Decker made a motion to approve the administrators increase along with the TAG stipends for all certificated staff.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

B. Teacher Appreciation Grants

TAG

The TAG grants are given each year to our certified staff members who are both highly effective and effective by state statute. This year, each highly effective certified staff member earned a \$627 TAG stipend, while each effective staff member earned \$501. This is a separate award not connected to base salary that has been legislatively designated. It has been past practice for the Board to do the same with all certificated employees.

C. Early Literacy Grants

Early Literacy Grants

This is a new grant that was implemented by the legislators in the biennium budget to recognize the work done by both teachers and instructional assistants that are working directly with our students as they learn to read. This is a brand new grant. There is no board action required with this at this time. I am just pointing it out to the board for informational purposes.

**D. Classified Employee
Stipend Recommendation**

Classified Employee Stipend

In a time when I appreciate our classified staff and the work they do for us. In honor of their work, I would like to recommend to the Board this evening that we award them with a \$300 holiday stipend. This expenditure would be money well spent to recognize the hard work that is being done in all three buildings by our non-certified staff. The cost of the stipend to the Operations Fund would be \$19,800. It's difficult

to find good workers, I'd ask that the Board would recognize the good staff that we have working for us.

Mr. Decker made a motion to approve the classified employee stipend recommendation.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Andy Davis. The motion passed 7-0.

G. Add Agenda Item

Add Agenda Item

Mr. Joe Decker made a motion to add an agenda item.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Jason Davidson. The motion passed

H. Superintendent Retirement

Superintendent Retirement

Mr. Joe Decker made a motion to rescind the retirement date for Dr. Hacker, from January 3, 2024 and accept the May 29, 2024 retirement date.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill, the motion passed 6-1, with Mr. Bruce Porter voting no.

IX. Personnel

Personnel

A. Resignations

B. FMLA Leave

1. Stephanie Watson—WRV ES Instructional Assistant

Mr. Jason Davidson made a motion to approve the FMLA leave.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

C. Hiring Recommendations

1. Jacob Graham—WRV MS Competition Robotics Coach

Mr. Conner Hill made a motion to approve Jacob Graham as the MS Robotics Coach.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Andy Davis. The motion passed 7-0.

2. Jaclyn Totten—WRV ES Competition Robotics Coach

Mr. Andy Davis made a motion to approve Jaclyn Totten as the ES Robotics Coach.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

3. Bobby Pierce—WRVSD Chief of Police

Mr. Jason Davidson made a motion to hire Bobby Pierce as the WRVSD Chief of Police.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.

4. Brittany Ingram—WRV MS School Resource Officer

Mr. Conner Hill made a motion to hire Brittany Ingram as the WRV MS school resource officer.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Jason Davidson. The motion passed 7-0.

X. Information

Information

A. WRV School Reports—Mrs. Guthrie, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Lewis

B. Next Calendar Items

1. Board Reorganization and Finance Mtg. Wednesday, January 3, 2024 5PM at WRV HS
2. Executive Session Wednesday, January 4, 2023 Following Public Reorganization
3. Superintendent's/Admin. Open Office Hours Monday, January 8, 2024 4-6:30PM
4. Regular Public Session Monday, January 15, 2024 7PM at WRV HS
5. Executive Session Monday, January 15, 2024 6PM at WRV HS
6. Winter Break—Starts at 3:10 on Wednesday, December 20-January 2, 2024. School resumes on Wednesday, January 3rd.

XI. Adjournment

Adjournment

Mr. Joe Decker made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner Hill. The motion passed 7-0.