

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WABASH COUNTY

A meeting of the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Metropolitan School District of Wabash County, Indiana ("School District"), was held at the Administration Building, 204 N. 300 W., Wabash, IN, on February 23, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. (EST), pursuant to notice duly given to all members in accordance with I.C. 20-26-4-1, I.C. 20-26-4-3, I.C. 5-14-1.5 and the rules of the Board.

**MSDWC School Board met in regular session on February 23, 2021, at 6:00 at Central Office. Seating was limited, and attendance was subjected to social distancing guidelines. All members of the public attending to provide comment were accommodated. We continued to livestream the meeting on Facebook Live. The public was able to comment in person or on Facebook Live during the appropriate times.**

Todd Dazey, President, called the meeting to order. Mike Keaffaber, Superintendent, Chris Kuhn, Assistant Superintendent, and Tim Drake, Chief Academic Officer, were present. A roll call of members on the Board were shown to be present as follows: Matt Driscoll, Kevin Bowman, Christian Rosen, Scott Hauptert. Also present were Mike McDivitt, Joel Martin, Janette Moore, and Steve Downs.

The pledge to the flag was recited.

Future Board meetings are scheduled March 9, 2021, 5:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building, March 23, 2021, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building, and April 27, 2021, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building.

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the donation of 165 books (estimated value \$1,600.00) from United Fund for Southwood Elementary and Metro North Elementary, Pre-K and Kindergarten classes was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from an anonymous donor for Northfield Athletics was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$35.00 donation from Cathy Gohmann for Southwood High School Prom was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$18,000.00 grant from Early Learning Indiana-Come Back Stronger Fund, supported by the Lilly Endowment was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Donors Choose Grant for Mrs. Herring's Kindergarten class at Metro North Elementary for STEM material (estimated value \$372.86) was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

#### School Recognition:

From Joel Martin, Principal at Sharp Creek Elementary. Sharp Creek had two robotics teams qualify for state! Teams will be competing on March 6, 2021, for the state skills competition. We are very excited as this is the first year that Sharp Creek has had two teams qualify at the state level! Congratulations to Team A: Kiana Bretzman, Keisha Dacuba, Ashlyn Macy, and Easton McKillip; also, congratulations to Team B: Nate Hodson, Preston Moore, Gavin Lester, Brayden Gidley, Cole Hemingway, Madelyn Holley, and Stella Stephens. Congratulations goes out to coaches Amber and Kevin Bretzman.

From Mike McDivitt, Principal at White's Jr/Sr High School. We are pleased to have Barry Bowyer back in the building after a bout with COVID-19. Mr. Bowyer is an essential part of our school success. He connects with our students in a manner that is respectful and without any hint of judgement. He blends this with just the right amount of accountability. Our students respect Mr. Bowyer and know that he is for them. His value to our building is immeasurable.

Mr. McDivitt recognized three students; Mia W. has been a diligent and consistent student since her arrival on campus. She has completed eight credits and is on track to be back at grade level by the time she exits campus.

Desmond S. is a very hard worker and is polite and respectful of staff and peers. Brings a great attitude to school every day.

Dayton B is working very hard to complete his final credits towards graduation since his arrival on campus.

From Janette Moore, Principal at Metro North Elementary. Congratulations to our two Metro North Robotics teams for earning two spots at the VEX IQ state robotics meet on March 6, 2021. This is the first time Metro North has had a qualifying team participate at the state level. We are proud of our 3rd grade students: Jaymes Slone, Charlotte Harrington, Liam King, Andrew Biehl, Madelynn Foudray, Ryker McKillip, Jackson Renbarger, Cheyanne Wells, Elijah Roark, and Coy Norris.

Thank you to Amy Schmidt and Erica Tyson and the Southwood Elementary robotics family for organizing and hosting our Wabash County Robotics League. Due to their hard work, twelve elementary robotics teams were able to compete this season.

Thank you to all of our bus drivers for their watchful eyes! A great grandparent recently contacted Metro North to share that her great grandson rides Wendy Lynn's bus. One afternoon Miss Wendy was dropping her great grandson off at his bus stop in Roann (the library). Miss Wendy noticed a different vehicle in the parking lot and continued to watch as the great grandson approached the odd vehicle. All of the kids were away from the bus, and Miss Wendy was clear

to proceed with her route, but she continued to wait, holding up traffic, to ensure that the great grandson was safe. The great grandparent was thankful for Miss Wendy and the care she took to ensure the safety of her students.

Thank you to Amy, Andy and Aden Eads for opening their home one cold morning for the stranded students riding bus 28. Mr. Larry Swan's bus broke down one morning just as he was approaching the Eads residence. Instead of students waiting on the chilly bus, the Eads family invited them into their home to wait for the replacement bus to arrive. One of our Metro North first graders shared with Mrs. Moore that Mrs. Eads made her feel safe and not worry about how everyone was going to get safely to school.

Mr. Keaffaber reported for the principals who were not in attendance. From Andrew McDaniel, Principal at Southwood Junior/Senior High School. We would like to recognize the students who auditioned for and made it to Indiana All State Choir. All five of the students who auditioned made it into the choir. Because of the pandemic, the number of participants was reduced from 250 to 150, but Southwood had the most students in this area make it to the choir (this area includes six counties). These students are Isaac King, Cage Dubois, Katelyn Ranck, Lyndzey Silvers, and Isabel Davis. These students will perform on June 4, 2021, at the Palladium in Carmel. Congrats to our students and congratulations to Mrs. Keefer for her leadership and instruction!

From Jay Snyder Principal at Northfield Jr/Sr High School. Congratulations to the Northfield Girls Basketball Team on a great season. The team won the TRC, Sectional, and Regional and lost a tough one in semi-state. Thanks to the players and coaches and congratulations on a great season.

Northfield is excited to announce that Grant Dale's work, Quarantined MUCH???, was selected as one of 5 American Visions Nominees for this year. This means that out of 1,410 total works entered in our region, Grant's work is one of the five "Best-of-Show" works chosen to represent our region at the national level! At the national level one will be selected as the American Visions Medalist. So, Grant has a 1 in 5 chance of winning the American Vision Medal at Nationals. Grant's work will be featured on the title wall of the exhibition and receive special recognition during the Virtual Awards Ceremony on February 14. Congratulations Grant and thank you to Art Teacher, Adam Zwiebel for all he does to support our artists at Northfield.

NHS had two teams qualify for the Indiana VEX Robotics State Remote Skills Championship. The competition will be held remotely on March 6, 2021. Good luck to team members 7th grade: Mason Lyons, Logan Lyons, and Neil Long; 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Hank Gray, Luke Hauptert, and Connor Dillingham.

From Tonya Boone Director of CAR Program. The CAR Program would like to recognize Jozanna Corn, Academic Advisor to our CAR students, for the extensive amount of time and organizational efforts it has taken to plan ISTEP testing for our juniors and seniors residing throughout the state of Indiana. With the interruptions of weather and Covid, we have been able to push forward and meet with over 100 students throughout the state and the task is

not yet complete; we are still rolling. Much of our ability to complete this incredible task is due to Mrs. Corn's advanced preparation, communication with every individual student and parent/guardian months in advance, and her ability to organize and mobilize our team to meet the task. We sincerely appreciate her leadership and hard work ensuring that our students are able to meet this piece of their graduation requirement.

The CAR Program would also like to extend our appreciation to our juniors and seniors as well as their parents and guardians for the time and efforts it took to participate in ISTEP. Many of our students and parents made multiple adjustments to their work schedules and sacrificed time and finances to ensure our students arrived at the regional test sites throughout the state. We are extremely grateful for and proud of their efforts and commitment to their child's education! Additionally, we had key community members in Johnson County and Huntington County who opened their doors to our students and allowed our team to set up test sites, despite the concern of Covid. Natalie Fellure and her team at the Boys and Girls Club of Johnson County and Jan Williams at the Huntington County Youth Service Bureau have become key partners with our district throughout the month of February and into the foreseeable future by opening their doors, creating exceptional testing environments, and hosting our MSD CAR students in their academic pursuits. Much gratitude from the CAR team to our parents, students, and regional community partners!

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

Mrs. Schmidt thanked Mrs. Moore for recognizing her.

The Regular Meeting Minutes from Tuesday February 23, 2021, were approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Claims were approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

Payroll was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Jenny Wilson, Cafeteria Manager, Metro North Elementary, effective February 24, 2021, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the retirement of Joy Oetting, Teacher, Northfield High School, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year; Kathy Steele, Custodian, Northfield High School, effective May 28, 2021, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Northfield JH Wrestling Coaches: Scott Pennington, Head Coach, Eric Kirtlan, Assistant Coach; Ed Shenefield, Assistant Coach were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

Northfield Spring Coaches are as follows, Brandon Baker, Head Softball; Melissa Allen, Assistant Softball; Rick Brewer, Assistant Softball; Jordan Scott, Assistant Softball; Kyle France, Assistant Softball; Gary Hunter, Volunteer Softball; Jordan Eckman, Volunteer Softball; Tory Shafer, Head Baseball; Stan Cox, Assistant Baseball; Greg Tomlinson, Assistant Baseball; Braden Ripplinger, Assistant Baseball; Ryan Sincroft, JH Track; Cody McClure, JH Head Golf; Aaron Shaw, Volunteer Assistant JH Golf; Ty Baer, Volunteer Assistant JH Golf; Collin Dawes, Head Golf; Matt Burkhart, Assistant Baseball; Adam Zwiebel, Head Track; Scott Hauptert Volunteer Assistant Track; Krista Hoover, Assistant Track; Jenna Halderman, Assistant Track; Marianne Milam, Head Tennis; Casey Dyson, Assistant Tennis were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

Southwood Spring Coaches are as follows, Carl Pace, Head Softball; Garry Marion, Assistant Softball; Chad Lambert, Assistant Softball; Joe Gouvan, Assistant Softball; Cynthia Bell, Head Tennis; Gary Dale, Head Boys Golf; Devin Dale, Assistant Boys Golf; Brad Wright, JH Golf; Ron Huston, Assistant JH Golf; Warren Dailey, Head Baseball; Dalton Gentry, Assistant Baseball; Cory Blocker, Assistant Baseball; Danny Lloyd, Assistant Baseball; Zach Ball, Assistant Baseball were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

#### Heartland Career Center Report:

Matt Driscoll reported on the recent Board meeting. The 2021-2022 school calendar was approved. The Ivy Tech Adult Industrial Maintenance class was approved to use Heartland Career Center. The center has applied for a Perkins Grant for \$75,000-\$100,000.00 to purchase a drone. Also approved was a Basic Emergency Medical Technician class.

#### Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Mike Keaffaber gave a COVID-19 update stating numbers are down significantly for our schools and the county is designated as yellow.

Mr. Keaffaber wanted to thank Cole Wyatt and the County Highway Department for all of their communication and hard work during the days of snowfall last week.

The RISE program will be changing for the 2021-2022 school year.

Mr. Keaffaber reported that Southwood Elementary to date has 13 students registered for the 3-year-old Preschool class and 14 for the 4-year-old. Metro North Elementary has 11 3-year-olds and 37 4-year-olds registered.

Mr. Keaffaber reported that the recent ADM count is up 50 students from the fall.

Curriculum Report:

Mr. Tim Drake wanted to repeat again how exciting it was to have 12 robotics teams out of 14 from MSDWC going to the State competition. He reminded everyone that the Academic Banquet will be March 9, 2021.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve the Board Meeting revisions as follows: April 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday only; June 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday only; October 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday only; December 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday only was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business:

None.

Board Policy:

None.

Public Comment (All Agenda Items):

None.

Items from Board Members:

None.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

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TODD DAZEY, PRESIDENT

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KEVIN BOWMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

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SCOTT HAUPERT, BOARD MEMBER

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CHRISTIAN ROSEN, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

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MATT DRISCOLL, SECRETARY