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## Pay Voucher Announcements - January 7, 2014

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Todd Fox <shsprin@southeastern337.com>

Sun, Jan 5, 2014 at 11:08 PM

### 1. Thank you.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the cards and gifts during Christmas. It was very much appreciated.

### 2. December Board Meeting Action Summary.

- Approved the agenda items as presented.
- Opened the public hearing on the 2013 Truth in Taxation Hearing at 6:01 p.m.
- Closed the public hearing on the 2013 Truth in Taxation Hearing at 6:31 p.m.
- Adopted the 2013 Tax Levy request as amended in the amount of \$2,399,768.
- Approved the minutes from the November 25, 2013 regular and closed session.
- Approved the schedule of a public hearing on Monday, January 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of public information and input into the FY2014 school district budget.
- Approved the FY2014 tentative amended budget.
- Approved the bills, financial statements, and activity funds.
- Approved the FY2015 bus lease of three 65-passenger buses and one 48-passenger bus for a term of three years (\$64,222.95 annually).
- Approved the district to reimburse the high school office activity account in the sum of \$8,559.16.
- Moved into closed session at 7:32 p.m.
- Voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

### 3. License Renewal.

Please check out this resource page on ISBE's website regarding License Renewal. The address is: <http://www.isbe.net/licensure/html/license-renewal.htm>. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### 4. FY2014 Tentative Amended Budget.

At the December 16, 2013 board meeting, the "Board of Education approved the FY2014 tentative amended budget." Steps to establish/amend a budget: Set a public hearing date, approve a tentative budget, display tentative budget for 30 days, conduct public hearing, approve budget. Why are we amending our budget? As you know, we received the maintenance grant (roof project and tuck pointing). This was a matching funds grant (the state pays half, the district pays half). In September 2013, we were required to "pay our half." At the September 2013 board meeting, the board "approved the transfer of \$78,851.93 from the operation and maintenance fund to the capital projects fund for the maintenance fund grant." We then, as required, paid our half out of the capital projects fund. The FY2014 budget did not reflect this. Therefore, I asked the board to amend the budget to accurately reflect this situation. As I am sure you can see, it does not have any bearing on our overall predicted budget deficit (taking money out of one fund and putting it into another fund). In fact, our overall predicted deficit decreased from the original budget (-\$504,341 to -\$470,397). This was due to having accurate information now that was not available to us when we had to approve the original budget.

### 5. 2014 FICA and Federal Tax Table.

The FICA percentage of 6.2% did not change for 2014. If you remember, it went from 4.2% in 2012 to 6.2% in 2013. Certified staff does not pay FICA. Certified staff pays TRS. FICA only affects non-certified staff. The 2014 Federal Tax Table is reflected in the January 7 payroll. There were minimal changes. If you have questions, when reviewing your pay voucher, please do not hesitate to contact the district office.

**6. Going Green.**

We are at the one year anniversary of the "going green" package. This allows you to receive your pay vouchers electronically through e-mail. The package cost \$499 initially with a \$100 annual fee. The advantages are time savings, money savings, and has the time clock option (which we eventually are going to be required to do). All employees utilize the "going green" option with the exception of four. If you have any problems, please contact the district office immediately.

**7. Message from Western Area Schools.**

"It has been brought to our attention that there are issues at the pharmacy with employees trying to fill prescriptions. Eligibility files are sent from Consociate to Express Scripts (ESI) overnight. In the file sent on 12/31/13, ESI translated effective dates into termination dates. We believe at this point it is affecting WAS employees changing from the \$750 deductible to the \$1,000 deductible. ESI has been advised of the concern and they have begun working on correcting the issue with Consociate. It is not corrected yet. There are two resolution for the employee at this time. The first option is to reinstate the employee manually. The employee will have to contact the customer service team at Consociate at [\(800\)798-2422](tel:8007982422) and tell them they are having an issue at the pharmacy. The second option is to pay the full price for the Rx and once the problem is resolved the pharmacy can re-process the claim and will issue a refund to the member. We did not anticipate this concern and stand ready to help in any manner." - Western Area School's.

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D. Todd Fox

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