WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
December 15, 2025

A Standard of Excellence: Preparing today's students for tomorrow's challenges.

The Board of School Trustees of the Wa-Nee Community Schools met Monday evening, December 15, 2025.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. The meeting was called to order at the Wa-Nee Admin. Office at 6:00 PM by School Board President Christina Eshelman

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL
On roll call by 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, Assistant Superintendent Gretchen Thomas, Business Manager Jessica McFarland and Clerk Lisa Hall were also present.

II. SPECIAL BOARD RECOGNITION

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the amendments to the agenda as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 7-0

V. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Consideration of the regular board minutes for November 24, 2025
B. Consideration of the claims dated December 15, 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. Dawn Miller, Swim & Dive Ass't Coach @ NWHS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
ii. Stephanie Mayorquin, Head Start Monitor, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
iii. Sarah Davies, Homebound Teacher @ NES, effective December 8, 2025
iv. Jennifer Johnson, Homebound Teacher @ NES, effective December 8, 2025
v. Stephen Garber, Set Build @ NWMS, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing
vi. Sarah Davies, TAG Lead Teacher @ NES, effective December 16, 2025
vii. Hope Martin, TAG Lead Teacher @ NES, effective December 16, 2025
viii. Laura Hale, TAG Lead Teacher @ NES, effective December 16, 2025
ix. Ronda Harner, TAG Lead Teacher @ NES, effective December 16, 2025
x. Christine Ramer, TAG Lead Teacher @ WES, effective December 16, 2025
xi. Cole Miller, TAG Lead Teacher @ WES, effective December 16, 2025
xii. Bailie Olsen, TAG Lead Teacher @ WES, effective December 16, 2025
xiii. Kim Magnuson, TAG Lead Teacher @ WES, effective December 16, 2025
xiv. Mandy DeMien, TAG Lead Teacher @ WV, effective December 16, 2025
xv. Kristina Phelps, TAG Lead Teacher @ WV, effective December 16, 2025
xvi. Jake Simons, TAG Lead Teacher @ WV, effective December 16, 2025

xvii. Virginia Taylor, TAG Lead Teacher @ WV, effective December 16, 2025

xviii. Tom Bennett, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWMS effective December 16, 2025
xix. Val Anglemyer, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWMS, effective December 16, 2025
xx. Diane Jenkins, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWMS, effective December 16, 2025
xxi. Phil Ummel, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWMS, effective December 16, 2025
xxii. Kristin Cramer, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWMS, effective December 16, 2025
xxiii. Brenda Beehler, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWMS, effective December 16, 2025
xxiv. Paula Steiner, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWHS, effective December 16, 2025
xxv. Marcy Porter, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWHS, effective December 16, 2025
xxvi. Brittany Harrington, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWHS, effective December 16, 2025
xxvii. Dina Koble, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWHS, effective December 16, 2025
xxviii. Mindi Slone, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWHS, effective December 16, 2025
xxix. Stephi Neff, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWHS, effective December 16, 2025
xxx. Jeff Cramer, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWHS, effective December 16, 2025
xxxi. Justin Bell, TAG Lead Teacher @ NWHS, effective December 16, 2025

2. **Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment**
   i. Sue Matthews, Special Education Ass't @ NES, effective May 27, 2026
   ii. Taylor Knight, SOAR Ass't @ NWMS, effective December 19, 2025
   iii. Courtney Wenger, 7th Girls Track Coach @ NWMS, effective May 27, 2025
   iv. Whitney Gessinger, Special Ed Teacher @ WV, effective December 19, 2025

3. **Transfer**
   i. Lindsay Steffan, from Behavioral Specialist @ NES to Specialized Instructor – Special Ed @ WV, effective December 2, 2025
   ii. Kathy Romano, Special Education Ass't @ NWMS to Substitute Teacher, effective TBD

D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests
   i. Scot Croner, Secretary of Education Meeting, December 8, 2025, Indiana Statehouse
   ii. Scot Croner, IAPSS Aspiring Superintendents, December 10, 2025, Indianapolis
   iii. Mindi Mattern, TBRI Practitioners Day, December 3, 2025, Granger Community Church
   iv. Nate Andrews, IFCA Board Meeting, December 5, 2025, Indianapolis
   v. Jake Simons, Hawaii International Conference on Education Presenter, January 5-9, 2026, Honolulu, HI
   vi. Caroline Garber, Band & Choir Presentation for incoming 6th grade, January 12, 2026, NES & WES
   vii. Caroline Garber, Band & Choir Presentation for incoming 6th grade, January 14, 2026, WV
   viii. Brandi Henderson, IAAE Winter Workshop, January 22, 2026, Indiana FFA Center
   ix. Grace Allen, IAAE Winter Workshop, January 22, 2026, Indiana FFA Center
   x. Michael Rand, IMEA 2026, January 15-17, 2026, Ft Wayne, IN
   xi. JoLynn Miller, IMEA 2026, January 16-17, 2026, Ft Wayne, IN
   xii. Teresa Butler, IEP Work Day, January 8, 2026, NWHS
   xiii. Danielle Gilbert, IAG Conference, December 15 & 16, 2025, Indianapolis
   xiv. Bailie Olsen, IAG Conference, December 15 & 16, 2025, Indianapolis
   xv. Layni Frick, WIDA testing, January 26, 27, 29, 30, 2025, NWHS
   xvi. Grace Allen, Ivy Tech Dual Credit Certification, January 16, 2026, NWHS
   xvii. Tori Sauceda, IMEA 2026, January 15-17, 2026, Ft Wayne, IN
   xviii. Tom Bennett, Hoosier Association of Science Teachers Inc, February 20-22, 2026
   xix. Caroline Garber, IMEA, January 15-16, 2025, Ft Wayne, IN

E. Consideration of Grants and Donations
   i. $500 donation from Trine University to be used for student/teacher needs for Trine courses
   ii. $50 donation from Tim & Lisa Rink to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
   iii. $100 donation from Garnet Campbell to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial - NWHS Baseball
   iv. $8,369.88 donation from Panther Basketball Inc to be used for the NWHS Boys Basketball program
   v. $1,000 donation from Henschen Oil to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams
   vi. $100 donation from Martin's Well Drilling to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams
   vii. $100 donation from Nappanee Chamber of Commerce to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams

viii. $250 donation from R. Yoder Construction to be used for the NWHS Academic Teams
ix. $500 donation from Larry Bricker & Doreen Dole to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
x. $35 donation from Sharon Buss to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xi. $50 donation from Mark & Kathy Mikel to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xii. $50 donation from Steve & Donna Wagner to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xiii. $50 donation from Jay & Angie Olson to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xiv. $50 donation from Sam & Brenna Sheets to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xv. $50 donation from Lynn & Tim LeCount to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xvi. $50 donation from Bud Fink to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xvii. $100 donation from Lon & Susie Kocsis to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xviii. $50 donation from May & Ted BeMiller to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xix. $20 Anonymous donation to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xx. $50 donation from Doug & Carol Odle to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxi. $100 donation from Rick & Sandy Jenkins to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxii. $50 donation from Chuck & Darcey Mitschelen to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxiii. $100 donation from Sarah Myers Family to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxiv. $100 donation from Scot & Angie Honeycutt to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxv. $25 donation from Betty Hand & Clark Hand & Family to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxvi. $100 donation from Dennis & Caryn Hershberger to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxvii. $200 donation from The Geezers – Coffee Club to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxviii. $50 donation from Mike & Nancy Beer to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxix. $50 donation from Pam Noble & Tara Clay to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxx. $100 donation from Marcia McKee to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxxi. $50 donation from Janet Dorsey to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxxii. $50 donation from Robin Hawks & Tamara Pinto to be used for the Bob Riley Memorial – NWHS Baseball
xxxiii. $500 donation from American Legion Post 307 to be used for Wakarusa Elementary student needs
xxxiv. $500 donation from Casey's General Store to be used for Wakarusa Elementary student needs
xxxv. $100 donation from Marita & Kevin Roemke to be used for the Wakarusa Elementary Diane Brown Fund
xxxvi. $50 donations from Greenmark Equipment to be used for the NWHS FFA program
xxxvii. $1,200 donations from Northern Indiana Johnny Poppers, Inc to be used for the NWHS FFA program
xxxviii. $2,237.50 donation from Todd & Missy Cleveland to be used for the NWHS Panther Hysteria T-Shirts
xxxix. $500 donation from CB Custom Painting to be used for the NWHS Swim Team

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and David Kauffman seconded the motion to approve the Consent Items with the inclusion of the additional items as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 7-0

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the deletion of School Board Policy 2430.01 Non-School Students Involvement in School Activities

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the deletion of School Board Policy 2430.01 Non-School Students Involvement in School Activities as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

B. Approval of the out-of-state and/or overnight travel requests for:
- NWMS Jazz Band & Select Singers to Music in the Park May 2, 2026, Six Flags Great America, Gurnee, IL

School board member John Payne made, and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to approve the out of state and/or overnight travel request as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

VII. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

A. Christmas Break – December 22, 2025, thru January 2, 2026
- School resumes on Monday, January 5, 2026

There being no more items to come to the attention of the board, school board member Don Lehman made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Vote: 7-0

SIGNED:

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Board President

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Board Secretary