

FORT WAYNE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
1200 SOUTH CLINTON STREET
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46802

6:07 p.m.

March 24, 2025

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

The Board of School Trustees of the Fort Wayne Community Schools met in regular session in the Lester L. Grile Administrative Center on Monday, March 24, 2025, at 6:07 p.m. President Maria Norman, with there being no speakers on Public Comment Regarding Agenda Topics, called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and the following members in attendance:

Roll Call Members present: Maria Norman, Chairperson
 Stephen Corona
 Anne Duff
 Julie Hollingsworth
 Jennifer Matthias
 Antonette Payne
 Noah Smith

Members absent: None

Consent Dr. Daniel presented the following consent agenda items with recommendations for approval:
Agenda Minutes from the regular Board meeting, March 10, 2025; Vouchers for the period ending March 24, 2025 and the payroll and supplemental pays for the periods ending February 21 and March 7, 2025; Personnel Report; and the Required Disclosures:

Minutes The Minutes from the regular Board meeting held March 10, 2025 were distributed to Board members for review with a recommendation for approval.

Vouchers **RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the Board approve the vouchers for the period ending
and Payroll March 24, 2025 and the payroll and supplemental pays for the periods ending February 21 and March 7, 2025.

RELATED INFORMATION: Vouchers paid by the Fort Wayne Community Schools total \$8,219,161.27.

Gross wages and fringe benefits paid by the Fort Wayne Community Schools total \$14,295,575.41.

Details of all paid vouchers and payroll remain on file in the Business Office until audited by the State Board of Accounts. Following the audit, these records are stored as required by record retention regulations.

Personnel **STATUS**
Report C Position Changed N New Position/Allocation T Temporary Position
 L Leave R Replacement

ADMINISTRATOR(S) RECOMMENDED FOR
RETIREMENT/RESIGNATION/TERMINATION/DECEASED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Bender, Maureen L.	Family & Community Engagement/ Manager Student & Staff Relations	Retire/End of Contract	06-13-25

Captain, Tim L.	Family & Community Engagement/ Executive Director	Position Elimination	03-13-25
Coleman, Ramona L.	Office of Superintendent/ Assistant Superintendent	Retire/End of Contract	06-13-25
Keirns, Emily S.	ELL/Director	Position Elimination	03-13-25
Froning, Kara J.	Office of Deputy Superintendent/ Director Middle/High Schools	Position Elimination	03-13-25
Ladig, Amanda E.	Human Capital Management/ HCM Coordinator	Resign/End of Contract	06-13-25
Lorber, Eric J.	Curriculum & Instruction/ Coordinator	Resign/End of Contract	06-13-25
McIntosh, Benjamin J.	Office of Deputy Superintendent/ Coordinator Middle/High Schools	Resign/End of Contract	06-13-25
Rathge, Rodney J.	Purchasing/Director	Retire/End of Contract	06-13-25
Richards, Melissa M.	Family & Community Engagement/ Director Well-Being & Alternative Programs	Retire/End of Contract	06-13-25
Robbins, Debra F.	Office of Superintendent/ Deputy Superintendent	Retire	06-13-25
Sleesman, Allison J.	Human Capital Management/ HCM Coordinator	Resign/End of Contract	06-13-25

ADMINISTRATOR(S) RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

It is recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve the following:

Add Director of Federal Program title to:

Pay Scale 12 Central Office Administrative Personnel Group 23, Steps 41.0 – 49.0

Add Director Student Climate & Culture title to:

Pay Scale 12 Central Office Administrative Personnel Group 24, Steps 41.1 – 49.1

Add Operations Executive Director to:

Pay Scale 12 Central Office Administrative Personnel Group 26, Steps 51.0 – 59.0

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Bolton, Shenita V.	Family & Community Engagement/Executive Director College & Career Readiness	Office of Superintendent/ Chief of Family & Community Engagement & Schools of Success	R	03-25-25

Bowser, Kendra M.	Human Capital Management/ HCM Coordinator	Curriculum & Instruction/ SOS Coordinator	R	03-25-25
Brooks, Kimberly L.	Title I/Director	Business Office/Director Federal Programs	N	03-25-25
Brown, Joseph A.	Office of Superintendent/ Assistant Superintendent	Office of Superintendent/ Chief Academic Officer	R	03-25-25
Griffin, Virgil K.	Family & Community Engagement/Director Student & Staff Relations	Chief Academic Office/ Director Student Climate & Culture	N	03-25-25
Grove, Erica L.	Human Capital Management/ HCM Coordinator	Curriculum & Instruction/ Coordinator	R	03-25-25
Hess, Darren P.	Business Office/Director Facilities	Business Office/Operations Executive Director	N	03-25-25
Houser, John E.	Certified Sub	Portage/Substitute Administrator	T	03-17-25 to 05-30-25
Jenkins, Mary- Margaret	Human Capital Management/ HCM Coordinator	Human Resources/ HCM Coordinator	R	03-25-25
Kinniry, Mary C.	Levan Scott/Principal	Chief Academic Office/ Elementary Director	R	06-16-25
Krebs, Heather N.	Business Office/Director Budgeting	Business Office/Director Facilities	R	03-25-25
Nolan, Kyra D.	Student & Family Engagement/ Manager Student Services	Student & Family Engagement/ Director Student Services	R	03-25-25
Bryan, Elizabeth R.	Amp Lab/School Year Assistant Principal	Office of Superintendent/ Temp 260-Day Administrator	T	03-25-25 to 06-13-25
Schiebel, Matthew C.	Student & Family Engagement/Executive Director Community Partnerships & Safety	Family & Community Engagement & Schools of Success/Executive Director Community Partnerships & Safety	R	03-25-25

Surfus, Deanna L.	Human Capital Management/HCM Coordinator	Human Resources/ HCM Coordinator	R	03-25-25
Trevino, Alexandra M.	Maplewood/Principal	Fairfield/Principal	R	06-16-25
Wertman, Sara C.	Forest Park/Principal	Chief Academic Office/ Elementary Director	R	06-16-25

TEACHER(S) RECOMMENDED FOR
RETIREMENT/RESIGNATION/TERMINATION/DECEASED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
McDaniel, Taylor P.	<u>Lincoln/Grade 4</u>	Resign	03-14-25

TEACHER(S) RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
DeLong, Kassandra L.	Harrison Hill/Grade 2	Human Resources/Teacher Contract Sub	R	03-17-25
Miller, Jennifer L.	Levan Scott/MIMD	Human Resources/Teacher Contract Sub	R	03-17-25
Vazquez, Crystal	Northwood/ELL	Human Resources/Teacher Contract Sub	R	03-17-25

SUBSTITUTE(S) RECOMMENDED FOR RETIREMENT/RESIGNATION/
TERMINATION/END OF ASSIGNMENT

Stevenson, Mia D.

SUBSTITUTE(S) RECOMMENDED FOR CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTE POSITION(S)

Al Shra, Asma I.	Einspahr, Kayleigh J.	McGibbon, Briannon M.
Battershell, Alex F.	Esslinger, Arianna R.	Smith, Millie K.
Bible, Erica J.	Fiedler, Mary J.	Solis, Elijah M.
Burton, Stephanie G.	Freeborn, Robert R.	Wallen, Maxie A.
Cameron, Jennifer L.	Guerin, Sabrina P.	Westfall, Lavinia R.
Crittendon, Caleb M.	Hairston, Devin J.	Westra, Caleb J.
Dodson, Janiyah L.	Hunkins, Zebadiah D.	Zoucha, Kathryn A.
Edington, Maryori L.	Knott, Timothy G.	

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDED FOR HOMEBOUND ASSIGNMENT(S)

Adama, Sumaila	Givens, Kelly A.	Ryan, Gina M.
Bandor, Kiera J.	Haeck, Mary M.	Salgado, Joseph A.
Baumgartner, Erin N.	Harding, Paige E.	Schacher, Jonathan T.
Blum, Michelle R.	Harris, Jeannette L.	Scott, Brandi M.
Bolinger, Brooke A.	Layden, Erin H.	Sims, Akilah M.
Bruder, Sallye S.	Matson, Sarah A.	Souleimane, Valerie C.

Couch, Patricia A.
Crum, Robert J.
Denton, Sarah E.
Duque, Yasmin M.
Gebhard, Matthew E.
Gerdtz, Katie D.

Newberry, Angela M.
Nolot, Nicole L.
Olden, Kimberly N.
Owens, Jennifer J.
Rosier, Molli S.
Rupp, Mackenzie S.

Sprunger, Nikki S.
Trochez Castellanos, Mercy Y.
Wiley, Donald F.
Williams, Becky L.
Wilson, Angela M.

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDED FOR ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT(S)

Blose, Patrick A.
Heiniger, Andrew M.
Maxwell, Jamie L.

Mcintosh, Amy E.
Moord, Nathanael M.
Pruitt, Gradlin

Webster, Charles A.
Woehnker, Janaya N.

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDED FOR
RETIREMENT/RESIGNATION/TERMINATION/END OF ASSIGNMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Bell, James M.	Transportation/Bus Driver + Supplemental Bus Driver + Extracurricular	Terminate	03-07-25
Bowers, Christa M.	Nutrition Services/Special Assignment Secretary	Retire	03-06-25
Felkner, Shari D.	Human Capital Management/Executive Assistant	Retire	06-06-25
Gilbert, Catherine R.	Nutrition Services/School Coordinator	Retire	05-02-25
Gilreath, Kamio M.	Northrop/School Assistant Special Ed	Terminate	02-03-25
Grundy, Crystal Y.	Human Capital Management/Special Assignment Secretary	Resign	04-11-25
Johnson, Patricia R.	Student & Family Engagement/Clerk	Resign	05-09-25
Leonard, Cynthia R.	Franke Park/School Assistant	Resign	03-09-25
Makinson, Adam L.	Technology/Senior Programmer	Resign	03-14-25
Minns, Sheila M.	Office of Deputy Superintendent/Executive Assistant	Resign	06-06-25
Mitchell, Caleb A.	School Asst-Sub + Special Ed Sub + Clerical Sub + Food Service Sub	Resign	03-03-25
Morua, Myra A.	South Wayne/School-Year Secretary	Resign	03-12-25

Mueller, Marilyn A.	Health & Wellness/Nurse	Retire	05-22-25
Ormsby, Kathryn L.	Shawnee/Cafeteria Assistant	Resign	03-12-25
Peppler, Carolyn S.	Health & Wellness/Nurse	Retire	05-22-25
Reffeitt, Constance R.	Northrop/Cafeteria Assistant	Resign	03-11-25
Riedinger, Elizabeth A.	Fiscal Affairs/Deputy Treasurer	Resign	04-11-25
Rodriguez, Laura D.	Maintenance & Operations/Special Assignment Secretary	Resign	04-15-25
Roe, Kevin S.	Curriculum & Instruction/Media Supervisor	Retire	07-31-25
Stoller, Teresa R.	Media Services/Media Cataloger	Position Elimination	03-17-25
Suel, Aquasia K.	Nutrition Services/Special Assignment	Resign	03-06-25
Taft, Robert A.	Technology/Senior Audio-Visual Technician	Resign	03-13-25
Yates, Madison R.	Northwood/School Assistant Special Ed	Resign	04-11-25

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDED FOR EMPLOYMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Al Chllk, Hamsa	New	School Asst-Sub + Special Ed Sub + Clerical Sub + Food Service Sub	R	03-10-25
Baumgartner, Audra	New	Health & Wellness/Nurse Sub	R	03-06-25
Beau, Gloria J.	New	Blackhawk/School Assistant Special Ed	R	03-17-25
Cifuentes Gonzalez, Angy M.	New	School Asst-Sub + Special Ed Sub + Clerical Sub + Food Service Sub	R	03-04-25
Colbert, Meridith R.	New	St Joseph Central/School Assistant	R	03-17-25

Board Minutes March 24, 2025

Crafton, Laura J.	New	Brentwood/School Assistant	R	03-13-25
Daniel, Rosa E.	New	School Asst-Sub + Special Ed Sub + Clerical Sub + Food Service Sub	R	03-04-25
Hileman, Lexus M.	New	Arlington/Special Ed One-on-One Assistant	R	03-24-25
Htoo, Jeet S.	New	Holland/Literacy Support Assistant	R	03-10-25
Hurst, Averi E.	New	Brentwood/School Assistant Preschool	R	03-17-25
Johnson, Quamarey L.	School Asst-Sub + Special Ed Sub + Clerical Sub + Food Service Sub	Adams/School Assistant Special Ed	R	03-10-25
Joles, Aaron F.	New	Transportation/SPB Driver	R	03-18-25
Jordan, Jessica J.	New	School Assistant Sub + Special Ed Sub + Clerical Sub + Food Service Sub	R	02-28-25
Lake, Rachael A.	New	Adams/School Assistant	R	03-18-25
Marsh, Thomas A.	New	Towles/School Assistant	R	03-18-25
Martin, Tony F.	New	Northrop/School Assistant Special Ed	R	04-07-25
Miller, Ashlee D.	New	Glenwood Park/Special Ed One-on- One Assistant	R	03-05-25
Palermo, Joseph G.	New	Brentwood/School Assistant	R	03-18-25
Pate, Michael J.	Transportation/SPB Driver	Transportation/Bus Driver + Supplemental Bus Driver + Extracurricular	R	03-07-25
Schinbeckler, Tamela J.	New	Nutrition Services/Satellite Server	R	03-10-25
Scott, Jenny M.	New	Health & Wellness/Nurse	R	03-24-25

Slaght, Michael L.	New	Transportation/Bus Driver + Supplemental Bus Driver + Extracurricular	R	03-17-25
Wilson, Catlin E.	New	Irwin/School Assistant Kindergarten	R	03-11-25

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Dance, Malita R.	Lincoln/Media Assistant	Lincoln/Media Clerk	R	03-17-25
Dundon, Gina E.	Health Services/ Wellness Coordinator	Human Resources/ Wellness Coordinator	R	03-25-25
Harding-Young, Bertha L.	Office of Deputy Superintendent/ Administrative Specialist	Business Office/Administrative Specialist	R	03-25-25
Inge, Ashley M.	Family & Community Engagement/Coordinator Student & Staff Relations	Chief Academic Office/Coordinator Student Climate & Culture	N	03-25-25
Kill, Karen A.	Family & Community Engagement/ Administrative Specialist	Family & Community Engagement & Schools of Success/Executive Assistant	R	03-25-25
Lafontaine, Angie L.	Nutrition Services/Special Assignment Secretary	Nutrition Services/Clerk	R	03-08-25
Lottman, Rebecca A.	Human Resources/ Support Clerk	Human Resources/ Specialist	R	03-17-25
Uballé, Jessica	Health & Wellness/Aide	Health & Wellness/Sub Aide	R	03-18-25
Williams II, Bridget	Memorial Park/School Assistant Special Ed	Towles/School Assistant	R	03-17-25

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL RECOMMENDED FOR TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT (S)

Bowers, Brittany N.	Garcia, Angelica H.	Smith, Lawyer B.
Crockett, Amy A.	Green, Tayvon R.	Villalobos, Gustavo A.
Davis, Raymond	Morgan, Amber M.	West, Harold E.
Fitzgerald, Emily M.	Ridenour, Jamie L.	Wright, Aanyah C.

Required
Disclosures

REQUIRED DISCLOSURES

It is recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve the hiring or continued employment of individuals convicted of certain offenses and other misconduct listed in IC 20-26-5-11.2.

Recommended Candidates for Employment:

Position

Nurse

Classroom Assistant

A motion was made by Julie Hollingsworth, seconded by Jennifer Matthias, that the following consent agenda items be approved: Minutes from the regular Board meeting, March 10, 2025; Vouchers for the period ending March 24, 2025 and the payroll and supplemental pays for the periods ending February 21 and March 7, 2025; Personnel Report; and the Required Disclosures. Roll Call: Ayes, unanimous; nays, none.

Application
for Common
School Fund
Loan

Dr. Daniel presented the following recommendation concerning the Application for Common School Fund Loan:

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the Board approve the application for and acceptance of an advancement from the Indiana Common School Fund (CSF) for educational technology equipment in the amount of \$2,000,000.

RELATED INFORMATION: Advancements from the Common School Fund provide funds for school districts to purchase educational technology. Fort Wayne Community Schools (FWCS) will use these moneys to help fund the FWCS technology plan previously submitted to the State. Technology funds are currently insufficient to fund all the technology needs of the school corporation.

Funds are provided as a loan and are awarded to school corporations on the basis of assessed value (AV) per pupil, with low AV per pupil corporations receiving funds before high AV per pupil corporations. FWCS therefore cannot be assured of receiving the requested advancement.

Should the application be successful, funds will be budgeted in the Debt Service Fund to repay this loan beginning in the year 2027. Interest on the loan is expected to be no more than four percent and is likely to be as low as one percent.

Common School Fund advancements differ from School Technology Advancement Account (STAA) loans, which FWCS receives on an annual basis. Unlike CSF advancements, STAA advancements are given to all applying school corporations, regardless of their assessed value per pupil ranking.

Kevin Greubel, Director of Technology, was available to answer questions.

A motion was made by Jennifer Matthias, seconded by Steve Corona, that the recommendation concerning the Application for Common School Fund Loan be approved. Roll Call: Ayes, unanimous; nays, none.

Bus Purchase
2025

Dr. Daniel presented the following recommendation concerning the Bus Purchase 2025:

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the Board approve the purchase of four 14-passenger buses from Kerlin Bus Sales & Leasing, Inc. of Silver Lake, IN for \$455,828.

RELATED INFORMATION: Indiana purchasing law allows for purchases made through competitively bid contracts from approved cooperative purchasing entities. This pricing is based on the Central Indiana Education Service Center's cooperative bid from the Fall of 2024.

This purchase is part of the scheduled replacement of the bus fleet. Funding will come from the Operations Fund.

Stephanie Hess, Purchasing Agent, was available to answer questions.

A motion was made by Anne Duff, seconded by Antonette Payne, that the recommendation concerning the Bus Purchase 2025 be approved. Roll Call: Ayes, unanimous; nays, none.

Miscellaneous
Projects 2025

Dr. Daniel presented the following recommendation concerning the Miscellaneous Projects 2025:

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the Board approve the following construction contracts totaling \$3,607,037:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Construction Contract</u>
M1 Misc. Masonry (Forest Park, Franke Park, Indian Village and Warehouse)	Midwest Maintenance, Inc.	\$276,830
Baseball Improvements (Wayne)	Schenkel Construction	\$783,250
Auditorium Sound, Light, and Tech Improvements (All five High Schools)	Advanced System Group	\$2,129,800
Terrazzo Refinishing (Blackhawk, Miami & Wayne)	F&M Tile & Terrazzo Co. Inc.	\$417,157

RELATED INFORMATION: Projects utilize several funding sources including Operations funds as identified in the 2025 Capital Projects Plan as well as 2020 School Building Basic Renewal/Restoration and Safety Project (Bond) and 2024 General Obligation Bond funds.

Darren Hess, Director of Facilities, was available to answer questions.

A motion was made by Julie Hollingsworth, seconded by Anne Duff, that the recommendation concerning the Miscellaneous Projects 2025 be approved. Roll Call: Ayes, unanimous; nays, none.

Athletic
Facility
Improvements
at Snider High
School

Dr. Daniel presented the following recommendation concerning the Athletic Facility Improvements at Snider High School:

RECOMMENDATION: It was recommended that the Board approve a contract amendment in the amount of \$15,354,559 reflecting a total amended contract amount of \$16,617,896 with Hagerman, Inc. for the Athletic Facility Improvements at Snider High School.

- Addition and renovation to the existing Physical Education Building
- Construction of Concession/Restroom Building which includes the entrances and a Spirit Store
- Construction of 4554 seat Visitor (1490) and Home (3064) grandstand bleachers (concrete foundations and other misc. construction)
- Construction of a Football/Track Storage Equipment Building
- Installation of a 9-lane vented rubber running track and track field events
- Replacement of the Chambers Field press box (construction related portion)
- Construction of a practice soccer field at Snider's Long Road Athletic Annex

It is further recommended that the Board approve the following cooperative purchase agreements for the Athletic Facility Improvements at Snider High School:

<u>Scope</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Construction Contract</u>	<u>Cooperative Contract</u>
Synthetic Turf	The Motz Group. LLC	\$1,101,275.00	AEPA
Field Lighting	Musco Sports Lighting, LLC	\$234,255.00	Sourcewell

Grandstand and Pressbox	Dant Clayton Corporation	\$3,403,125.00	Sourcewell
Bleacher Relocation	Lee Company	\$155,000.00	Sourcewell
Access Control and Cameras	Presidio Networked Solutions	\$171,589.56	Sole Source Vendor

RELATED INFORMATION: Projects are funded from the 2024 General Obligation Bond and within program budget.

Darren Hess, Director of Facilities, was available to answer questions.

A motion was made by Noah Smith, seconded by Jennifer Matthias, that the recommendation concerning the Athletic Facility Improvements at Snider High School be approved. Roll Call: Ayes, unanimous; nays, none.

Comments

Board Member Steve Corona commented that it was a sad and difficult day for the Board to have to approve the Personnel Report of over 20 people in the district who either submitted retirement or resignations due to the financial forecast. Member Corona reminded the public and fellow board members that FWCS has dealt with the same gut punch back in 2010 when we closed Elmhurst, Pleasant Center and outsourced custodial. Will be tough to say goodbye. Mr. Corona spoke about his visit to Abbett's 4th grade class where he had a wonderful time and looks forward to returning. We have to have more people in our classrooms along with our education professionals, like Study Connection. We need the community more than ever. Sorry to see friends go, but we move on.

Board Member Antonette Payne followed Steve's comments, with her own regard to those no longer with the district. Member Payne has received some phone calls and none of this is easy. She wishes them well on their journeys.

Board Member Julie Hollingsworth echoed Steve and Toni's comments. Never an easy thing to do. She remembers cutting \$15 million in the past. Next year's budget is unknown. Not an easy decisions. Other government agencies will sadly be in this same situation.

Board Member Noah Smith also commented on the recent Personnel Report, these individuals made Fort Wayne a better place. We don't want to close a school or two. Vice President Smith thanked President Norman and the Board, for the commitment to the athletic facility improvements at Snider. This is not just a football stadium, there is fall boys/girls football with teams from Freshman, JV and Varsity football, Band, lacrosse. The commitment to the stadium was done prior to this legislative session. Mr. Smith thanked the community for their support. He would love to spend more money on teachers, we don't want the financial impact to be on our students. There are different buckets of money, monies were set aside last year. If it had been this year, we could not have done it. We had no ideas of this year's budget. Thanks for giving Snider a home.

Board Member Jennifer Matthias also thanked those who are no longer going to be with us, they devoted their time and talents to benefit our children. Unfortunately, tough decisions had to be made. We look forward to FWCS reading levels improving. Member Matthias thanked those that support us and appreciates those who have taken the time. She also thanked those who have stepped up to support public schools.

Board Member Anne Duff commented that the personnel report has weighed heavily on her today. It is tough and was difficult to say "aye" with the names on the list. Decisions were not hastily made, something we had to do. Very difficult and seeing the names in writing makes it more real.

Superintendent Dr. Mark Daniel commented these are very difficult decisions and we want to honor those with dignity and empathy. We hope there are "no federal cuts" to programs like special education and title. These are the students who are most vulnerable, they have low teacher/student ratio. Without

these federal funds, these students will not be helped/assisted and be able to be our future workforce. We want them to have a chance in a positive and constructive way. We have over 4,500 English Language Learners and some do not have the ability to speak English. It is amazing to see the children in one, two, three years and the difference they make. We are very pleased to see the results, that interventionists, teachers, principals and support staff are making unprecedented growth. We cannot tell you the budget from the state, at the latest it is \$3 million cut, could be \$18 million over the next six years, can't cut our weight out. FWCS is trying to combat this by increasing enrollment, having outstanding programs like Montessori, Magnet (STEM, Arts, New Tech, Amp Lab, etc). People visit to see our one-of-kind programming. We have partnerships with businesses, Pearl Arts and K-12 Schools of Success. We can grow our way out the cuts, with programming. We need people to come to FWCS and return to public schools. We need to meet the demands. We can't stall economic growth. Public schools like FWCS should be the backbone.

Board President Maria Norman echoed what fellow board members have said and thanked those who have dedicated their professional career to FWCS. Fort Wayne Next, we were open to the conversation, and we thank them for thinking of us, but we promised the tax payers and Snider students/families to walk out to a field on their campus. Too many unknowns with Fort Wayne Next, we did not have a majority to move forward with this program. We promised Snider Football in Fall 2026. The upkeep of over 60 buildings is part of the maintenance plan. We cannot reallocate the General Obligation Bond to a project that we did not share with taxpayers. This project was approved in 2024. Approached too late to pivot. Advice of legal counsel, not a good idea.

Next Meeting	The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lester L. Grile Administrative Center.
Signatures	Documents to be signed by members of the Board were the Minutes from the regular Board meeting, March 10, 2025; Vouchers for the period ending March 24, 2025 and the payroll and supplemental pays for the periods ending February 21 and March 7, 2025 and the Racial Balance Fund Resolution.
Adjournment	There being no further business, upon a motion by Noah Smith, seconded by Steve Corona, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.
General Public Comment	LaBarge Ashley – proud to send her students to public schools and FWCS and asked questions about the dissolution of USDOE. Ocha, Veroni – Harris parent, son needs ASL service. Designated school for deaf and hard of hearing.
Dismissal	The meeting was dismissed at 6:43 p.m.

[THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK;
SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS.]



President
Maria Norman



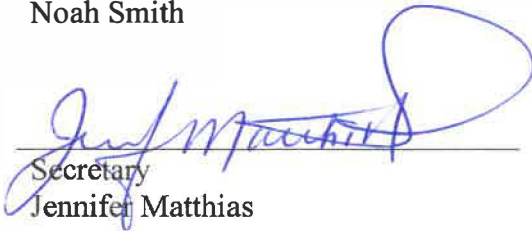
Member
Stephen Corona



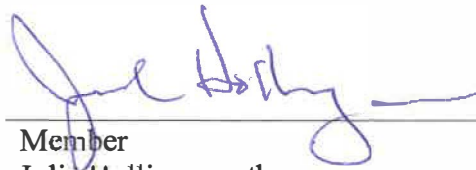
Vice President
Noah Smith

Absent for Signature

Member
Anne Duff



Secretary
Jennifer Matthias



Member
Julie Hollingsworth



Member
Antonette Payne