West Central Education District Board Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2026, 5:30 pm; WCED Offices Room 6, Melrose

Board member Quarfot called the meeting to order at 5:38 pm. Board members Rosenberger and Quarfot were present. Board members Henkelman and Pearson were absent. In accordance with the WCED Joint Powers Agreement, Superintendent Redemske was present and voting on behalf of Henkelman, and Superintendent Peschel was present and voting on behalf of Pearson. Superintendents Dingmann and Bullard were also present. Director Hoffman, Administrator Hoffarth, Supervisor Luethmers, and Business Manager Evenson were also present. Guest Heather Sage, Special Education Director intern, was also in attendance.

Rosenberger made a motion and Peschel seconded approval of the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Following a review of consent agenda items, Rosenberger moved and Peschel seconded approval of the May 11, 2026 and May 20, 2026 Meeting Minutes, May and June 2026 Treasurers' Reports and Bills Payable #25105-25134, May 2026 Budget to Actual Comparison Report, donations (including a $20,000 grant from the Paynesville Area Community Foundation to be used toward the purchase of a PAES lab in Paynesville), and personnel items. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, the Grow N' Glow Speech Contract was presented for approval. Peschel moved to approve, Rosenberger seconded. Discussion noted that this represents an outside contract with a speech-language pathologist to cover summer services, and starting with the launch of the upcoming school year, she will transition to a permanent WCED employee. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) Services Contract from MAWSECO was presented for approval. Rosenberger moved to approve, Peschel seconded. Discussion noted that following the resignation of the district's DHH teacher and an active search that yielded no applicants, administration conducted a service needs analysis. Because MAWSECO has an excess of service capacity, WCED will purchase in-person DHH services from them. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, an Education Identity and Access Management Board Resolution was introduced. Redemske moved to approve the resolution, Rosenberger seconded. The resolution designates Director Erin Hoffman as the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for the district. Roll call vote results: Redemske (voting on behalf of Henkelman)—yes, Peschel (voting on behalf of Pearson)—yes, Rosenberger—yes, Quarfot—yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, the 2026-2027 Student Handbooks were presented for approval. Rosenberger moved to approve, Redemske seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, the 2026-2027 E-Learning Plan was presented for approval. Peschel moved to approve, Redemske seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, the SAIL House Lease was presented for approval. Peschel moved to approve, Rosenberger seconded. Discussion noted that the district will continue renting the house from Grace United Church, with the lease rate increased to $6,000. Administrative updates included an upcoming visit by the fire marshal to verify that the square footage meets acceptable standards. While a formal certificate of occupancy has not previously been on file, Director Hoffman has been actively coordinating with the appropriate personnel to secure proper certification. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for mileage reimbursement for the Special Education Supervisor was presented for approval. Redemske moved to approve, Rosenberger seconded. Discussion noted that the agreement aligns mileage reimbursement terms directly with the current teacher contract language. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, the Office Manager Employee Agreement for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years was presented for approval. Rosenberger moved to approve, Redemske seconded. Discussion noted that the contract represents a total compensation package increase of 7.23% over two years, mirroring the salary increases established for teachers. Motion carried unanimously.

Under New Business, Board Policies 208, 402, 423, 521, 524, 621, 722, and 806 were presented for first reading. No action was required.

Under Old Business, Policy 721, which was tabled at the May 11, 2026 meeting, was presented for second reading and approval. Peschel moved to approve, Redemske seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Under Reports, Director Hoffman, Administrator Hoffarth, and Supervisor Luethmers shared administrative updates, and current enrollment data was reviewed.

The next meeting date and time was established for Monday, September 14, 2026, at 5:30 pm at the WCED offices in Melrose, Room 6.

Quarfot adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Clerk Scott Pearson

Date 9-14-2026