

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

**REGULAR SESSION
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**7900 HWY 50
SHOALS, INDIANA 47581**

March 12, 2026

6:00 P.M.

Board Minutes

The Shoals School Board meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. on March 12, 2026. President Drexel Turpin, Vice-President Eva George, Secretary Annette Taylor, and Members Lorna Troutman and Ethan Jones were in attendance. Staff in attendance were Superintendent Dr. Sue Lanham, Principals Audrey Gibson, Kindra Hovis, and Carol Eubank, Matthew Poole, Damien Holt, Kari Goodman, Allison Taylor, Danielle Cornett, and Corporation Secretary Darla Holt. No patrons were present.

Lorna Troutman moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular meeting from February 11, 2026, seconded by Annette Taylor. The minutes were approved unanimously.

The only comment was an update from Lorna Troutman regarding the recent SPA Home Show, which had a good turnout.

Elementary Principal Audrey Gibson began by reporting that Shoals Elementary has continued to have a productive and engaging start to the spring semester. Our students and staff have been busy with professional learning, assessments, and special events. They were: Dr. Emily Dykstra, along with Special Education Attorneys Karen Glasser and Grace Lundy, who provided administrators with professional training on updates to Teacher Rights, Staff Risks, and Special Education Law 101. This training provided important legal updates and guidance to help ensure our practices continue to effectively support both staff and students; teachers and staff attended a COSMO professional development day. This opportunity allowed our educators to collaborate, learn new instructional strategies, and continue strengthening their professional practice. Shoals Elementary hosted Kindergarten Round-Up. We currently have 31 new Jug Rox students enrolled for the 2026–2027 school year. Thank you to our Kindergarten teaching team—Mrs. Ashton Berry, Ms. Olivia Stoll, and Pam Doane—for organizing this event, and to all staff members who assisted. From March 3–10, second and third-grade students participated in the IREAD assessment. Thank you to all teachers and staff who helped prepare students and assisted with administering the test. IREAD retakes will take place during the week of May 11.

Reminder to families that after-school tutoring is available for all grades. If you are interested in your child receiving additional support, please reach out to your child's teacher or contact the elementary office. Teachers and staff in grades 3–5 are currently preparing for the upcoming ILEARN assessments, which will begin on April 14th. Principal Gibson thanked the bus drivers,

who safely transported students to school while navigating alternate routes due to recent flooding and severe weather. She closed by wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable Spring Break, which will be March 16-March 20!

High School Principal Kindra Hovis began with exciting news: Shoals High School had not one (the usual number selected from each school), but three students selected to attend the Microelectronics High School Academy next year at Westgate. This is the academy's second year, and Shoals was invited to join the second cohort. Students had to go through an application and interview process before being selected. Through this program, students will gain hands-on experience with advanced electronics while earning a semiconductor fabrication certificate from Ivy Tech Community College and other industry-recognized certifications.

The community and staff were recently invited to join in the ribbon-cutting ceremony of our new FEMA saferoom tornado shelter. I know Mrs. Holt & Mrs. Goodman are eagerly anticipating moving in. It is open for a shelter; however, we are waiting for some technology work to be updated before moving into the classrooms.

Freshmen Orientation was a success, and many families came to hear about the new graduation requirements and to get a head start on their child's high school career. A huge thank you to the staff who put it together, as Ms. Hovis was recovering from surgery. Families enjoyed refreshments made and served by Rox Catering. She thanked the Martin County Health Department for conducting its "Hidden in Plain Sight" program. I heard several positive comments on this.

Friday, March 13th, was the conclusion of our Rise Above Week. The week has focused on empowering students to rise above challenging situations they may find themselves in, whether it is drugs & alcohol, vaping, mental health, or other pressures that face our young people today. Throughout this week, they have learned coping techniques, heard the effects vaping, and other drugs & alcohol can have on you, and the importance of self-worth. A shout-out to one of our students who came forward to give his testimony regarding mental health and the importance of seeking help when needed. Each day has been filled with special dress-up days and theme-based activities. We have also held prize giveaways, with tomorrow being our grand prize giveaway. One lucky middle schooler will receive a VR headset, and one high schooler will receive an Apple iPad. We also have Bluetooth speakers, wireless headphones, AirPods, and lots of gift cards to give away. All of this was made possible through various grants, one of which was awarded by our Martin County Local Coordinating Council. Thank you to Megan Hawkins and Tina Rue for assisting me with pulling this together. They both oversee our SADD and Student Council clubs, which align with this week's topics.

She wished our Robotics and Winterguard teams the best of luck at the state championship on Saturday, March 14th. Both teams advanced to the state from their previous competition. Principal Hovis closed by wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable spring break!

Middle School Principal Carol Eubank began her report by thanking Ms. Hovis and Ms. Megan Hawkins, who organized the Rise Above week. Our middle school students were invited to attend the special guest speakers and participate in the activities and prize drawings. A special thank you to my middle school teachers who rolled with the punches last week! We had ILearn Check Points, Beta Leadership Summit, guest speakers, Science Fair, and PBIS events scheduled, and then the

floodwaters poured in and wrecked every schedule we had created. But my teachers kept a positive attitude with it all!

Recent student programs included our 8th-grade students, who traveled to Mitchell High School to experience the Reality Store. Students were given life choices and scenarios to budget for on their own, to give them a sense of the responsibilities of adulthood. That same afternoon, the high school hosted Pathway Presentations to introduce our 8th-grade students to the pathway options they would choose as they begin to think about their future and their more immediate high school schedules. Eighth-grade students and their parents were invited to first-year orientation, where both could learn all about the new diploma changes, requirements, and options. On March 11, several Middle School students headed to Gatlinburg, TN, for the Regional Junior Beta Leadership Summit. They will have 3 days to experience leadership, networking, and learning opportunities. Our 6th-grade students experienced the Science Fair last F/Thursday. They have been working in Miss Hawkins' STEM class on their experiments and shared their experiences and results with the rest of the middle school. Science Fair Exhibits were judged, and the top 5 will move on to the Crane Science Fair in April.

Our Shoals Winter Guard competed at the state competition Saturday, March 14!

Finally, we are all looking forward to Spring Break.

Our teachers recently participated in professional development with our Mitchell Community School Partners and COSMOS facilitators. We had time for a brief faculty meeting before sharing in some corporation PD with legal updates for our teachers.

Middle School Teachers are poring over student data—grades, benchmark scores, and assessment scores to carefully and thoughtfully create student schedules next year.

Mrs. Eubank also shared the newly approved accountability model with teachers as the state heads back into school assessment and score assignment.

The first item under new business was the approval of the following coaches: Baseball-Josh Fuartado as Boys' Varsity assistant coach. Track coaches: Josh Fuartado resigned as Boys' Varsity coach, and Daniel Turpen was approved as the Boys' Varsity coach. Reva Troutman -Girls' Varsity coach, Christina Gardner as assistant for the Girls' Varsity and JV coach, Kathy Overton as Middle School Girls' coach, and Amy Money as Middle School Boys' coach. The board did recommend hiring a male assistant coach for the Middle School Boys' track team. Golf coaches approved were Travis Brett as Head coach, and Chad Cundiff as Assistant coach. Ethan Jones and Lorna Troutman led the motions to approve, passing 5-0.

Also approved was Anita Letterman's resignation from her custodial position, but she will continue to serve as a substitute custodian. Ava Perry was approved as a substitute teacher pending a positive outcome of paperwork, and Haley Hennette was approved to do a clinical observation with Julia Harper through the Family Health Center, pending the return of her background check and signed confidentiality agreement. Eva George moved to approve, with Lorna Troutman seconding. Motions passed unanimously. Additional personnel approved were: Roger Stallings as substitute custodian. The following volunteer coaches were approved for Middle School Baseball: Tony Taylor, Mike Rayn, Seth Sorrells, and Jace Erwin; Golf volunteer Nick Bowman. All pending a positive outcome of paperwork. Ethan Jones and Eva George led the motions to approve, which passed 5-0. Also approved as the maternity leave for Ashton Berry in

the Fall of 2026, with Annette Taylor and Lorna Troutman making the motions to approve, passing with a 5-0 vote.

Approved trip requests were for the Jr. Beta to Bedford for Food Pantry purchases, FFA grades 8-12 to volunteer at the Martin County Humane Society, JugRox Robotix to the University of Indianapolis for FTC championship, High School art class to work on the VFW and road mural in Shoals between March and October, Kindergarten to IU Botanical Gardens, Mrs. LeTourneau's class to Holiday World for the Easter seals Play Day, Middle School to Westgate Academy crane for the Crane Science Fair and Engineering design Challenge, Seniors to Kings Island and to a reds game for their Senior trip, the High School Culinary class to Bloomington Culinary Art Institute, High School Art class to Crane to create a mural for their town, and the Middle School beta to Nashville, TN for the national Jr. Beta Convention. Eva George and Ethan Jones led the motions to approve, passing unanimously. An additional trip approved was for the High School Rox Catering and the Shoals Grounds to attend the Uplands Student-Run Business Conference at the Brown County Schools Resource Center. Lorna Troutman and Eva George led the motions to approve, which passed unanimously.

Upcoming events approved were the Preschool Prom, Preschool Graduation, Senior Honor Night, Graduation on Saturday, May 23 at 2:00 p.m., Middle School, Elementary, and High School awards on May 20th, with Senior graduation practice and prep for Senior awards night on May 21. Ethan Jones led the motion to approve, with Annette Taylor making the second motion. Motions passed 5-0.

Mowing Contract bids were opened, with Woody's Lawn Service receiving the contract. Ethan Jones and Eva George led the motions to approve, which passed 5-0. Other contract agreements approved were the Construction Management contract with the Tecton Construction Management Team and the upgrade of the Multipurpose room ceiling. Lorna Troutman and Ethan Jones led the motions to approve, which passed with a 5-0 vote.

The board was given a FEMA contract change from Lancer Associates that required no action.

A Resolution to transfer bond release payment from the Construction Fund to the Debt Fund was approved with a 5-0 vote. Eva George and Lorna Troutman led the motions to approve.

Facility usage approvals were to host a Blue Chip Spell Bowl meet in the Fall of 2026 and a Blue Chip Academic meet on March 3, 2027. Annette Taylor and Ethan Jones led the motions to approve, which passed unanimously. An additional facility request was approved for the American Red Cross to offer Certified Babysitting Training in the High School in June. Lorna Troutman and Annette Taylor led the motions, which passed unanimously.

Danielle Cornett gave updates on the upcoming standardized testing dates. She also presented the Elementary and Middle School ILEARN Checkpoint results. IREAD grades will be finalized in April. The board asked Mrs. Cornett what the biggest concern is with the accountability grade. She stated standardized test scores, along with poor student attendance, are the biggest concerns.

The FEMA Shelter Generator Maintenance Contract was approved, with Ethan Jones and Eva George leading the motions to approve, by a 5-0 vote.

Superintendent Lanham began her report by updating the community on the financial status of the education and operations funds and sharing the consistent enrollment number of 564. Celebrations included: Congratulations to the kindergarten team and administration for hosting a

successful Kindergarten round-up. We would like to thank the families and volunteers who came out to help. Congratulations to the winter sports teams and coaches. After a long winter, we are ready to head back outside for events. In each building, there have been so many PBIS activities to inform and encourage students to make great choices. Congratulations everyone! The data shared by Danielle shows that our students are continuing to learn and grow. We look forward to seeing the next set of student data. We want to wish our Robotics and Winterguard Teams. Good Luck at State this weekend. Finally, our students and staff will be on Spring Break next week. We hope everyone has an opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

January Leave Accounting was approved with a 5-0 vote. Eva George and Ethan Jones led the motions. Approval to pay Claims passed with a 5-0 vote. Annette Taylor and Lorna Troutman led the motions.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be on April 9, 2026, at 6 p.m.