



Neil Wetherbee, Superintendent
Northport Public School
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Regular Meeting & Budget Hearing Minutes June 9, 2025 NPS Board of Education

This meeting of the Board of Education was held publicly for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There was time for public participation as indicated on the agenda.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the President Ben Purdy at 5:30 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Ryan Blessing, Dan Duffiney, Ben Purdy, Jamie Scripps, Danielle Percy, Tom Wetherbee

Members Absent: Jake Zimmer

A quorum was present.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Moved by Tom Wetherbee, supported by Danielle Percy, to approve the agenda for the June 9, 2025, Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting.

Motion Carried: 6-0

IV. Truth-In-Taxation Budget Hearing

Presentation: Business Manager Lisa Hankins and Superintendent Neil Wetherbee

- 2024–25 saw an 8% increase in property values
- Estimated 9% property value increase for 2025–26.
- Budget based on Governor Whitmer's proposed budget allocations (not yet passed).
- Additional funds planned for technology upgrades, including a new host and camera servers.
- No major initiatives or changes in the past three years

V. Budget Hearing Public Comments

None

VI. Close Budget Hearing

Motion: Moved by Ryan Blessing, supported by Dan Duffiney, to close the Budget Hearing.

Motion Carried: 6-0 (Closed at 5:40 P.M.)

VII. Superintendent's Report

- Two teacher vacancies: music and 4th grade; interviews ongoing.
- Support Staff contract negotiations began—65% complete. Aim to finalize before the July meeting.
- Master schedule approximately 95% complete.
- Superintendent's summer tasks include handbook updates and finalizing the state-approved cardiac response plan. Final hiring is expected in the coming weeks.

VIII. Public Comments

- **Patty Lesch:** Announced "Burgers by the Beach" on June 18 at 5 PM, hosted by Northport Covenant Church, with a focus on educators.
- **Karen Trolenberg:** Praised the elementary awards ceremony held earlier in the day.

IX. Consent Agenda

Approved:

- a. Minutes of the May 12, 2025, Regular Meeting
- b. Bills for payment totaling \$102,491.05
- c. Resignation of Carrie Wadas
- d. Resignation of Corrine Chandler
- e. Business Service Agreement with Northwest Education Services

X. Action Items

a. Operating Millage

Motion: That the Northport Board of Education approve the operating millage as detailed on the L4029 form.

Motion by: Tom Wetherbee, Danielle Percy

Motion Carried: 6-0

b. Amended 2024–25 Budget

Motion: That the Northport Board of Education approve the amendment to the 2024-25 General Fund budget, Food Service budget, and Student Activity Fund budget.

Motion by: Danielle Percy, Dan Duffiney

Discussion: Reflects actual expenditures.

Roll Call Vote: Unanimous Yes (Ryan Blessing, Dan Duffiney, Ben Purdy, Jamie Scripps, Danielle Percy, Tom Wetherbee)

c. Proposed 2025–26 Budget

Motion: That the Northport Board of Education approve the proposed 2025-26 General Fund budget, Food Service budget, and Student Activity Fund budget as presented at the Budget Hearing.

Motion by: Ryan Blessing, Danielle Percy

Roll Call Vote: Unanimous Yes (Tom Wetherbee, Danielle Percy, Jamie Scripps, Dan Duffiney, Ryan Blessing, Ben Purdy)

d. Truth in Taxation Proposal

Motion: That the Northport Board of Education approve the truth in taxation proposal as presented in the budget hearing.

Motion by: Tom Wetherbee, Ryan Blessing

Motion Carried: 6-0

e. Elementary Language Arts Curriculum

Motion: That the Northport Board of Education approve the adoption and purchase of the CKLA elementary language arts curriculum.

Motion by: Danielle Percy, Tom Wetherbee

Motion Carried: 6-0

f. Bus Sale Approval

Motion: That the Northport Board of Education approve the sale of the 2011 and 2014 International school busses to Grant Farms due to their winning bid of \$2650 for the 2011 and \$2750 for the 2014.

Motion by: Tom Wetherbee, Ryan Blessing

Discussion: Competitive bidding process yielded better results than scrap value.

Motion Carried: 6-0

g. Board Policy Updates

Motion: that the Northport Board of Education approve the updates to the following policies, as presented:

- po0131.1, po1430, po2340, po3430, po4430, po5320, po5330, po5330.01, po5350, po5460, po8320, po8500, po8510
- po8640 was rescinded.

Motion by: Ryan Blessing, Jamie Scripps

Motion Carried: 6-0

XI. Discussion Items

None

XII. Old Business

Ben Purdy: Inquired about the LIFT contract. Superintendent Wetherbee noted ongoing collaboration with Suttons Bay, Leland, and Glen Lake to determine how they are contracting for services. Would like to establish a countywide process.

XIII. New Business

None

XIV. Upcoming Events

- **June 11:** Last Day of School
- **July 1:** PTO Meeting @ NPS – 6 PM
- **July 7:** PTO Meeting @ South Beach Park – 7 PM
- **July 14:** Regular Board Meeting – 5:30 PM

XV. Superintendent's Comments

- July meeting will include discussion on handbooks with action expected in August.

XVI. Public Comments

- **Karen Trolenberg:** Asked about delivery of the new CKLA curriculum. Answer: Should arrive mid-summer; online access is currently available.

XVII. Board Member Comments

- **Tom Wetherbee:** Commended the graduation ceremony.
- **Ryan Blessing:** Expressed thanks for a great school year and the creation of the mentor program. Mrs. Alt reported that the mentor program has generated new interest—five new mentors and nearly all current mentors plan to return.

XVIII. Adjournment

Motion: Moved by Tom Wetherbee, supported by Danielle Percy, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Carried: 6-0

Time: 5:56 P.M.

Danielle Percy, Secretary

Elizabeth Schwind, Recording Secretary