

BOARD BRIEF

May 8, 2018

Board members held the first preliminary determination public meeting for the aquatics center.

- Mr. Degnan opened the meeting at 7:04 pm and turned it over to David Day, Attorney, Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim. Mr. Day explained the process of the first and second preliminary determination hearings. Dr. Grate shared information and background on the need for the aquatics project and how it will benefit the district as well as what it will mean for the spaces pools occupy at the middle and high school. The current pool area of the high school will be the last phase of renovation and construction. The plan will be to operate the current pool until the project is complete in the Fall of 2020. The proposed project is a joint project with the YMCA of Greater Indianapolis with donated land from the Wheeler Family.
- Brian Tomamichel, CFO, stated that the project will not cause the tax rate to increase as other school debt will be falling off.
- The hearing was opened for public comment.
 - Andy Wheeler, property owner, shared that he is a 1968 graduate and a 3rd generation graduate of Westfield Schools. He and his family are excited to partner with the YMCA and the schools on this project and view it as a wise use of taxpayer dollars.
 - Derek Thomas, high school swim coach and Westfield Aquatics coach, thanked the Wheeler family and the school for working together on this project. It will benefit not only the students that participate in school and competitive swimming but will also benefit the entire community. He is excited that this facility could offer water safety and awareness and wellness programs that will also benefit the entire community.
 - Bill Davis, high school athletic director, thanked the Wheeler family for this generous donation and cited the example it sets for our students and entire community about generosity.
 - Many other parents thanked the Wheeler family and school board for working on this public-private partnership to offer a community pool as well as better pool facilities for the Westfield Schools students.
 - One parent asked when we will be able to see preliminary drawings of the project. It was stated that after a binding agreement is finalized we will get into the design phase and can start sharing preliminary drawings at that point.
 - Another question was asked regarding why this was not included in the referendum last year. Dr. Grate answered that based on focus group findings and other factors considered in the referendum amount it was determined that it wasn't feasible to include the pool renovation in the referendum.

- Dan Degnan closed the public hearing at 7:19 pm.

Board members met in regular session and conducted the following business:

- The Superintendent's Report included:
 - Three sixth grade students from Shannon Miller's class at Westfield Intermediate School presented research from an argumentative writing lesson on why schools should start later for adolescents. They cited many sources and studies on the need for adolescents getting more sleep and the benefits of starting school at a later time of day. Mr. Degnan thanked them for their presentation and research.
 - Dr. Grate requested the board to hold a Special Board Meeting on May 15, 2018 at 7:30 pm to conduct the second preliminary determination hearing for the aquatics center project.
- After the Personnel Report, Chris Baldwin mentioned three long time staff retiring, Jan Brill and Myrna Griffin-Molter from the intermediate school and occupational therapist, Becky Radabaugh. Chris thanked all of them for their long-time service to the district.
- 2018B High School Bond - in order for the Building Corporation, a not-for-profit Indiana Corporation, to issue tax-exempt bonds, the IRS requires that the School Board approve the Building Corporation and authorize it to issue tax-exempt bonds on behalf of the School Corporation.

The School Corporation is funding this Project through a lease financing, as it has done with other past construction/renovation projects. Lease financings are used by school corporations across Indiana in order to borrow for renovation and construction. This type of financing does not count against the School Corporation's Constitutional debt allowance.

The Westfield High School building is currently subject to a financing lease. We are amending that lease to extend the term and increase the lease rental due from the School Corporation. In exchange for the extension and increased lease rental, the Building Corporation will use the bond proceeds to make the needed improvements to the building. The increased lease rental (as shown as a maximum amount in the Eleventh Amendment to Lease) will be sufficient to pay the principal and interest due to the bondholders.

- Adopted Resolution 2018-04 reapproving the formation of Westfield High School 1996 Building Corporation
 - Adopted Resolution 2018-05 approving form of the eleventh amendment lease
- 2018 General Obligation Bond
 - Adopted Resolution 2018-06 Preliminary Bond Resolution which establishes the maximum amount to be borrowed (\$5 million); maximum term of repayment (12 years); and the maximum interest rate (5%).

- Adopted Resolution 2018-07 Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures - if the School Corporation pays any preliminary costs related to the project in advance of receiving the bond proceeds, it may want to reserve its ability to be reimbursed from bond proceeds after the closing. The Internal Revenue Service requires that a School Corporation declare its official intent to reimburse as documented in this resolution in order to reserve this ability to reimburse.
- Approved the destruction of public records per Indiana law as presented. Board approval, county approval, then state approval is required to destroy records.
- Accepted one grant received by the district:
 - Grant of \$1,000 from Wal Mart for the upcoming Back to School Workshop on August 1, 2018.
- Approved new CTE courses being offered by the high school next year. New courses must be approved by the board. These courses will generate CTE funds for the district.
- Renewed the request of Heartland Church to continue to use Carey Ridge for 2018-19 for their church services. There is a 5-year limit for a church to use school facilities. This renewal will be the start of the third year for Heartland Church.
- Approved three high school summer athletic camps. They include:
 - WHS 2018-19 Cheerleaders camp/competition at Indiana University
 - WHS 2018-19 Wrestling Team camp in Lansing, MI
 - WHS 2018 Girls Cross Country Team Camp at WHS
- Mr. Degnan opened the meeting to the audience for public comment
 - Phil Ward, music teacher at WIS, shared some feedback to the board about the WCTA's concerns about HB 1315 and urged the school board to follow the activity around this bill and to oppose it.

The preceding is not official minutes of the Board of School Trustees of Westfield Washington Schools and is provided for information purposes only.