

**WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana**  
**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE**  
**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**  
**January 27, 2025**

*A Tradition 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 evening, January 27, 2025, in their first meeting of the month.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. The meeting was called to order 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	Trevor Hershberger	David Kauffman
Don Lehman	John Payne	Brian Topping	

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

**II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT**

There were none

**III. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the amendments to the agenda as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 7-0

**IV. CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Consideration of the regular board meeting minutes for January 13, 2025
- B. Consideration of the claims dated January 27, 2025
- 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. Lukas Bontrager-Waite, Desktop Support Tech II, effective pending completion of pre-employment screening
    - ii. Timothy Potucek, P/T Custodian @ NWHS, effective pending completion of pre-employment screening
    - iii. Brooklyn Freeland, .5 Asst Swim Coach @ NWMS, effective December 21, 2024
    - iv. Breck Egolf, .5 Asst Swim Coach @ NWMS, effective January 15, 2025
    - v. Emili Zahner, Temp. Special Ed. Teacher @ WV, effective TBD
  - 2. Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment
    - i. Deb Fisher, Special Ed Teacher @ WES, effective end of 2024-2025 school year
    - ii. Amanda Loucks, JV Soccer Coach @ NWHS, effective January 2, 2025
    - iii. Jan Snider, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher @ WES, effective end of 2024-2025 school year
    - iv. Shelly Lengacher, Instructional Coach @ WES, effective end of 2024-2025 school year
    - v. Brad Stutzman, JV Asst Football Coach @ NWHS, effective January 31, 2025

***The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Wa-Nee School Board will be Monday, February 10, 2025, at 6:00 PM***  
**This meeting will be held at Wa-Nee Administration Office.**  
**1300 N. Main St. Nappanee, IN 46550**

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**D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests**

- i. Brooklyn Freeland, Kitchen Tours and Meetings, January 24, 2025, South Bend
- ii. Jade Sipic, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives Presentation, January 15, 2025, NWMS
- iii. Brandi Henderson, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives Presentation, January 15, 2025, NWMS
- iv. Grace Allen, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives Presentation, January 15, 2025, NWMS
- v. Holly Worthman, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives Presentation, January 15, 2025, NWMS
- vi. Robin Bilinski, IHSPA Convention, January 31, 2025, Franklin College
- vii. Brandi Henderson, Purdue Women In Agriculture Team, February 13, 2025, Fort Wayne
- viii. Robin Bilinski, Journalism Ed Assoc./NSPA Spring Convention, April 22-27, 2025, Seattle, WA
- ix. Jess Eubank, Journalism Ed Assoc./NSPA Spring Convention, April 22-27, 2025, Seattle, WA
- x. Hailee Neverman, ICTE Conference, March 29, 2025, Grace College
- xi. Talia Reed, IN Council of Teachers of English Spring Conf., March 29, 2025, Grace College
- xii. Brittany Harrington, IN Council of Teachers of English Spring Conf., March 29, 2025, Grace College
- xiii. Amy Rosa, Annual Client Summit Software Training, March 30-April 2, 2025, Nashville, TN
- xiv. Amanda Mehl, IEP Paperwork Day, January 27, 2025, Woodview
- xv. Carla Wiser, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Education, February 19, 2025, NES, WES, WV
- xvi. Faith Bradley, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Education, February 19, 2025, NES, WES, WV
- xvii. Megan Bules, Transition Paperwork Day, February 11, 2025, NWHS
- xviii. Jeff Cramer, DG/Band/Guard Learning Trip, January 31, 2025, All Wa-Nee Schools
- xix. Eric Criss, DG/Band/Guard Learning Trip, January 31, 2025, All Wa-Nee Schools
- xx. Phil Ummel, 2025 IHSGCAC, March 14, 2025, Whitestown, IN

**E. Consideration of Grants and Donations**

- i. \$100 donation from E. Newcomer & Son Inc to be used by NorthWood FFA
- ii. \$1,000 donation from John Leavitt to be used by NWHS Red Regiment
- iii. \$200 donation from Earl & Jeanne Naue to be by NWHS Baseball in memory of Ed Beck
- iv. \$800 donation from Moyer Electric to be used by NWMS Swim Team
- v. \$500 donation from Kardia Transformation Group to be used for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Olympics
- vi. \$500 donation from Interra Credit Union to be used for WES student needs
- vii. \$800 donation from The Tax Man to be used for NWMS Swim Team

School board member Don Lehman made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the Consent Items with the inclusion of the additional items as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 7-0

**V. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Approval of the transfer of appropriations in major fund account**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and David Kauffman seconded the motion to approve the transfer of appropriations in major fund account as presented by Mrs. McFarland. Vote: 7-0

**B. Approval of recommended changes to the NWHS Course Description Guide and Credit Recovery/Alternate Path Courses for the 2025-2026 School Year**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the recommended changes to the NWHS Course Description Guide and Credit Recovery/Alternate Path Courses for the 2025-2026 School Year as presented by Dr. Thomas. Vote: 7-0.

**C. Approval of the Future Educator Apprenticeship at NWHS**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the Future Educator Apprenticeship at NWHS as presented by Dr. Thomas. Vote: 7-0.

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D. Approval of the WCS Plan on a Page Strategic Plan

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the WCS Plan on a Page Strategic Plan as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

VI. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

- A. NWMS 25-26 Course Titles & Descriptions
- B. Health Screening & Biometrics Screening

VII. ADJOURNMENT

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

SIGNED:

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Christina Eshelman, President

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Trevor Hershberger, Secretary

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