

Lisa Nale signs contract, board must approve changes

Written by George Browning

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Borden Junior/Senior High School Principal Lisa Nale has signed a contract agreement with West Clark Schools and is expected to return to work following a 90-day suspension which will expire Oct. 6.

The only thing standing in the way is a special board meeting Thursday (Sept. 2) at 1 p.m.

West Clark Superintendent Monty Schneider said there were some changes in the wording of the contract and he want the board to see it one more time before it is official.

Should the board accept the contract, it will end a saga that began back in June when Nale was pulled over for suspicion of Operating While Intoxicated.

She later pled guilty to a charge of reckless driving.

The board decided not to terminate Nale, but did make a contract amendment with nine stipulations, some of which Nale and others in the community thought were unfair.

Nale didn't signed the contract and the two sides seemed far from an agreement, but at a special board meeting held Aug. 26, the board agreed to lighten the stipulations and make the language in the contract clearer.

The new stipulations include a 90-day suspension dating back to the day after Nale's arrest, June 25.

A zero tolerance policy through the remainder of Nale's contract, which is set to expire on June 30, 2011.

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Nale must also submit to random, drug tests and she isn't allowed to be in bars and undergo a counseling assesment.

Schneider said after the board's Aug. 12 meeting that they went through so much trouble because of the asset they feel Nale brings to the school.

"If she wasn't a great principal, we wouldn't even be talking about this," he said.