

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 March 24, 2026, at 6:00 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 March 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Office. We will continue to livestream the meeting on Facebook Live.**

Christian Rosen, Board Vice-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, and Jeff Porter. Absent was Scott Haupert. Also present were Gary Dawson, Frankie Dawson, Brian Ridgeway, and Sherry Ridgeway.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for April 14, 2026, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building, April 28, 2026, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building, and May 26, 2026, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building,

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the \$1,000.00 donation from Apex Automation Inc. for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Blake & Rachel Eppard for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Gentry Well & Pump for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$1,000.00 donation from Daniel & Jennifer Pulley for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$2,000.00 donation from Aaron & Samantha Searle for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$1,000.00 donation from David & Janet Snyder for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Gary & Nanetta Turner for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from Southwood Elementary Families to help pay for the 2nd grade field trip in April 2026, was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$200.00 donation from Southwood Elementary Families For Southwood 2nd grade to help pay for the field trip April 2026, was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$100.00 donation from the Builder's Mart for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$7,320.00 donation from Simeon & Laverne Marion for Southwood Softball Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Todd Adams for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Hanna Lodge No.61 for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Living Essentials for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$200.00 donation from Gerald & Janet Miller for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$1,000.00 donation from Caryn & Andrew Tinkle for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Wabash Furniture and Carpet, LLC for Southwood Youth Football Program was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$52.57 donation from the Beverage Buggy (Derric & Jenny Wilson) for Northfield Robotics was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$300.00 donation from POet, LLC. for Northfield Softball was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$500.00 donation from Kalenborn Abersist Corporation for Northfield Softball was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$2,850.00 donation from Wabash Elk's Lodge 471 Arrive Alive Tour FID for Southwood Safety Club was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$357.04 (Share Night 3/4/26) for Southwood Senior Trip was approved upon a motion made by Jeff Porter, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

#### School Recognition:

Congratulations to all Sharp Creek Norsebot teams who participated in the Indiana State Robotics Competition on Saturday, March 14, 2026. We are proud of you and your accomplishments this year. Also, a special shout out to the Team A Norsebots who will travel to St. Louis the week of April 27, 2026, to compete in the VEX Robotics World Championship! Good Luck to Gabe, Annabella, Riddik, Connor, Riley, and Karsyn.

#### Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments were made.

The minutes from March 10, 2026, Regular Meeting, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

Claims were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Payroll #17 was approved upon a motion made by Christian Rosen, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

Financial Summary:

No Financial Summary.

Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Heather Clark, Teacher, Metro North Elementary, effective the end of the 2025-2026 school year was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the retirement of Denise Stouffer Teacher, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective the end of the 2025-2026 school year was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the employment of Amanda Purkey, Substitute Teacher, White's Jr/Sr High School, effective immediately; Walter Wood, Clay Target Coach, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective immediately; Ella Gatchel, Psychology Intern, WMAP, effective August 12, 2026; Charity France, Volunteer Softball Coach, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective immediately; Morgan Farr, volunteer Track Coach, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, effective immediately; were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the transfer of Melissa Ball from Transportation Director to Food Service Director, all schools, effective the start of the 2026-2027 school year was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the leave of absence for #199 to be extended to May 18, 2026; #201 leave to begin August 10, 2026, through December 10, 2026 and returning January 4, 2027, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve Janette Moore as the Elementary Summer Programming Coordinator and Tonya Boone as the Secondary Summer Programming Coordinator were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve Patty Steele, Kindergarten Teacher; Kelly Bare 1st Grade Teacher; Megan Wright 2nd Grade Teacher; Alissa Deeter, 3rd Grade Teacher; Amber Sweet, Kindergarten/1st Grade Paraprofessional; Jennifer Finney, 2nd/3rd Grade Paraprofessional, all effective June 2-June 19, 2026, at Southwood Elementary, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve Angie Herring, Kindergarten Teacher; Nicole Knox 1st grade Teacher; Stacey Boone, 2nd Grade Teacher; Tara Hauptert, 3rd Grade Teacher; Liza Lippe, Kindergarten/1st Grade Paraprofessional, all effective June 2-June 19, 2026, at Metro North

Elementary, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve Amy Oprisek, Southwood High School Edmentum; Adam Phelps, Northfield High School Edmentum; Cale Parson, Summer Ag, all effective June 2-June 19, 2026, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

#### Heartland Career Center Report:

Matt Driscoll reported that there will be a career fair at Heartland on April 15, 2026. That same night there will be an open house at the school; open house at the newly constructed home (tentatively) May 7, 2026, 6:00-7:00p.m; May 18, 2026 is the senior certificate honors program at the Honeywell Center. The Wabash First United Methodist Church hosted the National Technology Honor Society Program.

Keystone Cooperative donated \$2,000.00 for the Precision Ag program.

#### Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Kuhn shared that the Metro North Elementary gym/cafeteria will be fully open after spring break. At the April 14, 2026, Board Meeting, Weigand Construction will be at the meeting to share the progress of the Northfield project and after the meeting Board members are welcome to tour the facility. The bids for Southwood Elementary are out and will be due in on April 14, 2026; Southwood Jr/Sr High School's bids will open up next week and be due back in by April 21, 2026.

Spring Break will be March 30 through April 3, 2026. A reminder that graduation will be Sunday, May 31, 2026, with Northfield's at 1:30 p.m. and Southwood's at 4:00 p.m.

#### Curriculum Report:

Mr. Drake reported that the Language Arts teachers met March 18, 2026 (Professional Development Day) to review our curriculum resources. After thoughtful discussions, the group reached a strong consensus on selecting curriculum resources for grades 6-12 to improve student outcomes. This 6 year purchase includes printed and digital resources

The team chose *Intro to Literature* from HMH for grades 6-8, which is included on the Indiana Department of Education's Highly Qualified Materials (HQIM) List.

Our high school teachers chose to use HMH printed materials as a resource along with selected novels. We are also proposing novels for your approval to be added to the district list.

They also recommended *The Art of Public Speaking* from McGraw-Hill for speech class.

Per standard procedure, the print and digital materials are available here at the central office for public review for four weeks prior to a final board vote for approval and purchase. Community members may stop by and sign out materials during business hours. We ask that they return them promptly so that others may explore them.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve the 2026 Summer School Programming was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve changing the name of Sharp Creek Elementary to Northfield Elementary starting 2026-2027 school year was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the reconfiguration of Northfield Jr./Sr High School for grades 6-12 and Northfield Elementary (formerly Sharp Creek Elementary) for grades 3-5 starting for the 2026-2027 school year were approved upon a motion by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the overnight/extended field trip for Sharp Creek Elementary to VEX IQ Worlds Robotic competition April 27-May 1, 2026 in St. Louis, MO was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Jeff Porter, 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 6:40 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

March 24, 2026