

WA-NEE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Elkhart-Kosciusko Counties, Indiana
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
August 14, 2023

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, August 14, 2023, in their first meeting of the month.

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 Vice-President Curt Flickinger the following members responded as present:

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

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

II. SPECIAL BOARD RECOGNITION

There were none.

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS & PUBLIC INPUT

There were none.

IV. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

President Eshelman announced that the board would be holding the First Joint Project and Preliminary Determination Public Hearing for the proposed projects. She then shared the instruction on those interested in speaking at the hearing, to please sign-in sheet and include your name and address. After a presentation by our advisors, there will be an opportunity for the public to make comments about the projects. We will ask that each person limit your comments to 3 minutes and that the topic be limited to the proposed projects under consideration.

The purpose of the First Joint Project and Preliminary Determination Public Hearing for the proposed projects is to give notice to the public and allows for all interested parties to have input that Wa-Nee Community Schools is considering entering into the proposed projects and an additional appropriation bond. The Board considers the lease agreement and additional appropriations necessary to meet the need for the renovations and improvements to NorthWood High School, NorthWood Middle School, and Wakarusa Elementary School. Notice was given by publication in the Wakarusa Tribune and August 2, 2023, and Heartland News on August 3, 2023, along with posting in three public places within the school district. The description of the additional appropriations is for appropriations in the amount of \$9,000,000 for the renovation of and improvements to NorthWood High School, NorthWood Middle School, and Wakarusa Elementary School, and incidental expenses to be incurred in connection with the building project and the issuance of bonds.

President Eshelman then asked if anyone in the public wished to speak on the proposed projects and additional appropriations for the proposed renovation projects. After the public is given a chance to speak, President Eshelman announced the Public Hearing for the proposed projects and additional appropriation bonds to be closed and the minutes should reflect that the Public Hearing was held.

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School board member Shawn Johnson made, and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to close the Public Hearing concerning the proposed projects and additional appropriation bonds for the renovation projects as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 6-0

V. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

A. 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: 6-0.

VI. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Consideration of the regular board meeting minutes for July 27, 2023
- B. Consideration of the claims dated August 14, 2023
- C. Consideration of the Personnel items

- i. **Employment** (the following shall be employed upon satisfactorily completing all pre-employment Expanded Criminal History Background & Drug Testing)

- i. Linda Miller, Bus Route #57, effective August 17, 2023
 - ii. Kim Croy, P/T Custodian @ NES, effective August 17, 2023
 - iii. Garrett Stuckman, Varsity Ass't Wrestling Coach @ NWHS, effective July 31, 2023
 - iv. Carrie O'Keefe, JV Volley Head Coach @ NWHS, effective July 31, 2023
 - v. Shelly Lengacher, Interim Instructional Coach @ WES, effective August 16, 2023
 - vi. Kristen Koteskey, Cross Country Coach @ NWMS, effective July 31, 2023
 - vii. Roxanne Hubbard, F/T Cafeteria @ NWHS, effective August 28, 2023
 - viii. Kelli Bowser, .5 Instructional Ass't @ NWMS, effective August 17, 2023
 - ix. Kirsten Schrock, Special Ed Ass't @ NWHS, effective August 17, 2023
 - x. Jen Shetler, Temp. 4th Grade Teacher @ WES, effective August 2023
 - xi. Abigail Miller, ELL Teacher @ NWMS, effective with completion of pre-employment screening
 - xii. Amanda Wilson, 4th Grade Teacher @ NES, effective with completion of pre-employment screening
 - xiii. Tara Powell, Special Ed Ass't @ NWMS, effective with completion of pre-employment screening
 - xiv. Halle DeMien, EL Instructional Ass't @ NWMS, effective with completion of pre-employment screening
 - xv. Pamela Foss, Special Ed Ass't @ NES, effective with completion of pre-employment screening
 - xvi. Ashley Escamilla, Instructional Ass't @ NES, effective with completion of pre-employment screening
 - xvii. Lisa Norville, 8th Grade Cheer @ NWMS, effective August 1, 2023
 - xviii. Sonya Wolfe, Boys Basketball Feeder Coordinator, effective August 14, 2023
 - xix. Jean Yerger, Temp. Secretary @ NWMS, effective August 14, 2023
 - xx. Brooke Hess, 3rd Grade Teacher @ WES, effective August 16, 2023

1. Retirement/Resignation/End of Employment

- i. Kelly Simmons, Life Skills Ass't @ NES, effective July 31, 2023
 - ii. Melissa Chupp, F/T Food Service @ NES, effective July 31, 2023
 - iii. Cassie Fleetwood, Special Ed Ass't @ NWMS, effective August 2, 2023
 - iv. Kalee Dosal, Special Ed Ass't @ NES, effective August 8, 2023
 - v. Rod Lone, Freshman Wrestling Coach, effective August 9, 2023
 - vi. Beth Sechrist, Special Ed Ass't @ WV, effective August 9, 2023
 - vii. Stacy Casteel, 7th Grade Science @ NWMS, effective August 9, 2023

2. Transfer

- i. Kristi Bourn, from Life Skills Ass't @ NWMS to Life Skills Ass't @ NWHS, effective August 16, 2023
 - ii. Brandy Reedy, from Bus Route Driver to Substitute Driver, effective July 31, 2023
 - iii. Brandy Reedy, from Special Ed Ass't to Substitute, effective July 31, 2023
 - iv. Abby Jessie, from Instructional Ass't to Substitute, effective July 31, 2023

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- v. Allison Brown, from Bus Route # 57 to Bus Route #11, effective August 17, 2023
- vi. Erin Haseley, from Instructional Coach @ WES to Instructional Coach @ WV, effective Aug. 16, 2023
- vii. Erin Haseley, from G/T Coord. @ WES to G/T Coord. @ WV, effective August 16, 2023
- viii. Ledia Olivera, from Special Ed Ass't to Life Skills Ass't @ NWHS, effective August 17, 2023
- ix. Toby Yoder, from Route 45 to Route 14, effective August 17, 2023
- x. Courtney Grubbs, from Special Ed Ass't to Lifeskills Ass't @ NES, effective August 17, 2023
- xi. Pam Foss, from Title I Instructional Ass't to Special Ed Ass't @ NES, effective August 17, 2023
- xii. Tonya Fleetwood, from F/T Cafeteria NWHS to F/T Cafeteria @ NES, effective August 16, 2023
- xiii. Elizabeth Eberle, from 3rd Grade to 5th Grade teacher @ WES, effective August 16, 2023
- xiv. Laura Rhodes, from Special Instr. Art to P/T Special Instr. Art - P/T Lifeskills Teacher @ NES
- xv. Matt Protzman, from .5 Robotics Coach to 1.0 Robotics Coach @ NES, effective 2023-24 SY
- xvi. Mark Aukerman, from Interventionist to 7th Grade Science @ NWMS, effective August 11, 2023

3. Leave of Absence

- i. Doris Lewis, Secretary @ NWMS, effective TBD
- ii. Stephanie Slabaugh, 4th Grade @ WV, effective October 30, 2023 to February 12, 2024
- iii. Lindsay London, District MTH, effective September 12, 2023 to November 14, 2023

D. Consideration of Professional Leave Requests

- i. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, September 14, 2023, TBD
- ii. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, October 12, 2023, TBD
- iii. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, November 16, 2023, TBD
- iv. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, December 14, 2023, TBD
- v. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, January 11, 2024, TBD
- vi. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, February 8, 2024 TBD
- vii. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, March 14, 2024, TBD
- viii. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, April 11, 2024, TBD
- ix. Shelia Cripe, NIESC Food Co-Op Meetings, May 17, 2024, TBD
- x. Grace Allen, National FFA Convention, November 1-3, 2023, Indianapolis
- xi. Lindsay London, CCCEC School Year Kickoff, September 1, 2023, Beacon Health & Fitness, Elkhart

E. Consideration of Grants and Donations

- i. \$200 donation from Cutting Edge Machine & Tool, Inc to purchase 20 Ti-30XIIS Calculators
- ii. \$2,000 donation from Scott Tuttle to be used for NorthWood Athletics
- iii. \$100 donation from James Malcom & Associates to be used for NWHS Girls Golf
- iv. \$922.25 donation from Bontrager Concrete to be used for NWHS Boys Soccer Camp Shirts
- v. \$265.50 donation from First Brethren Church to be used for WV Student Meals
- vi. \$350 donation from Kiwanis Club of Nappanee to be used for NWHS Robotics Team

School board member Curt Flickinger made, and Terry Graber seconded the motion to approve the Consent Items including the additional consent items as presented by Mrs. Eshelman. Vote: 6-0

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were none.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the WCS Evaluation Plan

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to approve the WCS Evaluation Plan as presented by Dr. Thomas. Vote: 6-0

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- B. Approval of the additional curriculum within the English Department.

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to approve the additional curriculum within the English Department.as presented by Dr. Thomas. Vote: 6-0

- C. Approval of the Vape Diversion Course

School board member Shawn Johnson made, and Trevor Hershberger seconded the motion to approve the Vape Diversion Course as presented by Dr. Thomas. Vote: 6-0

- D. Approval of the permission to advertise for the 2024 Budget

School board member Shawn Johnson made, and Don Lehman seconded the motion to approve the permission to advertise for the 2024 Budget as presented by Mrs. Libby. Vote: 6-0

- E. Approval of the a out of state and/or overnight travel requests for:

- NWHS Cheer to Indiana State Cheer Competition, November 4 & 5, 2023, New Castle High School
- NWHS FFA Chapter Officer's to Leadership Workshop, September 8-10, 2023, Trafalgar, IN
- NWHS FFA members to FIRE Conference, November 17-19, 2023, Trafalgar, IN
- NWHS FFA Hippology Team to National Hippology Contest, October 10-11, 2023, Columbus, OH
- NWHS FFA to National FFA Convention, November 1-3, 2023, Indianapolis

School board member Don Lehman made, and Curt Flickinger seconded the motion to approve the a out of state and/or overnight travel requests as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 6-0

- F. Approval of the employment of Christal Edwards, P/T Custodian @ NWMS

School board member Trevor Hershberger made, and Brian Topping seconded the motion to approve the employment of Christal Edwards, P/T Custodian @ NWMS as presented by Dr. Croner. Vote: 6-0

IX. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

- i. Policy 6111.01 – Matters Involving Certain Legal Expenses – Scot Croner
- ii. 2023 ILEARN Results Update
- iii. Opening of schools – Scot Croner
- iv. Construction Update – Scot Croner

There being no further business to come to the attention of the board school board member Shawn Johnson made, and Curt Flicker seconded the motion to adjourn. Vote: 6-0

SIGNED: _____
Christina Eshelman, President

Shawn C. Johnson, Secretary

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