

**WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana**  
**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE**  
**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**  
**May 13, 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, May 13, 2024.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

On roll call by Secretary Shawn Johnson the following members responded as present:

Christina Eshelman	Todd Gongwer	Trevor Hershberger
Don Lehman	Brian Topping	Curt Flickinger - virtually using Microsoft Teams

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

**II. SPECIAL RECOGNITION – NorthWood FFA**

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

There was none.

**IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

School board member Don Lehman made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the additional items to the agenda as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 6-0

**V. CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Consideration of the regular board minutes for April 22, 2024
- B. Consideration of the claims dated May 13, 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. Crystal Yoder, F/T Cafeteria @ NWHS, effective April 30, 2024
    - ii. Ashley Bedward, 1<sup>st</sup> grade @ WV, effective August 14, 2024
    - iii. Katrina Berg, Art Teacher @ NWMS, effective pending completion of pre-employment screening
    - iv. Katrina Berg, Art: MS Stipend, effective pending completion of pre-employment screening
    - v. Katrina Berg, Yearbook Sponsor @ NWMS, effective pending completion of pre-employment screening
    - vi. Andrew Hinds, 4<sup>th</sup> grade @ NES, effective August 14, 2024
    - vii. Morgan Rush, JV Cheer Coach @ NWHS, effective April 15, 2024
    - viii. Molly Nickerson, Summer Custodian @ NWHS, effective May 30, 2024
    - ix. Brittney Scheetz, 4<sup>th</sup> grade Teacher @ NES, effective August 14, 2024
    - x. Sundown Deisch, Summer School Nurse, effective May 31, 2024
    - xi. Lisa Sherman, NWMS Summer School Teacher, effective May 31, 2024
    - xii. Thomas Bennett, NWMS Summer School Teacher, effective May 31, 2024
    - xiii. A. J. Risedorph, Athletic Director @ NWHS, effective July 1, 2024
    - xiv. Robin Bilinski, Summer School APEX, effective May 31, 2024

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***This meeting will be held at the Wa-Nee Administration Building.***

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- xv. Eric Crissi, Summer School Band, effective May 31, 2024
- xvi. Scott Knafel, Summer School PE, effective May 31, 2024
- xvii. Val Mathews, Summer School APEX, effective May 31, 2024
- xviii. Jason DeMien, Summer School PE, effective May 31, 2024
- xix. Brandi Henderson, Summer School SAE, effective May 31, 2024
- xx. Grace Allen, Summer School SAE, effective May 31, 2024

2. Transfer

- i. Johanna Wisler, from P/T Cafeteria to Cafeteria Manager @ WES, effective June 1, 2024
- ii. Marcy Porter, from .5 Student Council Sponsor A to Student Council Sponsor A, effective 6/1/24
- iii. Brittany Harrington, from .5 Student Council Sponsor A to Student Council Sponsor B, effective 6/1/24

3. Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment

- i. Brandi Trusty, .5 G/T Coordinator @ WV, effective May 30, 2024
- ii. Brooke Hess, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade @ WES, effective June 1, 2024
- iii. Brook Yoder, Student Council Sponsor B, effective May 30, 2024
- iv. Chayla Bellman, SOAR Assistant @ NES, effective May 29, 2024
- v. Breck Egolf, P/T Custodian @ NWHS, effective May 30, 2024
- vi. Donelle Noyes, SOAR Assistant @ NES, effective May 29, 2024

D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests

- i. Cheryl Bontreger, School Leadership Team Meeting, May 8, 2024, WES
- ii. Chris Berg, TBRI Summit, May 3, 2024, Elkhart
- iii. Amanda Haldaman, Kindergarten Screeners, April 25 & 30, 2025, WES
- iv. Kristina Clark, Learning Walks, May 6, 2024, NES
- v. Michelle Hill, Learning Walks, May 6, 2024, NES
- vi. Christine Ramer, Learning Walks, May 6, 2024, NES
- vii. Kristina Clark, High Ability Professional Learning Opportunity, June 2-15, 2024, Virtual
- viii. Katie Johnson, High Ability Professional Learning Opportunity, May 13-24, 2024, Virtual
- ix. Shelly Lengacher, High Ability Professional Learning Opportunity, June 10-21, 2024, Virtual
- x. Bailie Olsen, High Ability Professional Learning Opportunity, June 10-21, 2024, Virtual
- xi. Kelly Schmidt, High Ability Professional Learning Opportunity, June 10-21, 2024, Virtual
- xii. Lisa Stump, High Ability Professional Learning Opportunity, June 3-14, 2024, Virtual
- xiii. Laura Blosser, Learning Walks, May 6, 2024, NES
- xiv. Sarah Davies, Kdg. Assessment Day, May 14 & 16, 2024, NES
- xv. Hope Martin, Kdg. Assessment Day, May 14 & 16, 2024, NES
- xvi. Marissa Reinholtz, Kdg. Assessment Day, May 14 & 16, 2024, NES
- xvii. Abigail Slabaugh, Kdg. Assessment Day, May 14 & 16, 2024, NES
- xviii. Ronda Weldy, Kdg. Assessment Day, May 14 & 16, 2024, NES
- xix. Marissa Reinholtz, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xx. Abby Slabaugh, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxi. Ronda Weldy, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxii. Erin Blomgren, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxiii. Krystalyn Gross, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxiv. Emily Reinhardt, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxv. Kati Andrews, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxvi. Ronda Harner, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxvii. Angie Slabaugh, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxviii. Carrie Johnson, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxix. Laura Hale, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES
- xxx. Angie Swain, Grade Level Planning, May 21, 2024, NES

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- xxxi. JoEllen Merryman, Grade Level Planning, May 22, 2024, NES
- xxxii. Susan Roberts, Grade Level Planning, May 22, 2024, NES
- xxxiii. Amanda Wilson, Grade Level Planning, May 22, 2024, NES
- xxxiv. Sheila Cripe, Institute of Child Nutrition, July 9 & 10, 2024, Carmel, IN
- xxxv. Johanna Wisler, Institute of Child Nutrition, July 9 & 10, 2024, Carmel, IN
- xxxvi. Mindi Mattern, TBRI Summit, May 3, 2024, Lifeline Youth Ministries Elkhart, IN
- xxxvii. Scott Knafel, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Olympics, May 14, 2024, NWMS
- xxxviii. Joey Shepherd, Spring Concert Rehearsals, May 7, 2024, NWHS
- xxxix. Jessica Eubank, 11B Collaborative Grading, May 16, 2024, NWHS
- xl. Brittany Harrington, 11B Collaborative Grading, May 16, 2024, NWHS
- xli. Tina Davidhizar, ACP Math Summer Training, June 5, 2024, IU Bloomington
- xlii. Brandi Henderson, NorthWood AG Day, May 13, 2024, NWHS Shop
- xliii. Weston Lambert, INSROA Annual Conference, June 27, 2024, Michigan City, IN
- xliv. Chris Berg, INSROA Annual Conference, June 27, 2024, Michigan City, IN
- xlvi. Jamie Mast, Senior Walk Through, May 22, 2024, NES, WV, WES, NWMS, May 22, 2024
- xlvi. Evan Prast, Senior Walk Through, May 22, 2024, NES, WV, WES, NWMS, May 22, 2024

**E. Consideration of Grants and Donations**

- i. \$250 donation from Burt Advisory Group to be used for National Educator Appreciation Breakfast
- ii. \$180 donation from Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for Nappanee Elementary Art Classes
- iii. \$180 donation from Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for Wakarusa Elementary Art Classes
- iv. \$180 donation from Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for Woodview Elementary Art Classes
- v. \$180 donation from Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for NWMS Art Classes
- vi. \$180 donation from Eta Zeta Chapter to be used for NWHS Art Classes
- vii. \$50,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Elk. Co. to be used for Nappanee Elementary Playground
- viii. \$500 donation from Polk Auction to be used for NorthWood FFA
- ix. \$175 donation from Polk Auction to be used for NorthWood FFA Pedal Tractor
- x. \$1,000 donation from Charles & Kristin Roeder to be used for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Olympics
- xi. \$50 donation from Wesley & Ann Bell to be used for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Olympics
- xii. \$25 donation from Ben & Holly Holden to be used for NWHS Teacher Appreciation Week
- xiii. \$40 donation from Fred & Heather Lechlitner to be used for NWHS Teacher Appreciation Week
- xiv. \$40 donation from Troy & Karla Handrich to be used for NWHS Teacher Appreciation Week
- xv. \$100 donation from Paul & Sharon Miller to be used for NWHS Teacher Appreciation Week
- xvi. \$60 donation from Harlan & Rhonda Miller to be used for NWHS Teacher Appreciation Week
- xvii. \$250 donation from Ruhe Corporation to be used for NWHS National Honor Society
- xviii. \$400 donation from Wakarusa Lions Club Inc to be used for NWHS Girls Soccer
- xix. \$100 donation from INTECH Trailers to be used for 5<sup>th</sup> grade Olympics
- xx. \$2,200 donation from Andy & Billie Roeder to be used for NWHS Teacher Appreciation Week
- xxi. \$200 donation from Diana Beck to be used for NWHS Panther Baseball Day of Giving
- xxii. \$100 donation from John Leavitt to be used for NWHS Panther Baseball Day of Giving
- xxiii. \$100 donation from Kris Hersherberger Sr. to be used for NWHS Panther Baseball Day of Giving
- xxiv. \$250 donation from Ruhe Corp. to be used for NWMS Student Council
- xxv. \$1,000 donation from NorthWood Soccer Club to be used for School Lunch Fund
- xxvi. \$800 donation from GEN-Y Group to be used for NWHS Girls Golf Scramble
- xxvii. \$1,000 donation from Patrick Industries, Inc. to be used for NWHS Volleyball Team Camp
- xxviii. \$500 donation from Living Gospel Church to be used for NES Care Closet

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

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**VI. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. APPROVAL OF THE INCENTIVE FOR THE 500-MILE HEALTH CHALLENGE**

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Todd Gongwer seconded the motion to approve the incentive for the 500-mile Health Challenge as presented by Mrs. McFarland. Vote: 6-0

**B. APPROVAL OF THE TEXTBOOK ADOPTION FOR NEW AND MISC. COURSES AT NWHS**

School board member Don Lehman, and Todd Gongwer seconded the motion to approve the textbook adoption for New and Misc. Courses at NWHS as presented by Dr. Thomas. Vote: 6-0

**C. APPROVAL OF THE OUT OF STATE OR OVERNIGHT TRAVEL REQUESTS FOR:**

- NWHS FCCLA, FCCLA Leadership Summer Camp, June 12-13, 2024, Ft. Harrison State Park, Indianapolis
- NWHS Cheer, UCA High School Nationals 2025, February 6-11, 2025, Orlando Florida
- NWHS Cheer, UCA Cheer Camp, July 8-12, 2024, IU Bloomington
- NWHS Cross Country, June 24, 2024, Warren Dunes

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

**VII. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

- A. District Student Discipline
- B. Graduation Commencement – Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM

**VIII. 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: 5-0

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christina Eshelman, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trevor Hershberger, Secretary

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