

WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
February 12, 2024

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, February 12, 2024, in their first meeting of the month.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The meeting was called to order at the Nappanee Elementary School at 6:00 PM by School Board President Christina Eshelman.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call

On roll call by Secretary Curt Flickinger the following members responded as present:

Christina Eshelman	Curt Flickinger	Todd Gongwer	Trevor Hershberger
Shawn Johnson	Don Lehman	Brian Topping	

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

II. EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

- A. Nappanee Elementary – Mr. Randy Cripe
- B. NWAA – Mrs. Carrie O'Keefe

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT

Jamye Richmond addressed the board regarding drug testing and follow up support for students
Ryne Robinson addressed the board regarding JV Girls Basketball program

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

School board member Don Lehman made, and Curt Flickinger 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 meeting minutes for January 22, 2024
- B. Consideration of the claims dated February 12, 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. Tori Saucedá, Ass't Director @ NWMS, effective January 1, 2024
 - ii. Ann Saucedá, Stage Manager @ NWMS, effective January 1, 2024
 - iii. Reece Huber, Temp. Evening Custodian @ NES, effective TBD
 - iv. Grace Roa, Instructional Ass't @ NES, effective TBD
 - v. Michelle Hershberger, Sp. Ed. Ass't @ WES, effective February 12, 2024

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Wa-Nee School Board will be Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM
This meeting will be held at NorthWood High School.

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2. Transfer

- i. Grace Allen, from FFA Advisor to .5 FFA Advisor .5 FFA Ass't Advisor @ NWHS, 8/1/2023
- ii. Brandi Henderson, from FFA Ass't Advisor to .5 FFA Advisor .5 FFA Ass't Advisor @ NWHS, 8/1/2023
- iii. Earl Goodsell, from F/T Custodian to Shift Custodian Leader @ NWHS, effective ASAP
- iv. Tara Powell, from Substitute to Secretary @ NWMS, effective February 1, 2024

3. Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment

- i. Doris Lewis, Secretary @ NWMS, effective January 31, 2024
- ii. Kelli Bowser, P/T Instructional Ass't @ NWMS, effective January 30, 2024

D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests

- i. Ashleigh Helfrich, 5th Learning Walks, February 8, 2024, NWMS
- ii. Beth Nunemaker, 5th Learning Walks, February 8, 2024, NWMS
- iii. Robin Dodson, 5th Learning Walks, February 8, 2024, NWMS
- iv. Sarah Davies, 5th Learning Walks, February 8, 2024, NWMS
- v. Tori Saucedo, Elementary Music Teacher Planning, February 1, 2024, NES
- vi. Brandi Trusty, Grief Support, January 17, 2024, Ryans' Place
- vii. Erin Haseley, 5th Learning Walks, February 8, 2024, NWMS
- viii. Jake Simons, 5th Learning Walks, February 8, 2024, NWMS
- ix. Jake Simons, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- x. Andy Hostetter, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xi. Matt Protzman, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xii. Karl Leroux, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xiii. Jake Fawley, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xiv. Steve Gearhart, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xv. Brian Freeland, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xvi. Kenton Chapman, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xvii. Val Mathews, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xviii. Pat Gross, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xix. Eric Claywell, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xx. Jake Smith, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xxi. Tammy Leroux, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xxii. Dave Stair, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xxiii. Justin Bell, Indiana State Robotics Championships, March 22-23, 2024, Lucas Oil Stadium
- xxiv. Nate Andrews, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxv. Mike Furfaro, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxvi. Boonie Boochoer, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxvii. Brad Stutzman, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxviii. Drew Minnich, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxix. Chase Estepp, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxx. Cody Vincent, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxxi. Jody Weldy, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxxii. Jim Hess, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxxiii. Doug Odiorne, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxxiv. Geoff Clemans, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxxv. Kyle Stickley, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxxvi. Patrick Thompson, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxxvii. David Wilson, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xxxviii. Willy Will, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis

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- xxxix. Charlie Roeder, IFCA State Clinics, March 7-9, 2024, Indianapolis
- xl. Lindsay London, TBRI Summit, May 3, 2024, Lifeline Elkhart
- xli. Jeff Cramer, ISSMA All-Music Award 2022-23, February 28, 2024, Indianapolis
- xl.ii. Eric Criss, ISSMA All-Music Award 2022-23, February 28, 2024, Indianapolis
- xl.iii. Weston Lambert, ISSMA All-Music Award 2022-23, February 28, 2024, Indianapolis
- xl.iv. Grace Allen, Pay Dirt, March 4, 2024, Elkhart County Fairgrounds
- xl.v. John Dougherty, Pesticide Training, February 13, 2024, Elkhart
- xl.vi. Matt Smith, Pesticide Training, February 13, 2024, Elkhart
- xl.vii. Gretchen Thomas, Title Con, April 9-10, 2024, Plainfield
- xl.viii. Taylor Burkhart, Semi-State Meeting NWHS Girls Basketball, February 12, 2024, Huntington North
- xl.ix. Jamie Mast, Required AP Seminar Training, July 8-12, 2024, Pike High School
- l. Kelly Voris, Required AP Seminar Training, July 8-12, 2024, Pike High School

E. Consideration of Grants and Donations

- i. \$500 donation from Elkhart Shrine Club to be used for 2024 Shrine Circus trip
- ii. \$100 donation from Psi Iota Xi-Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for NWHS Choir
- iii. \$100 donation from Psi Iota Xi-Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for NWHS Band
- iv. \$100 donation from Psi Iota Xi-Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for NWHS Drama
- v. \$100 donation from Psi Iota Xi-Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for NWHS Art Department
- vi. \$200 donation from Ruth BeMiller to be used for NWMS Drama Department
- vii. \$1,000 donation from Henshen Oil Inc to be used for NorthWood FFA week
- viii. \$500 donation from Grand Design RV to be used for NorthWood FFA week
- ix. \$100 donation from Topping Dental Group to be used for NorthWood FFA week
- x. \$200 donation from Yoder Culp Funeral Home to be used for NorthWood FFA week
- xi. \$2,213.75 donation from Todd & Melissa Cleveland to be used for NWHS Boys Basketball
- xii. \$200 donation from Dutch Village Restaurant to be used for NWHS Academics
- xiii. \$500 donation from Kabe & Katie Jessup to be used for NWHS Girls Basketball Semi-State Tickets

Board member Shawn Johnson left at this point in the meeting.

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: 6-0

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were none.

V. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of the appointment of Jessica McFarland as the Treasurer of the Wa-Nee Community Schools to serve from February 5, 2024, to December 31, 2024.**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the appointment of Jessica McFarland as the Treasurer of the Wa-Nee Community Schools to serve from February 5, 2024, to December 31, 2024, as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 6-0

- B. Approval of the Public Employee's Bond for Jessica McFarland**

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the Public Employee's Bond for Jessica McFarland as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 6-0

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C. Consider the approval of the Early Literacy Achievement Grant

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the Early Literacy Achievement Grant as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 6-0

D. Consider the approval of the permission to advertise for Wakarusa Elementary Building Addition

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the permission to advertise for Wakarusa Elementary Building Addition as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 6-0

E. Consider the approval of the following mentors

School	Mentor
NWAA	Dr. Fred Luster
NWAA	Dr. Brian Topping
NWAA	Thomas Bennett
Wakarusa Elementary	Kristy Rulli
Wakarusa Elementary	Chelsie Weldy
Wakarusa Elementary	Staci Flickinger

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the mentors for NWAA and Wakarusa Elementary schools as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 5-0-1 with board member Brian Topping abstaining.

F. Consider the approval of the out of state and/or overnight trips for the following:

- WES 5th Students to Camp Amigo, Sturgis, MI, May 3, 2024
- Wa-Nee Robotics to State Championships, March 22-24, 2024, Indianapolis
- NWHS Academic Team to Academic Competition, Purdue University, May 3-4, 2024

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

VI. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

- A. Kindergarten Round-Up Update – Dr. Gretchen Thomas
- B. Extended Day & Summer School Update – Dr. Gretchen Thomas
- C. Enrollment Update – Dr. Croner
- D. Policy 7217 Possessing Firearms on School Property
 - a. Repeal Policies 1617, 3217, and 4217
- E. Student Cell phone usage at WCS Schools – Dr. Croner

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come to the attention of the board school board member Curt Flickinger made and Don Lehman seconded the motion to adjourn. Vote: 5-0

SIGNED: _____

Christina Eshelman, President

Trevor Hershberger, Secretary

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