



## BOARD BRIEF

The Washington Community High School District #308 Board of Education consists of seven members who are elected by the community to serve a four year term.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Regular Board Meeting**  
February 12 (7:00 PM)

## January 2018 Board Meeting Summary



### Highlights of Reports and Discussion Items

The following items were presented to the board:

**Visitors and Correspondence** – Meg Sutherland, Lacrosse Club Secretary, shared an update about the growing interest in Lacrosse in the Washington community and the addition of IHSA Lacrosse teams at Dunlap and Peoria Notre Dame. Parent, Beth Martinez also spoke about her student's participation in Lacrosse and the desire of other parents to have an IHSA Lacrosse team added at WCHS.

**Financial Report** – The district continues to have a strong financial standing. The [January Financial Snapshot](#) shows that revenue sources for the school are about 80 percent funded at this point in the school year, and the health trust account remains stable. Recent activity affecting school funding is the amendatory veto for Senate Bill 444, which could delay new tier funding. Currently, school districts are receiving their base minimum funding, the same amount as the previous year, hold harmless, special education and bilingual funding. However, school districts have yet to receive any new tier funding. ISBE said the new funding should start sometime this spring.

**School Calendar** – A [draft of the 2018-2019 school calendar](#) was presented to the board. A final calendar will be presented for board approval at a future meeting after it is reviewed and approved by the WEA. Key dates are as follows:

- Opening teacher institute will be conducted on August 13 followed by first day for students on August 14 to allow for a balanced number of days in each semester.
- Spring and winter breaks aligned with other Washington community school districts
- Spring break will be the last week of March.
- Winter break starts December 21 for students and will last two weeks.
- Graduation will be May 19, 2019.

**Top 10 Designation** – The board discussed changes to the Top 10 designation. The administrative team has researched how other schools denote top performers and the suggestion at this time is to use honors levels similar to a college; e.g. summa cum laude, magna cum laude, and cum laude. This change would not affect students currently working within the Top 10 designation process. The change is proposed for either current freshmen, or incoming freshman.

**Library Grant** – Thomas Gross applied for and received the School District Library Grant in the amount of \$988.50. The grant amount is based on the number of students enrolled and is intended to support the school district's library media program.

**Resignations** – Deanna Zehr resigned from the position of Department Chair, but she will continue as a counselor. Christa Heidbreder resigned as Head Volleyball Coach.



### Highlights of Action Items

The following items were approved:

**Personnel** – The Board of Education approved the following personnel changes:

**Certified Personnel:** The board approved the employment of Larry Spialek - Long-Term Sub Counselor and Randy Marchand - Long-Term Sub PE/Health Teacher.

**Non-Certified Personnel:** The board approved the employment of Joseph Wright for the position of Maintenance Specialist (HVAC).

**Leave of Absence:** The board approved a leave of absence Sean Kerwin, Teacher and Caleb Bomgarden, Tech. Assistant.

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**Security Cameras** – The board approved the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) for Washington District #308 and the WEA for the use of security cameras for the investigation of security or misconduct violations as presented.

**Trip Request** – The board approved French Teacher Nathan Sidlwell's request to host a [trip to Europe](#) in June of 2019. This trip will be the fifth trip hosted by Nathan and is available to students and parent/adult family chaperones.

**Graduation Location** – The board approved the [contract with Bradley University](#) for use of the Renaissance Coliseum for the 2019 WCHS graduation ceremony. Five Points will no longer accommodate graduating classes after this year and weather remains a variable for hosting graduation at Babcock stadium. The new venue would allow for up to 10 tickets per student and provides a consistent and comfortable venue for graduation.

**Construction Manager** – The board approved P.J. Hoerr as the Construction Manager for the projects presented in their [proposal](#).

**HVAC Controls Project** – The board approved phase 1 of the [HVAC controls conversion project](#) with Environmental Controls Solutions, Inc.

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## Links of interest



[Finance Report](#)



[December Approved Minutes](#)



[January Board Agenda](#)

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## Board of Education Members

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The information in this document is intended to be a general summary of the board meeting results and does not include all topics discussed. If there is a discrepancy between this summary and the official board meeting materials, the official documents prevail.