

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 January 28, 2025, 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 January 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Office. We will continue to livestream the meeting on Facebook Live.

Christian Rosen Board Vice-President, called the meeting to order. Mike Keaffaber, Superintendent and Tim Drake, Chief Academic Officer, were present. 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. Absent were Dr. Chris Kuhn and Scott Haupert. Also present were Gary Dawson, Frankie Dawson, Janette Moore, Brian Ridgeway, Sherry Ridgeway, Amy Stearley, Rebekah Macy, and Jessica Holley.

The pledge to the flag was recited.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for February 11, 2025, Regular Meeting, at the Administration Building, February 25, 2025, Regular Meeting at the Administration Building, and March 11, 2025, Regular Meeting at the Administration Building.

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from Hoffman's Nursery and Landscaping for Northfield Girls Basketball Pink-out was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$50.00 donation from Roann First Brethren Church for Northfield Athletics in memory of Larry Eltzroth was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from Troy and Staey Baer was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

School Recognition:

Amy Stearley was recognized as the Teacher of the Year and Rebekah Macy for Staff of the Year both from Metro North Elementary.

Presentation:

Becky Bradley, the Food Service Director, gave a presentation. She reported that the schools passed their latest state inspection with flying colors and really impressed the inspector.

She along with Keri Salb-Mertz, Community Wellness Coordinator from the Purdue Extension Nutrition Education Program talked about the Southwood High School garden, which grows produce used in the school cafeteria. Last year, over 300 lbs of produce was grown in the garden used in the cafeteria. The garden is a program offered in combination with Purdue Extension Office. The program also has tower gardens at other MSDWC schools.

Impact Pantry was also discussed, the new food pantry offered through the schools and the Extension Office, among other local partners. The pantry serves an average of 22 families each week at Southwood Jr/Sr High School. Finally, Keri just learned that Southwood has made it on the Indiana Department of Education's Statewide Farm to School Map!

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments were made.

The Regular Meeting Minutes from January 14, 2025, were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll and unanimously carried.

The Reorganization Meeting Minutes from January 14, 2025, were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll and unanimously carried.

The Board of Finance Meeting Minutes from January 14, 2025, were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll and unanimously carried.

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

Payroll #13 was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

Financial Summary:

There was no report.

Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the employment of Debanhi Martinez, Office Manager for WMAP, effective April 8, 2025; Amanda Eviston, 5th-grade Girls Basketball at Southwood Elementary, effective immediately; Karin Tart, 5th-grade Girls Basketball at Southwood Elementary, effective immediately, were approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Chelsie Kirtlan, Pre-K 3's Teacher, Southwood Elementary, effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

The the recommendation to approve the leave of #186, leave to begin February 6, 2025, for approximately 4 to 6 weeks was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the retirement of Larry Vaughn, Teacher, White's Jr/Sr High School, effective the end of the 2024-2025 school year; Mike Keaffaber, Superintendent, effective June 30, 2025, were approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve Northfield Jr/ Sr High School's spring coaches were as follows: Kyle France, Head Softball; Avery Isley, Asst. Softball; Kory Fuller, Asst. Softball; Jamie Rife, Asst. Softball; Abby Mitchell, Volunteer Asst. Softball; Joseph Mitchell, Head Baseball; Remington Monce, Asst. Baseball; Brayden Ripplinger, Asst. Baseball; Sam Burcroff, JV Asst. Baseball; Micah Higgins, JV Baseball; Bryce Kamphues, Asst. Baseball; Kevin Leming, Asst. Baseball; Marianne Milam, Head Tennis; Casey Dyson, Asst. Tennis; Heather Hyden, Head Track; Larry Vaughn, Asst. Track; Dick Leming, Asst. Track; Trisha Oswald, Asst. Track; Hannah Brubaker, Asst. Track; Braxtyn Delgado, Volunteer Asst. Track; Joseph Delgado, Volunteer Asst. Track; Michelle Rice, JH Track; Alyssa McKLillip, Volunteer Asst. Track, all were approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

Heartland Career Center Report:

No report.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Keaffaber shared the 2024 State of MSDWC. There were many successful items to report for the year. Some of those included the YMCA Corporate Challenge, which several staff members participated in, MSDWC was voted Greatest Place to Work for the second year in a row, in November three current Board Members were voted in for another four years, several construction began, and many successful happenings with students and staff. At the next meeting on February 11, 2025, Weigand will be here to do an update on what is happening with the Northfield Elementary project. Mr. Keaffaber stated that there are 185 education Bills slated for the approval process.

Curriculum Report:

No report.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve the bus purchases were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the overnight/out-of-state field trip for Northfield 7th and 8th grade choirs to Choir Contest/Festival: "Music in the Parks", May 9-10, 2025, at Kings Island Theme Park, Mason, OH was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the out-of-state field trip for Northfield Advanced P.E. class to Swiss Valley Ski Resort, Jones, MI, February 10, 2025, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a secondary by Jeff Porter, 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 6:52 p.m.

THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

Scott Haupt, PRESIDENT

Christian Rosen, VICE-PRESIDENT

Matt Driscoll, BOARD MEMBER

Jeff Porter, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

Kevin Bowman, SECRETARY