

WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
March 24, 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, March 24, 2025, in their second 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 Clerk Lisa Hall were also present.

II. SPECIAL BOARD RECOGNITION

There was none.

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT

There was none.

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

School board member John Payne made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the additional items to the agenda as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 7-0

V. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Consideration of the regular board minutes for March 10, 2025
- B. Consideration of the claims dated March 24, 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. Nathan McClimon, Substitute Bus Driver, effective pending completion of pre-employment screenings
 - ii. Rhonda Kohler, Kindergarten Teacher @ WV, effective March 6, 2025
 - iii. Whitney Gessinger, Special Ed Teacher @ WV, effective 25-26 SY and pending completion of pre-employment screening
 - iv. Kristin Munsell, P/T Custodian @ WES, effective TBD
 - v. Courtney Wenger, 7th Grade Girls Track @ NWMS, effective March 20, 2025
 - vi. Felicia Hochstetler, Special Ed Ass't @ NES, effective TBD
 - vii. Danielle Gilbert, Instructional Coach @ WES, effective upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment checks for SY 2025-2026
 - viii. Mark Aukerman, 8th Grade Boys Track Coach @ NWMS, effective March 20, 2025

The next regular School Board meeting will be held on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 6:00 PM

This meeting will be held at the Wa-Nee 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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2. Transfers
 - i. Alex Barna, from P/T Custodian at NWMS to P/T SOAR @ NES Ass't & P/T Custodian @ NWMS, effective TBD
 - ii. Karlee Feldman, from Freshman Girls Basketball @ NWHS to Volunteer Coach, effective March 17, 2025
 - iii. Dennis Lewis from Head Wrestling Coach @ NWHS to Volunteer Coach, effective March 19, 2025
3. Leave of Absence
 - i. Andrea Guerrero, Mental Health Counselor @ NES, April 5 to May 29, 2025
4. Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment
 - i. Kristi Bourn, Lifeskills Assistant @ NWHS, effective March 21, 2025
- D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests
 - i. Jamie Mast, AP Research Training, July 8-11, 2025, Pike High School
 - ii. Kelly Vorhis, AP Research Training, July 8-11, 2025, Pike High School
 - iii. Brooklyn Freeland, Spring FCS Conference, April 22-23, 2025, Fort Harrison State Park
 - iv. Libby Morical, Meeting of Minds – Special Ed Department, March 18, 2025, NWHS
 - v. AJ Risedorph, IIAAA Conference, March 22-25, 2025, Indianapolis
 - vi. Pete Morey, BPA State Conference, March 10-12, 2025, Indianapolis
 - vii. Ted Doty, BPA State Conference, March 10-12, 2025, Indianapolis
 - viii. Valerie Anglemeyer, Indiana State Robotics Tournament, March 21, 2025, Indiana State Fair Grounds
 - ix. Sheila Cripe, Recipe Development & Crediting Workshop, June 10-12, 2025, Valparaiso HS
 - x. Kris Fielstra, CCCEC Elementary School Counselor Workshop, March 27, 2025, Ivy Tech
 - xi. Robin Bilinski, Collaborative Grading of Memoirs, March 27, 2025, NWHS Media Center
 - xii. Jessica Eubank, Collaborative Grading of Memoirs, March 27, 2025, NWHS Media Center
 - xiii. Jenn Wise, Senior Class Walk Through, May 22, 2025, NWHS
 - xiv. Mindi Slone, Senior Class Walk Through, May 22, 2025, NWHS
 - xv. Jamie Mast, AP Seminar Final Presentations, April 16-17, 2025, NWHS
 - xvi. Eric Criss, NWHS Band Italy Trip, April 28 – May 2, 2025, Italy
 - xvii. Abigail Zahner, County Wide Training for new graduation requirements, March 20, 2025, Ivy Tech
 - xviii. Jamie Eggers, Annual Client Summit Software Training, March 30 – April 2, 2025, Nashville, TN
 - xix. Brandi Henderson, Equine Veterinary Hospital of Northern IN Trip, April 17, 2025, Wakarusa
 - xx. Jessica McFarland, Annual IASBO Conference, May 7-9, 2025, Ft Wayne IN
 - xxi. Sherie Mullet, Annual IASBO Conference, May 7-9, 2025, Ft Wayne IN
 - xxii. Crystal Manring, Annual IASBO Conference, May 7-9, 2025, Ft Wayne IN
 - xxiii. Carlea Bragg, Annual IASBO Conference, May 7-9, 2025, Ft Wayne IN
 - xxiv. Brittney Lechlitner, IEP Work-day, March 17, 2025, Woodview
 - xxv. Jack Everett, Title Con, April 15, 2025, Plainfield
 - xxvi. John Dougherty, Asbestos & Indoor Air Quality, April 4, 2025, Lakeland Schools
 - xxvii. Matt Smith, Asbestos & Indoor Air Quality, April 4, 2025, Lakeland Schools
- E. Consideration of Grants and Donations
 - i. \$2,500 donation from Tri-Kappa, Zeta Nu Chapter to be used by NWHS Yearbook for NSPA Convention
 - ii. \$10,000 grant from National FFA to be used for NWHS Agricultural Classroom Enhancements
 - iii. \$750 donation from Trine University to be used for NWHS teacher & student needs for Trine courses
 - iv. \$375 donation from Lue Manufacturing to be used for NWHS Boys Volleyball attire
 - v. \$300 donation from Henschen Oil to be used for NWMS Drama Department Musical
 - vi. \$500 donation from Moyer Electric to be used by NWHS Yearbook for NSPA Convention
 - vii. Donation of food items and clothing to be used by WES for student needs valued at \$330
 - viii. \$3,000 donation from Union Center Church of the Brethren to be used for 6-8 grade fieldtrips

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

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the K-12 Student Handbooks and NWHS Student Athlete Handbook

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the K-12 Student Handbooks and NWHS Student Athlete Handbook as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 7-0

B. Approval of the approval for overnight and/or out of state travel requests for:

- Nappanee Elementary 5th Grade to Amigo Centre, Sturgis, MI, September 11, 2025

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

VII. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

i. Curriculum for NWMS Science – Gretchen Thomas

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

SIGNED: _____
Christina Eshelman, President

Trevor Hershberger, Secretary