

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 March 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 March 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: Matt Driscoll, Christian Rosen, Jeff Porter, and Scott Haupert. Also present were Josh Petruniw, Gary Dawson, Frankie Dawson, Amy Stearley, Ariel Dale, Mary Jo Wynn, Mike McDivitt, Adam Weesner, Jim Elizondo, and Joel Martin.

The pledge to the flag was recited.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for March 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building, April 25, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building, and May 9, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building.

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the \$675.00 donation, (\$50.00 Denny Motor Sales for Northfield Cheer); (\$175.00 Wabash Engraving for Northfield Cheer); (\$50.00 Guy Givens for Northfield Cheer); (\$60.00 BJ's Service for Northfield Cheer); (\$40.00 Charlie Easterday for Northfield Cheer); (\$200.00 Intrasect Technology for Northfield Track); (\$100.00 Head-to-Head Games for Northfield eSports) was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Scott Haupert, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Corteva Agriscience MCS, LLC for Northfield Agriculture was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Scott Haupert, and unanimously carried.

Staff Spotlight:

Teresa Baker, Head Custodian, Southwood Elementary was nominated by parent Kristen Speicher. In her nomination letter, Mrs. Speicher shared these words. Mrs. Baker goes above and beyond to make the kids feel welcome, special, and loved every morning. My son who doesn't go to school yet loves to get to see her in the drop-off line. She is a master at her job and then some by helping wherever needed.

School Recognition:

Mike McDivitt, Principal at White's Jr/Sr High School spoke to the Board on the school's recent Winter Ball. He showed several pictures of the students dancing the night away.

From Andrew McDaniel, Principal at Southwood Jr/Sr High School. Southwood received an Exemplary Behavior Report for March 4, 2023. According to the Reporting Official, Joe Rudolph: Southwood hosted boys basketball Sectional 53. It needs to be noted what an outstanding host Southwood was all week. Tom Finicle and his staff go above and beyond to make sure everyone's experience is top notch. From an official's point of view, Tom treats us with the utmost respect, from communications, hospitality, parking and logistics, and security. I can't think of any stone left unturned as it relates to preparedness for the tournament. Job well done.

The SHS Community would like to congratulate the SHS Faculty Basketball Team for their dominating win over the students in Friday, March 3's victory. Also, a special thank you to Mr. Sparks for organizing the event. Through this event and because of Mr. Sparks' efforts, we were able to raise money for Logan Miller and his family. Logan is a Southwood High School Student who has been dealing with a significant health issue the last two years.

Congratulations to the SHS Basketball Knights for their wins Friday and Saturday, making them Sectional Champions. This is the first time in SHS history that both the boys and girls are sectional champions in the same year. This also marks the fourth consecutive sectional championship for the Boys' Team. Way to go, Knights!

Congratulations to the SHS for being named Wane TV Team of the week for their recent efforts in sectional play. Check out the link to the story: <https://www.wane.com/sports/team-of-the-week/totw-southwood-knights-boys-basketball/>.

The Southwood Community would like to commend the efforts of Senior Lyndzy Silvers, Southwood 12th Grader. She was selected to perform for the County Honors Band AND Choir for all four years. Lyndzy considered dropping choir during her seventh-grade year, but she ultimately chose to stick it out. Way to go, Lyndzy! Congratulations on your outstanding achievements in the arts! Also, congratulations to our Southwood students who performed at the County Honors Band and Choir performance on Friday, March 10, 2023. They were outstanding!

Congratulations to the Varsity Knights; they made it to regionals for the fourth straight year, and Saturday, they won against their opponent Blue River Valley. With this win, the Knights will be going to their second Semi-State in three years. Our Knights are now in the final four 1A teams in the northern half of the state. The Knights are in the final 8 1A teams in the state. What an amazing situation for a team that started the season with five straight losses.

Congratulations to Jason Oprisek, Grade 12, for being nominated AGAIN for MaxPreps High School Athlete of the Week! Jason was nominated for his most recent performance against Blue River Valley in the regional game that the Knights won. Jason's stats for that day include 15 points, 10 rebounds in the 57-38 win. He has been averaging 10.6 points, 6.3 rebounds, 2.7

assists, and 2.5 steals. You might remember that Jason was nominated in October for his efforts on the football field. At that time, he was nominated for his outstanding performance against Tippecanoe Valley in a 28-26 Knight Win. He had 22 tackles (10 solo) and 1.5 tackles for loss. Way to go, Jason!

From Joel Martin, Principal at Sharp Creek Elementary. Congratulations to Sharp Creek Elementary 4th grade teacher Kim Baer for being recognized recently as the 2023 Wabash County's Greatest teacher! We are so very thankful to have you as a part of our teaching staff!

From Jay Snyder, Principal at Northfield Jr/Sr High School. Thanks to Metal Source for helping out and spotlighting NHS Art student - Junior Layne Denton. Check out the post from Metal Source that was shared on NHS Facebook, but here is the shorter version: "Layne is a Junior at Northfield Jr/Sr High School and completed this intricate, jaw dropping scrap metal sculpture for his Sculpture II Course. He stopped by our Plant 1 location in November of 2022 to pick out scrap metal pieces to start this project- 4 months later we are looking at this masterpiece. "Great work, Layne! Your talent is unbelievable!"

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments were made.

The Regular Meeting Minutes from Tuesday, February 28, 2023, were approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

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

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

Dr. Kuhn reviewed February End of Month.

Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Katie Singleton, Teacher, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective the end of the 2022-2023 school year; Rina Ruiz, Cook, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective March 21, 2023; Britany Hoy, Paraprofessional, Metro North Elementary, effective March 13, 2023; Amy Wilson, Teacher, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective March 17, 2023, were approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second from Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the employment of Mark Smith, Custodian Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective March 24, 2023; Ariel Dale, Teacher, Sharp Creek Elementary, effective August 7, 2023; Hannah Brubaker, Teacher, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective August 7, 2023; JoDee Dale, Assistant Golf Coach, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective the 2023 spring season; Rod Cole, JH Golf Coach, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective the 2023

spring season; were approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the leave of #152 beginning July 26, 2023 returning October 10, 2023, was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the transfer of Jessica France from Math Teacher at Northfield Jr/Sr High School to Physical Education Teacher at Metro North and Sharp Creek Elementary was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the retirement of Jerry Middleton, Head Custodian, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective May 31, 2023, was approved upon a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

Heartland Career Center Report:

No report.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Keaffaber shared the results of the county-wide voting presented by the Wabash Plain Dealer. MSD of Wabash County was voted the Best Place to Work in Wabash County. Teacher Kim Baer was the winner of the Greatest People/Teacher in Wabash County who teaches at Sharp Creek Elementary. The Best Preschool/Daycare, MSDWC received second place.

Mr. Keaffaber also thanked Mr. Drake who organized the 34th Annual Academic Recognition Banquet with the assistance of Melissa Ball and others. Dr. Zach Hobson was the speaker and he shared his story as an SHS 2014 graduate and his path to become the Head Athletic Trainer at IWU. Mr. Keaffaber also shared the cumulative responses from the seniors and their future plans.

Curriculum Report:

No report.

New Business:

Project Hearing:

President Kevin Bowman opened the Project Hearing. He stated this hearing was on the proposed construction projects. He asked if anyone was interested in speaking to stand and state their name and question.

It was explained to the Board that under Indiana law whenever a school corporation proposes to construct or renovate a school building at a cost in excess of one million dollars it must first hold a public hearing. Notice of the public hearing was published in the Wabash Plain Dealer on March 1, 2023. The proof of publication of the notice was presented to the meeting.

It was further explained that at this hearing all interested people may give testimony and/or ask questions concerning the (i) renovation of and improvement to Northfield Jr/Sr High School, including locker room renovations, maintenance improvements, and exterior improvements (the “Northfield Jr/Sr High School Project”); (ii) renovation of and improvements to Southwood Jr/Sr High School, including locker room renovations, maintenance improvements, and exterior improvements (the “Southwood Jr/Sr High School Project”); and (iii) renovation of and improvements to Metro North and Southwood Elementary Schools, including roof replacement, chiller replacement, and other maintenance (the “Metro North & Southwood Elementary Schools Project,” and collectively, the “Projects”). The purpose of the hearing is two-fold: (1) to inform the public as to the proposed Projects; and (2) to allow all interested parties, taxpayers and patrons of the School Corporation to voice their opinions as to the Projects and ask any questions.

After the purpose of the hearing was explained, the presentations regarding the need for the Projects were given. An evaluation of the existing facilities was then presented, as well as a discussion of the details of the proposed Projects. Adam Weesner with Barton, Coe, Vilamaa Architects, presented the estimated cost and schedules for the Projects to the public. Jim Elizondo with Stiffel, Nicolaus & Company, explained how these Projects could be funded, and the potential tax rate impact the Projects would have on the community.

After the above presentations, the President announced that the Board would now hear testimony and questions from the public.

At the conclusion of the public testimony and question, the Board considered the Project Resolution to complete the Northfield Jr/Sr High School Project at a cost of more than one million dollars. On a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried, the resolution attached as Exhibit A was approved.

The Board considered the Project Resolution to complete the Southwood Jr/Sr High School Project at the cost of more than one million dollars. On a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Scott Haupert, and unanimously carried, the resolution attached as Exhibit B was approved.

The Board considered the Project Resolution to complete the Metro North & Southwood Elementary Schools Project at a cost of more than one million dollars. On a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried, the resolution attached as Exhibit C was approved.

The Board was advised that it needed to further consider the financing of the Projects. On a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Scott Haupert, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the resolution attached as Exhibit D.

The President further stated that the Board needed to consider a Reimbursement Resolution. On a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian, and unanimously carried, the resolution attached as Exhibit E was adopted.

There being no further comments the Project Hearing was closed.

To finish items of New Business, the President read the recommendation to approve Kuhn Specialty Flooring/Environment Tech Consulting Corp. as the vendor for the Southwood Jr/Sr High School gymnasium floor. On a motion made by Scott Haupert, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried,

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business.

Board Policy:

No Board Policies.

Public Comment (All Agenda Items):

No questions.

Items from Board Members:

No items from the Board Members.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

Kevin Bowman, PRESIDENT

Matt Driscoll, VICE-PRESIDENT

Scott Haupert, BOARD MEMBER

Jeff Porter, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

Christian Rosen, SECRETARY