Westfield City Council/School Board Joint Meeting February 13, 2012

The Westfield City Council and Westfield School Board met in special session Monday, February 13, 2012 at the Westfield City Hall. City Council Members present were Jim Ake, John Dippel, Steve Hoover, Bob Horkay (came in at 5:53P.M.) and Cindy Spoljaric. School Board Members present were Dennis Ells, David Mueller and Tim Siefker. Also Present were Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Teresa Skelton, Mayor Andy Cook, and Dr. Mark Keen.

Dennis Ells called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Dr. Keen introduced the school staff in attendance and after a question from Cindy Spoljeric on Budget and Tax Caps described the school's budget format.

Dave Mueller expressed his gratitude for the joint ventures that the City and School have shared. He named:

- Land
- Parks
- Fiber Optic

There was some discussion on details related to Full Day Kindergarten classes, the cost and the challenges while pushing capacity.

Mr. Mueller inquired on T.I.F. money, in particular Grand Park, and if there was an opportunity for the school to share as had been done in the past.

John Dippel referred to the recent school referendum.

Steve Hoover described the Grand Park T.I.F. money as a tool to develop infrastructure to enhance positive Economic Development.

Mayor Cook introduced city staff in attendance. He described the City's challenges while referring to the commercial base and lack of tax support. He also described Grand Park as an incentive for a broad commercial draw.

After much discussion on positive economic development, new assets and programing both the City and School want to work toward getting back to shared T.I.F. dollars.

Dennis Ells thanked the City for hosting this meeting and the open dialogue that both the School and City continue.

Mayor Cook announced how unusual and effective the two entities (school and city) working together is and wants to continue to grow that relationship.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:37P.M.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Teresa Otis Skelton

Robert L. Horkay, Council President

Not Present

Thomas W. Mullins, President

Dennis M. Ells, Vice-President

Timothy D. Siefker, Secretary

Not Present

Tim A. Gardner, Member

David K. Mueller, Member