

**WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana**  
**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE**  
**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**  
**January 8, 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, January 8, 2024, in their first meeting of the month.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at the Wa-Nee Administration Building at 6:00 PM by Superintendent Scot Croner.

**2. ROLL CALL**

On roll call by Superintendent, Scot Croner the following members responded as present:

Christina Eshelman	Curt Flickinger	Todd Gongwer
Trevor Hershberger	Brian Topping	

Superintendent Scot Croner, Director of Curriculum Gretchen Thomas, Business Manager Randi Libby, and Clerk Lisa Hall were also present.

**2. SPECIAL BOARD RECOGNITION**

There were none.

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

There were none.

**4. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS AND BOARD OF FINANCE OFFICERS, APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER, DEPUTY TREASURER, APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL FIRMS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETINGS**

- A. School board member Curt Flickinger nominated Christina Eshelman as President of the school board to serve from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. School board member Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0

**SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT CHRISTINA ESHELMAN PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING AT THIS POINT**

- B. School board member Curt Flickinger nominated Don Lehman as Vice President of the school board to serve from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. School board member Todd Gongwer seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0
- C. School board member Curt Flickinger nominated Trevor Hershberger as Secretary of the school board to serve from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. School board member Brian Topping seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0

## OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

### Board of School Trustees

January 8, 2024

- D. School board member Curt Flickinger nominated Christina Eshelman as President of the Board of Finance to serve from January 1, 2024, to January 1, 2025, and Todd Gongwer seconded the motioned. Vote: 5-0
- E. School board member Curt Flickinger nominated Trevor Hershberger as Secretary of the Board of Finance to serve from January 1, 2024, to January 1, 2025, and Brian Topping seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0
- F. Board of Finance Report – Randi Libby
  - Investment Report
  - Fiscal Indicators Report

### **OTHER ITEMS OF SPECIAL BUSINESS**

- G. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Croner, school board member Curt Flickinger moved that the board keep the same meeting dates of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month with a start time to 6:00 PM. Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0
- H. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Croner, school board member Curt Flickinger moved that the board appoint the legal firms of Warrick & Boyn, LLC of Elkhart to serve Wa-Nee Community Schools from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. Don Lehman seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0
- I. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Croner, school board member Curt Flickinger moved that the board appoint Business Manager, Randi Libby as the School Board Treasurer and Crystal Manring, Wa-Nee Bookkeeper as Deputy Treasurer from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

## **4. 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: 5-0

## **5. CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Consideration of the regular board meeting minutes for December 18, 2023
- B. Consideration of the claims dated January 8, 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. Emily Reinhardt, Extended Day Teacher, effective January 16, 2024
    - ii. Stephen Sherk, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Ass't Coach @ NWMS, effective 12/22/23
    - iii. Jessica McFarland, Business Manager, effective February 5, 2024, and the completion of pre-employment screening
    - iv. Becky Barna, P/T Custodian, NWMS, effective January 29, 2024
    - v. Molly Geleske, P/T Custodian, NWMS, effective January 29, 2024
  - 2. Transfer
    - i. Chayla Bellman, from Special Ed Ass't to SOAR Ass't @ NES, effective January 8, 2024

## OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

### Board of School Trustees

January 8, 2024

#### 3. Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment

- i. Randi Libby, Business Manager, effective February 2, 2024
- ii. Jennifer Robinson, STEM Specialized Instructor @ WV, effective January 5, 2024
- iii. Claudia Blosser, Cafeteria Manager @ WES, effective end of the 2023-24 school year

#### D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests

- i. Gretchen Thomas, Nat'l Association of Gifted Children Summit, February 13-14, 2024, Virtual
- ii. Hope Martin, Educator Summit, January 1-3, 2024, Virtual
- iii. Sarah Davies, Educator Summit, January 1-3, 2024, Virtual
- iv. Brandy Henderson, IAAE Winter Workshop, January 10-11, 2024, Trafalger, IN
- v. Valerie Anglemeyer, Nat'l Association of Gifted Children Summit, February 13-14, 2024, Virtual
- vi. JoLynn Miller, IMEA State Conference, January 12-13, 2024, Fort Wayne
- vii. Michael Rand, IMEA State Conference, January 11-13, 2024, Fort Wayne
- viii. Jake Everett, Spring ICASE Conference, February 14-16, 2023
- ix. Gretchen Thomas, NASRO Onsite Training, March 3-6, 2023
- x. Amy Rosa, NASRO Onsite Training, March 3-6, 2023
- xi. Dan Hawkins, NASRO Onsite Training, March 3-6, 2023
- xii. Kris Hershberger, NASRO Onsite Training, March 3-6, 2023
- xiii. James Baumgartner, NASRO Onsite Training, March 3-6, 2023
- xiv. James Geleske, NASRO Onsite Training, March 3-6, 2023
- xv. Jamie Mast, PBL Themes Planning, January 19, 2023, NWHS
- xvi. Layne Frick, PBL Themes Planning, January 19, 2023, NWHS
- xvii. Kelly Vorhis, PBL Themes Planning, January 19, 2023, NWHS
- xviii. Hailee Neverman, PBL Themes Planning, January 19, 2023, NWHS
- xix. Randi Libby, School Finance Training-Policy Analytics, January 19, 2024, Indianapolis
- xx. Brooklyn Freeland, FCCLA State Convention, February 29 – March 2, 2023, Muncie IN
- xxi. Joey Shepherd, IMA State Conference, January 11 – January 12, 2024, Ft. Wayne IN

#### E. Consideration of Grants and Donations

- i. \$100 donation from Kevin & Marita Roemke to be used in memory of Diane Brown
- ii. \$10,000 donation from Schwartz Electric to be used for NWHS Girls & Boys Tennis
- iii. \$100 donation from Cook's Pizza to be used for NWHS Academic Teams
- iv. \$300 anonymous donation to be used for Wakarusa Elementary student needs
- v. \$1000 donation from Aluminum Trailer Company to be used for NWHS Football State
- vi. \$20 donation from Eric & Heather Patterson to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- vii. \$20 donation from Brian & Janel Zehring to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- viii. \$25 donation from David & Kara Kauffman to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- ix. \$50 donation from Julie Burgireno to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- x. \$50 donation from Randy & Sandy Raasch to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xi. \$50 donation from Wesley & Ann Bell to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xii. \$50 donation from Gordon & Wanda Miller to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xiii. \$50 donation from Quentin & Renee Overbeck to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xiv. \$100 donation from Wayne & Sandy Scheumann to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xv. \$100 donation from Ross & Bonnie Fear to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xvi. \$100 donation from Bernie & Peg Beer to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xvii. \$100 donation from John & Linda Milliser to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xviii. \$100 donation from Richmond Feed Service to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xix. \$250 donation from Jack Sheets to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball

School board member Curt Flickinger 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: 5-0

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Board of School Trustees

January 8, 2024

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. ACCEPTANCE OF THE ANNUAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENTS

No action required

B. APPROVAL OF THE NAPPANEE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD RE-APPOINTMENTS

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the Nappanee Public Library Board re-appointments as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 5-0

C. APPROVAL OF THE OUT OF STATE AND/OR OVERNIGHT TRAVEL REQUEST FOR:

- NWHS Yearbook students to IHSPA State Convention, January 25-26, 2024, Greenwood, IN
- NWHS FCCLA members to State Convention, February 29 to March 2, 2024, Muncie, IN
- NWMS Choir students to IMEA Honor Choir, January 11 & 12, 2024, Fort Wayne, IN

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the out of state and/or overnight travel requests as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 5-0

7. DISCUSSION & INFORMATION

- A. Construction Update
- B. 2024-2025 NWHS Course Description Guide
- C. 2023-2024 Classified Manual Update

There being no more items to come to the attention of the board, school board member Curt Flickinger made, and Todd Gongwer supported the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Vote: 5-0

SIGNED:

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CHRISTINA ESHELMAN, President

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TREVOR HERSHBERGER, Secretary