



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT **Saturday, January 11, 2025 (8:15 AM)**

1.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Request all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 Roll Call

2.1 Call of the Roll

BOARD MEMBERS

Nancy Slattery
Chris Heather
Jim Detzel
Mark Gilbert
Nicole Taulbee

Number in Attendance: 0 Guests

3.0 MISSION STATEMENT

3.1 Mission Statement

The Board President read the Mission Statement:

The Northwest Local School District will create a responsive learning community where all students are valued, challenged, and guided along a pathway to success.

4.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4.1 Motion to Adopt Agenda

The Board President recommended to adopt the agenda as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Jim Detzel**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Board President recommends to adopt the agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

5.0 SPECIAL RECOGNITION

5.1 OSBA School Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Appreciation Month. The Board was recognized.

Superintendent Darrell Yater thanked the members of the Board of Education for all of their hard work throughout the year and presented each member with a certificate of appreciation.

On behalf of the Board of Education, eleven books were donated, one to each of school, to continue with the District's relentless focus on literacy:

- Preschool received copy of *If It's Snowy and you Know It* by Kim Norman
- Elementary schools received copies of *Hot Mess (Diary of a Wimpy Kid #19)* by Jeff Kinney
- Middle schools received copies of *Kareem Between* by Shifa Saltagi Safadi
- High schools received copies of *Enter the Jungle* by James Rapien (CHS) and *Anatomy: A Love Story* by Dana Schwartz (NWHS)

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

A) Student Achievement Liaison Report

6.1 Student Achievement Liaison Report by Board Representative

No report was available.

B) Butler Tech Update

6.2 Butler Technology Update by Board Representative

Jim Detzel gave the Butler Technology update as follows:

The three finalists for the Superintendent position will be interviewed on January 22. I'll update the Board on the final selection.

C) Legislative Update

6.3 Legislative Update by Board Representative

No update was available.

7.0 PUBLIC PRESENTATION

A) Report from Any Employee Organization

7.1 Transportation Department

The Board President asked if there was a representative from any employee organization who wished to speak.

No employees were present to speak.

B) Community Communications

7.2 Community Comments

The Board President acknowledged audience members who completed a “Request to Address the Board” card and read the NWLSD Board Policy, Public Participation at Board Meetings (169.1), which can be viewed through the following link:

<http://go.boarddocs.com/oh/nwlsdhamiltonoh/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CJML8T555E8f>

The Northwest Board of Education welcomes the opportunity to listen to Northwest Local School District resident’s comments, suggestions, and concerns on educational issues. It is important to remember that the Board conducts the meetings in public, but the meetings are not public forums. The intent of the meetings is to allow the Board to complete needed business. Per Board Policy (169.1), each submission will be given three (3) minutes to speak on agenda items of any topic during “Community Comments.” However, no more than fifteen (15) minutes will be devoted to public participation unless the Board votes unanimously to continue the discussion. No response to this submission will occur from any Board member or district administration during this time. Once the fifteen (15) minutes’ time frame is over, appropriate follow up by the district administration may occur at a later time if warranted.

No one was present to speak.

Discussion:

- **Mr. Detzel:** Correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe our Board policy states that you have to be a member of our community, you have to live in the district to participate in the community comments portion of the meeting.

Mrs. Taulbee: We have allowed non-residents to speak in the past.

Mr. Detzel: We have allowed it in the past, but I think we need to make sure people are community members if they're going to come here and have comments about our district.

Mrs. Slattery: I agree, and as they come up to speak I will ask them to attest that they are living within the confines of the Northwest Local School District.

Mr. Yater: When they fill out the request to speak form, it does ask for their address so that we can validate that they are a community member.

Mrs. Slattery: Is there any way for us to quickly validate residency before they speak?

Mr. Yater: If we have the request cards in enough time we can verify their residency. We can add a checkbox to the form asking them to attest to it.

Mrs. Taulbee: I think Jim (Detzel) is talking about our Booster president, who we have allowed to speak in the past. She would still be allowed to speak because she's the Boosters president, right?

Mr. Detzel: Yes, she can speak about the Boosters, but she can't sit back and take shots at the Board and the decisions that we make.

Mr. Yater: Someone speaking about an organization like that can do so under the Employee Organizations section since they're a recognized support organization.

8.0 APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT ITEMS

8.1 Adoption of Superintendent's Consent Items

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education approve the adoption of the superintendent's consent items as listed.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Nicole Taulbee**) Moved, Member (**Mark Gilbert**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption of Superintendent's consent items as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

A) Personnel

8.2 Superintendent Consent Items

Acceptance of Classified Resignations and Retirements

Behanan, Terri - NWHS - Custodian II Effective: 12/31/2024	(Personal)
---	------------

Edmonson, Melba - TRANSP - Bus Driver Effective: 12/20/2024	(Personal)
--	------------

Major, David - TRANSP - Bus Driver Effective: 12/31/2024	(Personal)
---	------------

McGinnis, Cortez - NWHS - MD 1:1 Assistant Effective: 12/20/2024	(Personal)
---	------------

Mentrup, Victoria - OLG - Intervention Assistant Effective: 1/10/2025	(Personal)
--	------------

Acceptance of Certified Resignations and Retirements

Grabo, Diana - TE - Math Specialist Effective: 9/1/2025	(Retirement)
--	--------------

Leinecke, Laura - CE - Intervention Specialist Effective: 1/17/2025	(Relocating)
--	--------------

Otten, Linda - MHE - 1st Grade Effective: 6/1/2025	(Retirement)
---	--------------

Powers, Maureen - MHE - 5th Grade Effective: 6/1/2025	(Retirement)
--	--------------

Schnedl, Michelle - CE - 5th Grade Effective: 5/23/2025	(Retirement)
--	--------------

Approval of Extra Duty Resignations

Anderson, Zyair - CHS - Assistant Varsity Track Coach, Step 2
Effective: 6/30/2024

Bishop, Hunter - NWHS - Winter Music Assistant
Effective: 7/1/2024

McGinnis, Cortez - CHS - Assistant Varsity Football Coach (½), Step 3
Effective: 6/30/2025

Rod, Daniel - CHS - Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Step 6
Effective: 6/30/2025

Spence, Lori - NWHS - Assistant Varsity Track Coach, Step 6
Effective: 6/30/2024

Approval of Classified Changes in Status

Gardner, Virginia - from Bus Assistant, Step 1 at Transportation to 4.5 hour Cafe Assistant, Step 2 at Struble Elementary
Effective: 1/6/2025

Approval of Guaranteed Sub Bus Driver at \$23.41 per hour – Effective 1/6/2025

Miles, JoDawna

Approval of Guaranteed Sub Bus Driver at \$21.63 per hour – Effective 1/6/2025

Johnson, Vanessa

Approval of Casual Sub Bus Driver at \$21.63 per hour - Effective 1/6/2025

Taylor, Reggina

Approval of Driver in Training at \$16.22 per hour - Effective 12/4/2024

Berling, Kayla

Approval of Initial Classified Appointment

Cargile, Robert

Salary: Custodian II, Step 2
Effective: 1/13/2025

Garrigues, Rachel

Salary: MD Assistant, Step 5
Effective: 1/3/2025

Approval of Classified Leaves of Absence

Bowling, Bonita - CHS - OP 4 Effective: 12/11/24 - 4/15/2025	(Medical Leave)
Caldwell, Maria - CHS - MD Assistant Effective: 12/3/2024	(Intermittent)
Fordie, Anaiyah - CE - ED Assistant Effective: 11/9/2024	(Continuous)
Lovelace-Brown, Kerri - Enrollment Office Personnel Effective: 12/4/2024	(Intermittent)
McCurry, Kristi - SE - ED Assistant Effective: 12/18/2024	(Continuous)
Palmer, Yolanda - Transportation - Supervisor Effective: 10/16/2024	(Continuous)
Webber, Karen - SE - Title I Assistant Effective: 11/18/2024	(Intermittent)

Approval of Certified Leaves of Absence

Klamo, Rachel - CE - Teacher Effective: 12/18/2024	(Continuous)
Oldfield, Sydney - TE - Teacher Effective: 4/16/2025	(Continuous)
Rothan, Rachel - CHS - Dean of Students Effective: 4/16/2025	(Continuous)
Shimp, Melissa - CHS - Teacher Effective: 11/20/2024	(Intermittent)
Stokes, Jennifer -WOMS - Counselor Effective: 9/25/2024	(Intermittent)

Approval of Initial Certified Appointment

Stevens, Jordan Salary: Teacher, Master's + 30 with 10 years of experience, Step 11 Effective: 8/1/2025	(Replacement)
--	---------------

Approval of Auxiliary Tutor 2024-2025 Effective – 1/13/2025

Mentrup, Victoria – Bachelor's with 150 semester hours, step 1

Approval of Science of Reading Stipends

Name	Pathway Completed
Bernhardt, Emma	Pathway A
Blaut, Amanda	Pathway A
Boys, Sarah	Pathway A
Britton, Tiena	Pathway A
Buckley, Audra	Pathway A
Chaney, Stephanie	Pathway A
Cope, Heather	Pathway A
Darling, Jill	Pathway A
Dayton, Susan	Pathway A
Felthouse, Kristin	Pathway A
Gilmore, Lindsey	Pathway A
Goff, Elizabeth	Pathway A
Grabo, Diana	Pathway A
Hoeh, Jennifer	Pathway A
Hoyt, Chelsey	Pathway A
Jahn, Alyssa	Pathway A
Kinney, John	Pathway A
Koch, Clare	Pathway A
Leinecke, Laura	Pathway A
Lewis, Raquel	Pathway A
Lorenz, Angela	Pathway A
Mcguire, Kristin	Pathway A
Molloy, Karen	Pathway A
Ogborn, Kelly	Pathway A
Oldfield, Sydney	Pathway A
Owoo, Melissa	Pathway A
Pierce, Sherry	Pathway A
Ponting, Tanya	Pathway A
Powers, Maureen	Pathway A
Purtee, Kelley	Pathway A
Roach, Michael	Pathway A
Schlimm, Nicole	Pathway A

Name	Pathway Completed
Schnedl, Michelle	Pathway A
Schoener, Morgan	Pathway A
Sizemore, Natalie	Pathway A
Smith, Angela	Pathway A
Smith, Jenelle	Pathway A
Strom, Kara	Pathway A
Thompson, Meghan	Pathway A
Triantos, Katherine	Pathway A
Vogel, Olivia	Pathway A
Wagner, Mary	Pathway A
Miller, Sheena	Pathway B
Albrinck, Patrick	Pathway C
Albrinck-draginoff, Kathleen	Pathway C
Beach, Jadzia	Pathway C
Benedict, Ann	Pathway C
Benevengo, Amanda	Pathway C
Bertram, Kelly	Pathway C
Blanton, Valerie	Pathway C
Bowser, Maggie	Pathway C
Bramley, Erin	Pathway C
Bryant, Sarah	Pathway C
Caster, Katie	Pathway C
Cedillo, Nancy	Pathway C
Cooney, Sean	Pathway C
Cooper, Jessica	Pathway C
Davis, Debra	Pathway C
Davis, Erin	Pathway C
Detmering, Margaret	Pathway C
Dooley, Angela	Pathway C
Dunlevy, Mary	Pathway C
Enderle, Deana	Pathway C
Erhardt, Haillie	Pathway C
Flickinger, Bryan	Pathway C
Flynn, Nikki	Pathway C
Gebhart, Edward	Pathway C
Geiger, Bethanie	Pathway C
Gilliand, Michael	Pathway C

Name	Pathway Completed
Gomez, Teresa	Pathway C
Gunther, Jennifer	Pathway C
Hanavan, Rachel	Pathway C
Harmon, Richard	Pathway C
Hill, Christina	Pathway C
Hudson, Samantha	Pathway C
Kempton, Tricia	Pathway C
Kinne, Gregory	Pathway C
Klein, Leslie	Pathway C
Kolbinsky, Melissa	Pathway C
Koonce, Laurens	Pathway C
Kramer, Scott	Pathway C
Leigh, Brandon	Pathway C
Leonard, Brittany	Pathway C
Lewis, Max	Pathway C
Loweecy, Phillip	Pathway C
Ottenjohn, Elizabeth	Pathway C
Rabold, Christine	Pathway C
Reindorf, Taylor	Pathway C
Rice, Alexis	Pathway C
Richey, Emily	Pathway C
Riggs, Nathaniel	Pathway C
Schneider, Clare	Pathway C
Schultz, James	Pathway C
Shuholm, Olivia	Pathway C
Stuchell, Darcy	Pathway C
Tobias, Michelle	Pathway C
Tuck, Devon	Pathway C
Turner, Caitlyn	Pathway C
Vatter, Gregory	Pathway C
Wilson, Jennifer	Pathway C
Woodward, Melinda	Pathway C
Young, Laura	Pathway C
Beinkemper, Julie	Pathway D
Christy, Ashley	Pathway D
Leary, Paige	Pathway D
Bailey, Elizabeth	Pathway E

Name	Pathway Completed
Baumann, Alex	Pathway E
Bowling, Shannon	Pathway E
Burdine, Desirae	Pathway E
Campbell, Emma	Pathway E
Cohn, Ann	Pathway E
Cutright, David	Pathway E
Dahlheimer, Jason	Pathway E
Dearing, John	Pathway E
Dotson, Benjamin	Pathway E
Duwel, Jennifer	Pathway E
Flack, Julie	Pathway E
Frederick, Kelsey	Pathway E
Funk, Stacy	Pathway E
Gilardi, Anthony	Pathway E
Grimm, Katherine	Pathway E
Hahn, Samuel	Pathway E
Hoeting, Jennifer	Pathway E
Huening, Timothy	Pathway E
Hunt, Charles	Pathway E
James, Evan	Pathway E
Jewell, Chuck	Pathway E
Kidd, Heather	Pathway E
Koch, Stacy	Pathway E
Lee, Cathi	Pathway E
Lehman, Mark	Pathway E
Long, Michael	Pathway E
Ludmann, Amy	Pathway E
Lynn, Lori	Pathway E
Mackzum, Erin	Pathway E
Martin, Avery	Pathway E
May, Rachael	Pathway E
Mckillip, Nathan	Pathway E
Mitchell, Heather	Pathway E
Moore, Jennifer	Pathway E
Moore, Melissa	Pathway E
Munson, Jessica	Pathway E
Neal, Jeffrey	Pathway E

Name	Pathway Completed
Newman, Jennifer	Pathway E
Posta, Brooks	Pathway E
Pruett, Melissa	Pathway E
Sauer, Jenna	Pathway E
Steinke, Taylor	Pathway E
Taylor, Britiany	Pathway E
Thompson, Sarah	Pathway E
Trigg, Mary	Pathway E
Van horn, Cara	Pathway E
Villarreal, Maria	Pathway E
Wakefield, Olivia	Pathway E
Warner, Gabriel	Pathway E
Weaver, Greg	Pathway E
Woltz, Jeffrey	Pathway E
Wyatt, Hannah	Pathway E
Evans, Amy	Pathway G

Approval of Extra Duty Change in Status

Schulten, Kyla - CE - Ohio Resident Educator Program Mentor - from two mentees to one mentee

Effective: 1/17/2025

Approval of Extra Duty Contracts for 2024-25 Effective 7/1/2024

Monfort Heights Elementary School

Kids in School Rule! Tutor – Michelle Myers, Step 2

Kids in School Rule! Tutor – Ellen Schwetschenau, Step 2

Struble Elementary School

Kids in School Rule! Tutor – Kayla Holloway, Step 2

Taylor Elementary School

Kids in School Rule! Tutor – Karen Burke, Step 2

Kids in School Rule! Tutor – Diane Geers, Step 3

Resolution (#2504) to Hire for Non-Licensed Coaches Effective 7/1/2024

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the positions of:

Assistant Varsity Boys Soccer Coach - NWHS
Kids in School Rule! Tutors - SE

WHEREAS, the positions have been offered to the current employees of the Northwest Local School District who have a license issued under Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and no such person whom the Board of Education considers to be qualified for the positions have applied for and accepted the positions; and

WHEREAS, the positions have been advertised as available to any individual not employed by the Northwest Local School District who has a license issued under Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, and no such person whom the Board of Education considers to be qualified for the positions have applied for and accepted the positions; and
WHEREAS,

Glore, Amy - SE - Kids in School Rule! Tutor, Step 2
Huber, Dawn - SE - Kids in School Rule! Tutor, Step 3
Ward, Robert - NWHS - Assistant Varsity Boys Soccer Coach, Step 5
Weber, Karen - SE - Kids in School Rule! Tutor, Step 1

who do not hold licenses issued pursuant to Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, have applied for the positions, and the Board of Education has determined that they are qualified for the positions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that they be employed in the positions for the 2024-2025 school year in accordance with the pupil activity contract attached hereto and incorporated herein.

IT IS FOUND AND DETERMINED that all formal action of this Board concerning or related to the adoption of this Resolution was adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were adopted in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all applicable requirements of the Ohio Revised Code.

Approval of Athletic Event Workers for 2024-25

Brewer, Lisa
Howard, Joseph
Mahaffey, Danielle

Rosenbalm, Cody
Washington, Autumn

Approval of Extra Duty Contracts for 2025-26 Effective 7/1/2025

Colerain High School

Head Varsity Football Coach - Jordan Stevens, Step 6
Strength Coach (½) - Jordan Stevens, Step 6

Resolution (#2505) of Job Abandonment

Resolution recognizing that Emily Vriesman has abandoned her position with the Northwest Local School District Board of Education effective December 20, 2024. The District has attempted to be in contact with Ms. Vriesman to have her fulfill her contractual duties to the Board. However, Ms. Vriesman has refused to fulfill such contractual duties. This job abandonment is not done with the consent of the Board of Education, and this resolution should not be seen as "consent" under RC 3319.15. This resolution is passed only to recognize the job abandonment so that the District administrative offices can do what is necessary to remove Ms. Vriesman from the District's employment rosters and other systems.

Resolution (#2506) of Job Abandonment

Resolution recognizing that Keturah Cooper has abandoned her position with the Northwest Local School District Board of Education effective October 18, 2024. The District has attempted to be in contact with Ms. Cooper to have her fulfill her contractual duties to the Board. However, Ms. Cooper has refused to fulfill such contractual duties. This job abandonment is not done with the consent of the Board of Education, and this resolution should not be seen as "consent" under RC 3319.15. This resolution is passed only to recognize the job abandonment so that the District administrative offices can do what is necessary to remove Ms. Cooper from the District's employment rosters and other systems.

Approval of Substitute Rate of Pay through The Center for Collaborative Solutions for 2024-25

Certified

Substitute Teacher (Fortune Michael) - \$273.00 daily

B) General Business

8.3 Vendor Contracts

In compliance with ORC 3313.33; attached is a list of vendor contracts for Board approval.

<u>Vendor Contracts</u>			
<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hamilton County ESC	ADOS-2 Assessment	1 year	\$167/hr - Not to exceed five assessments, less than 2 hr/ea
Hamilton County ESC	Additional OT for HELC	1 year	Not to exceed \$27,090
Hylant	Excess Workers Comp Premium	1 year	\$59,999
EFP	E-Finance Plus - Business Associate Agreement for Protected Health Information	Ongoing	No Cost
American Fidelity	American Fidelity (ACA Tracking) - Business Associate Agreement for Protected Health Information	Ongoing	No Cost
Powerschools	Powerschools - Business Associate Agreement for Protected Health Information	Ongoing	No Cost
Hub	Hub International Midwest Limited - Business Associate Agreement for Protected Health Information	Ongoing	No Cost
Deborah Baker	Music services, sound, photography and video design	1 year	\$750
<i>Paid for Auxiliary or Federal Non-Public grant monies.</i>			
<i>Addition cost to the current fiscal year's July 1st budget.</i>			

8.4 Donations to Northwest Local School District

Below is a list of donations for Board approval.

<u>Donations</u>			
<u>Donor Name</u>	<u>Recipient Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
Abigail Potter	Houston ELC	\$40	Misc. Books
Abigail Potter	Houston ELC	\$55	Misc. Books
Mrs. Margaret Lopez	Monfort Heights Elementary	\$25,000	Cash donation from a community member

Discussion:

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Last January we didn't have any leave of absences and this year we have 12. Do we know what is going on? Are we worried about staffing?

Mr. Yater: The leaves of absence are always coming through our benefits department. It's hit or miss as to when people need to go on FMLA or take leave. In terms of staffing, we haven't seen anything out of the ordinary.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Can you tell me what the first item listed on the vendor contracts is, the ADOS-2 Assessments?

Mr. Yater: It's part of our special education services, they are assessments for qualifying students with special needs.

Mrs. Taulbee: And we can do up to five?

Mr. Yater: Yes, and if we need additional assessments we'd add to our contract.

Mr. Heather: Back when I started, the IEP rate was 10%, that was 20-25 years ago, where are we today?

Mr. Yater: We are a little over 17%.

Mr. Heather: And free and reduced lunch was just over 45%, where are we now?

Mr. Yater: A little over 70%.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Can you tell me about the Hylant contract for excess workers comp costs?

Mrs. Wells: We are self-insured for workers compensation so the Hylant insurance premium is to protect us when our claims are above a certain threshold. It's like a stop loss plan to protect the district from a catastrophic claim. It's an annual expense.

9.0 APPROVAL OF FISCAL CONSENT ITEMS

9.1 Adoption of Fiscal Consent Items

The Treasurer recommended the Board of Education approve the adoption of fiscal consent items as listed.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Chris Heather)** Moved, Member **(Jim Detzel)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Treasurer recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption of fiscal consent items as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

9.2 Minutes - Regular Meeting - December 9, 2024

The minutes may be viewed on the ESB online attachment with today's date.

9.3 Financial Reports of the Treasurer - November 2024

In accordance with Section 3313.29 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio, record needs to be made that the Treasurer submitted a financial statement of receipts, expenditures, balances and investments in the regular funds of the Board of Education for the period of the fiscal year 2025.

Monthly Finance and Investment Report - November

All Funds Balance - \$97,763,334
General Fund Unreserved Balance - \$21,691,656

	FYTD Actual	Estimate	%
Revenues	\$51,315,754	\$112,740,387	46%
Expenditures	\$43,000,347	\$111,582,752	39%

Investment weighted average return – 4.41%

List of monthly bills - routine, as well as, staff software licenses, renovations at CE, CHS topo survey, PAFR (prior to donation), annual debt principal and interest payments, and auxiliary/grant fund payments.

10.0 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND OR DISCUSSION

10.1 Neola Board Policies Updates

The following 44 new, revised, or rescinded Neola Board Policies were presented for information. They will be presented for approval at the next regular board meeting.

po0142.1 - Oath	po0151 - Organizational Meeting
po0152 - Officers	po0152 - Presiding Officers
po0155 - Committees	po0164 - Notice of Meetings
po0165 - Board Meetings NEW	po0165.1 - Regular Meetings RESCINDED
po0165.2 - Special Meetings RESCINDED	po0166 - Agendas NEW
po0167.2 Executive Session RENUMBERED	po0167.7 - Personal Comm. Devices RENUMBERED
po7073 - Board Officers RESCINDED	po1011 - Definitions
po1130 - Conflict of Interest	po2265 - Protections of Individual Beliefs NEW
po3113 - Conflict of Interest	po4113 - Conflict of Interest
po4120.08 - Employment of Personnel for Co or Extra Curricular Activities	po4121 - Criminal History Record Check
po5131 - Student Transfers	po5136 - Personal Communication Devices
po5136.01 - Electronic Equipments	po5200 - Attendance
po5500 - Student Conduct	po5780 - Student Parent Rights
po6110 - Grant Funds	po6110 - Internal Controls
po6112 - Cash Management of Grants	po6114 - Cost Principles

po6220 - Budget Preparation	po6320 - Purchasing and Bidding
po6325 - Procurement and Federal Grants	po6460 - Vendor Relations
po6550 - Travel Payment	po7310 - Disposition of Surplus Property
po7450 - Property Inventory	po7530.01 - Board Owned Technology
po7530.02 - Staff Use of PCD	po7540.03 - Student Tech Acceptable Use
po7540.04 - Staff Tech Acceptable Use	po7540.09 - Artificial Intelligence NEW
po8310 - Public Records	po9160 - Public Attendance at School Events

11.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

11.1 Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Darrell Yater presented the Superintendent's Update as follows:

Thank you to the Board of Education for what you do to support the District, the students, the staff, and the families. Another thank you that we want to make sure we call out today is for our maintenance, custodians and mechanics. During this past week of winter weather they have been out there clearing lots, clearing sidewalks and making sure our buses and vehicles are ready to roll. They have worked tirelessly and have done a fantastic job of making sure that our lots stay clear and stay safe. As we are here this morning, they are out there again trying to make sure that we have the bus lot ready because we have field trips later today. They are out there continuously doing hard work and doing it very well.

This week we have had significant winter weather and we've had to make difficult decisions about cancelling school. It's not an exact science. We sent a communication to our families in December, proactively sharing some of the factors that we consider. It is not a simple decision. These are decisions that we agonize over every day. When we have to make the call to close school it's because safety is important and we want to make sure that our kids and our families and staff remain safe. We provide more than an education to our kids. It's a safe, warm, dry place with a hot meal and caring adults who know them by name, story, strength and need. We also want to make sure that we can offer that to our families as much as we possibly can. In a district as large as ours, 52 square miles, not every street is equal and we respect our families when they make a decision where they're not able to get their child to school even if we're open. We

respect that and we just ask that they call and notify the school office so that we can code it correctly. We collaborate internally and with other districts to try to make sure we're making the best decision but, as everyone knows, weather forecasting is not an exact science either and so we're working with the best information we have. If possible, we try to proactively communicate with our families the night before because we know for a lot of families a last minute decision with child care can be very difficult. Again, we are thankful for everyone that worked this week to make sure the lots are cleared and we're hopeful that winter is now over and we can move on to Spring.

Discussion:

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** At the athletic meeting, two months ago, I asked for the survey results from the high school athletics survey, do we have that yet?

Mr. Yater: I will make sure that we get that.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** We also discussed open enrollment at that meeting and you mentioned that you were going to have a meeting. Do we have an update on open enrollment?

Mr. Yater: We are working on an open enrollment policy. There are also some updated special education policies coming in February.

Mrs. Taulbee: So with the open enrollment policy update in February, have you been working on what our policy would look like?

Mr. Yater: There is a standard policy that we can make modifications to. We're working on a proposal that we can bring to the board to see if that's something you're interested in.

Mrs. Taulbee: I think there was good discussion around it at the athletic meeting and people seemed to favor the idea of at least having it presented.

Mr. Yater: We're working on what the policy would look like and once it's presented it would be a two meeting cycle. It would be presented for information at a meeting and then presented for approval at the following meeting. If approved, it would take effect the following school year.

- **Mr. Detzel:** When you're talking about open enrollment, are we talking about just elementary or middle school or does it have to be the whole district?

Mr. Yater: With most of the policies it would be for the whole district, K-12.

Mrs. Taulbee: We discussed at the meeting that you'd put in place other policies around attendance and behavior and other standards that students would be held to. We want kids that are up to the standard of our district.

Mr. Yater: Those are administrative guidelines that typically coincide with the policy.

Mrs. Taulbee: Have you spoken to other districts? There are a lot around here that have open enrollment.

Mr. Gilbert: This is a pretty big decision, should we hold a work session about it to make sure that we're discussing all of the possible outcomes?

Mr. Yater: Even if we bring an open enrollment policy to the board for information we can make the timeline for approval what we want it to be. It doesn't have to be the very next meeting where we bring it for approval. We can make it a discussion item to discuss at the next meeting or we can hold a work session between when we bring it for information and when it comes up for approval.

Mr. Gilbert: And should we have an opportunity for public comment so that the community can voice their opinions on opening the district to open enrollment?

Mr. Yater: Once it goes to the board as an item for information it'll be out there publicly that this is what the policy is and if we want to extend more time for public comment we could say that it's not going for approval for X number of meetings and give people multiple opportunities to come and give their feedback.

- **Mr. Detzel:** A few years ago you said that our middle schools were overcrowded, is that still the case?

Mr. Yater: The open enrollment is an annual process, if someone is open enrolled this year, that doesn't mean they automatically get to stay next year. It would depend on whether or not we have space.

Mr. Detzel: And this is how the other districts do it?

Mrs. Taulbee: And you also said that we can look at each grade and look at how many spots are available by grade level.

Mr. Yater: Yes, we'd look at our enrollment and see where we have space. They do not get to choose their school.

- **Mr. Detzel:** What about Butler Tech? If a student from Talawanda wants to enroll in the construction class, can they do that?

Mr. Yater: Yes, if there was an available spot in both the construction program and the high school.

- **Mrs. Slattery:** What happens if we fill all of our open spots and then someone moves into the district or wants to transfer from a parochial school into the district and is a resident?

Mr. Yater: If they live within the district we have to enroll them. We would find a place for them or have to hire additional staff.

Mrs. Slattery: So in cases like that, would we try to leave some spots open to account for something like this?

Mr. Yater: We would probably keep our enrollment caps below the maximum because we do have students who enroll throughout the year. It may cause an increase in class size.

- **Mr. Gilbert:** I've heard we have a lot of transient students who may start the year and then leave the district in the middle of the year. Is that true?

Mr. Yater: That fits about 12% of our population. We already have a policy for intradistrict transfers where a family who might be in White Oak might put a transfer request in for Colerain Middle.

Mrs. Taulbee: With the cold weather we've had, is there a threshold that we look at, for example, when the buses will start or when it's too cold to open the schools?

Mr. Yater: The National Weather Service has a chart that we use. We look at the windchill and review projections. When it gets below zero we start to worry.

12.0 OTHER BOARD ITEMS

12.1 Board Members' Comments

Mrs. Taublee: Thank you to the bus drivers, maintenance staff and all of the school staff for their help during this cold weather. The email about Erin's Law went out and I want to encourage parents to review the materials and opt out if that's what they want to do. The Safe Students act is another one for parents to look into if they so choose. I'm blessed to be starting my 4th year on the Board. As I have done in previous years every vote I cast will be for what's in the best interest of our students, staff and our community. I really appreciate the opportunity.

Mr. Gilbert: No comments.

Mr. Detzel: No comments.

Mr. Heather: This is our last meeting in this location. I toured the new facility with Chris (McKee) and Darrell. The move had to be done and I'm very happy with it. This Thursday I'll be doing a ride along with one of our bus drivers who drives a handicapped bus. I've done it in the past and I really enjoy it. I'm looking forward to my final year as a board member. The district has changed a lot but we're still a good school district. I'm not someone who holds grudges and I hope my fellow board members can do the same and we can move forward positively.

Mrs. Slattery: I look forward to 2025 being a year of shared vision and collaborative work efforts. I hope the spirit guides us in our decisions and helps us to remember that

we're doing this for the kids and not for any other reason but for the development of the children in this community. We want to have a wonderful district. Thank you to all of our staff and everyone. I ask if everyone can have a little bit of grace when you send your comments to people. Think first before you send comments. People do not make their decisions lightly, they are all very well thought through. This includes this week's snow decisions and other decisions made by administrators and this board. They are very thoughtfully gone through and not made in a rush. Please remember that you're not going to like every decision made, but we're here to work for the majority and to get everyone in the position to thrive. There are ways to get your point across without name calling and curse words.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

13.1 Board President Called for Adjournment

The Board President asked for a motion and second for adjournment.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Nicole Taulbee**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Board President recommends to adopt the agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nancy Slattery	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Nicole Taulbee	Yes

The meeting ended at 8:46 AM.

Agenda item attachments are saved in PDF format and are viewable by the public. Waycross community media video tapes Board meetings. Taped meetings are available on-line at www.waycross.tv

President

Attest

Treasurer