

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 December 10, 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 December 10, 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 was present. Absent were Tim Drake, Chief Academic Officer and Dr. Chris Kuhn, Assistant Superintendent. 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, Brian Ridgeway, Sherry Ridgeway, Gary Dawson, Frankie Dawson, Kat Hauptert, Megan McKillip, and Jay Snyder.

The pledge to the flag was recited.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for January 14, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting at the Administration Building, January 14, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Organizational Meeting at the Administration Building, January 28, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Regular Meeting at the Administration Building, and, January 28, 2025, 6:00 p.m., Board of Finance Meeting at the Administration Building

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the \$37.83 donation from Long Lake Campground for Southwood Jr/Sr High School for the FFA Battle of the Bales was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$30.00 donation from Denise Stouffer for Northfield Wrestling was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$300.00 donation from the Wabash County Sheriff's Department for Northfield Wrestling was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$300.00 donation from Ashley Pool & Hot Tub Service for Northfield Wrestling was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$935.00 donation from Harmon Photography for Metro North Elementary was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Masterseal Unlimited for Northfield Wrestling was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$180.00 (estimated value) from the Boy Scouts of America (popcorn) for Southwood Elementary's classroom snacks was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$5.00 donation from Keniyah Harris for Southwood Elementary's classroom snacks was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$5.00 donation from Musiq Gibson Roberts for Southwood Elementary's classroom snacks was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$5.00 donation from Keionni Roberts for Southwood Elementary's classroom snacks was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

School Recognition:

Jay Snyder, Principal at Northfield Jr/Sr High School, recognized Kat Haupert as Teacher of the Year and Megan McKillip as Staff of the Year.

Student Recognition:

The SHS 7th grade boys' basketball team received an exemplary report from Official Kevin Barrow, who officiated the SHS vs. Oak Hill game. Mr. Barrow stated, "This night (11/25/24), the 7th-grade teams from these 2 schools played each other. This was one of the most pleasurable nights of basketball that I have officiated in a very long time. Both teams played with great displays of sportsmanship with players being respectful to officials by saying, "Thank you, sir" when handed the ball for throw-ins and numerous times of players helping opponents up off the floor after fouls. Both coaches were wonderful in coaching their players in a positive manner and not trying to influence officiating by complaining. And even the fans were positive in cheering for their teams. I don't recall a game where fans were this positive and mature. I think the fans' attitudes and the players' attitudes and actions were a direct reflection of the coaches and assistants. Kudos to both sets of coaches (Mike McDivitt, David Homer, Evan Deaton, Scott Deaton, Herb Carter) and to the school's athletic directors. You have selected great role models! It's a joy to officiate at these two schools!"

During the boys' basketball game Friday, December 6, 2024, at Taylor, official James Newburn recognized Northfield number 1, Carter Rodgers with an exemplary behavior report. Carter showed extremely good sportsmanship throughout. Carter was approachable and was polite when asking for explanations. He set a very good example for his teammates and opponents.

From Sonja Eads: In the light of this Holiday season and this being way overdue I would like you to know about your amazing staff!! As you know, our daughter Graylynn was in the hospital at the beginning of the school year. She scared all of us tremendously, but with that Taner and I have found a whole new meaning of living each day. The entire stay at Riley I had several teachers reach out to me from Metro North. Mrs. Moore is the greatest Principal. I am not just saying that. She was the first one to send me a message on the first day of school saying how much Graylynn would be missed, but how special we would make her first day of school when she returns. Mrs. Moore dropped off signs for Graylynn, that hung in her room for weeks, from her classmates. She dropped off cards that all the 2nd-grade students had made. She went out of her way to make us feel so special and not forgotten. She helped me with accommodations that we needed at the beginning. She never left me 'up in the air' or without an answer. She truly made this hardship and worry about Graylynn's schooling not so stressful. When we were telling the Doctors how easygoing, helpful, and accommodating our school was they were amazed. They deal with schools all over the state of Indiana and they said, not one has ever been this helpful and this accommodating. They usually have to write letters, work with their home school Riley teachers. I didn't have to do any of that. Such a blessing! Mrs. Janelle Eckman, Graylynn's 2nd grade teacher. She took time after school to come to our house for weeks and do school work. She answered all my questions quickly when trying to do virtual school. She is so kind and gentle with us and helped get Graylynn back into the groove. As a parent I still get the worrisome of school for Graylynn and Mrs. Eckman always calms my heart and racing mind. We are blessed to have a wonderful 2nd-grade teacher. Metro North Staff- the best! I could not ask for more love from them. Several texted while in the hospital, several sent meals, gift cards, notes, and so much more. They truly do care about their students and are not just there for a paycheck. The first day of school all the staff greeted us with huge smiles and huge hugs! Metro North Elementary is truly the best and we are so blessed to have each and every one. Tracy Kennedy and Northfield Office Staff. During Graylynn's stay we had no idea where our youngest child Millie was. We would hear she is with Tracy- we would hear she was with Addy Rosen- we would hear she is with my parents. We truly had no idea- we were focusing on Graylynn. I did hear she spent several times in the Northfield Main Office. I heard she set up an office next to Mr. Snyder with her Barbies and participated in putting stickers everywhere they would stick. Having such a school system that seems like family and drops their own needs to take care of someone else speaks volumes. I haven't heard one complaint about them having a spitfire 3-year-old sitting in their chair yet, so I am assuming it all went well. This email is way past due our time. We are thankful for our journey and where it has led us today, but at the time we had so many questions why and not so much thankful for the scare. Taner and I truly believe Graylynn is here for a great testimony of faith and perseverance. In our time of thankfulness, we couldn't leave out our school system. We hope you have a great Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and very Happy New Year! Thank you for everything.

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments were made.

The Regular Meeting Minutes from November 12, 2024, were approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

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

Payroll #9 and #10 were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

Financial Summary:

In Dr. Kuhn's absence, Mr. Keaffaber reviewed the end of month for November and the cash flow of the Education and Operation Funds.

Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the employment of Nicole Knox, Assistant Wrestling Coach, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective immediately; Rebecca Barefoot, Cook, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective November 19, 2024; Adam Winer, 6th grade Boys Basketball Coach, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective immediately; Trent Custer, 3rd grade Boys Basketball Coach, Sharp Creek Elementary, effective immediately; Alyssa McKillip, Volunteer Track Coach, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective the 2025 Track Season; Brett Williams, Volunteer 5th grade Boys Basketball, Sharp Creek Elementary, effective immediately; Bodie Stith, 4th grade Boys Basketball, Sharp Creek Elementary, effective immediately; Jeremy Raymond, Substitute Teacher for Southwood and Northfield Jr/Sr High Schools, effective immediately were approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Terrence Leeks, Custodian, Metro North Elementary, effective December 11, 2024, was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the termination for #184, terminated November 26, 2024, was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the leave of # 185, leave to be intermittent days was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the transfer of Tonia Allen, transferring from a Kindergarten Paraprofessional to a Title I Paraprofessional, effective December 2, 2024, was

approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Heartland Career Center Report:

Matt Driscoll reported on the recent HCC Board of Managers meeting. They approved the two-ply roof bid and the accumulated capital project funds go toward the roof. It was decided that the funds from NIPSCO would go toward student scholarships.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Keaffaber shared a short video updating the progress of the project. He also stated that one of Governor-elect, Mike Braun's legislative priorities was for higher teacher pay. The average new teacher pay across the state is \$46,110. MSDWC starting new teachers at \$47,000.

Curriculum Report:

No report.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve Teacher Appreciation Grant and stipends were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the transfer from Operation to Rainy Day was approved upon a motion by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve End of Year Resolution was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the 2025 Calendar of Board of Education Meetings was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve Valerie Doud, to assume the board position of David Doud, of the Roann Public Library Board of Trustees for a term ending September 15, 2027, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business.

Board Policy:

No Board Policies.

Public Comment (All Items):

No Public Comment.

Items from Board Members:

No items from the Board.

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

Scott Haupert, PRESIDENT

Christian Rosen, VICE-PRESIDENT

Matt Driscoll, BOARD MEMBER

Jeff Porter, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

Kevin Bowman, SECRETARY