

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 13, 2024, 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 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Office. We will continue to livestream the meeting on Facebook Live.**

Scott Hauptert, Board President, called the meeting to order. Mike Keaffaber, Superintendent, and Chris Kuhn, Assistant Superintendent, were also present. Tim Drake, Chief Academic Officer was absent. On call of the roll the members of the Board were shown to be present as follows: Christian Rosen, Jeff Porter, Kevin Bowman, and Matt Driscoll. Also present were Josh Petruniw, Gary Dawson, Frankie Dawson, Casey Stouffer, Mary Jo Wynn, Alissa Deeter, and Melinda Adams.

The pledge to the flag was recited.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for February 27, 2024, Regular Meeting at the Administration Building, March 12, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting at the Administration Building, and March 26, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting at the Administration Building.

School Recognition (Student and Staff):

Alessa Deeter, Teacher at Southwood Elementary, was recognized as the school's Teacher of the Year. Melinda Adams, Paraprofessional at Southwood Elementary, was recognized as the school's Staff of the Year.

Other recognitions were:

From Jay Snyder, Principal, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, shared an Exemplary Behavior Report was filed by official Thomas Newhard on behalf of head boys' basketball coach Rex Reimer. This was following the game on Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024, Manchester was at Northfield. Mr. Newhard stated, "I would like to give kudos to head coach Rex Reimer of Northfield HS. During the contest on Thursday night when they were getting beat, he never said one negative word to the officials and coached his kids hard. They gave 110% the whole game and also had excellent sportsmanship. A lot of times during these lopsided games it's easy for the players or coaches to get frustrated at the officials but this wasn't the case last night. Coach Reimer does an outstanding job with his kids!"

Huntington University held their High School Art Reception Friday, February 2, 2024. Mae Napier was awarded Honorable Mention. Layne Denton was awarded Honorable Mention and 2nd Place Overall. Congratulations!

The NHS 7th grade robotics team (John Young, Patrick Nesler, Chase Ross) won the entire robotics competition in Crown Point on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. This earned them a state bid. Congratulations!

Amber Lewis, Principal, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, shared an exemplary behavior report that was filed by official Darren Haas on behalf of the Southwood boys' basketball team for the January 26, 2024, contest at North Miami. Mr. Haas stated, "The Southwood boys' basketball team played very well and showed good sportsmanship while having a lot of fun during the game tonight. The kids played and the coaches coached their kids. The fans cheered for their team. Thank you for setting a good example of what high school sports are all about. Good luck to your team as you continue the season."

Congratulations to all Southwood band department members who received gold ratings at the 2024 Solo & Ensemble Instrumental Contest held at Eastbrook High School January 27, 2024. Ethan Lochard also qualified for state for receiving a gold on his Group I tenor saxophone entry. He will perform at the state contest at North Central High School on Saturday, February 24, 2024. Students receiving gold ratings were Alexis Eberle, Alexis Rish, Blayke Smith, Kaylee Nelson, Aubrey Carey, Rachel Lawson, Kenzie Moorman, Malia Mahan, Remi Rigney, Kameron Johnson, Dylan Cochran, Olivia Simpson, and Ethan Lochard.

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments were made.

The Regular Meeting Minutes and Board of Finance Meeting Minutes from January 23, 2024, were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Jeff Porter, 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 Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

Dr. Kuhn shared End of Month for January.

Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Jennifer Nesler, Paraprofessional, Metro North Elementary, effective January 31, 2024; Rita Scholes, Cook, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective January 26, 2024, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the employment of Makenna Waymire, English Teacher, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective August 5, 2024; Torrence Leeks, Custodian, Metro North Elementary, effective February 19, 2024; Thomas Tyree, Teacher/Football Coach,

Southwood Jr/Sr High School, revised effective date, February 20, 2024, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the leave of #172, leave to begin January 29, 2024 through March 1, 2024, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the retirement of Daniel Snyder, Teacher, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, revised effective date, February 14, 2024; Deborah Schenkel, Teacher, Sharp Creek Elementary, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year; Sandra Gutzwiller, Teacher, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the spring coaches for Southwood Jr/Sr High School were as follows: Cory Blocker, Head Baseball; Danny Lloyd, Assistant Baseball; Kyle Zerfas, Assistant Baseball; Dustin Rutledge, Assistant Baseball; Christian Deeter, Volunteer Baseball; Myles Scott, Assistant Baseball; Sam Cole, Assistant Baseball; Aeyai Saengkeo, Head Tennis; Gary Dale, Head Golf; Devin Dale, Assistant Golf and JH Golf; JoDee Dale, Assistant Golf; Tonya Boone, Head Track; Cary Hammel, Assistant Track; Chad Andrews, Assistant Track; Jeff Hobson, Assistant Track; Natalie Unger, Assistant Track; Gina Deaton, Assistant Track; Carl Pace, Head Softball; Garry Marion, Assistant Softball; Chad Lambert, Assistant Softball; Kristen McCoart, Assistant Softball were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the spring coaches for Northfield Jr/Sr High School were as follows: Heather Hyden, Head Track; Larry Vaughn, Assistant Track; Dick Leming, Assistant Track; Trisha Oswald, Assistant Track; Michelle Rice, Head JH Track; Sarah Aderman, JH Assistant Track; Kiel Aderman, Volunteer Track; Hannah Brubaker, Volunteer Track; Joseph Mitchell, Head Baseball; Stan Cox, Assistant Baseball; Remington Monce, Assistant Baseball; Nate Hembree, Assistant Baseball; Braden Ripplinger, Assistant Baseball; Tiffany Stith, Head Softball; Jeff Kamphues, Assistant Softball; Joe Gouvan, Assistant Softball; Abby Mitchell, Volunteer Softball; Marianne Milam, Head Tennis; Casey Dyson, Assistant Tennis; Collin Dawes, Head Boys Golf; Trae Cole, Assistant Boys Golf; Anthony Sorg, JH Golf; Jordan Eckman, Assistant Softball; Micah Higgins, Assistant Baseball; Sam Burcroff, 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 meeting with all the superintendents. During that meeting Austin Papenbrock from The Garland Company shared information regarding the purchase of a new roof.

#### Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Keaffaber gave an update on the progress of the locker-room projects.

He shared information on various legislation.

He reported for the February ADM count MSDWC is up 34 students making the total 2,186 students. This total does not include the 153 Pre-K students.

He discussed iRead and changes being made.

Curriculum Report:

No report.

New Business:

Dr. Kuhn advised the Board that it needed to consider the financing of the renovation of and improvements to school facilities, including the construction of an elementary school addition at Northfield Jr/Sr High School, and a cafeteria addition at Metro North Elementary School (the "Project").

It was stated that the attorneys for the MSD of Wabash County Multi-School Building Corporation (the "Building Corporation") have submitted to the School Corporation a proposed form of Lease Agreement (the "Lease"), which proposed form of Lease was examined by all the members of the Board.

Dr. Kuhn next stated that the Building Corporation was previously formed to assist the School Corporation in the financing of certain projects.

The recommendation to approve the Resolution Determining Need for Project (Exhibit A) was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Resolution Approving Form of Lease (Exhibit B) was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Resolution Reapproving Building Corporation (Exhibit C) was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the 2024 Secondary Summer School Offerings was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the revised 2024 School Board Meeting Dates was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the extended/overnight camping trip for Sharp Creek Elementary 6<sup>th</sup> grade to Silver Lake, May 15-17, 2024, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the extended/overnight/out-of-state senior class trip for Southwood High School to Pigeon Forge, TN, April 14-17, 2024, was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business.

Board Policy:

No Board Policy.

Public Comment (All Agenda Items):

No comments.

Items from Board Members:

No items from the Board Members.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

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Scott Haupert, PRESIDENT

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Christian Rosen, VICE-PRESIDENT

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Matt Driscoll, BOARD MEMBER

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Jeff Porter, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

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Kevin Bowman, SECRETARY