WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
October 13, 2025

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 IV.

LINK TO LIVE FEED

The Board of School Trustees of the Wa-Nee Community Schools met Monday, October 13, 2025, 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 Christina Eshelman.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

On roll call by Secretary, Trevor Hershberger the following members responded as present:

Christina Eshelman	Curt Flickinger	David Kauffman	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 ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED 2025 SCHOOL BUDGET

B. Consider adopting the 2026 School Budget.
   i. Adoption of the 2026 Budget.
   ii. Adoption of Capital Projects Plan 2026, 2027, and 2028
   iii. Adoption of the 2026-2029 Bus Replacement Plan.
   iv. Business Manager Authorization/Reduction in Appropriation Resolution
   v. Transfer Resolution

School board member Don Lehman moved, and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to adopt the 2026 School Budget, 2026, 2027, 2028 Capital Projects Plan, and the 2026-2029 Bus Replacement Plan, Business Manager Authorization/Reduction in Appropriation Resolution, and the Transfer Resolution as presented by Mrs. McFarland. Vote: 7-0

C. PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR UNIFIED PROJECTS – GO BOND 2025

President Eshelman announced that the board will now hold a Public Hearing for the Additional Appropriations for the renovation projects. The proposed renovations are for 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"). Anyone interested in speaking at the hearing should make sure to sign-in, which should include your name and address. She then asked that each person limit their comments to 3 minutes and that the topic be limited to the proposed projects under consideration.

The Notice of the Additional Appropriation Hearing was published as legally required on October 3, 2025 in the *Warsaw Times Union* and *Goshen News*.

President Eshelman called for comments from the public present at the meeting regarding the proposed renovations and improvements to school facilities. After the public was given a chance to speak, President Eshelman announced the Public Hearing concerning the proposed Projects would be closed and there were no public comments. She then asked that the minutes reflect that the Public Hearing had been held.

D. Consider the adoption of the
   i. Additional Appropriation Resolution
   ii. Adoption of the Final Bond Resolution

School board member David Kauffman moved, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to adopt the Additional Appropriation and Final Bond Resolutions as presented by Mrs. McFarland. Vote: 7-0

E. PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE 2025-2027 TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES AND THE WA-NEE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

President Eshelman announced that the board will now hold a Public Hearing to give notice to the public that Wa-Nee Community School Board of Trustees and the Wa-Nee Education Association have reached a tentative contractual agreement dated from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027. The purpose of this hearing is to discuss and hear from the public objections to and support for the tentative agreement. Anyone interested in speaking at the hearing should make sure to sign-in, which should include your name and address. She then asked that each person limit their comments to 3 minutes and that the topic be limited to the proposed projects under consideration.

President Eshelman then called for comments from the public present at the meeting regarding the Wa-Nee Community School Board of Trustees and the Wa-Nee Education Association tentative contractual agreement dated from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027. After the public was given a chance to speak, President Eshelman announced the Public Hearing concerning the tentative contractual agreement dated from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027 would be closed and there were no public comments. She then asked that the minutes reflect that the Public Hearing had been held.

III. SPECIAL BOARD RECOGNITION

i. NorthWood High School FFA

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT

There were none.

V. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

A. 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: 7-0.

VI. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Consideration of the regular board minutes for September 22, 2025
B. Consideration of the claims dated October 13, 2025
C. Consideration of the Personnel Items

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1. **Employment** (the following shall be employed upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing)
   i. Sawyer Warren, Varsity Ass't Baseball @NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
   ii. Ashley Grove, P/T Custodian @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
   iii. Jan Snider, Temp. 3rd Grade Teacher @ WV, effective TBD
   iv. Tyla Mast, P/T Custodian @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
   v. Chaz Yoder, Freshman Boys Basketball Coach @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
   vi. Erandy Avina, Special Ed Ass't @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
   vii. Kimberly Moore, Special Ed Ass't @ NWMS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
   viii. Tina Emerick, SOAR Ass't @ NWHS, effective October 15, 2025
   ix. Amy Heldreth, SOAR Ass't @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
   x. Makayla Greenawalt, Special Ed Ass't @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
   xi. Becky Barna, Sub Bus Monitor, effective October 13, 2025

2. **Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment**
   i. Nathan McClimon, Sub Driver, effective September 29, 2025
   ii. Arlin Herr, Sub Driver, effective September 29, 2028
   iii. Nick Plank, Head Custodian @ NES, effective December 31, 2025

3. **Transfer**
   i. Taylor Knight, Special Ed Ass't to SOAR Ass't @ NWMS, effective October 7, 2025

4. **Leave of Absence**
   i. Dana Brown, 3rd Grade Teacher @ WV, effective Oct. 6, 2025 to January 5, 2026

D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests
   i. Angie Clark, Career Exploration Day, October 3, 2025, South Bend
   ii. Grace Allen, Career Exploration Day, October 3, 2025, South Bend
   iii. Teresa Butler, IEP Day, November 17, 2025, NWHS
   iv. Gretchen Thomas, Keys to Adolescent Literacy, Various Dates, Virtual
   v. Jenni Zurcher, Beable Training, September 30, 2025, Woodview
   vi. Melanie Fervida, INSHAPE PE Conference, November 6-7, 2025, Indianapolis
   vii. Mindi Slon, IU ACP Seminar, November 7, 2025, Virtual
   viii. Faith Bradley, State Director Meeting, November 3, 2025, Indianapolis
   ix. Faith Bradley, PASIC, November 14, 2025, Indianapolis
   x. Faith Bradley, 8th Grade Concert Band & 6th Grade Jazz Band Dress Rehearsal, December 16, 2025, NWHS
   xi. Sarah Anglin, Science of Reading Best Practices Conference, November 14, 2025, Virtual
   xii. Brianna Miller, Grade Level Planning Meeting, October 14, 2025, Woodview
   xiii. Virginia Taylor, Grade Level Planning Meeting, October 14, 2025, Woodview
   xiv. Melissa Troxel, Grade Level Planning Meeting, October 14, 2025, Woodview
   xv. Jan Snider, Grade Level Planning Meeting, October 14, 2025, Woodview
   xvi. Gretchen Thomas, Write Now Conference – Keys to Literacy, November 14, 2025, Virtual

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E. Consideration of Grants and Donations

i. $53.48 donation from Zoetis to be used by NorthWood FFA
ii. $200 donation from Kelsey Mikel Memorial Foundation to be used by NWMS 6th Grade Panther Club
iii. $1,000 donation from Union Center Church of the Brethren to be used for student needs
iv. $250 donation from Sweet G's Ice Cream to be used for NWMS Student Learning Trips
v. $200 donation from Union Center Church of the Brethren to be used for 7th grade Student Learning Trips
vi. $200 donation from Phil Hahn & Associates Realtors/Auctioneers to be used by NorthWood FFA
vii. $1,000 donation from Fifth Third Bank to be used by NorthWood FFA
viii. $100 donation from Schmucker's LP Gas to be used by NorthWood FFA
ix. $250 donation from J & N Stone to be used by NorthWood FFA
x. $500 donation from Hochstetler Grain Equipment to be used by NorthWood FFA
xi. $100 donation from Topping Dental Group to be used by NorthWood FFA
xii. $588.72 donation from Tri Kappa to be used for Nappanee Elementary Care Closet
xiii. $500 donation from First Mennonite Church to be used for Nappanee Elementary Care Closet
xiv. $150 donation from B100 to be used for Wakarusa Elementary Book Club program

School board member Don Lehman made, and David Kauffman seconded the motion to approve the Consent Items including the additional consent items as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 7-0

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the Relay Service Agreement for school-based Medicaid

School board member John Payne made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the Relay Service Agreement for school-based Medicaid as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

B. Approval of the out-of-state and/or overnight trip requests for:

- NWHS Robotics to Indianapolis Motor Speedway, November 21-22, 2025, Indianapolis, IN

School board member Don Lehman made, and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to approve the out-of-state and/or overnight trip requests as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

C. Approval of the additional mentor Annette Spitaels at Woodview Elementary

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and John Payne seconded the motion to approve the additional mentor at Woodview Elementary as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

IX. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

A. Enrollment Presentation – Scot Croner

There being no further business to come to the attention of the board school board member Trevor Hershberger made and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to adjourn. Vote: 7-0

SIGNED: _____
Christina Eshelman, President

_____
Trevor Hershberger, Secretary

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Wa-Nee School Board will be Monday, October 27, 2025 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.