

School District of Westfield
Regular School Board Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2025

- I. Michelle Johnson, District Administrator called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board Members Present: Mark McCartney, Jerry Hebert II, Nick Coenen, Val Katevska, Daniel Fenske & Tom Wastart. Natasha Peschel was absent. Michelle Johnson, District Administrator & Veronica VanDerhyden, Business Manager were also present.
- II. Pledge of allegiance
- III. Meeting Notification - The meeting was properly noticed.
- IV. Board Reorganization and Committees - Election of School Board Officials
Michelle Johnson stated "We will now have the election of School Board Officials" "I will open the floor for nominations for President".
 - A. President - Michelle Johnson opened the floor for nominations for President. Daniel Fenske nominated Mark McCartney. A motion was made by Wastart/Hebert to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mark McCartney as President Voice vote, motion carried. President McCartney proceeded with the meeting.
 - B. McCartney opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. Tom Wastart nominated Nick Coenen. A motion was made by Wastart/Katevska to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Nick Coenen as Vice President. Voice vote, motion carried.
 - C. McCartney opened the floor for nominations for Clerk. Tom Wastart nominated Hebert. A motion was made by Wastart and seconded to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jerry Hebert as Clerk. Voice Vote, motion carried.
 - D. Treasurer - McCartney opened the floor for nominations for Treasurer. Tom Wastart nominated Daniel Fenske. A motion was made by Wastart and seconded to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Daniel Fenske as Treasurer. Voice vote, motion carried.
- V. Designate School Board Committees and Chair - Committees and chair remained the same
 - A. Personnel - Mark McCartney Chair, Jerry Hebert and Katevska
 - B. Building & Finance -Tom Wastart Chair, Jerry Hebert and Natasha Peschel
 - C. Policy, Vision & Curriculum - Nick Coenen Chair, Daniel Fenske and Val Katevska
- VI. Motion by Wastart/Katevska to approve authorized signatures of Mark McCartney, Board President, Gerald Hebert II, Board Clerk, Daniel Fenske, Board Treasurer, Cathy Rohner, Financial Assistant and Veronica VanDerhyden, Business Manager. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- VII. Motion by Coenen/Wastart to approve the agenda. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- VIII. Public Comment - Annette LaVia expressed appreciation to Michelle Johnson for clearly communicating information about the school referendum to the public.
- IX. District Administrator's announcements and reports (Michelle Johnson)
 - A. Update on Capital Referendum Construction Bids and Summer Projects by Matt Premo.
See Overview
 - Facility Updates - High School Mechanical, Electrical and Security, Elementary Schools secure entrances.
 - Design Schedule - Work will continue throughout the 2025–2026 school year with minimal disruptions, while planning for major summer projects is underway. Full-scale construction is scheduled to resume in the summer of 2026.

- Reviewed secure entrance plans
- Replace hot water heaters at Elementary Schools
- Rehabilitation of Middle/High School Well
- B. Presentation of Elementary and Middle/High School 2025-2026 Student Handbooks
- C. Truck bid update - Accepted a bid of \$27,677
- D. Updates on Support Staff and Coaches
 - Hire:: Ashley Ahlstrom, Student Services Secretary
- E. Other- None

X. School Board Members Announcement and Reports - None

XI. Committee Reports

A. Building/Finance

1. Motion by Wastart/Coenen to approve the application to the School Resource Officer (SRO) Cops Grant as presented. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
2. Motion by Hebert/Katevska to approve the Request for Proposal (RFP) from RingCentral to purchase a new Phone System as presented. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
3. Motion by Wastart/Hebert to approve the purchase of a van [10 passenger] for student transportation needs as presented at a cost of \$75,000. After discussions, roll call was taken and motion passed 5-1 with Coenen voting no.
4. Motion by Fenske/Coenen to approve the Proposal for Property Insurance and other lines from USI as presented at a cost of \$171,559 and Builder's Risk at \$6310.
5. Motion by Fenske/Katevska to approve the Process for Hiring or Contracting a Speech Therapist. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
6. Building Updates
 - A. Freezer is in process
 - B. ECON - camera removal and ceiling tile removal - pre-referendum work
 - C. Roof construction tentatively will begin the week of June 9
 - D. Sports lobby construction will begin May 27
 - E. Locker room construction will begin June 2
 - F. Full construction, district-wide - June 9

B. Policy/Vision/Curriculum

1. Motion by Hebert/Katevska to approve the second reading of Act 20 Promotion policy Policy 5411 - Third Grade Promotion and Retention At-Risk Students
Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

XII. Consent Agenda

- A. Approve District Financial Statement, Payrolls, Fund 49 #490001-490006, Vouchers #7729-7931, ACH #242500007-242500015, and Activity Account Vouchers #14495-14528
- B. Approve minutes of the April 16, 2025 Building & Finance Meeting and Regular School Board Meeting.
- C. Approve Personnel Recommendations
 1. Resignations
 - a. Nathan Greve, Middle School Choir Teacher
 - b. Julianne West, High School Spanish Teacher
 - c. Cody Mayne, Middle School Science Teacher
 - d. Maria Papiez, Elementary Assistant Principal
 2. Hires
 - a. Darrin Berger, Middle School/High School Assistant Principal
 - b. Korey Kangas, Business Education Teacher
 3. Transfer
 - a. Steve Jones from Middle School Spanish to 6-12th grade Spanish

XIII. Items from the consent agenda to be individually considered - None

XIV. Motion by Hebert/Katevska to approve the Consent Agenda. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

XV. New Business

- A. Motion by Fenske/Coenen to approve the 2024–2025 school calendar change making Thursday, June 5, the student's last full day of school instead of the half-day on Friday, June 6. This gives staff time to finalize grades, pack, and prepare for summer construction starting Monday, June 9. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- B. Motion by Wastart/Hebert to approve the Speech Therapist Job Description as presented. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- C. Motion by Wastart/Fenske to approve the open enrollment OUT applications for the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- D. Motion by Wastart/Fenske to approve the open enrollment IN applications for the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- E. Motion by Katevska/Coenen to approve the student Early College Credit Application for the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- F. Motion and second to approve four student requests to attend the Destinations Career Academy (DCA) for the 2025-2026 school year. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- G. Motion by Fenske/Coenen to approve the 2025-2026 Elementary Student Handbook. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- H. Motion by Fenske/Coenen to approve the 2025-2026 Middle and High School Student Handbooks . Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- I. Motion by Wastart/Katevska to accept a \$10,000 donation from the Brakebush Family Foundation to the Washington D.C. Adventure Program. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.
- J. Motion by Wastart/Katevska to accept a Stem Grant from Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative to Amanda Francis, Westfield Elementary 4th grade teacher, to purchase items related to the CrunchLab Spin Turbines Project. Roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

XVI. Motion by Fenske/Katevska to adjourn. Voice Vote.