

**NORTHWEST INDIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**  
**2150 W. 97<sup>th</sup> PLACE**  
**CROWN POINT, IN. 46307**  
**April 8, 2026**

Executive Session: The Board of Managers met in executive session at 5:30 p.m. and discussed items related to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1.

1. Mrs. Tara Beilke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Mr. Bradley Keehn took roll call. The following members were recorded as present: Mr. Robert Kuva, proxy for Highland, Mr. Bradley Keehn for Hobart, Mr. Kevin Music for Lake Station, Mrs. Tara Beilke for Hanover and Dr. Nathan Kleefisch for Tri-Creek. There was no representation from Lake Ridge or River Forest
3. Mrs. Tara Beilke asked for comments or questions on agenda items from the audience. There were none.
4. Mrs. Tara Beilke asked for any additions or deletions to the March 11, 2026 minutes. Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of the March 11, 2026 minutes, as presented. Mr. Music seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
5. Ms. Gilmore recommended Board approval of the monthly financial reports dated March 31, 2026. Mr. Kuva moved for Board approval of the monthly financial report, dated March 31, 2026. The motion was seconded by Mr. Keehn and the motion passed unanimously.
6. Ms. Gilmore requested Board approval of Resolution #26-04: To Transfer Amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of Resolution #26-04, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Music and passed unanimously.
7. Ms. Gilmore requested Board approval of the memo regarding NISEC's fire alarm system upgrade, as presented. Mr. Keehn said it is important to mention that this is just a system upgrade and that the fire alarm system itself is still functional. Dr. Kleefisch said this is important and is glad to hear the system is getting an upgrade. Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of the memo regarding NISEC's fire alarm system upgrade. The motion was seconded by Mr. Music and the motion passed unanimously.
8. **Director's Report:**
  - Mrs. Horn shared information with the Board about upcoming activities at Eagle Park School, including Family Night, Field Day and Graduation. Mrs. Horn and Ms. Gilmore shared names of many of the donators for Family Night at Eagle Park School. Mrs. Horn shared there are 5 students exiting the BLAST program and 4 students graduating with a certificate of completion from Eagle Park School this year.
  - Mrs. Horn and Ms. Gilmore also shared this year with this "Apples for Students" fundraiser through Strack and Van Til, Eagle Park Community School brought in a total of \$142, 385.00 worth of receipts. The school is able to redeem these receipts and earn 1 point for every dollar and pick out items for the school on an online catalog. They also shared during the "Drop the Change" fundraiser the school raised a total of \$581.18.
  - Mrs. Horn reminded the Board of the NISEC Staff Appreciation Dinner on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - Mrs. Horn had Ms. Gilmore share the results of the fiscal monitoring audit that occurred during the month of March. Ms. Gilmore said the Department of Education audited the Fiscal Year 24 grants and there were no findings.

9. **Personnel:**

Mrs. Horn recommended approval to the following personnel actions:

**a. Retirement**

Administration

*Marsha Horn*, Executive Director at NISEC, effective July 24, 2026.

Certified

*Shelley Bilski*, Educational Diagnostician with NISEC, effective June 3, 2026.

*Lori Brown-Runyon*, Itinerant Teacher of Record with NISEC, effective June 1, 2026.

*Janice Burton*, Mild Interventions Teacher at Bailey Elementary School, effective June 4, 2026.

Classified

*Stephanie Kalizae*, Paraprofessional at Oak Hill Elementary School, effective May 29, 2026.

**b. Resignations**

Classified

*Hailey Brady*, Paraprofessional at Lowell Middle School, effective April 1, 2026.

*Lisa Hodge*, Paraprofessional at Southridge Elementary School, effective May 28, 2026.

*Bianca Hudson*, Paraprofessional at Longfellow Elementary School, effective March 2, 2026.

**c. Terminations**

None at this time.

**d. Appointments**

Certified

*Mary Alger*, Mild Interventions Teacher at Edison Jr./Sr. High School, effective August 6, 2026.

*Ana Luna*, Mild Interventions Teacher at Highland Middle School, effective August 6, 2026.

Classified

*Anna Randall*, Paraprofessional at Evans Elementary School, effective April 13, 2026.

*Isabella Smelko*, Paraprofessional at Highland High School, effective March 18, 2026.

*Ali Sutton*, Paraprofessional at Johnston Elementary School, effective April 20, 2026.

**e. Independent Contracts**

None at this time.

**f. Leave of Absence**

*Sheldon Dollinar*, Medical Leave pursuant to the memo from Kathy Cain, dated April 1, 2026.

*Sarah Franklin*, Extended Unpaid Medical Leave as per Kathy Cain through the end of the 2025-2026 School Year.

**g. Conference Leave**

None at this time.

Mr. Keehn moved for Board approval of the Personnel Report, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kuva and passed unanimously.

10. Mrs. Tara Beilke asked for comments or questions from the Board.  
Mr. Music said “thank you for everything you’ve done” to all of the retiring personnel. Mrs. Beilke thanked all of the monetary donators and all of the staff members for the time going into the upcoming activities.
11. Mrs. Smith-Gomez asked for comments or questions from the Audience.  
There were none.
12. Dr. Kleefisch moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Music and passed unanimously.