

**West Fork Community School District Board Minutes  
Official Proceedings – January 16, 2011 – Unapproved**

The West Fork Board of Education met for its regular meeting in the Superintendent's Office in Sheffield, IA. Board President Jim Tuttle called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Board members present: Mary Schlichting, Rob Heimbuch, and Jim Tuttle. Absent: Mary Beth Sukup and Mary Ingham. Also present were Superintendent Darrin Strike, West Fork Board Secretary Lacey Weier, and High School Principal Randy Bushbaum.

Visitors: Travis Fisher

Schlichting made a motion to approve the Agenda; seconded by Heimbuch. Motion carried 3-0.

Heimbuch made a motion to approve the Minutes from the December 12, 2011 meeting; seconded by Schlichting. Motion carried 3-0.

After discussion, Heimbuch made a motion to approve the bills; seconded by Schlichting. Motion carried 3-0.

Heimbuch moved to approve the December financial statements; seconded by Schlichting. Motion carried 3-0.

English Reading and Language Arts Teachers, Amy Symens, Laura Schafer, Stacey Ubben, Nicole Bock and Sadie Siefken presented the board with some information about the curriculum that they are teaching in their classrooms and some of the tools they are using to encourage learning at a higher level. Amy Symens, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, shared about the Read About program and how it helps the students work towards a goal and achieving higher levels of reading by using reading tests and encouraging reading outside the classroom. Nicole Bock, 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, explained the Accelerated Reader program. This program helps keep the kids accountable and encourages reading. She shared that the kids are really getting excited about reading books! Sadie Siefken, 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, shared about the Reading Enrichment program set up to help students who are non-proficient in reading. They are working to boost test scores and confidence in the kids. Stacey Ubben, 9<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, shared some techniques she is using in the classroom to get the best results from her students. She has been working with them to think about thinking, reflection, goal setting. They are using literary circles and new technology to increase learning and keep the interest of the students. Laura Schafer, 10<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> grade/ 2<sup>nd</sup> chance reading teacher, talked about how great it is to be able to reach out to the kids in the second chance program and find them something to be interested in reading. She is also utilizing new technology and literary circles to get the kids excited about learning. All teachers have a positive outlook on the future and are excited to see the kids so enthused.

Heimbuch moved to approve the Open Enrollment out application for the 2012-2013 school year; seconded by Schlichting. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Strike talked about the potential voter director districts. He has been working with the University of Iowa and the AEA to complete voter director districts. After discussion, Schlichting moved to establish two multi-member director districts with two board members represented by residents of each director district and a fifth member elected at large, voters from the entire district will

vote for each director, the director districts will be established based on the 2010 census and approved by the board; seconded by Heimbuch. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Strike presented the board with information about upcoming facilities projects that need to be completed during the summer. After discussion the board elected to table the item and they set up a Special Meeting to discuss this information. The date for that meeting will be January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Sheffield Superintendents Office at 5:00 PM.

After discussion Heimbuch moved to approve the second viewing of the 500 and 600 Series Board Policies; seconded by Schlichting. Motion carried 3-0.

After discussion Schlichting moved to approve the first viewing of the 700 and 800 Series Board Policies; seconded by Heimbuch. Motion carried 3-0.

Superintendent Strike presented the board with a resignation letter from Assistant Track Coach, Dick Mulkern. The board would like to extend a thank you for all of his hard work, dedication and community support. His service to our district was greatly appreciated. Schlichting moved to accept the resignation of Assistant Track Coach Dick Mulkern; seconded by Heimbuch. Motion carried 3-0.

Principal's report was given by Mr. Bushbaum:

1. Ms. Sadie Siefken, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading/Language Arts teacher received the Golden Apple Award. She was nominated by Sydney Kingery.
2. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls basketball team won their first game against RRMR!
3. "Think First" presented by Blank's Children's Hospital will be presenting to the Elementary in Sheffield and Rockwell. The school will be placed in a drawing to win 100 bike helmets!
4. Ag in the Classroom will be taking place in the Sheffield Elementary.
5. Still waiting for ITBS results.
6. New cameras and security systems are installed and working well.

Superintendent's report was given by Mr. Strike.

1. Band Honors:
  - a. Raegan Arbegast, Lukas Wogen, Daniel Novotney, Jonah Van Horn, Ylani Guerrero will be attending Young Musicians Honor Band in Cedar Rapids on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Daniel Novotney, Jonah Van Horn, Ylani Guerrero, Cecilia Novotney, Seamus Sullivan, Madison Patten will be attending the Karl King Honor Band in Fort Dodge on January 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - c. Britta Becker and Evan Meester attended the NCIBA Honor Band at NIACC on January 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - d. Britta Becker, Celeste Staudt, and Nicole Helmers will be attending the Meistersigner Honor Band at Wartburg College on February 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>; alternates will be Matt Retz and Tyler Conlon.
2. Kindergarten teachers went to Swea City to observe MAP testing for primaries.
3. Congratulations to Max Burt, son of Eric Burt, for getting 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Pass, Punt, Kick contest out of 500,000 kids.
4. There will be an eye screening in Sheffield performed by the Sheffield Lions Club through David Dannen. This will be done in Rockwell in March.

5. February 6<sup>th</sup> will be the writing of the Fiscal Year 2013 budget at the AEA267 in Clear Lake.
6. Statewide Superintendent's Meeting January 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.
7. February 16<sup>th</sup> attending the Finance Consortium.
8. January 24<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting to discuss Facilities work in the Superintendent's office in Sheffield at 5:00PM
9. Next Board Meeting will be February 13<sup>th</sup> in the Superintendent's office in Rockwell at 5:00PM

Schlichting made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.; seconded by Heimbuch. Motion carried 3-0.

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Board President – Jim Tuttle

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Board Secretary – Lacey Weier