

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 14, 2023, 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 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Office. We will continue to livestream the meeting on Facebook Live.

Kevin Bowman, 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: Christian Rosen, Matt Driscoll, Jeff Porter, and Scott Haupert. Also present were Josh Petruniw, Gary Dawson, Frankie Dawson, Andrew McDaniel, Cory Blocker, and Brittany Blocker.

The pledge to the flag was recited.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for February 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building; March 14, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building; March 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building.

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from Deb Elliot for Sharp Creek Robotics (for event food cost) was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from Jones Contracting for Sharp Creek Robotics (for use in hosting a tournament) was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from Zoomers for Sharp Creek Robotics (for use in hosting a tournament) was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from McKillip Machinery for Sharp Creek Robotics (for use in hosting a tournament) was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from Intrasect for Sharp Creek Robotics (for use in hosting a tournament) was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$350.00 donation from LaFontaine Christian Church for Southwood FCA was approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Wabash Castings, LLC for Southwood Elementary Robotics was approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Staff Spotlight:

Cory Blocker, 6th grade Teacher at Southwood Jr/Sr High School, was nominated by parents Shawn and Emily Light. They shared these words “Mr. Blocker communicates well and gives us good feedback about our daughter’s progress and behavior”.

School Recognition:

Southwood Jr/Sr High School Principal, Andrew McDaniel, SHS would like to congratulate 2021 graduate Maggie Ball for making the Dean's List and the Chancellor's List for outstanding academic performance during the Fall Semester at Indiana University-Kokomo. Way to go, Maggie!

Southwood High School would like to congratulate Girls’ Varsity Basketball player Ella Hauptert. On Saturday, January 28, 2023, she became Southwood's all-time scoring leader for girls’ basketball. Way to go, Ella!

SHS would like to express our appreciation to Mr. Stetter, Mrs. McGouldrick and the members of SHS Student Congress for putting on the Snowball Semi-Formal Dance on Saturday, January 28, 2023. Students had a great time!

The Southwood Music Department had a very busy weekend! These students received GOLD ratings at ISMAA Solo and Ensemble Contest on Saturday, January 28, 2023: Emma Adams, Baleigh Black, Savannah Engle, Kaylee Nelson, Elise Adams, Libee Price, Katelyn Ranck, Lyndzy Silvers, Sarah Smith, Dakota Wilson, Natalie Sutphin, and Abby Waite. These students received SILVER ratings: Maddox Elzy, Ella Cunningham, Olivia Ranck, James Unger, and Kierstyn Wyatt. These students, based on their performance, are state qualifiers: Emma Adams, Kaylee Nelson, Katelyn Ranck, Lyndzy Silvers, and Sarah Smith.

The Southwood Athletic Community would like to recognize senior Jason Oprisek. After an outstanding football career at SHS, Jason has committed to continue his studies and football at Mount Saint Joseph University in Cincinnati, OH. He will sign his formal letter of intent Friday, February 17, 2023.

Congratulations to our Lady Knights on two fronts: Ella Hauptert has been nominated by MaxPreps as Player of the Week; she is averaging 20 points, 4.3 rebounds, and 2.5 steals. Way to go, Ella! Also, the Lady Knights delivered a dominating performance in the opening round of sectional play, defeating Canterbury. This win is notable for the Lady Knights as it is a school record for most wins in the season with 17 this season! Way to go, Ladies!

The SHS Community would like to congratulate the Lady Knights on their sectional championship victory on Saturday, February 4, 2023! This sectional win is only the third in SHS history. The Lady Knights were sectional champs previously in 2003 and 1979. They played Tri High School on February 11, 2023, at Wes-Del in Regional Play.

SHS would like to congratulate these outstanding student musicians for their efforts at Eastbrook's Solo and Ensemble Contest on Saturday, February 4, 2023: Gold Rating for the Bowyer Trio (Dave Bowyer, Poncho Lopez, and Eli Shellhamer), Eberle Trio (Alexi Eberle, Trystn Niccum, and Alexis Rish), Dakota Wilson, and Ethan Lochard. Luke Herring and Luc Neal received silver ratings for their solo performances. Lastly, Dakota Wilson earned a gold rating in Group I, so she will be competing at the state competition in a few weeks. Way to go, Knights!

Our 7th grade robotics team won Top Skills and the Excellence Award for Middle School at the Saturday (2/11/23) competition at Portage High School! The Excellence Award is the top award given to a team at a competition and earned them an invitation to the State Competition at Lucas Oil Stadium. Congratulations, RoboKnights!

The SHS Community would like to congratulate these outstanding musicians for making the roster for the Wabash County Honors Choir: Fritz Kirk, Duke Sparks, Maddox Elzy, Isaac Bragg, Katelyn Ranck, Libby Price, Meryn Norman, Zaria Pries, Sarah Smith, and Lyndzy Silvers. These students made the Wabash County Honors Band: Dakota Wilson, Kaylee Nelson, Lyndzy Silvers, Megan Davis, McKenzie Moorman, Malia Mahan, Olivia Snow, Ethan Lochard, Naomi Davis, Logan Shellhamer, and Alice Guyer.

Northfield Jr/Sr High School Principal, Jay Snyder, shared that several Northfield Choir students participated at the ISSMA solo and ensemble district contest on Saturday, January 28, 2023, at East Noble High School in Kendallville and received gold and silver ratings for their performances. Congratulations to Senior Addie France for receiving a PERFECT score gold rating on her solo! She will be advancing to the State contest on Saturday February 18, 2023, at Perry Meridian Middle School in Indianapolis. Congrats to Senior Tori Graft for receiving a silver rating for her first ISSMA solo! First time Freshmen soloists Wyatt Barton, Lilly Barton, and Drake King all received gold ratings! Trio singers including Anna Hodson, Tori Graft, Addie France received a silver rating, Ensemble singers Zarla Dunn, Kendall Mercer, Kammie Parker, Burton Black, Wyatt Barton, Aaliysha Mackey, and Annie French received a silver rating, and Quartet singers Addie France, Anna Hodson, Drake King and Lilly Barton also received a silver rating. These 3 groups were within a point or half point of earning a gold rating.

A big thank you to NHS Key Club and Student Council for organizing dances for students. The Key Club sponsored the Jr. High Blizzard Ball dance on January 28, 2023. The Student Council sponsored the High School Semi-Formal on February 11, 2023.

Saturday, February 4, 2023, Huntington University hosted their 18th Annual High School Art Exhibit at the Robert E Wilson Gallery located at the Merillat Centre for the Arts. There were 129 Art pieces representing 15 high schools in the region. Northfield had three winners: Layne Denton- Best of Show (ceramics), Asia Miller- Honorable Mention (sculpture), Emma

Bone- Honorable Mention (China marker). Layne won the top award for his piece “Inspirations from the East.” Congratulations to these students and thanks to Art Teacher, Mr. Adam Zwiebel for taking the time to help students enter these contests.

Congratulations to the Northfield Girls Wabash All County Basketball Selections for 2022-2023: Player of the Year- Hannah Holmes, First Team All Wabash County: Hannah Holmes and Elli Baker, Second Team All Wabash County: Camryn Kuhn.

Congratulations to Senior Dillon Tomlinson for breaking his brother Clayton’s all time 3-point shooting record at Northfield. Clayton was on hand to present Dillon his award!

Congratulations to the 2022-2023 Indiana High School Coaches Association Academic All State Winners: Malachi Higgins, Asia Miller, Karson Pratt, Layne Denton, Baden Turner. The minimum requirement for this was: Junior or Senior with 8.75 GPA or higher.

The Junior High Robotics team competed at Heritage Christian School on Saturday, January 21, 2023. It was an all-middle school event with a total of 9 teams. Our team placed 5th in competitive driving and was eliminated in the semi-final round. They placed 4th overall in skills and won the Inspire Award. The Inspire Award is presented to the most passionate and positive team at the event. They exhibit integrity and goodwill toward other teams, share designs and embrace the concept of cooperative learning and serve as a positive example to others. Team Members are Madelyn Holley, Stella Stephens, Gavin Lester, Preston Moore, Nate Hodson and Collin Biehl.

Sharp Creek Elementary Principal, Joel Martin, from Amber Bretzman: Sharp Creek Robotics would like to say a HUGE thank you to Northfield for letting us use the main gym for our tournament this past Saturday, February 11, 2023. Many teams and coaches commented on the amazing facilities and how nice it looked. We would like to personally thank the custodial staff, Mr. Miracle, Mr. Nordman, and Mrs. Goshert. They were extremely helpful, friendly, and just wonderful to work with. Mr. Nordman took his time to come to SCE and check that I had everything I needed, Mrs. Goshert took time to show me how to use the scoring table, lend us her carts to unload equipment, and just help in any way she could. Mr. Miracle was very friendly and helped us with where to locate items the night before and checking in!! We want to thank Mr. Snyder and Mr. Oswalt for allowing us to use the main gym. It was a great tournament because of your willingness to let us use the gym and all the help you gave prior to the tournament starting. We want to thank Mr. Keaffaber, Mr. Martin, and Mr. Drake for all taking the day to volunteer at our event! Thank you to countless parents and staff volunteers who helped with our day! It truly takes a robotics village. Additionally, thank you also to Sherm Gray, Jason Lyons, and the NRT high school robotics team for volunteering at our event! We appreciate your willingness to hop in and help! Lastly, I wanted to pass on that we received numerous compliments for our tournament. We were told by parents, coaches, and teams that this was by far the best tournament they had been to this year. They are looking forward to our tournament next year! We actually ended our tournament 40 minutes early after starting 30 minutes late. This can only be attributed to the wonderful volunteers we have!

Thank you, Mrs. Bretzman, for the endless hours you spent to pull this off!

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments were made.

The Board of Finance Meeting Minutes from Tuesday, January 24, 2023, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

The Regular Meeting Minutes from Tuesday, January 124, 2023, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

Claims were approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll 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 Kelly Bever, Bus Driver, North schools, effective February 9, 2023; Tiffany Rebholz, Paraprofessional, Southwood Elementary, effective February 21, 2023 were approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second from Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the employment of Ben Nesler, Teacher, White's Jr/Sr High School, effective January 30, 2023; Brandi Collins, Paraprofessional, Southwood Elementary, effective January 30, 2023; David "Keith" Allen, Bus Driver, North schools, effective February 13, 2023; Brock Sizelove, Varsity Tennis Coach, Southwood High School, effective the 2023 season; Jared Brooks, Volunteer Wrestling Coach, Northfield High School, effective the 2022-2023 season; Collin Dawes, Head Golf Coach, Northfield High School, effective the 2023 season; Trae Cole, Assistant Golf Coach, Northfield High School, effective the 2023 season were approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the transfer of Jay Wyatt transferring from Teacher at White's Jr/Sr High School to Teacher for The Bridge Program effective February 2, 2023, was approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Heartland Career Center Report:

Mr. Keaffaber shared what the HCC Advisory Board has been discussing. Heartland's building is in need of several repairs, such as a new roof, HVAC, controls, and more space. The HCC Board of Managers is looking into several options to fund these projects.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Keaffaber thanked the generosity of the community. A family lost their home and everything in it with a house fire. Our community stepped up and bought gift cards for the family. Now a student has been diagnosed with a major health concern and the community is assisting this family.

Curriculum Report:

Mr. Drake shared his Academics Update. MSDWC this year has 17 robotics teams with 92 students participating from grades 9-12. Several have already qualified for the State competition on March 25, 2023, at Lucas Oil Stadium.

MSDWC will soon announce a partnership with IU Kokomo to offer our students the opportunity to earn an Indiana College Core Certificate.

The upcoming Academic Banquet will be March 6, 2023. Dr. Zach Hobson, a 2014 Southwood High School graduate will be this year's honorary speaker.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve the 2023-2024 White's Jr/Sr High School Calendar, subject to change due to current and/or possible new legislation, was approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to the purchase of 2 school buses was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Resolution to Waive I.C. 20-30-2-3 Mandated 180 Student Days was approved upon a motion made by Scott Hauptert, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the out-of-state trip for Northfield Advance P. E. to Swiss Valley Ski Resort, Jones, MI, February 21, 2023, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the out-of-country for Southwood Jr/Sr High School students grades 7-12, to England, October 18-November 1, 2025, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the overnight/extended field trip for Northfield High School Band, High School and A Cappella & Treble Choirs to "Explore the Arts" Tour, Chicago, IL, May 2-4, 2023, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the out-of-state field trip for Northfield AP Physics, Chemistry, and Calculus classes to Cedar Point Math and Physics Day, May 12, 2023, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the overnight/extended field trip for Northfield Key Club to District Leadership Convention, Indianapolis, IN, February 24-26, 2023, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Hauptert, and unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business.

Board Policy:

The Board had the second reading of revised Board Policy #4085-Attendance. The policy was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The Board had the first reading of new Board Policy #6170 Student Residence Verification. The second reading and vote will be February 28, 2023.

Public Comment (All Agenda Items):

No questions.

Items from Board Members:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

Kevin Bowman, PRESIDENT

Matt Driscoll, VICE-PRESIDENT

Scott Hauptert, BOARD MEMBER

Jeff Porter, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

Christian Rosen, SECRETARY