

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

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Administration Office, 4711 S. 500 W. New Palestine, In 46163

Monday, January 13, 2025

6:30pm

Present: Mr. Brian McKinney, Board Member; Mr. Dan Walker, Board Member; Ms. Amber Rush, Executive Administrative Assistant; Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President; Mr. Jon Hooker, Board Secretary; Mrs. Katy Eastes, Assistant Superintendent; Sarah Gizzi, Business Manager; Craig Smith, Director of Student Learning & Communications; Dr. Gina Pleak, Superintendent; Mrs. Amanda Wooton, Board Member

1 Welcome/Call to Order/Pledge

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2 Accentuate the Positive

2.1 NPHS Cheer Team

Mr. Jim Voelz, NPHS Principal and Mr. Brian Murphy, NPHS Athletic Director

The Board will recognize the New Palestine High School cheer team for placing first place and winning the Class B state title. The team is coached by Madonna McGovern, Carrie Ferguson, Jake Garrison, and Emma Natalie. The cheer team is comprised of Kenzie Compton, Jillianne Fee, Olivia Frank, Alexis Hall, Alyssia Hatcher, Addison Hurst, Kalle Jones, Kayla Marshall, Ella Mattingly, Journy McDaniel, Ryleigh Mills, McKenzie Nelson, Halle Ringham, Lynzie Stiller, Rylee Stone, and Finleigh White.

Minutes:

The Board recognized the NPHS cheer team for winning the Class B state title.

Attachments:

[ATP - Cheer State 2024-2025 .pdf](#)

2.2 NASA Calendar Coloring Contest Winners

Mr. Vincent Meo, NPI Principal and Mr. Tim Rutherford, Director of Neighborhoods Against Substance Abuse

Mr. Meo and Mr. Rutherford will recognize New Palestine Intermediate students Ava Fox, Brewer Hall, and Ethan Smith as 2025 Neighborhoods Against Substance Abuse (NASA) calendar coloring contest winners.

Minutes:

The Board recognized NPI students Ava Fox, Brewer Hall, and Ethan Smith as NASA calendar coloring contest winners.

Attachments:

[ATP - NASA Contest 2024-2025.pdf](#)

3 Oath of Office

Attorney from Church Church Hittle + Antrim

An attorney from Church Church Hittle + Antrim will administer the Oath of Office for Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Mr. Dan Walker, and Mrs. Amanda Wooton.

Minutes:

Attorney Amy Matthews administered the Oath of Office for Mrs. Haeberle, Mr. Walker, and Mrs. Amanda Wooton.

4 Board Reorganization-Election of Officers

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

In accordance with policies B150 and B225, the Board will designate a President, Vice President, and Secretary as well as designate a day, place, and time for regular meetings.

In accordance with policies B150 and B225, the Board will appoint a legislative liaison and a policy liaison.

Attached is a reminder of the approved 2025 meeting schedule.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle was designated Board President. Mr. Walker was designated Board Vice President. Mr. Hooker was designated Board Secretary. Mr. McKinney and Mrs. Haeberle were designated policy liaison(s). Mr. Hooker was designated legislative liaison.

Mrs. Haeberle asked for a motion to approve Board reorganization. Mr. McKinney moved to approve Board reorganization. Mrs. Wooton seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mrs. Amanda Wooton

Attachments:

[2025 Board Meeting Dates Locations.pdf](#)

5 Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the January 13, 2025 agenda. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Dan Walker

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

6 Citizens Comments on Agenda Items

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

Persons wishing to address the Board on an agenda item shall register by completing the Comments on Agenda Items Form and submitting the form to the Secretary of the Board prior to the start of the meeting. The registration form will include the name of the person(s) providing comment, the organization represented (if any), and identify the agenda item to be addressed. The agenda will be posted at the administration office and at each of the school buildings at least five (5) days (including Saturday and Sunday) prior to the meeting (i.e., by Wednesday before a Monday meeting). Copies of the agenda will also be available at the scheduled Board Meeting. Comments on agenda items will be heard at the start of the Board Meeting.

Minutes:

No Comments

7 Consideration of Routine Business

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

7.1 Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 9, 2024.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haerberle requested a motion to approve the December 9, 2024 meeting minutes. Mr. McKinney made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

[Regular Meeting Minutes dated Dec 9 2025.pdf](#)

7.2 Claims and Finances

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

a. Payroll Claims dated December 6, 2024.

b. Payroll Claims dated December 20, 2024.

c. Payroll Claims dated January 3, 2025.

d. Claims dated December 31, 2024.

e. Claims dated January 13, 2025.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haerberle requested a motion to approve the claims and finances. Mr. Hooker motioned to approve

the claims and finances as presented. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

Attachments:

[Payroll Claims dated Dec 6 2024.pdf](#)

[Payroll Claims dated Dec 20 2024.pdf](#)

[Payroll Claims dated Jan 3 2025.pdf](#)

[Claims dated Dec 31 2024.pdf](#)

[Claims dated Jan 13 2025.pdf](#)

7.3 Personnel Report

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

Personnel Report dated January 13, 2025.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the Personnel Report. Mr. McKinney motioned to approve the Personnel Report as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

[Personnel Report dated Jan 13 2025.pdf](#)

7.4 Donations

Mrs. Sarah Gizzi, Business Manager

a. New Palestine Lodge 404 donated a check for \$1,000.00 for the SCE Meal Accounts with Deficit Balances.

b. Wayne and Nancy Steger donated a check for \$1,500.00 for the BWE, NPE, SCE, and NPI Meal Accounts with Deficit Balances.

c. Lewis and Amanda Wooton issued a check for \$200.00. They would like to donate this check to the NPHS Boys' Golf program.

d. Arthur and Erin Clark issued a check for \$200.00. They would like to donate this check to the NPHS Boys' Golf program.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the donations received. Mr. Hooker made a motion to approve the donations as presented. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

7.5 Robotics Field Trip

Mr. Jim Voelz, NPHS Principal and Mrs. Timothy Tarplee, NPHS Robotics Coach

Mr. Voelz and Mr. Tarplee are requesting approval to travel to Cleveland, OH, 2/1/25-2/2/25 for the NPHS robotic teams to compete at the Launch Signature Event.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haerberle requested a motion to approve the robotics field trip to Cleveland, OH. Mr. McKinney motioned to approve the field trip as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

[NPHS Robotics Field Trip .pdf](#)

8 New Business

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

8.1 Corporation Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer Re-Appointment

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

In alignment with state statute, the district must appoint/re-appoint a Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer at this time each year. It is recommended that Sarah Gizzi be re-appointed as Treasurer with a bond of \$100,000.00 and Ashlie Worth be re-appointed as Deputy Treasurer with a bond of \$50,000.00.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haerberle asked for a motion to re-appoint Mrs. Gizzi as the Treasurer and Mrs. Worth as the Deputy Treasurer. Mr. Hooker motioned to approve the re-appointment of both Mrs. Gizzi and Mrs. Worth. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

8.2 Funds Transfer Resolution

Mrs. Sarah Gizzi, Business Manager

A Transfer of Funds Resolution will be presented for Board consideration. The resolution ensures that all accounts have a positive end-of-the-year balance and allows funds to be transferred from line items that were unspent to line items in which additional dollars are needed.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the Funds Transfer Resolution. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Dan Walker

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

[Education Fund and Operations Fund Permission to Transfer Funds.pdf](#)
[Appropriation Transfer Report.pdf](#)

8.3 **2025-2026 Out-of-District Transfer Application**

Dr. Gina Pleak, Superintendent

Dr. Pleak is requesting approval of the 2025-2026 Out-of-District Transfer Application. The approved application will be available on the website in February.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Out-of-District Transfer Application. Mr. Hooker made a motion to approve the application as presented. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

Attachments:

[2025-2026 Out-of-District Transfer Student Application.pdf](#)

8.4 **Little Dragons Early Learning Fees**

Mrs. Cheryl Rose, Early Childhood and Special Education Coordinator

Mrs. Rose is requesting approval of the suggested 2025-2026 Little Dragons Early Learning Fees.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Little Dragons Early Learning fees. Mr. McKinney made a motion to approve the fees as presented. Mr. Walker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mr. Dan Walker

Attachments:

[2025-2026 Little Dragons Early Learning Fees.pdf](#)

8.5 New Course Recommendations

Mr. Craig Smith, Director of Student Learning & Communications and Mr. Nicholas Mitchaner, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator

Mr. Smith and Mr. Mitchaner are seeking approval of new course recommendations for the 2025-2026 school year.

- a. 7255 Healthcare Specialist Capstone
 - b. 2162 American Sign Language III
 - c. 2164 American Sign Language IV
 - d. 0502 Cadet Teaching Experience
- Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the new course recommendations for the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. Hooker made a motion to approve the courses as presented. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

Attachments:

[7255 Healthcare Specialist Capstone.pdf](#)

[2162 American Sign Language III and 2164 American Sign Language IV.pdf](#)

[0502 Cadet Teaching Experience.pdf](#)

8.6 Resolution to Approve Grant Right-of-Way

Mrs. Sarah Gizzi, Business Manager

Mrs. Gizzi is requesting approval for an agreement with Hancock County to grant a permanent easement for a roundabout at our 500 West entrance, which Hancock County plans to construct in 2026.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the Grant Right-of-Way resolution with Hancock County. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Dan Walker

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

[Grant Right-of-Way.pdf](#)

[Right-of-Way Resolution.pdf](#)

9 Informal Comments

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

The Board President may call for additional informal public comment at this time, if, in his/her judgment, time permits and more comment is warranted. The time limit for such comments will be set by the President, who may also permit the administration or Board to respond to these public comments at his/her discretion.

An informal comment form must be completed on the evening of the board meeting and submitted to the Secretary of the Board prior to the start of the meeting.

Minutes:

No Comments

10 Board Member Comments

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

Minutes:

Mr. McKinney was happy to have the opportunity to honor students from two of our buildings and expressed how key it is to recognize our students at board meetings. Mr. McKinney welcomed back returning board members and our new board members. Mr. McKinney also commented on the generous donation received for meal accounts with a deficit balance. Mr. Hooker welcomed our new board member, Amanda Wooton. He joked that he is relieved not to be the new board member after five years but believes their longevity is what makes them a great board. Mr. Hooker recognized the generous donation for meal accounts in the deficit and continues to be blown away each month with the support from the community. Mr. Hooker also shared that we will have a former Dragon playing in the college football championship for Ohio State. Mr. Walker welcomed Mrs. Wooton and was glad her family was able to attend her first meeting. Mr. Walker expressed how grateful he is to his fellow board members and all staff in attendance for the time they give each day to our school corporation and community. Mrs. Wooton shared how humbled and happy she is to be a part of the board. Mrs. Wooton also expressed how impressed and encouraged she has been with the teachers and principals in each building her children have attended. She is excited to be part of the Board. Adding to Mr. Hooker's discussion of former Dragons and their accomplishments, Mrs. Eastes shared that Tim Tarplee, who presented to the board, was also a former student from her first year of teaching. She shared how proud she was to see a student come back as a successful teacher for the corporation. Dr. Pleak echoed the praises and shared that it is School Board Member Appreciation Month. Dr. Pleak expressed her feelings that we have fantastic board members who reflect the whole purpose of what the State of Indiana has in mind for local control and leaders of our school corporation. Dr. Pleak thanked the board members for all they do and hopes they feel the appreciation throughout the whole year, not just for January. Dr. Pleak also welcomed Mrs. Wooton to the board. Mrs. Haerberle recognized the Maintenance Department for handling all the snow removal and understood what a big job it was. She shared her appreciation for their efforts in helping get our students and staff to school safely. Mrs. Haerberle also welcomed Mrs. Wooton. Mrs. Haerberle can see that Mrs. Wooton has a heart for public education and the community and she appreciates the time and effort she put into running for the position.

11 Adjournment

Mrs. Laura Haerberle, Board President

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haerberle requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. McKinney made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Amber Rush
Paul J. Hoeberle
Jon Hooker
Brian McKinney
D. W. W.