WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
August 10, 2026

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.

LINK TO

The Board of School Trustees of the Wa-Nee Community Schools met Monday, August 10, 2026, in their first 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 Curt Flickinger.

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	David Kauffman
Don Lehman	John Payne	Brian Topping	

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

II. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. First Preliminary Determination Public Hearing

President Curt Flickinger will announced the next item on the agenda is for the Board to hold the first preliminary determination hearing on the proposed renovations and improvements to school facilities throughout the School Corporation, including roofing, paving, HVAC improvements, site and athletic improvements, and the purchase of buses, equipment, and technology (collectively, the "Project"). He then asked anyone interested in speaking at the hearing, to please make sure that you have signed the sign-in sheet at the back of the room which should include your name and address. After a presentation by the administration and its advisors, there will be an opportunity for the public to make comments about the projects. We will ask that each person to limit their comments to 3 minutes and that the topic be limited to the proposed projects under consideration.

The Notice of this Preliminary Determination Hearing were published as legally required on July 29, 2026 in the *Warsaw Times Union* and *Goshen News*.

President Flickinger then called for comments from the public present at the meeting regarding the proposed renovations and improvements to school facilities. After the public had been given a chance to speak, President Flickinger announced the Public Hearing concerning the proposed Projects to be closed and ask that the minutes reflect that the Public Hearing had been held.

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT

Kris Hershberger – Wanted it to be known I didn't violate the law or School Board policy
Kami Coffin – Spoke in support of Officer Hershberger and disappointment in how situation was handled.

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IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

A. Amendments to the Agenda

School board member Christina Eshelman made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the Amendments to the Agenda as presented by Mr. Flickinger. Vote: 7-0.

V. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Consideration of the additional board and executive session minutes for July 13, 2026
B. Consideration of the claims dated August 10, 2026
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. Johanna Wisler, Elementary Manager (2 Schools) @ WES & NES, effective July 1, 2026
ii. Marlene Yoder, Elementary Head Cook @ NES, August 20, 2026
iii. Colleen Aglemyer, Elementary Head Cook @ WES, effective August 20,2026
iv. Shirley Null-Perez, P/T Cook @ NWHS, effective August 20, 2026
v. Marie Wengard, P/T Cook @ NES, effective August 20, 2026
vi. Todd Sheets, .5 Robotics Sponsor @ NWMS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
vii. Adam Wachtman, Sub Driver, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
viii. Carly Everingham, Girls Golf Ass't Coach @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
ix. Layni Frick, Yearbook Sponsor @ NWHS, effective August 1, 2026
x. Scott Blackford, 8th Grade Head Football Coach @ NWMS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
xi. Robin Bilinski, English Teacher @ NWHS, effective August 19, 2026
xii. Tamela Yoder, P/T Cafeteria @ NWHS, effective August 20, 2026
xiii. Caleb Newcomer, Freshman Ass't Football Coach @ NWHS, effective August 3, 2026
xiv. Abigail Uzorh, 7th Grade Volleyball Coach @ NWMS, effective August 3, 2026
xv. Tiffany Weston, P/T Custodian @ NES, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
xvi. Emilee Yakym, Special Ed Teacher @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
xvii. Angela Thomas, Special Ed Ass't @ WES, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
xviii. Christopher Pinto, HS INSTR ASST @ NWHS, effective August 19, 2026
xix. Christopher Pinto, MUSIC: MS PEP BAND @ NWMS, effective August 19, 2026
xx. Christopher Pinto, MUSIC: MS BAND @ NWMS, effective August 19, 2026
xxi. Riki Tobolski, .5 Elementary Robotics Sponsor, effective August 7, 2026
xxii. Stefany Yoder, .5 Elementary Robotics Sponsor, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
xxiii. Brigette Stump, School Nurse @ NES, effective August 20, 2026
xxiv. Austin Falk, Instructional Ass't @ NWMS, effective August 10, 2026
xxv. Brenna Edwards, Art Teacher @ WES & NES, effective August 19, 2026
xxvi. Caleb Newcomer, .5 MS Athletic Director @ NWMS, effective January 1, 2027
xxvii. Larry Fielstra, .5 MS Athletic Director @ NWMS, effective August 10, 2026
xxviii. Cathryn Burkett, P/T Cook @ WES, effective August 20, 2026

2. Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment

i. Jessica Eubank, English Teacher @ NWHS, effective July 17, 2026
ii. Jessica Eubank, NWHS Yearbook Advisor @ NWHS, effective July 17, 2026
iii. Ali Dutkowski, 7th Grade Volleyball Coach @ NWMS, effective July 15, 2026
iv. Dustin Eby, .5 Assistant Football Coach @ NWMS, effective July, 15, 2026
v. Kyle Nichols, Assistant Football Coach @ NWMS, effective July 15, 2026
vi. Bobbi Smith, P/T Cafeteria @ NWHS, effective July 22, 2026
vii. Gary Robinson, F/T Custodian @ NWHS, effective 31, 2026
viii. Olivia Granger, Special Ed Ass't @ NWMS, effective July 24, 2026
ix. Carol Botset, School Nurse @ WV, effective July 20, 2026
x. Aubrey (Pitts)Wiler, Special Education Ass't @ WES, effective July 23, 2026
xi. Whitney Goeglein, Art Teacher @ WES & NES, effective August 3, 2026
xii. Ken Myers, Route Driver, effective August 5, 2026
xiii. Tina Newcomer, Special Ed Ass't @ NES, effective August 19, 2026
xiv. Garry Anglemyer, F/T Custodian, effective September 4, 2026
xv. Kimberly Moore, Special Ed Ass't @ NWMS, effective August 19, 2026

3. Transfer

i. Hailee Neverman, from Special Ed Teacher to Special Ed – SOAR Teacher @ NWHS effective Aug 19, 2026
ii. Jim Hess, from 8th Head Football Coach to .5 Ass't Football Coach @ NWMS, effective July 30, 2026
iii. Georgianne Parker, Cross Country Ass't Coach @ NWMS to Volunteer Coach, effective August 6, 2026
iv. Darlene Royer, Special Ed Ass't @ WV to Special Ed Ass't @ NWMS, effective August 20, 2026
v. Kristin Harris, from F/T Cook @ NWMS to F/T Cook @ NWHS, effective August 20, 2026
vi. Ed Pippenger, from Sub Driver to Regular Route Driver, effective August 20, 2026
vii. Adam Wachtman, from Sub Driver to Float Driver, effective August 20, 2026
viii. Alex Barna, from Float Driver to Regular Route Driver, effective August 20, 2026
ix. Karla Yoder, from Route Driver 29 to Route Driver 58, effective August 20, 2026

D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests

i. Dina Koble, ACP Speech Review Day, September 28, 2026, IU Bloomington
ii. Weston Lambert, RECEN Network Meeting, September 15, 2026, University of Indy
iii. Jade Sipic, RECEN Network Meeting, September 15, 2026, University of Indy
iv. Dina Koble, RECEN Network Meeting, September 15, 2026, University of Indy
v. Stephi Neff, RECEN Network Meeting, September 15, 2026, University of Indy
vi. Heather Bontrager, RECEN Network Meeting, September 15, 2026, University of Indy
vii. Pete Morey, RECEN Network Meeting, September 15, 2026, University of Indy
viii. Marcy Porter, RECEN Network Meeting, September 15, 2026, University of Indy
ix. Brookly Freeland, FCCLA Fall Leadership Institute, October 20 & 21, 2026, Orlando, FL
x. Jamie Eggers, IASBO Transportation Director Certification, September 9, 29, and 30, 2026 Virtual
xi. Matt Hostetter, IASBO Transportation Director Certification, September 9, 29, and 30, 2026 Virtual
xii. John Dougherty, Pesticide License Training, August 20, 2026, Dansville, IN
xiii. Matt Smith, Pesticide License Training, August 20, 2026, Dansville, IN
xiv. Matt Hostetter, STN Expo Transportation Conference, July 9-14, 2026, Reno, NV

E. Consideration of Grants and Donations

i. $150 donation from the Nappanee Chamber of Commerce to be used the NWHS Football Program
ii. $1,875 donation from Monteith Tire of Wakarusa & Nappanee to be used for Top Transportation Team Celebration
iii. $250 donation from Edward Jones to be used for Top Transportation Team Celebration
iv. $50 donation from Topping Dental Group to be used for Top Transportation Team Celebration
v. $150 donation from Schwartz Electric to be used for Top Transportation Team Celebration

vi. $100 donation from Neighbors Mercantile Co to be used for Top Transportation Team Celebration
vii. $100 donation from Main Street Roasters to be used for Top Transportation Team Celebration
viii. $100 donation from Lechlitner Door Sales to be used for NWHS Girls Wrestling fundraiser
ix. $100 donation from Nappanee Auto Sales to be used for NWHS Girls Wrestling fundraiser
x. $100 donation from Elkhart Co 4-H Junior Leaders to be used for NWHS Girls Wrestling fundraiser
xi. $100 donation from Dr. Jennifer Rice to be used for NWHS Girls Wrestling fundraiser
xii. $5,000 donation from NorthWood Football Club to be used for NWHS Football apparel

School board member David Kauffman made, and John Payne seconded the motion to approve the Consent Items including the additional consent items as presented by Mr. Flickinger. Vote: 7-0

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were none.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the Sale of School Buses

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the Sale of School Buses as presented by Mrs. McFarland. Vote: 7-0

B. Approval of the permission to advertise for the 2027 Budget

School board member Christina Eshelman made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the permission to advertise for the 2027 Budget as presented by Mrs. McFarland. Vote: 7-0

C. Approval of the 2026-2027 Elkhart Area Career Center Agreement

School board member David Kauffman made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the 2026-2027 Elkhart Area Career Center Agreement as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

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

- NWHS Boys Soccer to ISHAA State Soccer, October 31-November 1, 2026, IUPUI Carroll Stadium
- NWHS Girls Golf to Harrison Invite, August 3-4, 2026, William Harrison HS, West Lafayette, IN
- NWHS FFA, FFA Officers Retreat, August 16-18, 2026, Potato Creek State Park, North Liberty, IN
- NWHS Girls Volleyball to ISHAA State Competition, November 6-7, 2026, Ball State University
- NWHS Boys Tennis to ISHAA State Finals, October 16-17, 2026, North Central HS, Indianapolis
- NWHS Boys Tennis to ISHAA State Finals, October 23-24, 2026, TBD
- NWHS Girls Golf to ISHAA State Finals, October 2-3, 2026, Prairie View Golf Course, Carmel, IN
- NWHS Football to ISHAA State Finals, November 27-28,2026, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis
- NWHS Boys & Girls Cross Country to ISHAA State Finals, October 30-31, 2026, Terre Haute, IN
- NWHS Girls Soccer to IHSAA State, October 30-31, 2026, IUPUI Carrol Stadium, Indianapolis

School board member Christina Eshelman made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the out of state and/or overnight travel requests as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

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VIII. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

i. New Teacher Orientation Overview – Gretchen Thomas
ii. Teacher Evaluation and Professional Growth Framework – Gretchen Thomas
iii. Opening of schools – Scot Croner

IV. ADJOURNMENT

A. There being no further business to come to the attention of the board, board member Christina Eshelman made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to adjourn. Vote: 7-0

SIGNED: _____
Curt Flickinger, President

_____
Trevor Hershberger, Secretary

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Wa-Nee School Board will be Monday, August 24, 2026, 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 people.
Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the Superintendent's office at (574) 773-3131.