

WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
December 16, 2024

A Tradition 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 16, 2024.

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 Todd Gongwer

Trevor Hershberger Don Lehman Brian Topping

Superintendent Scot Croner, Director of Curriculum 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: 6-0

V. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Consideration of the regular board minutes for November 25, 2024

- B. Consideration of the claims dated December 16, 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. Marcy Porter, AC Morning Supervision @ NWHS, effective December 1, 2024
 - ii. Jason DeMien, Elementary Wrestling Coordinator, effective December 9, 2024
 - iii. Marissa Reinholtz, Homebound Instruction @ NES, effective TBD
 - iv. Jaci Hochstetler, Special Ed Asst - SOAR @ NWMS, effective December 16, 2024
2. **Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment**
 - i. Denny Lewis, Elementary Wrestling Coordinator, effective November 15, 2025
 - ii. Clara Slabaugh, Sub Bus Driver, effective December 3, 2024
 - iii. Tonya White, Temp. 7th Grade Math Teacher @ NWMS, effective November 8, 2024
3. **Transfer**
 - i. Gene Zercher, from .5 to 1.0 Var. Asst Girls Basketball @ NWHS, effective November 25, 2025
 - ii. Karlee Feldman, from 1.0 to .5 Freshman Girls Basketball @ NWHS, effective November 25, 2025
 - iii. Jake Everett, from .5 Var. Asst to .5 Freshman Girls Basketball @ NWHS, effective November 25, 2024
4. **Leave of Absence**
 - i. JoLynn Miller, Music Teacher @ WES, effective November 26, 2024 to February 26, 2025

- D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests

- i. Nate Andrews, IFCA Board of Directors Fall Conference, December 16, 2024, Indianapolis
- ii. Jamie Mast, Curriculum Mapping & SAT Data Wise implementation, December 12, 2024, NWHS
- iii. Kelly Vorhis, Curriculum Mapping & SAT Data Wise implementation, December 12, 2024, NWHS
- iv. Robin Bilinski, Curriculum Mapping & SAT Data Wise implementation, December 12, 2024, NWHS

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- v. Layni Frick, Curriculum Mapping & SAT Data Wise implementation, December 12, 2024, NWHS
- vi. Jessica Eubank, Curriculum Mapping & SAT Data Wise implementation, December 12, 2024, NWHS
- vii. Jessica Eubank, Curriculum Mapping & SAT Data Wise implementation, December 13, 2024, NWHS
- viii. Mindi Slone Curriculum Mapping & SAT Data Wise implementation, December 13, 2024, NWHS
- ix. Brittany Harrington, Curriculum Mapping & SAT Data Wise implementation, December 13, 2024, NWHS
- x. Robin Bilinski, Memoir Grading Day, December 19, 2024, NWHS
- xi. Carey Yakym, WIDA proctoring, February 10, 2025, NWMS
- xii. Carey Yakym, WIDA proctoring, February 11, 2025, NWMS
- xiii. Eric Criss, IMEA Conference & Honor Band, January 17-19, 2025, Ft Wayne IN
- xiv. Brooklyn Freeland, Ivy Tech Dual Credit Certification, January 23, 2025, NWHS
- xv. Faith Bradley, IMEA Conference January 16-17, Fort Wayne
- xvi. Grace Allen, Ivy Tech Dual Credit Certification, January 23, 2025, NWHS
- xvii. Brandi Henderson, Ivy Tech Dual PD, January 23, 2025, NWHS

E. Consideration of Grants and Donations

- i. \$710.66 donation from Sarah Norris to be used for the Red Regiment State Finals meal
- ii. \$500 donation from the American Legion to be used for WES student needs
- iii. \$500 donation from Brinkley RV LLC to be used by NorthWood FFA
- iv. \$100 donation from Hahn Auctioneers Inc to be used by NorthWood FFA
- v. \$1,225 donation from B & A Farms to be used by NorthWood FFA
- vi. \$500 donation from One T, Inc to be used for parka's for NWHS Swim & Dive
- vii. \$27,599.39 Stem Grant from IDOE to be used for maintaining Robotics program
- viii. \$100 donation from Martin's Well Drilling to be used for NWHS Academic Teams
- ix. \$1,000 donation from Loving Disciples NWC to be used for WV student personal needs
- x. \$1,139 anonymous donation to be used for 7th & 8th grade Choir Concert
- xi. \$500 Phil Hahn & Assoc. to be used for NWMS Swim Team
- xii. \$800 Heckaman Insurance Agency Inc to be used for NWMS Swim Team
- xiii. \$400 donation from Red Barn Real Estate to be used for NWMS Swim Team
- xiv. \$200 donation from Martin's Custom Butchering to be used for NWMS Swim Team
- xv. \$1,000 donation from John Leavitt to be used for NWHS Red Regiment
- xvi. \$2,000 donation from Nappanee Missionary Church to be used by Wa-Nee Foodservice student needs
- xvii. \$800 donation from Indiana Transport to be used for NWMS Swim Team

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the Consent Items with the inclusion of the additional items as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 6-0

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the Field of Dreams Safety Netting Project

This item was tabled and will be brought back when additional information is received.

B. Approval of the Facilities Study RFP

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Todd Gongwer seconded the motion to approve the Facilities Study RFP as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 6-0

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

- NWHS Yearbook Staff, IHSPA State Convention, January 30-31, 2025, Franklin College
- NWHS Yearbook Staff, NSPA Spring Convention, April 22-27, 2025, Seattle, WA

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the out of state and/or overnight travel request as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 6-0

The next regular School Board meeting will be held on **Monday, January 13, 2025, at 6:00 PM**

This meeting will be held in the Board Room of the 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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VII. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

- A. Christmas Break – December 21, 2024, thru January 5, 2025
- School resumes on Monday, January 6, 2025

There being no more items to come to the attention of the board, school board member Todd Gongwer made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Vote: 6-0

SIGNED:

Board President

Board Secretary

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