

**WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana**  
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE**  
**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**  
**May 28, 2024**

*A Tradition of Excellence: Preparing today's students for tomorrow's challenges*

*This meeting is a meeting of the School Board in public for the purpose of conducting the School Corporation's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There will be time for public participation as indicated by agenda item III.*

The Board of School Trustees of the Wa-Nee Community Schools met Monday evening, May 28, 2024, in their second meeting of the month.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. The meeting was called to order at the Wa-Nee Administration Office at 6:00 PM by School Board President Christina Eshelman.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call

On roll call by Vice-President Curt Flickinger the following members responded as present:

Christina Eshelman	Curt Flickinger	Trevor Hershberger
Shawn Johnson	Don Lehman	

Superintendent Scot Croner, Director of Curriculum Gretchen Thomas, Business Manager Jessica McFarland, and Clerk Lisa Hall were also present.

**II. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

There was none.

**III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT**

- a) Sarah Wiseman spoke in support of Wa-Nee Robotics and expressed gratitude of Jake Simons
- b) Steve Gearhart spoke in support of Wa-Nee Robotics and expressed gratitude of Jake Simons
- c) Ksandra Kenevan spoke in support of Wa-Nee Robotics and expressed gratitude of Jake Simons
- d) Keith Knepp spoke in support of Wa-Nee Robotics and expressed gratitude of Jake Simons
- e) Betsy Wenz spoke in support of Wa-Nee Robotics and expressed gratitude of Jake Simons
- f) Denny Miller spoke in support of Wa-Nee Robotics and expressed gratitude of Jake Simons
- g) Brant Nine spoke in support of Wa-Nee Robotics and expressed gratitude of Jake Simons
- h) Joy Hurst spoke in support of Wa-Nee Robotics and expressed gratitude of Jake Simons

**IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the amendments to the agenda as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 5-0.

**V. CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Consideration of the regular board minutes for May 13, 2024
- B. Consideration of the claims dated May 28, 2024
- C. Consideration of the Personnel items
  - 1. Employment (the following shall be employed upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing)
    - i. Brooke Hess, Special Ed Ass't @ WES, effective August 14, 2024
    - ii. Jake Everett, .5 Varsity Ass't Boys Basketball @ NWHS, effective May 20, 2024
    - iii. Kathy Yoder, Summer School Bus Driver, effective June 3, 2024
    - iv. Marla Yoder, Summer School Bus Driver, effective June 3, 2024
    - v. Meschelle Davidhizar, Summer School Bus Driver, effective June 3, 2024
    - vi. Dan Hertsel, Summer School Bus Driver, effective June 3, 2024
    - vii. Steve Taylor, Summer School Bus Driver, effective June 3, 2024

The next regular School Board meeting will be held on **Monday, June 10, 2024, at 6:00 PM**

This meeting will be held at the Wa-Nee Administration Office.

The Board's meeting site is fully accessible to all persons.

Any person requiring further accommodations should contact the Superintendent's office at (574) 773-3131.

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- viii. Kim Jenkins, Summer School Bus Driver, effective June 3, 2024
- ix. Allison Brown, Summer School Bus Driver, effective June 3, 2024
- x. Alicia Kemp, Summer School Bus Driver, effective June 3, 2024
- xi. Heather Campbell, Summer Custodian @ NWHS, effective June 10, 2024
- xii. Ellie Tribbey, Elementary Teacher @ WES, effective August 16, 2024
- xiii. Ana Espinoza, Summer Custodian, effective May 30, 2024
- xiv. Maddix Mullet, Summer Bus Cleaner, effective June 3, 2024
- xv. Mark Zahm, Summer Grounds, effective TBD
- xvi. Sierra Huber, Summer Bus Cleaner, effective June 3, 2024
- xvii. Courtney Grubbs, Summer Bus Cleaner, effective June 3, 2024

2. Retire/Resign/End of Employment

- i. Laura Rhoades, Specialized Instructor - Art @ NES, effective May 30, 2024
- ii. Robin Bilinski, Dept. Chair-English @ NWHS, effective May 30, 2024
- iii. Cody Vincent, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher @ WES, effective end of 2023-2024 SY
- iv. Cody Vincent, Ass't HS – B @ NWHS, effective May 16, 2024
- v. Neil Stephenson, P/T Custodian @ NWHS, effective May 17, 2024
- vi. Laura Brubaker, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher @ WV, effective May 30, 2024
- vii. Lisa Cronkright, Energy Specialist, effective July 14, 2024
- viii. Kirsten Schrock, Instructional Ass't @ NWHS, effective May 29, 2024
- ix. Christine Powers, .5 Lifeskills Teacher @ NES, effective May 30, 2024
- x. Gavin McNeeley, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies @ NWMS, effective May 22, 2025
- xi. AJ Risedorph, Head Baseball Coach @ NWHS, effective June 30, 2024
- xii. AJ Risedorph, Summer Baseball Coordinator, effective June 30, 2024
- xiii. Jake Simons, Director of Robotics, effective May 23, 2024
- xiv. Jake Simons, Summer Robotics, effective May 23, 2024
- xv. Jake Simons, Robotics Sponsor @ WV, effective May 23, 2024
- xvi. Jon Andrews, Girls Basketball Feeder Coordinator, effective June 7, 2024
- xvii. Robin Bilinski, Yearbook Advisor @ NWHS, effective EOY 2024-2025
- xviii. Robin Bilinski, Yearbook Contest/Conv. @ NWHS, effective EOY 2024-2025
- xix. Robin Bilinski, Yearbook Summer Conv. @ NWHS, effective EOY 2024-2025

3. Transfer

- i. Amanda Mehl, from .5 Lifeskills Teacher to 1.0 Lifeskills Teacher @ NES, effective 2024-25 SY
- ii. Geoff Clemans, from .5 Freshman Football Coach @ NWHS to Volunteer Coach, effective May 28, 2024

D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests

- i. Courtney Wenger, PLTW Training (Automation & Robotics), June 24-28, 2024, Virtual
- ii. Courtney Wenger, PLTW Training (Medical Detectives), July 8-12, 2024, Virtual
- iii. Mike Furfaro, Algebra Cohort Curriculum Work, May 23, 2024, NWHS
- iv. Libby Morrical, Algebra Cohort Curriculum Work, May 23, 2024, NWHS
- v. Paula Steiner, Geometry Honors Curriculum Work, May 24, 2024

E. Consideration of Grants and Donations

- i. \$278.06 donation from John Tice to be used for NWMS Riley's Children Hospital project
- ii. \$175 donation from Maple Syrup Festival to be used for NWMS Select Singers
- iii. \$500 donation from USI Insurance to be used for Teacher Appreciation Breakfast
- iv. \$10 donation from April Brown to be used for NWMS Cheer
- v. \$10 donation from Christina Hochstetler to be used for NWMS Cheer
- vi. \$13 donation from Andrea Murphy to be used for NWMS Cheer
- vii. \$15 donation from Marietta Miller to be used for NWMS Cheer

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- viii. \$20 donation from Tina Stutzman to be used for NWMS Cheer
- ix. \$20 donation from Ashley Hochstetler to be used for NWMS Cheer
- x. \$20 donation from Beth Wood to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xi. \$20 donation from Tina Stutzman to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xii. \$20 donation from Angela Downing to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xiii. \$25 donation from Jo Hochstetler to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xiv. \$25 donation from Veronica Miller to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xv. \$25 donation from Curtis Smeltzer to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xvi. \$25 donation from Valerie Martin to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xvii. \$29 donation from Angie Hochstetler to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxiii. \$30 donation from Emilee & Joel Yakym to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xix. \$30 donation from Lisa Clements to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xx. \$30 donation from Lani Homan to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxi. \$30 donation from Wayne Wyatt to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxii. \$40 donation from Sarah Carver to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxiii. \$48 donation from Arika Chilberg to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxiv. \$50 donation from Sandra Owen to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxv. \$50 donation from Greg Yoder to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxvi. \$75 donation from Twila Hughes to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxvii. \$81 donation from Rachel Sotebeer to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxviii. \$85 donation from Chad Smeltzer to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxix. \$100 donation from Jane & John Sotebeer to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxx. \$100 donation from John & Jeanie Smeltzer to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxxi. \$100 donation from Rudy & Terry Yakym to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxxii. \$100 donation from Pam & Doug Yoder to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxxiii. \$161 donation from Bianca Hochstetler to be used for NWMS Cheer
- xxxiv. \$250 donation from Doris Lewis to be used for NWMS Cheer

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the amendments to the Consent Items including the additional consent items as presented by Mrs. Eshelman.  
Vote: 5-0.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

**VII. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Approval of the Grade 6-8 Summer School Curriculum NWHS**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the Grade 6-8 Summer School Curriculum, as presented by Dr. Thomas. Vote: 5-0

**B. Approval of the NWHS Digital Marketing curriculum**

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to approve the NWHS Digital Marketing curriculum, as presented by Dr. Thomas. Vote: 5-0

**C. Approval of the permission to auction surplus school equipment**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the permission to auction surplus school equipment, as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 5-0

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D. Approval of the out of state and/or overnight travel requests for:

- NWMS 6<sup>th</sup> grade students Saugatuck Dune Rides, September 12, 2024, Saugatuck, MI

School board member Shawn Johnson made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the out of state and/or overnight travel requests as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 5-0

VIII. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

A. 2024 Budget Calendar – Jessica McFarland

B. Financial Update – Jessica McFarland

There being no further business to come to the attention of the board school board member Shawn Johnson made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to adjourn. Vote: 5-0

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christina Eshelman, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trevor Hersberger, Secretary

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