



Neil Wetherbee, Superintendent  
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## Regular Meeting Minutes May 12, 2025 NPS Board of Education

### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the President at 5:30 PM.

### II. Roll Call

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

**Members Absent:** Daniel Duffiney, Jake Zimmer

A quorum was present.

### III. Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** Moved by Danielle Percy, supported by Ryan Blessing, to approve the agenda for the May 12, 2025 regular board meeting.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

### IV. Students of the Month

Recognitions were given to:

- Thisbe Cavendish, presented by Alex Post
- Hazel Wetherbee, presented by Carrie Wadas
- Jack Scripps, presented by Carrie Wadas

### V. NHS/NJHS Close-Up Trip Presentation

Students Elsie, Jack, and Hazel thanked the Board and shared their learning experiences from the trip.

### VI. Superintendent's Report

- **Federal Budget Implications:** Update on federal spending processes affecting school funding, including concerns around Medicaid, school meals, and special education grants.
- **Civics Education Initiatives:** Mr. Fryer is interested in pursuing a Civil Discourse Credential through Close-Up and subscribing to "Current Issues" resources to support student civic engagement.
- **Summer Projects:** Include gym audio repairs, clock and signage updates, server replacements, door replacements, and ceiling tile work.
- **Transportation:** Two aging buses (2011 & 2014) will be sold via sealed bid.
- **LIFT:** The Board expressed full support for the LIFT program, pending legal review and funding mechanisms. Other districts use pass-through grants or service agreements.

## VII. Public Comments

- **Ben Hale:** Concerned PTO has been misrepresented, discouraging participation.
- **Patty Lesch:** Praised school performance and drama club; encouraged continuation.
- **Kali Dignan:** Praised Drama Club and Ms. Evans, advocated for a senior class trip and athletic co-op clarity.
- **Carrie Wadas:** Announced upcoming K-8 concert.
- **Laura Cavendish:** Gave PTO update; shared future plans and frustrations with communication.
- **Melissa Hale:** Expressed concern about public comments from March meeting.
- **Eric Potes:** Supported drama, academic and extracurricular programs; urged for housing initiative and support for senior class traditions.

## VIII. Consent Agenda

**Motion:** To approve the April 14, 2025 regular meeting minutes and bills presented for payment totaling \$139,053.77.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

## IX. Action Items

### a. 2025-2026 School Calendar

**Motion:** Moved by Ryan Blessing, supported by Danielle Percy, to approve the 2025-2026 academic calendar.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

### b. Northwest Ed General Fund Operating Budget Resolution

**Motion:** Moved by Tom Wetherbee, supported by Ryan Blessing, to approve the 2025-2026 budget resolution for Northwest Educational Services.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

### c. Northwest Ed Electoral Representative & Candidate Resolution

**Motion:** Moved by Danielle Percy, supported by Jamie Scripps, to appoint approve the resolution setting Jake Zimmer as representative and Thomas Wetherbee as alternate to vote for Rachel Birgy, Burt Thompson, and Rick Schmitt at the Northwest Ed Board election.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

### d. Graduating Class of 2025

**Motion:** Moved by Ryan Blessing, supported by Danielle Percy, to approve the following 2025 graduates:

Colin Carr, Karson Christianson, Katherine Frank, Alan Heckl, Dean Hulett, Anthony Oskaboose, Madeline Petoskey, Corbin Robertson, Conner Sahs, and Haylie Spears.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

## X. Discussion Items

### a. Board Policy Updates:

Policies discussed included po0131.1, po1430, po2340, po3430, po4430, po5320, po5330, po5330.01, po5350, po5460, po8320, and po8500. Vote planned for June.

### b. Elementary Language Arts Curriculum Proposal:

New CKLA curriculum proposed with \$40,000 cost over three years, partially grant-funded. Teachers enthusiastic; vote planned for June.

#### **XI. Old Business**

None.

#### **XII. New Business**

None.

#### **XIV. Superintendent's Comments**

- Clarified senior class plans and stated students were not informed about their options.
- Noted that there were communication issues regarding Walk/Bike to School Day.
- Emphasized willingness to support parent-led initiatives and clarified role in distributing communications.
- Stressed the importance of improving dialogue and avoiding assumptions during emotional moments.

#### **XV. Public Comments (Second Session)**

- **Laura Cavendish:** Praised staff and acknowledged challenges in PTO organization and communication.
- **Kali Dignan:** Reported student unawareness about senior class developments.
- **Melissa Hale:** Clarified PTO assumptions about needing to invite teachers.
- **Elizabeth Schwind:** Expressed confusion with recent parent comments and assumptions. Vouched for the integrity of NPS administration.
- **Eric Potes:** Advocated for school signage and reiterated general support for staff and leadership.

#### **XVI. Board Member Comments**

- **Tom Wetherbee:** Emphasized need for better communication and starting fresh with collaborative intent.
- **Ryan Blessing:** Appreciated parent engagement.
- **Ben Purdy:** Praised school staff and warned against unfounded accusations of dishonesty.
- **Jamie Scripps:** Encouraged honest dialogue and noted the importance of addressing public perception while continuing board work.

#### **XVII. Adjournment**

**Motion:** Moved by Ryan Blessing, supported by Jamie Scripps, to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.**

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Danielle Percy, Secretary

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Elizabeth Schwind, Recording Secretary