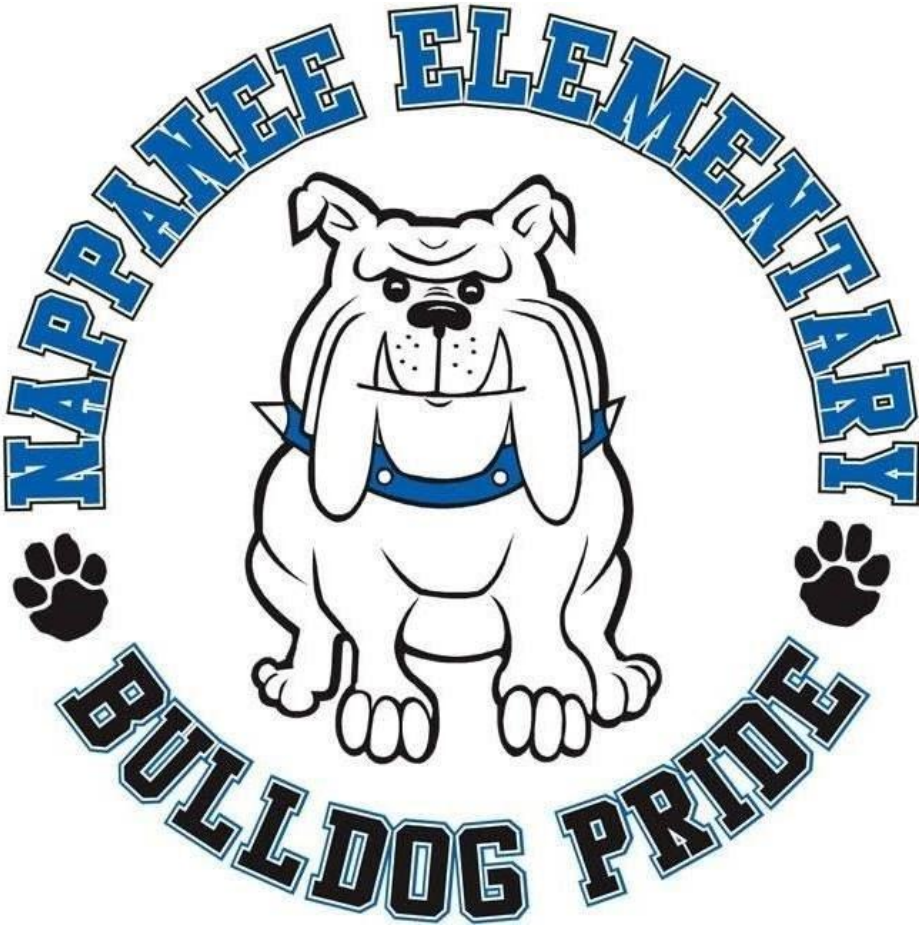
Title I Schoolwide Plan
2026-2027



Nappanee Elementary School

755 East Van Buren Street

Nappanee, IN 46550

Phone: 574-773-7421

Introduction

Nappanee Elementary is located in the town of Nappanee, a small rural community in north-central Indiana at the intersection of US 6 and SR 19. "Time" magazine has listed Nappanee as one of the Top Ten small towns in America that has been successful in reinventing itself to face the future in prosperity. The most recent US Census shows Nappanee has a population of 6,899 people. Nappanee is a community of small businesses, industries, and farms coexisting next to the horse-and-buggy Amish culture. Recreational vehicles, manufactured housing, and increasing tourism have become the dominant industries in local economy. Nappanee is home to an award-winning public library.

Nappanee Elementary has a centrally located library, office area, and courtyard. Classrooms cover grades K-5 with additional rooms providing computer resources, special education services, Science Lab, Title I Intervention, Staff Training Room, and a Leveled Reading Book Room, plus specials rooms including Art, Music, Library, STEM and a large gymnasium and cafeteria. There are approximately 370 students in attendance for the 2024-2025 school year with 30 certified staff. Other, non-certified staff, includes a school nurse, media assistants, classroom assistants, secretaries, custodians, kitchen staff, and bus drivers for a total staff of nearly 65 employees.

Community members work together to nurture children through organizations that support Nappanee Elementary students. These include Nappanee Public Library Reading and Science programs, Boys and Girls Club, and local Boy Scout and 4-H groups. The Nappanee Police Department provides a Resource Officer to work in all school buildings and a crossing guard before and after school each day. The Nappanee Parks Department offers swimming and golf lessons in addition to organized sports programs.

Wa-Nee Community School Corporation and its surrounding communities strive to meet the developmental needs of children by providing them with a strong academic foundation with skills necessary to become responsible, prosperous citizens of the future.

School Information

School Name: Nappanee Elementary School

Address: 755 East Van Buren Street, Nappanee, IN 46550

Telephone: 574-773-7421

School web address: https://www.wanee.org/nappaneeelementary_home.aspx

Corporation number: 2285

School number: 1743

Principal: Mr. Randy Cripe

Superintendent: Dr. Scot Croner

Table of Contents:

I. Corporation Mission Statement

Preparing today's students for tomorrow's challenges.

II. Elementary School Mission Statement

Lead with strength. Live with Integrity. Learn with Perseverance. Leave with Confidence.

III. Corporation Profile

Wa-Nee Community School Corporation and its surrounding communities strive to meet the developmental needs of children by providing them with a strong academic foundation with skills necessary to become responsible, prosperous citizens of the future.

Wa-Nee Community School Corporation serves the towns of Nappanee and Wakarusa in Elkhart and Kosciusko counties. The school district, 155 square miles in size, includes a sizable Amish population. The racial makeup of the city is 83.1% White, 0.3% African American, 0.0% Native American, 1.4% Asian, 0.0% Pacific Islander, 4.6% from two or more races, and 13.1% of the population is Hispanic or Latino of any race. The median income for a household in the city is $61,700 which is up from $45,988 in 2000. The per capita income for the city is $27,447. Approximately 9.6% of families live at or below the poverty line. Family and community values are highly regarded. Churches and religious practice are an important part of many citizens' lives. Consisting of three elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school, the school corporation has a population of approximately 3,000 students in grades K-12.

IV. Elementary School Profile

Nappanee Elementary has a centrally located library, office area, and courtyard. Classrooms cover grades K-5 with additional rooms providing computer resources, special education services, Science Lab, Title I Intervention, Staff Training Room, and a Leveled Reading Book Room, plus specials rooms including Art, Music, Library, STEM and a large gymnasium and cafeteria. There are approximately 360 students in attendance for the 2024-2025 school year with 30 certified staff. Other, non-certified staff, includes a school nurse, media assistants, classroom assistants, secretaries, custodians, kitchen staff, and bus drivers for a total staff of nearly 65 employees.

V. Community Profile

Community members work together to nurture children through organizations that support Nappanee Elementary students. These include Nappanee Public Library Reading and Science programs, Boys and Girls Club, and local Boy Scout and 4-H groups. A full-time School Resource Officer is on duty at Nappanee Elementary every school day. The Nappanee Parks Department offers swimming and golf lessons in addition to organized sports programs.

VI. Nappanee Demographics and Assessment Data

- Student Enrollment – 355
- Ethnicity - White-85%, Hispanic-9.7%, 2 or more races-2.4%
- Free/Reduced – 33.78%
- Special Education – 16.2%
- English Language Learners - 10.0%
- Attendance Rate – 94.9%
- Assessment Data - EL-58.5%, Math-64.0%, Sci-58.1%, SS-62.3%

VII. Component #1: Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Student Achievement: Nappanee Elementary is blessed to work alongside many supportive families who partner with the classroom teacher to provide support as needed. These relationships have helped create a culture of excellence and assessment results that consistently surpass state averages. There are, however, several families who do not have the same access to resources and oftentimes cannot take advantage of preschool opportunities prior to kindergarten. There is a wide range of abilities within each classroom. The challenge is to close this achievement gap through intensive intervention to help all students reach their potential.

Curriculum Instruction / Professional Development: Nappanee Elementary has a veteran faculty and staff. Many opportunities are given for teachers to collaborate weekly through early release time and other grade level planning sessions during their daily block time. Weekly sessions are established for grade levels to meet with Instructional Coach to go over curriculum instruction planning and to identify specific grade level and student needs. The Instructional Coach has a wealth of knowledge to share with teachers related to curricular needs, standards, technology, assessment and best practice techniques for intervention. The sessions with the Instructional Coach focus on the Data Wise process through which teachers develop a Problem of Practice and work through the entire DW process from beginning to end. These focused sessions provide support not only to our classroom teachers but also to our classified staff who work closely with children in carrying out much of our intervention plan. The challenge continues to be finding enough time to process the information learned and to put it into practice. With all the state mandates and changes within education, the teachers are doing their best to remain positive and to make sure our students have the greatest chance for success.

Family & Community Involvement: Family involvement is what makes NES such a great place to work and learn. Parents are involved through a strong Parent-Teacher Organization, classroom volunteers, mentorship program, and other classroom activities such as field trips and special events. Parents can be seen walking students to and from school each day and engaging in activities in the community after school or on the weekend. NES invites families to participate in events outside of the regular school day with activities such as: All-school Bulldog Open House, Parent-Teacher Conferences, music programs, and our annual All Pro Dad events. The challenge is to continue to reach out to those hard-to-reach parents who are reluctant to participate. Many of the before and after-school events have helped us reach more of these parents who do not always

respond to the academic-related activities. There are more ideas on the horizon to help build this bridge to connect with all families.

School Context & Organization: Nappanee Elementary values the input of all stakeholders. The School Improvement Team is made up of the Principal, School Counselor, Mental Health Counselor, Instructional Coach, two Special Education Teachers, and at least one teacher at each grade level. This group meets regularly throughout the year and values input from students and other teachers and support staff. When decisions are made and additional input is needed, our PTO serves as a great reference for providing feedback. Decisions are made collectively in order to create a foundation of support built on trust. Not all decisions are unanimous which means the greatest challenge is supporting and working alongside those who may not be fully on board. NES has a strong team who work well together. Although challenges exist, the support generated among the staff helps overcome many barriers.

VIII. Component #2: Implementation of Schoolwide Reform Strategies

Various formative, summative and diagnostic testing data along with classroom observations are used to identify areas each student needs additional support. These assessments are given at intervals throughout the year to analyze strengths and weaknesses of students. Classroom teacher observations are a factor in analyzing. An assessment chart will be maintained to track student progress.

Multi-Tiered System Support (MTSS) is an instructional framework that includes universal screening of all students, multiple tiers of instruction and support services, and an integrated data collection and assessment system to inform decisions at each tier of instruction.

Phonics First is a multisensory, phonics-based approach to teaching beginning, at-risk, struggling, learning disabled dyslexic and ELL readers. Its focus is to use scientifically research-based learning strategies to teach students systematic processes for decoding and encoding. This resource is used to develop a creative plan for each student. Title l small group instruction supports the students utilizing these programs.

Assessments, observations and MTSS data is then put through the Data Wise Improvement Process which is an eight-step model that guides teams of educators working collaboratively to improve teaching and learning through evidence-based analysis. This information is analyzed with our MTSS team and discussed weekly in collaboration teams.

IX. Professional Development

Nappanee Elementary is fortunate to have an in-house Instructional Coach and Intervention Specialist to help provide immediate support to teachers in the classroom. This support can be in the area of curriculum, technology, or in utilizing best practice techniques in the classroom. The following professional development opportunities are just part of what teachers and assistants are offered each year.

A. All teachers participate in collaboration sessions each week focused on curriculum, assessments, and instruction. In addition to these sessions, the teachers will also participate in bi-weekly grade

level sessions focused on MTSS sessions to discuss students most in need of support in the area of academics and/or behavior.

B. Member of All Write Consortium which offers free professional development in the area of Language Arts and Math.

C. Instructional Coach attends grade level planning sessions to help ensure support is given as needed to support Indiana College and Career Readiness Standards.

D. Instructional Coach meets individually with K-5 teachers to support classroom instruction and focus on areas of need (i.e. specific learning needs).

E. Hot topic technology sessions are offered by classroom teachers and/or Technology Specialist to provide support as needed for these topics.

F. Conferences and workshops outside the district are available as needed for additional support.

X. Attracting Effective Staff

Nappanee Elementary School is very fortunate to be an A rated school for the last several years this system was in place. Wa-Nee Community Schools is fortunate to have a positive reputation within the county and teachers want to become part of the Wa-Nee family.

XI. Parental Involvement

Nappanee Elementary welcomes parental support and encourages parents and community members to be involved in the educational process in a variety of ways:

Title l & Title lll Family Nights, Orientation Day, Kindergarten/1st Grade Information Night, Back to School Night Grades K-5, Open House, Parent Volunteer Program, PTO, Parent/Teacher Conferences, Parent resources to enhance curriculum and instruction, School Fundraisers, Book Fair, Learning Trips, Classroom Parent Volunteers, Volunteer Luncheon, Teacher Appreciation, Track and Field Day, Awards Programs.

XII. Transitioning of students

Students identified during Kindergarten Screening are placed into immediate intervention support to best meet their level of need as they begin kindergarten.

XIII. Teacher involvement in decision making, assessment

A. All classroom teachers will provide 120 minutes of reading instruction.

B. Teachers will use best practice techniques.

C. Continue ongoing MTSS sessions between General Education/Special Education/Title 1 teachers to provide a common focus for individual students who receive Tier 1 and Tier 2 level of services.

D. Classrooms should show physical evidence of a balanced literacy framework.

E. Organize and implement various groupings for focused ILEARN preparation (Grades 3-5).

F. Continue the use of Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions for targeted student groups.

G. Teachers and assistants trained in the use of Phonics First to provide support to all learners and be able to provide remediations support to students through Tier 2 or 3 intervention.

H. Continue implementing a focused Intervention Time for Grades 3-5. Targeted students will receive focused small group reading intervention while students not participating in the remediation sessions will receive leveled support in the classroom. Classroom instruction will be a mix of high ability and general studies all intended to provide equitable learning for all students. During this intervention time we will be able to provide Tier 2 and Tier 3 support for students in need of service.

IVX. Activities and programs to ensure students having difficulty mastering proficient and advanced levels of the academic achievement are provided with effective, timely additional assistance.

Tier I instruction is given using an adopted core reading program. For the upcoming 2026-2027 school year, NES will use CKLA for our ELA adoption. Data is collected through running records, benchmark assessments, as well as other local assessments for grades 3-5. Data is analyzed regularly by grade levels and the school leadership team. Students who have difficulty mastering proficient and advanced levels are referred to the MTSS team, which meets every week. An intervention plan is developed for each student - including classroom interventions and small group interventions using Phonics First. Students at the K-2 level who have difficulty mastering proficient and advanced levels AND who demonstrate characteristics of dyslexia may also use mCLASS, a computer adaptive individualized software program.

XV. Program Evaluation / Annual Review Process

Nappanee Elementary relies on the input of all stakeholders to evaluate the effectiveness of the school. The School Improvement Team works closely with staff, students and families to monitor areas of strength and areas in need of improvement. The team meets regularly to discuss needs as they relate to curriculum, instruction, and assessment in addition to the well-being of students' mental health. We find ways to celebrate our successes and look for ways to improve areas that need additional attention.

Our School Improvement Team meets regularly and information is shared between the building principal and district leaders (Superintendent and Curriculum Director) during weekly sessions. Through each of these sessions, our team shares our grade level goals and evaluates where we stand in comparison to the desired result. Highlights and growth areas are shared by team members. Specific areas addressed include: Reading Goals; Math Goals; Attendance Goals. Each of these areas help build a well-rounded community of learners.