

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 27, 2026, at 6:15 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 27, 2026, at 6:15 p.m. at the Central Office. We will continue to livestream the meeting on Facebook Live.**

Scott Haupert, Board President, called the meeting to order. Dr. Chris Kuhn, Superintendent, Travis Hueston, Chief Financial Officer, 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: Kevin Bowman, Matt Driscoll, Jeff Porter, and Christian Rosen. Also present were Gary Dawson, Frankie Dawson, and Josh Petruniw.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for February 10, 2026, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building; February 24, 2026, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building; and March 10, 2026, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building.

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the \$300.00 donation from Ron and Deb Schenkel for Northfield Athletics (\$100.00-Volleyball; \$100.00-Basketball; \$100.00 Softball) 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 McKillip Seeds, Inc. for Northfield Wrestling (Bill Campbell Memorial) was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$50.00 donation from Jonathon Flott for Northfield Wrestling (Bill Campbell Memorial) was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from Shirley Pfanstiel for Northfield Wrestling (Bill Campbell Memorial) was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

School Recognition:

Casey Stouffer, Principal at Southwood Elementary would like to extend a sincere thank you to Mrs. Kim Weaver for returning after retirement to assist with the transition of our Secretary/Bookkeeper position during a unique hiring situation. Mrs. Weaver was extremely accommodating and played a key role in keeping our school finances current and up to date,

while also training our new bookkeeper, Mrs. Adrienne Gomez. Mrs. Gomez has had a tremendous start in her new role, and we are grateful for the support that made this smooth transition possible.

From Janette Moore, Principal at Metro North Elementary A HUGE thank you to our Metro North cafeteria staff, Ashley Shafer, Angie Dyson, Sandra Frasier, and Christina Houlihan-Willet, and our head custodian, Shannon Pier. With our gym/cafeteria in the final stages of construction, these ladies have gone above and beyond to ensure that breakfast and lunch is served with as much ease as possible. Our cafeteria team has spent time packaging items to help eliminate spills. Mrs. Pier has made sure that all classes have everything they need in their wing area for meals, as well as running trash and carts of trays and utensils back to the cafeteria. This team is extraordinary in the way that they support one another and problem solve creatively to keep things running smoothly. Thank you!

Solveigh, a first grader, created her first ever newsletter titled, "The Metro North News." She drafted her first version at home and shared it with Mrs. Moore last Wednesday. Armed with a few ideas and a baggie of new writing tools, Solveigh went home and created her final draft on Wednesday night. She had a specific purpose for publishing her newsletter . . . she is excited about the Metro North Girl Scout Recruitment Night next week. She wants all of the girls to attend because "being in Girl Scouts with friends would make it so much more fun!" On Thursday, she returned with her final copy, learned how to run the copy machine in the office and began posting her newsletter around Metro North. As we placed copies on doors and bulletin boards and the entrances to the girls restrooms, Solveigh was already talking about ideas for her next issue. Congratulations, Solveigh, on being a published author. We can't wait to see your next issue!

From Jay Snyder, Principal at Northfield Jr/Sr High School. Northfield Girls Wrestling End of Season Highlights. The Northfield girls wrestling program demonstrated significant growth this season, sending six qualifiers to the IHSAA Regional in Kokomo: Emerson Zwiebel (100), Fiona Schnelker (125), Olia Leffert (130), Amarah Frieden (140), Sheila Smith (145), and Izabella Schultz (190). All six athletes competed with composure against elite competition, with junior Amarah Frieden leading the way by securing a 3rd place Regional finish and advancing to the 2026 IHSAA State Finals. At State, Frieden earned an 8th-place finish at 140 pounds, contributing 5 team points and finishing her season with a 26–8 record and 64 career victories. Her performance was historic; she is now one of only 13 qualifiers and the fourth wrestler in school history to earn a spot on the IHSAA state podium, cementing her place among Northfield's most accomplished athletes. Thanks first year Coach Nicole Knox and assistant Spencer Miller.

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments were made.

The Regular Meeting Minutes from January 13, 2026, were approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The Reorganization Meeting minutes were approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, 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:

Financials were discussed during the Board of Finance meeting.

#### Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Samantha Gressley, Paraprofessional, Southwood Elementary, effective January 29, 2026, was approved upon a motion made by Kevin seconded by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the employment of Joshlinne Rowe, Paraprofessional, Southwood Elementary, effective January 16, 2026; Larry “Bud” Wright, Head Football Coach, Southwood Jr/Sr High School, effective immediately were approved upon a motion made by Kevin seconded by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the retirement of Linda Felheim, Classroom Supervisor, White’s Jr/Sr High School, effective June 24, 2026 was approved upon a motion made by Kevin seconded by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the leave of #198, leave to begin approximately May 4, 2026, through the end of the 2025-2026 school year; #199, leave beginning January 5, 2026, with an approximate return date of March 18, 2026, approved upon a motion made by Kevin seconded by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the

#### Heartland Career Center Report:

No report.

#### Superintendent’s Report:

Dr. Kuhn shared that he will have the numbers for the December 1, 2025 count for Special Education, 353.

He shared the 2025 4 year graduation rates. Northfield was at 100%, Southwood 98.25% (equivalent to one student), and White's 77.04%. The state average was 91.83%.

He also stated that all the legislative bills have been filed.

Curriculum Report:

No report.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve the MSDWC HEA 1003 Flexibility Waiver Request Resolution 2026-2027, IC20-30-2-3 (School Days) 180-day School Requirement was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Christian Rosen, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Early Literacy Grant Resolution was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Local Income Tax Distribution Resolution was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the 2026 transfers from Education Fund to Operations Fund was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer to Pay Claims was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the overnight Field Trip for Heartland Career Center students to participate in the Business Professionals of America state competition in Indianapolis from March 8-10, 2026, 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 unfinished business.

Public Comment (All Items):

No comments.

Items from Board Members:

No items from the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

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Scott Haupert, PRESIDENT

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Christian Rosen, VICE-PRESIDENT

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Matt Driscoll, BOARD MEMBER

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Jeff Porter, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST:

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Kevin Bowman, SECRETARY

January 27, 2026