

**Minutes – Meeting of the
Board of Education
of the
Metropolitan School District of North Posey County, Indiana
July 14, 2025**

A meeting of the Board of Education of the MSD of North Posey County, Poseyville, Indiana, was held in the Board office of MSD of North Posey County, on July 14, 2025. The following Board members were present:

- Todd Slagle, Superintendent
- Michelle Walden, Assistant Superintendent
- Vincent F. Oakley, President
- Gregory U. Schmitt, Vice President
- Larry A. Kahle, Secretary
- Lindsey N. Bowers, Member
- Rick Nightingale, Member

Executive Session

The Board convened the Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of IC 5-14- 1.5-6.1 (9) to discuss a job performance evaluation of an employee. The Board adjourned Executive Session at 5:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting

The Board of Education convened for the regular meeting at 6:32 p.m. with President, Vince Oakley, calling the meeting to order with the initiation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading of the Vision, Mission, Core Beliefs, & High Priorities

Mr. Slagle read the Vision, Mission, Core Beliefs, and High Priorities.

Patron Concerns

There were no patrons present to address the Board.

Minutes, Claim Docket and Consent Items

Mr. Oakley asked the Board for a motion to approve the consent items listed:

- Minutes of the previous meeting on June 9, 2025.
- Claim Docket for the period of June 10, 2025, to July 14, 2025.
- The following resignations and retirements for the 2024-2025 school year:
 - Kelly Thompson: resigning as a teacher at North Posey High School effective immediately.
 - Cynthia Mincey: resigning as a bus driver effective immediately.

- Jeanette Sturgell: resigning as a bus driver effective immediately. Mrs. Sturgell has expressed her willingness to be added to our substitute bus driver list and to cover ECA routes as needed.
- Kiersten Williams: resigning as a cafeteria worker at North Elementary School effective immediately.
- The following hiring & transfer requests for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - Hope Helfrich: hire as a Science teacher at North Posey Junior High School.
 - Jessica Adler: hire as a Special Education Teacher at North Posey High School.
 - Tracee Foley: hire as an Instructional Assistant in the North Posey Junior/Senior High School Life Skills room.
 - Kristie Long: hire as the school nurse for South Terrace Elementary School.
 - Luke Garrison: hire as the dishwasher in the cafeteria at North Posey Junior/Senior High School working 3-hours per day (10:45 am – 1:45 pm).
 - Zoey Gray and Jaiden Walden: hire for the student internship positions at South Terrace Elementary School and North Elementary School.
 - Shanna Bickers: hire as a long-term substitute for Jenna Deer’s maternity leave from August 5 – October 27, 2025.
 - Marty Gray: hire as the boys’ head soccer coach for North Posey High School.
 - Wesley Scherzinger: hire as the 5th grade girls’ basketball coach at South Terrace Elementary.
 - James White and Jimmy Scheller: volunteer assistant coaches for North Posey High School boys’ tennis team.
- The following renewals:
 - One-year renewal of our Canvas LMS Cloud Subscription with Instructure, effective July 1, 2025. The per-user subscription cost has increased from \$5.52 to \$5.80 compared to last year. However, we have opted to reduce the number of subscriptions from 1,500 to 1,000, resulting in a total cost of \$5,800.00 for the year through the Education fund.
 - One-year renewal of our StrataSite subscription for digital critical incident mapping, effective August 1, 2025. The renewal cost is \$2,000.00 and will be paid using Operations funds.
 - One-year renewal of our Boyce software for Accounting, Personnel, and Payroll, effective September 1, 2025. The renewal cost is \$19,575.00, which is an increase of \$1,825.00 from last year, and will be paid using Operations funds.
 - One-year renewal of our Microsoft 365 A3 Faculty Licenses with Secured Tech at a total cost of \$3,870.00, funded through the Education fund. This renewal includes 60 staff licenses and 40 free student licenses per staff license. Additional quotes were obtained for comparison: CDW quoted \$3,967.20, and Keller Schroeder quoted \$4,176.00. Microsoft 365 Faculty Licenses were provided last year by Keller Schroeder at a cost of \$4,176.00.
 - One-year renewal of our agreement with the Board of Commissioners of Posey County for the appointment of a School Resource Officer (SRO) from the Posey

County Sheriff's Office to serve in the district. The Sheriff's Office will compensate the SRO up to \$60,000.00, and the district agrees to reimburse the County on a monthly basis for payments made. The contract will be in effect from August 5, 2025, through May 22, 2026, and will be funded through the Operations Fund.

Mrs. Bowers made a motion to approve the consent items as presented and Mr. Schmitt seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 0 vote.

New Business

Mr. Slagle presented the 2025-2026 handbooks for all schools, including the High School Athletic Handbook, for Board consideration. This item had been tabled at the previous meeting to allow additional time for the high school to finalize its handbooks. All handbooks are now complete and ready for approval. Mr. Kahle made a motion to approve the handbooks as presented, and Mr. Nightingale seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 to 0.

Mr. Slagle presented a request from Sean Fisher to purchase Rubin Emerge and Rubin Aspire from Rubin Education Corporation at a cost of \$5.00 per student. These curriculum tools will be used to support instruction in the high school's Work-Based Learning (WBL) courses. Rubin Emerge includes a digital learning platform with three eBooks and over 600 instructional resources. Rubin Aspire offers more than 250 career exploration videos covering fields such as STEM, marketing, sports, and more. With 25 students currently enrolled in WBL, the total cost is \$125.00, to be paid from the Education Fund. Mrs. Bowers made a motion to approve the purchase as presented, and Mr. Nightingale seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 to 0.

Mr. Slagle requested the Board's approval of the 2026–2027 Academic Calendar, which had been tabled during the May and June meetings. As noted at that time, three calendar options were developed and shared with all employees for a vote and optional feedback. A total of 119 employees participated in the process, with 53.8% favoring Option 1. Mr. Slagle recommended the Board approve Option 1 of the 2026–2027 Academic Calendar. Mrs. Bowers made a motion to approve Option 1 of 2026-2027 Academic Calendar, and Mr. Schmitt seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4 to 1, with Mr. Nightingale casting the dissenting vote. Mrs. Bowers expressed her opinion that the 2027–2028 Academic Calendar should be presented differently. She suggested possibly eliminating the full week for Fall Break or, at least, revising the survey process, as she believes there are parents in the community who share the view that a full week off is unnecessary. Mr. Kahle also shared his view that a full week off for Fall Break may hinder the academic process.

Dr. Walden presented three volumes of NEOLA policy updates to the Board for a first reading. These updates will be brought forward for approval at the August meeting, unless further review is deemed necessary. No action was required at this time.

Personnel

Professional Leave

Dr. Walden presented the following professional leave requests for approval.

Name	School	Date/Reason	Location	Approx Cost/Fund
Mark Kirkman	NPHS	July 23-26, 2025 Congress, The Constitution, & Contemporary Politics Conference	Charlottesville VA	\$1,500.00 Title II (6846)
Todd Slagle	CO	August 20-21, 2025 IEERB Annual Conference	Indianapolis	\$280.00 + Van Use Operation Fund
Kristina Griffin	Elementary	August 28, 2025 September 8, 2025 2-Day High Ability Boot Camp	Fishers	\$450.00 High Ability Grant (3963)

Upon a motion made by Mr. Nightingale and seconded by Mr. Kahle, to approve the professional leave requests with a 5 to 0 vote.

Reports and Information

- Bond/Renovation Update
- ISBA Fall Conference (Sept. 15-16, 2025)

Next Board Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2025, in the conference room at the District Office. The Executive Session will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Bowers, seconded by Mr. Kahle. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Vincent F. Oakley, President

Gregory U. Schmitt, Vice President

Larry A. Kahle, Secretary

Lindsey Bowers, Member

Charles “Rick” Nightingale, Member

**Board of Education
MSD of North Posey County**