

**SHOALS COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

REGULAR SESSION

**HIGH SCHOOL BOARDROOM (ROOM 305)
7900 HWY 50
SHOALS, INDIANA 47581**

April 24, 2025

6:00 P.M.

Board Minutes

The Shoals School Board was called to order at 6:05 p.m. on April 24, 2025. In attendance were President Drexel Turpin, Vice-President Eva George, Secretary Annette Taylor and Members Lorna Troutman and Ethan Jones. Staff in attendance were Superintendent Kindra Hovis, Elementary Principal Audrey Gibson, MS Principal Bryson Abel, Corporation Secretary Darla Holt, Curriculum Director Danielle Cornett, teachers Myrna Greene, Tina Rue, Jonathan Sullivan, Christin Johnson, Lindsey Douglas, Ben Kent, Theresa Holt, Megan Hawkins, and Tina Sullivan. Community patrons in attendance were Jeff Jones, Etta Franklin, Jordan and Jessica Hert, Charlie Rollins, Hillary Witt, Allie Jones, Emily Garcia, Audra Deckard, Rickie and Kim Mason, Charity Truelove-Karcz, Dennis and Regina Sue Lanham, Tim Bauer as VU representative, Ann Baker, and Norma Baker.

Prior to the meeting, a public hearing was held where Drexel Turpin read the Proposed Employment Contract Between The Shoals Community School Corporation Board Of School Trustees And The School Superintendent.

Approval of Minutes of the Regular meeting from March 13, 2025 were motioned by Annette Taylor, seconded by Lorna Troutman. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Early College staff presented background information regarding college credit classes available to our high school students, and students being able to complete an Associates Degree upon their high school graduation. Some activities to promote college attendance were College Go Week, Senior Decision Day, Early College Parent Night, College and Career Fair, after school Study Hour, Alumni Mentorship, and INvested & FAFSA Night.

There were no comments from patrons regarding items on the agenda at this time.

Elementary Principal Audrey Gibson began her report by welcoming future Jug Rox to campus during Preschool Registration on Friday, April 4th! We had 28 students enrolled in our Shoals Early Rox program for the 2025–2026 school year. Thank you to our amazing Preschool team for creating such a fun and inviting day for our newest learners and their families!

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One of the most inspiring events this spring was Jug Rox Make A Difference Day. What began as a single-classroom initiative has grown into a powerful, school-wide community service day, now involving every grade level from Preschool to 12th grade. Students helped clean playgrounds, plant flowers, and work on beautification projects around town. Mrs. Gibson expressed sincere gratitude to Jessica Hert for her vision and leadership of this project, and to our dedicated staff, student participants, community volunteers, and the Martin County Sheriff's Department for their support and safety efforts. This event continues to reflect the heart of our school: learning through service and pride in our community.

Elementary ILEARN Testing is underway for grades 3–5 and will continue over the next two weeks. IREAD Retesting is scheduled for the week of May 12th. Our 2nd and 3rd grade teachers are providing support to students preparing for this. End-of-Year Benchmark Testing will also be completed soon. These assessments help track individual student growth and guide future learning.

Last week, we celebrated Mrs. Pam Doane, our dedicated Elementary Administrative Assistant. Mrs. Doane is truly the heart of our front office. Her care, organization, and constant support keep our school running smoothly every single day. THANK YOU, Mrs. Doane, for all you do!

We're excited to announce that on May 8th, Shoals Elementary will be hosting a special visit as part of our journey toward becoming an Indiana STEM Certified Elementary School! This is a huge step in recognizing the innovative, hands-on learning already happening in our classrooms. Stay tuned for updates! Thank you to Ms. Christin Johnson and the Elementary Stem Team for their dedication in making this possible.

Mrs. Gibson wished Good luck to our amazing students who participated in the Special Track & Field Event in Mitchell last Friday! We are proud of you!

Upcoming events in the Elementary are a Spring Book Fair, Preschool "Luau with Loved Ones", 3rd Grade Field Trip to Martin State Forest, 1st Grade Field Trip to Wilstem, 2nd Grade "Survival" Program with Ms. Fuhrman & STEM Certification Visit, Kindergarten "Water Safety" with Ms. Fuhrman, 2nd Grade Field Trip to Westgate, 5th Grade Graduation, Spring Music Program, PBIS Celebration & Preschool Graduation, Field Day, and 3rd–4th Grade Awards Program.

She expressed her encouragement to our staff, students, families, and community for continuing to make Shoals Elementary a special place to learn and grow.

Middle School Principal Bryson Abel reported on the recent Athletic physicals held at the school. 150 students received physicals that day. He thanked Daviess Martin Medical

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Clinic, Carla Harner for donating the food for our Physical day staff, Theresa Holt and her students for helping, and Nurse Nikki Brett for all of the day's events. Our Athletic Interns were of great help as well.

Middle School started ILEARN testing last week. Thank you to Shoals Christian Church for the donation of snacks! Mid-terms were handed out last Thursday. Our students participated in Jug Rox Make a Difference Day on April 18th. Middle Schooler, Bentley Smith participated in the Robotics World Competition with his High school teammates. He was the only Middle School student on the team and he and the entire team did a great job. Middle Schooler Brody Crook set the Discus Throw record for the Middle School, a record that his grandfather, John Owen, had held for over 40 years.

The first item under new business was the approval of the following: Ben Kent to continue to assist with school safety coordination, such as ALICE training and safety drills Also approved were Rickie Mason as Middle School principal, Regina Sue Lanham as Superintendent, Jill Jones to transfer as the Middle School Administrative Assistant, all effective July 1, 2025. Izayah Jackson was approved as a substitute custodian, Charlene Breidenbaugh to supervise High School Summer School May 27-June 6th, Daniel Turpen for the Middle School paraprofessional position. A stipend to be given to staff members who have taken on extra duties due to Mr. Wolford's resignation. Also approved was the Summer League to use the school's athletic fields for practices when needed. Ethan Jones and Eva George led the motions to approve which passed unanimously. Also approved were the resignations of Daniel Wolford and Emelia Yanez-Sorrells, and the hiring of Jonah Shaw as Middle School Baseball volunteer. Lorna Troutman led the motions with Eva George making the second motion. Motions passed with a 5-0 vote. Additional personnel approved were: Allison Taylor's transfer to High School Administrative Assistant effective the 2025-2026 school year, non-certified staff to receive a lost wages stipend due to the recent flooding, the IT assistant to receive a stipend for taking on administrative duties while the school is without an IT director, Hope Smith as Volleyball volunteer and Tracie Stuckey to take an FMLA leave. Annette Taylor and Lorna Troutman led the motions, passing 5-0. J. D. Turpin was approved as Varsity Boys' Basketball coach with a 3-2 vote, with Lorna Troutman and Eva George voting against.

The following trip requests were approved with a 5-0 vote. JugRox Robotix to Houston, Texas for the FTC Robotics World Championship, Middle School Academic Bowl Area Competition, First grade to Wilstem Farms, the Middle and High School Special Ed students to Holiday World and the 2nd grade to Westgate for STEM activities. Annette Taylor and Lorna Troutman led the motions. Additional trips approved were the Senior Activity trip, Jr. Beta to Kissimmee, Florida this summer for the National Beta Convention and the 3rd grade to the Martin State Forest. Eva George and Annette Taylor led the motions to approve, which passed unanimously.

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The following fundraisers were approved: Class of 2026 to hold a Jeep Ride, High School Baseball program to hold a silent auction and dinner, the Art class to sell projects at the Shoals Farmer's Market May-October. Eva George and Ethan Jones led the motions to approve, passing 5-0. An additional fundraiser approved was for the High School Beta to sell Texas Roadhouse items. Lorna Troutman led the motion, Ethan Jones made the second motion. Motions passed unanimously.

The following events were approved: various classes to assist with Jug Rox Make a Difference Day, Elementary Book Fair, 5th Grade Graduation May 15, Elementary Spring Music program May 15, Elementary Field Day, and the Elementary Awards program on May 22. Ethan Jones and Lorna Troutman led the motions to approve, passing 5-0. Robotics Club was approved to use the cafeteria April 7 for a coach and team members banquet dinner with Eva George and Annette Taylor making the motions with a 5-0 vote to approve. The Drama Club Play was approved to be moved to May 9th and 10th. Annette Taylor and Ethan Jones led the motions to approve which passed 5-0. Approval was also given for our track teams to practice off campus due to our track having flood damage. Lorna Troutman and Eva George led the motions, which passed 5-0.

The Leave Accounting for March was approved with Lorna Troutman and Annette Taylor making the motions, passing unanimously.

All claims were approved to be paid. Ethan Jones and Eva George led the motions which passed unanimously.

Superintendent Hovis began her report by highlighting the success of the Early College program at Shoals High School. Ms. Hovis started this program during her time as principal, and she praised the work of Megan Hawkins for building it up to what it is today. With her efforts, Shoals Schools was named a 2024 School of Excellence winner by ACT's American College Application Campaign and recognized by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. Shoals represented the state of Indiana and joined 25 other states in celebrating exemplary schools dedicated to increasing postsecondary success, specifically students from low-income backgrounds. Ms. Hovis was proud to announce that, beginning next school year, Shoals High School will be able to offer an associate's degree in general studies to all interested students.

Last Friday was a great day of students giving back to our community with Jug Rox Make a Difference Day. It came at a perfect time as our town is still reeling from the effects of the flood. Superintendent Hovis wanted to thank all Shoals staff who volunteered when the American Red Cross was utilizing the school as a shelter for displaced families. Time and time again, our staff continue to show up when we have families in need, and she is so grateful to be a part of such a wonderful community. Ms. Hovis congratulated the high school robotics team for a fantastic season. Winning the title of state champion and advancing to the world competition is quite an honor and something to be proud of, especially coming from a school of our size. She also wished all student athletes the best of

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luck as they were to participate in the track & field event hosted by Mitchell. She closed by thanking the school's paraprofessionals and administrative assistants, as these individuals were recently celebrated. She stated that the school could not function without them and that Shoals is blessed to have the best!

At the end of the meeting Board member Lorna Troutman expressed her thanks to the school for their support of the Robotics Program. Patron Ann Baker addressed the board expressing her thanks to Lorna and Dean Troutman for heading the Robotics Program.

A Thank you card from the Shoals Lions Club was read for the use of the school grounds for their annual Easter Egg Hunt.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 6 p.m.