

September 13, 2023

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
DECATUR COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

The Board of School Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at North Decatur Elementary School, 3300 N. State Road 3, Greensburg, IN 47240.

Board President Joyce Geis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. all members were present.

Under routine matters, on a motion made by Tim Roscoe and a second by Lizette Bell, minutes of the board meetings held August 9, 2023, and August 23, 2023 were unanimously approved.

Payment of claims and payroll were ordered on a motion made by Matthew Hoeing, a second by Stephen AmRhein and passed unanimously.

On a motion made by Todd Mauer and a second by Cory Ross, the following field trips were unanimously approved.

FIELD TRIPS

North & South Decatur Jr.-Sr. High Schools

International Tour
England, Ireland, & Scotland
July 10-20, 2025

North Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School

FFA – PLT District Training – FFA Center
August 25 – 27, 2023

FFA – SOAR – FFA Center
October 6 – 8, 2023

FFA – FIRE – FFA Center
November 10 – 12, 2023

South Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School

8th Grade – St. Louis, MO
April/May 2024

On a motion made by Stephen AmRhein and a second by Matthew Hoeing, the following resignations were unanimously approved.

RESIGNATIONS

North Decatur Elementary School

Teresa Scudder - Instructional Assistant

South Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School

Raistlin Lee – Instructional Assistant

South Decatur Elementary School

Becky Billingsley - Instructional Assistant

On a motion made by Cory Ross and a second by Todd Mauer, the following appointments were unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS

North Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School

Douglas Einhaus – Night Shift Custodian

North Decatur Elementary School

Jacqueline Schneider – Part-time Instructional Assistant

Donna Dykes – Instructional Assistant

Amy Smith – SPED Interventionist

Janet Hodson – Title I Interventionist

South Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School

Glenda Barnes – Night Shift Custodian

Spencer Darringer – Jr. Varsity Girls Basketball Coach

South Decatur Elementary School

Ava Kroger – Instructional Assistant

Under Old Business, Dr. Burns reviewed the NEOLA Policy updates read at the prior meeting and asked the board to approve the NEOLA Policy. On motion made by Todd Mauer and a second by Cory Ross, the NEOLA Policy was unanimously approved.

Under new business, Mr. Nick Messer, Assistant Principal of North Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School, presented the Extra Effort Award to Mr. David Espinda noting his work with the Integrated Industrial Academy (IIA). Mr. Espinda worked over summer, traveled to various locations for meetings, and went above and beyond for the program to make it a success; while keeping up with his classes and keeping a great attitude. Mr. Jeremy Sherman, Assistant Principal of North Decatur Elementary School presented the Extra Effort Award to the Special Education Department including: Madison Hankins, Sarah Schwendenman, Ann Bedel, Evelyn Bayse, Lori Nobbe, and Kelsey Stuever. Mr. Sherman noted the department's time spent with the students, making that time count, communication and collaboration with parents, showing growth in test scores, and a commitment to making and maintaining a successful student-centered Special Education Program.

Mr. Ken Benich, Scott Pratt, and Pete Just, from the State Chapter of CoSN: Indiana CTO Council, presented Mr. Chris Lindroth, Director of Technology for Decatur

County Community Schools, with the Certified Education Technology Leader Certificate. It was explained that Mr. Lindroth had completed a mentoring program as well as taking and passing a very challenging National Certification Exam. This exam has only been passed by 700 people in the United States and in order to pass, one must understand and demonstrate all the skills of a K-12 Technology Leader in a district setting.

Mr. Dalton Jones, School Resource Officer at South Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School, along with his wife, Mrs. Dannie Jones, made a visual and oral presentation regarding the possible benefits of the district adopting the use of a therapy dog/s. Mr. and Mrs. Jones explained that they became introduced to the benefits of therapy dogs through a therapy center used by their son who has special needs. Mr. Jones explained therapy dogs are dogs who go with their owners to volunteer settings such as schools, hospitals, and nursing homes to improve the lives of the people they visit with. When the Jones' lost their family pet, they decided to adopt a therapy dog for their son and wanted to utilize the benefits that come with a therapy dog with the Decatur County School District.

The Board was asked to approve the 2024 budget, as well as act on several resolutions concerning the budget. Business Manager, Melissa Leap reviewed the budget and explained each resolution. On a motion made by Matthew Hoeing and a second by Cory Ross, the Resolution to Adopt the 2024 Budget was unanimously approved. On a motion made by Todd Mauer and a second by Lizette Bell, the Resolution to Adopt the Capital Projects Plan (2024-2026) was unanimously approved. On a motion made by Stephen AmRhein and a second by Todd Mauer, the Resolution to adopt the Bus Replacement Plan (2024-2028) was unanimously approved. On a motion made by Lizette

Bell and a second by Tim Roscoe, the Resolution to Reduce 2023 Appropriations was unanimously approved. The board also wanted to acknowledge and thank Mrs. Weedie Smith for her many years of service as the previous Business Manager.

On a motion made by Todd Mauer and a second by Cory Ross, the Certified Employee Handbooks were unanimously approved.

On a motion made by Matthew Hoeing and a second by Stephen AmRhein, student fundraisers were unanimously approved.

On a motion made by Todd Mauer and a second by Tim Roscoe, the following donations were unanimously approved:

DONATIONS

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Cause</i>
<i>North Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School</i>		
First Baptist Church	\$500.00	FCA
Knauf Insulation	Welding Jackets	AG Department
Jefferey & Jean Smith	\$5,000.00	Cheer Uniforms
Lil Dutch Mini Doughnuts	\$340.00	Staff Account
The Ice Box	\$448.87	General Donation
Stacy Sundall	\$200.00	Athletics
<i>South Decatur Jr.-Sr. High School</i>		
First Baptist Church in Westport	\$500.00	FCA
<i>South Decatur Elementary School</i>		
Greensburg Power of the Past	\$1,500.00	Woods Project
Anonymous Donor	\$5,000.00	General Donation
Dustin & Sarah Asche	\$250.00	Rylie Bennett Memorial
Gregory & Virginia Allen	\$50.00	

The Board expressed their gratitude and made note of the generosity of those who made donations.

Under Communications or Reports, Debbie Reynolds, Principal of North Decatur Jr./Sr. High School, reported that North Decatur High School is number 109 of 438 on the

U.S. World News Report list of high schools; four students from the school have received the National Rural and Small-Town Award; and the school has several AP Scholars, one with distinction. Mrs. Reynolds and Mr. Dave Espinda then showed a short video featuring the Manufacturing Program.

Rob Smith, Principal at North Decatur Elementary School, reported an increase in enrollment this year; 160 transfer students; several field trips have taken place are being planned; the excitement for the completion of the playground; Character Counts Awards; a \$15,000 grant for new radios; a new student teacher; practice bus evacuations; and School Specialist Training. Mr. Jeremy Sherman, Assistant Principal of North Decatur Elementary School, reported about the Big Blue Football Camp; Honda Convo; and the Discovery Factory.

The next regular Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Office, 2020 N. Montgomery Rd., Greensburg, IN 47240.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m. on a motion by Tim Roscoe and a second by Todd Mauer.

Matthew Hoeing, Secretary
Board of School Trustees
Decatur County Community Schools

APPROVED BY:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____