WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
November 25, 2024

A Standard 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, November 24, 2025, 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 Vice-President Don Lehman.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

On roll call by School Board Secretary Shawn Johnson the following members responded as present:

Curt Flickinger Trevor Hershberger Don Lehman
John Payne Brian Topping

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

II. SPECIAL BOARD RECOGNITION

A. 2025 Wa-Nee Christmas Card Award Winners – Ellie Holden

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT

There were none.

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and John Payne seconded the motion to approve the additions to the agendas presented by Mr. Lehman. Vote: 5-0

V. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Consideration of the regular board meeting minutes for October 27, 2025
B. Consideration of the claims dated November 24, 2025
C. Consideration of the Personnel items

1. **Employmen**t (the following shall be employed upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing)
   i. Nate Andrews, Wrestling Elementary Coordinator, effective November 1, 2025
   ii. Denny Lewis, Boys Wrestling Ass't Coach, effective November 3, 2025
   iii. Carrie O'Keefe, Boys Volleyball Head Coach @ NWHS, effective November 11, 2025
   iv. Shelly Lengacher, Temp. STEM Teacher @ NWMS, effective December 1, 2025 to March 30, 2026
   v. Megan Buels, Homebound Instructor @ NWHS, effective November 17, 2025

vi. Justin Bell, Homebound Instructor @ NWHS, effective November 17, 2025
vii. Kayla Vincent, Instructional Ass't @ WES, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
viii. Anthony Stevens, Head Custodian @ NES, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing

2. Resignation/Retirement/End of Employment

i. Jason DeMien, Wrestling Elementary Coordinator, October 27, 2025
ii. Elizabeth Morrical, Special Ed Teacher @ NWHS, effective June 1, 2026
iii. Jill Demitruk, Math Teacher @ NWHS, effective May 27, 2026
iv. Mark Mikel, Boys Head Track Coach @ NWHS, effective November 7, 2025
v. Ann Sauceda, Stage Director @ NWMS, effective October 9, 2025
vi. Lisa Norville, Head Cheer Coach @ NWHS, effective March 28, 2025
vii. Makayla Greenawalt, Special Ed Ass't @ NWHS, effective November 20, 2025
viii. Taylor Gibson, Special Ed Ass't @ WV, effective November 20, 2025

3. Transfer

i. Jacki Eby, from Bus Monitor/P/T Cafeteria to Instructional Ass't @NES, effective December 1, 2025
ii. Bill Mitschelen, from Boys Ass't Track Coach to .5 Boys Ass't Track Coach @ NWHS, effective ASAP
iii. Brian Ramer, from .5 Boys Head Track Coach to .5 Boys Ass't Track Coach @ NWHS, effective ASAP

4. Leave of Absence

i. Grace Allen, Agriculture Teacher @ NWHS, March 16 to May 27, 2026

D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests

i. John Dougherty, Heating & Cooling Control, November 19, 2025, Fishers, IN
ii. Matt Smith, Heating & Cooling Control, November 19, 2025, Fishers, IN
iii. Zach Peycha, ISSMA Marching Band State Finals Meeting, November 3, 2025, Lucas Oil Stadium
iv. Weston Lambert, ISSMA Marching Band State Finals Meeting, November 3, 2025, Lucas Oil Stadium
v. Caroline Garber, 6th Grade Choir Dress Rehearsal, November 24, 2025, NWHS
vi. Caroline Garber, 7th & 8th Grade Choir Dress Rehearsal, December 5, 2025, NWHS
vii. Hope Martin, Keys to Literacy Writing Workshop, November 14, 2025, Virtual
viii. Sarah Davies, Keys to Literacy Writing Workshop, November 14, 2025, Virtual
ix. Valerie Anglemyer, Keys to Literacy Writing Workshop, November 14, 2025, Virtual
x. Erin Haseley, Keys to Literacy Writing Workshop, November 14, 2025, Virtual
xi. Danae Sarber, Keys to Literacy Writing Workshop, November 14, 2025, Virtual
xii. Jenni Zurcher, Beable training, November 12, 2025, Wakarusa Elementary School
xiii. Lindsay London, TBRI Practitioners Collaborative Meeting, December 3, 2025, Granger Community Church
xiv. Brooklyn Freeland, Ivy Tech Dual Credit Certification, December 16, 2025, NWHS
xv. Danielle Gilbert, Keys to Literacy Writing Workshop, November 14, 2025, Virtual
xvi. Justin Bell, Principal Designee Day, November 20, 2025, NWHS
xvii. Brandi Henderson, Ivy Tech Dual Credit Certification, December 18, 2025, NWHS
xviii. Valerie Anglemyer, International Conference on Education, November 20-24, 2025, Sejong, South Korea
xix. Heather Bontrager, Elkhart County Library Collaborative Meeting, December 9, 2025, Goshen HS
xx. Jeff Cramer, Indiana All-State Honor Choir, January 16, 2026, Purdue Ft. Wayne
xxi. Brittany Harrington, IU Syllabus Update, December 18, 2025, NWHS

xxii. Mindy Valtierra, CTEA Testing, December 11, 2025, NWMS
xxiii. Kim Branham, TBRI Practitioners Meeting, December 3, 2025, Granger Community Church
xxiv. Sheila Cripe, Head Start Advisory Council, December 12, 2025, South Bend
xxv. Zach Peycha, Midwest Band& Orchestra Clinic, December 12-19, 2025, Chicago, IL
xxvi. Rikki Tobolski, IEP Writing Day, January 22, 2026, NWMS

E. Consideration of Grants and Donations
i. $1,000 donation from NorthWood Aquatics Club to be used for the Wa-Nee Swim Program
ii. $3,000 donation from Hunters Hideaway to be used for NWHS Athletics Sponsorship
iii. $500 donation from Valley Insulating Company Inc to be used for NWHS Girls Wrestling Team
iv. $200 donation from L J Wagner Home Interior to be used for NorthWood FFA
v. $200 donation from Indiana Corn Husking Association to be used for NorthWood FFA
vi. $500 donation from Brinkley RV to be used for NorthWood FFA
vii. $612 donation from Geyer Family Foundation Inc to be used for Ski Club Scholarships
viii. $200 donation from Nappanee Auto Sales to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams
ix. $100 donation from McCormick Motors to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams
x. $100 donation from Topping Dental Group to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams
xi. $100 donation from Newcomer Towing & Service to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams
xii. $800 donation from Schwartz Electric Inc to be used for NorthWood FFA
xiii. $2,307.80 donation from B & A Reed Farms to be used for NorthWood FFA
xiv. $200 donation from Dr. Weldy's Associates to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams
xv. $500 donation from Todd & Missy Cleveland to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial
xvi. $70 anonymous donations to be used for NWAA Trimester I student incentives
xvii. $20 donations from Leonard Carter to be used for NWHS Baseball – Bob Riley Memorial
xviii. $100 donations from Mike & Karen Wagner to be used for NWHS Baseball – Bob Riley Memorial
xix. $50 donations from Mark & Colleen Hochstetler and Vickie Hochstetler to be used for NWHS Baseball – Bob Riley Memorial
xx. $100 donation from Community Fiber Network to be used by NWHS Academic Teams
xxi. $500 donation from inTech to be used by NWHS Academic Teams

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the consent items plus the amended additional consent items as presented by Mr. Lehman. Vote: 5-0

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. APPROVAL TO PAY THE END OF MONTH BILLS FOR DECEMBER 2025

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and John Payne seconded the motion to approve the payment of the month end December 2025 as presented by Mr. Lehman. Vote: 5-0

B. APPROVAL OF THE WA-NEE PLAN ON A PAGE

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the Wa-Nee Plan on a Page as presented by Mr. Lehman. Vote: 5-0

C. APPROVAL OF THE WOODVIEW ELEMENTARY AND NWAA MENTORS

- Briana Wuthrich – Woodview
- John Payne – NWAA

- Patrick O'Keefe – NWAA

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the Mentors as presented by Mr. Lehman. Vote: 5-0

D. APPROVAL OF THE BCV PROPOSAL FOR ARCHITECTURE & ENGINEERING SERVICES

School board member John Payne made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the BCV Proposal for Architecture & Engineering Services as presented by Mr. Lehman. Vote: 5-0

E. APPROVAL OF THE 2025 SALE OF PROPERTY

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and John Payne seconded the motion to approve the 2025 Sale of Property as presented by Mr. Lehman. Vote: 5-0

F. APPROVAL OF THE DISPOSAL OF ATHLETIC AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION EQUIPMENT

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the disposal of Athletic and Physical Education equipment as presented by Mr. Lehman. Vote: 5-0

G. APPROVAL OF THE OUT OF STATE AND/OR OVERNIGHT TRAVEL REQUESTS FOR:
- NWHS Swimming-Girls State Prelims, February 13-14, 2026, IUPII Natatorium
- NWHS Boys' Wrestling Semi State, February 13-14, 2026, Fort Wayne Coliseum
- NWHS Boys' Wrestling State, February 19-22, 2026, Gainbridge Fieldhouse
- NWHS Swimming-Boys State Prelims, February 27-28, 2026, IUPII Natatorium
- NWHS Girls Basketball State Finals, February 27 – March 1, 2026, Gainbridge Fieldhouse
- NWHS Boys Basketball State Finals, March 27-29, 2026, Gainbridge Fieldhouse
- NWHS Boys Basketball, Richmond High School, December 29-30, 2025, Richmond, IN
- NWMS Choir Students to IMEA All-State Honor Choir, December 15-16, 2025, Ft Wayne, IN
- NWHS Choir Students to IMEA All-State Honor Choir, January 16-17, 2026, Purdue Ft Wayne

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and John Payne seconded the motion to approve the out-of-state and/or overnight travel requests as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 5-0

VII. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

i. Financial Updates – Jessica McFarland
ii. Recommended Changes Board Policy 2430.01 - NON-SCHOOL STUDENTS INVOLVEMENT IN ACTIVITIES

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more items to come to the attention of the board, school board member Trevor Hershberger made, and John Payne supported the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Vote: 5-0

SIGNED: _____

Christina Eshelman, President

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Trevor Hershberger, Secretary