

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 22, 2022, at 6:52 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 22, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Office. We will continue to livestream the meeting on Facebook Live. The public may 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: Kevin Bowman, Christian Rosen, and Matt Driscoll. Scott Haupert was absent. Also present were Jay Snyder, Asia Miller, Eric Kirtlan, Cindy Miller, and Steve Downs,

The pledge to the flag was recited.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for March 8, 2022, 5:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building, March 22, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building, and April 26, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building. There will be no meeting on April 12, 2022.

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Zoomer RV of Indiana for Sharp Creek Robotics program was approved by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

School Recognition:

From Jay Snyder, Principal at Northfield Jr/Sr High School, on Friday 2/11/22 at the Bluffton game NHS Boys Basketball received an Exemplary Behavior Report from official Dan Beauchamp. Beauchamp reported "the team, including all players and coaching staff showed tremendous sportsmanship the entire game. Even after being called for violations, they would run over and hand the ball to the official. They were helping opponents up off the floor. Very respectful. You can tell that everyone has bought in as it was through and through the entire team. Hopefully the fans will see what the kids and coaching staff are doing."

From Mr. Johnston: "Choir students participated in the ISSMA District solo and ensemble contest on Saturday, February 12, 2022, at Carroll High School in Fort Wayne. They earned 3 gold ratings and 4 silver ratings. 7th graders Emma Wilson, Trinity Thorn and Landon

Mast all participated. Landon received a perfect score! A Capella Choir members Kayden Cruz, Anna Hodson and Addie France sang in an ensemble. Addie France sang a solo earning a gold rating to advance to the state contest held on Saturday, February 19, 2022. Congratulations!

Congratulations to these Northfield Students for making the Wabash County Honors Band and Choir for 2022! They will be playing at the Ford Theatre on Friday, March 11 with other Wabash County Honors members. Honors Band Students are: Landon Shoue, Claire Thompson, Hailey Barton, Turner Stephens, Isaiah Beall, Madison Griffin, Alexis Leffel, John Nesler, Kyle Wynn, Natalee Keller. Honors Choir Students are: Kayden Cruz, Anna Hodson, Addie France, Jazmyn Kelly.

This past weekend 10 Northfield students participated in the Huntington University High School Art Exhibit. Asia Miller walked away with an Honorable Mention for her Sculpture "Break Free" other students who competed were: Kenya Barrus- Photography (2), Ethan Sloan- Photography, Jessica Ray- Mixed Media, Emma Bone- Drawing, Avry Napier- Drawing, Layne Denton-Ceramics, Mae Napier- Ceramics, Jaycie Krom- Ceramics.

Congratulations to Lady Norse Girls Basketball players Emily Pennington and Hannah Holmes for being selected 1st team all-conference and Ainsley Dale for being selected Honorable Mention.

From Andrew McDaniel, Southwood Jr/Sr High School Principal. Southwood would like to recognize Benjamin Roudebush, 2019 Southwood Graduate, for being named to the President's List for the Fall 2021 Term at Trine University. Roudebush is majoring in Computer Science and Information Technology. To earn President's List Honors, Trine University students must complete a minimum of 12 hours and have a grade point average of 3.75-4.00. Way to go, Ben!

From Miss Knee: Congratulations to the students listed below for making the 2022 Wabash County Honors Band! These students will perform at the Honeywell Center in the Ford Theater on Friday, March 11, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. alongside other selected students from Northfield, Wabash, and Manchester. Please make sure you congratulate them when you see them in the hallways/class! Flute-Hattie Cochran, Dakota Wilson, Kaylee Nelson, Aubrey Carey; Clarinet-Lyndzy Silvers, Jared Richards, Megan Davis, McKenzie Moorman; Tenor Saxophone-Luke Herring; Baritone Saxophone-Ethan Lochard; Trumpet-Sarah Smith; Percussion-Alice Guyer.

Southwood is very proud to announce that Xavier Miller, 2021 SHS Graduate, recently successfully completed his Field Training Exercise and received his Cross Rifles from the Army! Way to go, Xavier!

From Miss Knee: A very long and successful day at our Vocal Solo & Ensemble District contest. The students did a great job and represented Southwood Jr/Sr High School very well. If you see any of the students listed below in class or in hallways, please make sure you congratulate them! We ended up with fourteen golds and three silvers. Three of those gold

ratings are going to the State contest next week! Congratulations to the following students for earning gold: Emma Adams (Female Vocal Solo), Sylvia Bakehorn (Female Vocal Solo), Brynnlie Gouvan (Female Vocal Solo), Jordn Hartline (Female Vocal Solo), Fritz Kirk (Male Vocal Solo), Emily Lochard (Female Vocal Solo), McKenzie Moorman (Female Vocal Solo), Katelyn Ranck (Female Vocal Solo)\*, Lyndzy Silvers (Female Vocal Solo)\*, Sarah Smith (Female Vocal Solo)\*, Natalie Sutphin (Female Vocal Solo), Azora Watkins (Female Vocal Solo), \* = Earned a gold rating in Group I, will be attending State! Adams Ensemble (Large Ensemble): Elise Adams, Emma Adams, Baleigh Black, Isaac Bragg, Savannah Engle, Madison Grace, Jordn Hartline, McKenzie Moorman, Kaylee Nelson, Meryn Norman, Libee Price, Zaria Pries, Katelyn Ranck, Kendall Sarll, Lyndzy Silvers, Sarah Smith, Kasey Solomon, Duke Sparks, Ian Vanderpool, & Azora Watkins; Engle Ensemble (Small Ensemble): Elise Adams, Emma Adams, Savannah Engle, Kaylee Nelson, Katelyn Ranck, and Kendall Sarll.

Congratulations to the following students for earning silver: Isaac Bragg (Male Vocal Solo), Elzy Ensemble (Small Ensemble): Maddox Elzy, Fritz Kirk, & James Unger, Ranck Ensemble (Small Ensemble): Emma Adams, Kaylee Nelson, & Katelyn Ranck.

Congratulations to Azora Watkins for getting a PERFECT SCORE on her vocal solo this afternoon!

And finally, congratulations to Katelyn Ranck, Lyndzy Silvers, and Sarah Smith on earning a gold in Group I which will take them to State next week at Perry Meridian.

On February 19, 2022, SHS was represented by Sarah Smith, Lyndzy Silvers, and Katelyn Ranck at ISSMA Vocal State Solo and Ensemble contest at Perry Meridian High School. All three girls did an outstanding job on their respective solos and earned a rating of either Gold or Gold with Distinction! Awesome job!

From Joel Martin, Principal at Sharp Creek Elementary. Congratulations to Sharp Creek Robotics for recent strong showings: Sharp Creek hosted the Wabash County Blended Finals on Friday, February 11, 2022. The Blue Norsebots Team A and Southwood Circuit Knights placed first in the Teamwork challenge. Additionally, the Norsebots Team A won the skills award. Norsebots White, Gray, and Black all placed in the top 4 in skills!!

On Saturday Feb. 12, 2022, the Norsebots went to compete in a blended league at Mississinewa High School (55 team competition). We were privileged to compete against teams that are ranked in the top 15 in the world!! The Norsebots held their own!! Team A Blue Norsebots placed 5th in skills (the top Elementary team) and 3rd place in teamwork challenge in finals!! Team C Norsebots White scored a new high on the team challenge of 110 points! Wow!! Great job Hudson and Jon! They placed 4th in the teamwork challenge! Team B Gray Norsebots did an amazing job with both skills and programming today! They were 12th in skills! Team D Black Norsebots were 6th in skills (the 2nd place Elementary team). They WON the EXCELLENCE AWARD for the Elementary team! The Excellence Award is the highest award presented in the VEX Robotics competition. This award is presented to a team that exemplifies overall excellence in building a high-quality robotics program. This team is a strong contender in

multiple award categories! This earns Team D the black Norsebots an automatic STATE BID!! We have two teams going to state, both team A the blue Norsebots and team D the black Norsebots!! ALL of these teams kept up with teams that had kids much older than them and were able to be great competitors!! These guys are rocking this season! It has been so fun seeing how much they have grown and their love for robotics! FUN FACT- We have won a trophy for each award Vex has this season!! Design- Team B, Excellence- Team D, Skills- Team A, Teamwork- Team A!!! What a season!! We will find out Feb. 28th if any other teams will make state. Currently our Team A Norsebots is placed 14th in the state of Indiana and in the top 160 in the world (out of 2700)!! We are so proud of this amazing season and can't wait to go to Lucas Oil for State March 12, 2022.

Sharp Creek raised \$2,026 for the Leader Guide Dog Fundraiser and the Urbana Lions Club is adding \$500 to that so the total raised was \$2026. Sharp Creek will be sponsoring 3 Leader Guide Dog puppies: Lucky, Snickers and Jaxx. Mrs. Riggles' class raised the most money and they received an ice cream party provided by the Lions Club. Mr. Brown's class came in 2nd; Mrs. Ross' class came in 3rd place. The K Kids would like to thank the entire school and community for supporting this fundraiser.

Congratulations to Sharp Creek students Abbonie Hughes (3rd), Adalynn Hawkens and Eona Black (4th), Toriah Leonard and Jaylynn Turner (5th), and Teagan Baer (6th) on being selected as 2022 Symphony in Color contest school finalists! These 6 students were also named Exhibition Finalists which means they are in the top 100 statewide. And to top this off all 6 Sharp Creek students have earned a gold Ribbon award for their artwork! This is the highest of honors for this contest and is awarded to only 36 artworks in the state of Indiana. Great job students and also congratulations to SCE art teacher Katy Gray!

From Janette Moore, Principal at Metro North Elementary. Our Metro North Robotics Team had their last regular competition of the season on Saturday, and they were AMAZING! It was a long day of matches, but in the end, we made it into the finals and placed 5th in a field of 48 teams. Our 2nd graders were competing with other teams that may have had 6th grade students, proving that our MN team can definitely hold their own. The team also received the Think Award, a special recognition from the judges that applauds our team's ability to write code, problem solve, work flexibly, and collaborate. Congratulations Faye, Ridge, Olivia, Tytus, Grady, Millie, Riddik, Kaitlyn, Connor, and Declan!

After the final round of judging, 4 of our 6 Metro North finalists have been awarded the GOLD RIBBON award for their Symphony in color artwork! This is the highest honor given, and only 36 gold ribbons are awarded from all of the state-wide submissions. CONGRATULATIONS to Millie Siders, Ava Mills, Faith Greer and Adler Zwiebel. In addition to our MN and SC students receiving these accolades for their artwork, Mrs. Katy Gray, our MN and SC art teacher, will receive the Maestro Award. This award is presented every year to the art teacher with the most students receiving gold ribbon awards. Mrs. Gray has 10 students receiving this distinction! I should also note that she submitted 12 pieces of student artwork. Congratulations, Mrs. Gray!

On February 11, 2022, we had our 2nd Metro North Valentine's Day VIP Breakfast. We had over 525 guests enjoy a delicious breakfast with their valentines. Breakfast was prepared by our amazing MN Cafeteria Staff, and our MN teachers helped with serving and hosting. Thank you to all who helped make this morning so memorable for our families!

#### Staff Spotlight:

Eric Kirtlan, School Resource Officer for the North schools was nominated by Northfield student, Asia Miller. She had these words to say: *I feel like SRO Kirtlan deserves the staff spotlight because of many different reasons. I feel like he puts his all towards all the schools and wants to make the school a very welcoming and an even more safe place than it already is. I also feel that he tries to have a good relationship with every single student he comes across and helps them through whatever they need help with. SRO Kirtlan has open ears and listens to everything you need to say. I also feel that he tries his best to protect each and every student individually from bullies or if anything happens, he will try his best to help. SRO Kirtlan makes everyone get in a better mood because he knows how to and he is just hilarious, he makes people excited for school and makes them want to come back. I just feel that SRO Kirtlan makes school a better place.*

Amy Powell, staff member, also nominated Officer Kirtlan saying *SRO Kirtlan does so much extra work! He constantly helps bus drivers, making kids smile in the hallways, and he's underappreciated for sure. He has worked extra helping with safety measures and making sure kids get to class on time. He has formed wonderful relationships with students across the schools that I hope will never be forgotten. He is a great listener and always there right when you need him. He has helped so many of my students. I am very thankful for him.*

#### Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments were made.

The Regular Meeting Minutes from Tuesday, February 22, 2022, were approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

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

Payroll was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

Dr. Kuhn reviewed the Education Fund and Operation Fund.

#### Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Nicole Powell, Paraprofessional, Metro North Elementary, effective February 9, 2022; Wendy Lynn, Bus Driver, North, effective

the end of the 2021-2022 school year; Callie Baker, Social Worker, Sharp Creek Elementary, effective March 11, 2022, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the employment of Tim Smith, Custodian, Sharp Creek Elementary, effective February 14, 2022, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Northfield Spring Coaches as follows: Kyle France, Head Softball; Jeff Krom, Volunteer Softball; Nicholas Gullotti, Volunteer Softball; Matt Shrider, Volunteer Softball; Tory Shafer, Head Baseball; Stan Cox, Assistant Baseball; Greg Tomlinson, Assistant Baseball; Barden Ripplinger, Assistant Baseball; Matt Burkhart, Assistant Baseball; Joseph Mitchell, Assistant Baseball; Heather Hyden, Head Track; Scott Haupert, Volunteer Track; Krista Hoover, Assistant Track; Larry Vaughn, Assistant Track; Dick Leming, Assistant Track; Collin Dawes, Head Boys Golf; Anthony Sorg, Head JH Golf; 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.

The recommendation to approve the Southwood Spring Coaches as follows: Steve Swinson, Head Baseball; Cory Blocker, Assistant Baseball; Dan Lloyd, Assistant Baseball; Christian Deeter, JV Baseball; Gary Dale, Head Golf; Carl Pace, Head Softball; Chad Lambert, Assistant Softball; Garry Marion, Assistant Softball; Tabitha Cline, Assistant Baseball; Cynthia Bell, Head Tennis; Taylor Legg, Assistant Tennis; Tonya Boone, Head Track; Jeffrey Finicle, Assistant Track; Cary Hammel, Assistant Track; Jeff Hobson, JH Track; Daniel Bassous, JH Track; Natalie Unger, Assistant Track; Devin Dale, Assistant Track, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

#### Heartland Career Center Report:

Matt Driscoll gave the report from the last meeting. The board was given an update on the EDA grant. They accepted the Perkins grant. Heartland gives out 8-\$1,000 scholarships. They will be reaching out to the guidance counselors for assistance on selections.

#### Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Keaffaber shared that the latest ADM showed an increase in enrollment by 74 students. He stated that from Spring 2021 to Spring 2022 enrollment was up 24.5 students.

#### Curriculum Report:

Mr. Drake reviewed the results of the NWEA scores. Our mission is to meet a student at their level and help them grow more in one year than their peers. We measure that growth by standardized testing. The scores compare elementary student NWEA scores from the Winter of 2021 through the Winter of 2022 school year. NWEA provides an average national growth rate of 50%, and we work hard to surpass that rate.

174 students in grades K-6 improved their NWEA scores at a rate equal to, or higher than, 90% of the national growth rate.

31 of those students with incredible growth (+90%) also demonstrated skills to achieve an overall RIT score equal to, or better than, 90% of the national average.

6 classes (across the entire grade level) significantly improve their NWEA scores (+90%).

There have been some signs in the reading assessment data of delayed growth in the primary levels. Therefore, we are working to meet each unique student's needs. One of those supports will be a wide range of summer school supports for these grades using ESSER dollars to supplement state dollars.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve the continuation of using the Food2School Purchasing Cooperative for 2022-2023 was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Second Update to Re-entry Plan & Supplement 2021-2022 (Contact Tracing and Quarantining) was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business:

None.

Board Policy:

None

Public Comment (All Agenda Items):

No comments.

Items from Board Members:

None.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

---

TODD DAZEY, PRESIDENT

---

KEVIN BOWMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

---

SCOTT HAUPERT, BOARD MEMBER

---

CHRISTIAN ROSEN, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

---

MATT DRISCOLL, SECRETARY