

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

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

Monday, January 12, 2026

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; Nicholas Mitchaner, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator

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

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

2.1 Lifetime Educator Excellence Award Recipient

Mr. Jim Voeltz, NPHS Principal

The Board will recognize New Palestine High School teacher Sandra Haney for receiving the Lifetime Educator Excellence Award from the Indiana Department of Education.

Minutes:

The Board recognized New Palestine High School teacher Sandra Haney.

Attachments:

[ATP - Sandra Haney 2025 Lifetime Educator Excellence Award.pdf](#)

2.2 2025 Indiana RISE Classified Employee Award Recipient

Mrs. Kayleigh Fosnow, NPE Principal

The Board will recognize New Palestine Community Schools employee, Brenda Sellers, for receiving the 2025 Indiana RISE Classified Employee Award from the Indiana Department of Education.

Minutes:

The Board recognized New Palestine Community Schools employee Brenda Sellers.

Attachments:

[ATP - Brenda Sellers 2025 Indiana RISE Classified Employee Award Recipient.pdf](#)

2.3 2025-2026 Milken Educator Award Recipient

Mr. Craig Smith, Director of Student Learning and Communications

The Board will recognize New Palestine Elementary School's principal, Kayleigh Fosnow, for receiving the Milken Educator Award from the Milken Family Foundation.

Minutes:

The Board recognized New Palestine Elementary School's principal Kayleigh Fosnow.

Attachments:

[ATP - Kayleigh Fosnow 2025 Milken Educator Award Recipient.pdf](#)

3 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 2026 meeting schedule.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion for Board reorganization. Mrs. Wooton motioned to reorganize the Board as follows: Mr. Walker as Board President. Mr. Hooker as Board Vice President. Mr. McKinney as Board Secretary. Mrs. Wooton and Mrs. Haeberle as co-policy liaisons. Mr. Hooker as legislative liaison. Mrs. Haeberle seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mrs. Amanda Wooton

Seconded: Mrs. Laura Haeberle

Attachments:

[2026 Board Meeting Dates.pdf](#)

4 Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

Agenda dated January 12, 2026.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the agenda for January 12, 2026. Mr. Hooker made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

5 Citizens Comments on Agenda Items

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, 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.

6 Consideration of Routine Business

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

6.1 Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 8, 2025.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 8, 2025. Mr. Walker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Dan Walker

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

[Regular Meeting Minutes dated Dec 8 2025.pdf](#)

6.2 Personnel Report

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

Personnel Report dated January 12, 2026.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

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

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

Attachments:

[Personnel Report dated January 12 2026.pdf](#)

6.3 Claims and Finances

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

- a. Payroll Claims dated December 5, 2025.
- b. Payroll Claims dated December 19, 2025.
- c. Payroll Claims dated January 2, 2026.
- d. Claims dated December 31, 2025.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the claims and finances. Mrs. Wooton motioned to approve the claims and finances as presented. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mrs. Amanda Wooton

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

Attachments:

[Payroll Claims dated 12-05-2025.pdf](#)

[Payroll Claims dated 12-19-2025.pdf](#)

[Payroll Claims dated 01-02-2026.pdf](#)

[Claims dated December 31 2025.pdf](#)

6.4 Donations

Mrs. Sarah Gizzi, Director of Finance

- a. New Palestine United Methodist Women's Group donated a check for \$200.00 to go to Sugar Creek Elementary's ECA Account. This check is to be used for SCE's Vision Choir Program.
 - b. New Palestine Education Foundation donated a check for \$678.50 to go to Sugar Creek Elementary's ECA Account. This check is to be used for SCE Staff Appreciation Grant (Holiday Luncheon/Treats).
 - c. Becovic Management Group, with the assistance of Dragons Den, has donated \$4,500.00 to go to All Active Meal Accounts with Deficit Balances.
 - d. Teresa Mehok has donated \$500.00 to go to NPHS Meal Accounts with Deficit Balances.
 - e. Clements Family Foundation has issued a check for \$2,500.00 to go to the New Palestine High School Wrestling program.
 - f. Dellen Chevrolet GMC has issued a check to NPHS for \$4,000.00 to go to the NPHS Caring Closet account.
 - g. Realife Church has donated \$150.00 to the NPHS Meal Accounts with Deficit Balances.
 - h. David & Lisa Post have issued a check for \$1,500.00 to go to the NPHS Robotics program.
- Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve donations received. Mr. Walker motioned to approve the donations as presented. Mrs. Wooton seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Dan Walker
Seconded: Mrs. Amanda Wooton

7 Unfinished Business

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

7.1 Second Reading of Policies

Mr. Brian McKinney, Board Member

- a. C525 Medical Needs at School
- b. D300 Controlled Substance and Alcohol Testing
- c. F100 Internal Controls
- d. F125 Purchasing Procedures and Capital Assets
- e. F176 Unpaid Meal Policy
- f. F225 Fundraising and Crowdfunding

Second reading of policies. Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the second reading of policies. Mr. Walker motioned to approve the policies as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Dan Walker
Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

[C525.pdf](#)
[D300.pdf](#)
[F100.pdf](#)
[F125.pdf](#)
[F176.pdf](#)
[F225.pdf](#)

8 New Business

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

8.1 NPHS Janitorial Cleaning Service Contract

Mrs. Sarah Gizzi, Director of Finance

Mrs. Gizzi is recommending a new janitorial cleaning service contract.
Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the janitorial cleaning service contract. Mr. McKinney motioned to approve the contract as presented. Mrs. Wooton seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mrs. Amanda Wooton

Attachments:

8.1 Office Pride Service Agreement.pdf

8.2 NPHS Pool Renovation Bid

Mrs. Sarah Gizzi, Director of Finance

Mrs. Gizzi will present the winning bid for the NPHS pool renovation project.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haerberle requested a motion to approve the winning bid for the pool renovation project. Mr. Hooker motioned to approve the bid as presented. Mr. Walker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Dan Walker

Attachments:

8.2 NPHS Pool Renovation Bid.pdf

8.3 Daycare Fund Transfer

Mrs. Sarah Gizzi, Director of Finance

Mrs. Gizzi will present the transfer from the Education Fund to the Daycare Fund to ensure a positive end-of-year balance.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haerberle requested a motion to approve the transfer of funds. Mrs. Wooton motioned to approve the recommended transfer as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mrs. Amanda Wooton

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

8.3 Ed Fund to Daycare Fund Transfer Resolution.pdf

8.4 Education Fund and Operations Fund Transfer Resolution

Mrs. Sarah Gizzi, Director of Finance

Mrs. Gizzi will present the Education Fund and Operations Fund Transfer Resolution, which ensures that all accounts have a positive end-of-year balance. Funds are transferred from unspent line items to accounts in which additional dollars are needed.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the transfer of funds. Mr. Hooker motioned to approve the recommended transfer as presented. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

Attachments:

8.4 Appropriation Transfers Report Summary with Signature Page 12-31-2025.pdf

8.5 Corporation Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer Re-Appointment

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, 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. Haeberle recommended Sarah Gizzi be re-appointed as Treasurer and Ashlie Worth be re-appointed as Deputy Treasurer. Mr. McKinney made the motion to approve the re-appointment for both. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

8.6 Little Dragons Early Learning Fees

Mrs. Cheryl Rose, Early Childhood and Special Education Coordinator

Mrs. Rose is requesting approval of the suggested 2026-2027 Little Dragons Early Learning Fees.

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the suggested 2026-2027 Little Dragons Early Learning Fees. Mr. Walker motioned to approve the fees. Mrs. Wooton seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Dan Walker

Seconded: Mrs. Amanda Wooton

Attachments:

26-27 Fees for Board Approval .pdf

8.7 2026-2027 Out-of-District Transfer Application

Dr. Gina Pleak, Superintendent

Dr. Pleak is requesting approval of the 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 Out-of-District Transfer Application. Mr. McKinney motioned to approve the application as presented. Mr. Hooker seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mr. Jon Hooker

Attachments:

2026-2027 Out-of-District Transfer Student Application .pdf

8.8 Memorandum of Understanding Between Town of New Palestine, Main Street, IN. and New Palestine Community Schools

Dr. Gina Pleak, Superintendent

Dr. Pleak is seeking approval of the Memorandum of Understanding Between Town of New Palestine, Main Street, IN. and New Palestine Community Schools.

Minutes:

Mrs. Haeberle requested a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) between the Town of New Palestine, Main Street, IN. and New Palestine Community Schools. Mr. Hooker motioned to approve the MOU. Mr. McKinney seconded the motion, and the vote passed 5-0.

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Jon Hooker

Seconded: Mr. Brian McKinney

Attachments:

8.8 Memorandum of Understanding Between Town of NP Main Street INC. and NPCPS.pdf

9 Informal Comments

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, 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 Haeberle, Board President

Minutes:

Mr. McKinney always enjoys recognizing our staff and the great people who work for us, and was happy to recognize three of them at our meeting this evening. He joked that he did not receive any phone calls, so he assumes we have had a great start to our second semester. Mr. McKinney highlighted the donations received to assist in feeding our students and felt this was a reflection of the support and value our community has for our school system. He finished his comments by thanking Laura Haeberle for her leadership as Board President over the last two years. Mr. Hooker echoed Mr. McKinney's sentiments regarding staff recognition, emphasizing the importance of celebrating leadership and excellence within the district. He noted that this culture of appreciation trickles down to students, directly contributing to the consistent awards and championships earned. Mr. Hooker also thanked Mrs. Haeberle for her time served as Board President. Mr. Walker opened his comments with a spirited 'Go Hoosiers!' Turning to business, he joined the other Board members in thanking Mrs. Haeberle for her time and commitment during her time as Board President. On a personal note, Mr. Walker shared the news of the passing of James Evans. Having coached at the high school for many years, Mr. Evans was a fixture in the athletic community. Mr. Walker noted that his knowledge and the genuine care he showed for our athletes will be deeply missed. Mrs. Wooton expressed her gratitude to Mrs. Haeberle for leading the Board with grace and joked that Mr. Walker has 'big heels to fill' as he steps into his new role. Mrs. Wooton also shared that she has been deeply impressed by the recent positive stories regarding New Palestine. She noted the many appreciative comments she has received from parents, which is a reminder of our togetherness as a district. Mrs. Eastes echoed with previous board comments and felt that tonight truly put our values on display! She loved seeing the generosity of our community and how we take care of one another. After attending each recognition event, she shared that celebrating their excellence has been a highlight of her career. Dr. Pleak expressed her sincere appreciation for Mrs. Haeberle's support and commitment. She also noted that January is Board Appreciation Month, taking the opportunity to thank each board member for the significant time and service they dedicate to the school district and community. Mrs. Haeberle expressed her sincere gratitude for the gifts and recognition received in honor of School Board Appreciation Month. She noted that while the Board does not serve for the sake of recognition, the gesture was both kind and deeply appreciated. Mrs. Haeberle noted that this was her final meeting as Board President. She shared several defining moments that she will fondly remember, reflecting on the progress and milestones the district achieved during her leadership.

11 Adjournment

Mrs. Laura Haeberle, Board President

Board approval is requested at this time.

Minutes:

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

Result: Approved

Motioned: Mr. Brian McKinney

Seconded: Mr. Dan Walker

D.W. U

With the
Gwendolyn Water

Brian McKinney

Laura J. Haeblerle