

LAKE RIDGE SCHOOLS

Date: June 26, 2025

Invocation given by: _____

Call this meeting to order.

Mission Statement

Pledge of Allegiance

This is a Regular Meeting with Executive Session of the Board of School Trustees of the Lake Ridge Schools, Lake County, Indiana, June 26, 2025 6:00 PM, in the Lake Ridge Schools
6111 West Ridge Road
Gary, IN 46408

I. Let the record show that all the Board Members and the Superintendent are present.
Let the record show the Administrators that are present.

II. Consider the attached Accounts Payable Vouchers and the May 2, June 6, and June 20, 2025, payrolls for payment.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried

III. Consider the Treasurer Report as of April 30 and May 31, 2025.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Consider the Old National Athletic Complex Donations Fund Treasurer Report as of April 30, and May 31, 2025 _____.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

V. Consider the Old National Self Insurance Fund Treasurer Report as of April 30 and May 31, 2025.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

VI. Consider the minutes of the May 12, 2025, school board meeting.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

VII. Superintendent and/or School Board Member Report

Goal Area 1 - Academics: All learners will continuously demonstrate academic growth.

Goal Area 2 - Safety: We will provide a safe and secure learning environment for all.

Goal Area 3 - Equity: We will provide a positive, inclusive, and equitable environment for all.

Goal Area 4 - Communication: We will improve communication and strengthen relationships both internally and externally.

Goal Area 5 - Finances: We will advocate to increase the financial resources of the Corporation to provide an outstanding school environment and opportunities for our students, staff, and community.

VIII. Professional Development

VIII.A. We recommend Dr. Sharon Johnson Shirley, Kim Osteen and Louise Neese attend the ISBA (Indiana School Board Association) June School Law Seminar on June 13, 2025, in Indianapolis, IN with expenses paid from the Title IIA fund for Dr. Sharon Johnson Shirley and from the Operations fund for Kim Osteen and Louise Neese.

VIII.B. We recommend Cynthia Trevino, Diane Anderson, Melissa Rettig, Robert Wilson, Kyle Stephens, Erin Gomez, Melissa Klahn, and Rachel Niemann attend the New Tech Network New Tech Annual Conference on July 14-18, 2025, in Oakland, CA with expenses paid from the Title IIA fund.

VIII.C. We recommend Melissa Rettig, Jodi Garcia, Holly Plowman, Diane Anderson attend the NISEC (Northern Indiana Educational Services Center) Pathways to Progress on July 23-24, 2025, at Lake Ridge Schools IN. 46408.

VIII.D. We recommend Jen Donsbach and Lois Lark attend the WVEC (Wabash Valley Education Center) SIOP Train The Trainer Series on June 10-12, 2025, in Lafayette, IN with expenses paid from the Educational EL fund.

VIII.E. We recommend Linda Hobock and Maria Ramos attend the WVEC (Wabash Valley Education Center) Rock the Read-a-louds with Molly Ness on June 11, 2025, in Lafayette, IN with expenses paid from the Educational EL fund.

VIII.F. We recommend Sam Miestowshi attend the South Shore Summer of Learning on June 26, 2025, at Chesterton High School with expenses paid from the Title I fund.

VIII.G. Recommend approving the Professional Development items.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

IX. Leave/Resignation/Employment

All new employment to Lake Ridge New Tech Schools is contingent upon a cleared Expanded Criminal History Background Check within 30 days and a cleared Expanded Child Protection Index Check within 60 days of effective date. IC 20-26-2-1.5 and IC 20-26-2-1.3

IX.A. We recommend accepting Dr. Sharon Johnson Shirley's retirement request from the Superintendent position at Lake Ridge New Tech Schools, effective July 1,

2025.

IX.B. We recommend accepting Sarah Nagel's resignation from the 2nd Teacher position at Longfellow New Tech School effective June 3, 2025.

IX.C. We recommend accepting Amayah Myazak's resignation from the Instructional Assistant position at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective June 3, 2025.

IX.D. We recommend the termination and cancellation of Brian Damantes 4th grade teacher contract effective June 3, 2025.

IX.E. We recommend the termination and cancellation of Natasha Johnson's Kindergarten teacher contract effective June 3, 2025.

IX.F. We recommend accepting Jamari Martin's resignation from the Student Supervisor position at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective May 15, 2025.

IX.G. We recommend accepting Cecil Wingo's retirement request from the History Teacher position at Calumet New Tech High School effective June 3, 2025.

IX.H. We recommend accepting Terrance Jackson's resignation from the Tech Aide position at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective June 3, 2025.

IX.I. We recommend accepting Nadia Morris' resignation from the Student Supervisor position at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective May 14, 2025.

IX.J. We recommend accepting Jeralyn Dravet resignation from the 1st grade Teacher position at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective June 3, 2025.

IX.K. We recommend Lisa Cagle be employed as the Bookkeeper at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective May 12, 2025.

IX.L. We recommend Madelynn Kurgen be employed as a 4th grade teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective August 1, 2025.

IX.M. We recommend Ashleigh Claudio be employed as a Kindergarten Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective August 1, 2025.

IX.N. We recommend Kenisha Jackson be employed as the Computer Science teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective August 1, 2025.

IX.O. We recommend Ashley Fosnaugh be employed as a 2nd grade Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective August 1, 2025.

IX.P. We recommend Mark Hidalgo be employed as the Physical Education Teacher at Calumet New Tech High School effective August 1, 2025.

IX.Q. We recommend Mark Hidalgo be employed as the Wrestling Head Coach at Calumet New Tech High School for the 2025-2026 athletic season.

IX.R. We recommend Andrea Zamora be employed as the Girls' Volleyball Coach at Calumet New Tech High School for the 2025-2026 athletic season.

IX.S. We recommend Elaine Myszak be employed as the Lake Ridge Cross Country Coach at Lake Ridge New Tech Middle school for the 2025-2026 athletic season.

X. Recommend approval of the Leaves/Resignations/Employment items.

_____ moved _____ seconded. Motion carried.

X.A. We recommend accepting Jamila Gray's resignation from the Kindergarten Teacher position at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School effective June 3, 2025.

XI. New Business

XI.A. We recommend approving the attached list of non-resident student transfers.

XI.B. We recommend approving a resolution concerning alternative services agreements with the Indiana Department of Education and Private Education Agencies.

XI.C. We recommend approving and paying the attached stipends for extra High Ability program work completed.

XI.D. We recommend approving and paying the attached stipend for Art class extra curriculum work completed.

XI.E. We recommend approving and paying the attached Math Instructional Coach stipend.

XI.F. We are recommending approving Juneteenth be a paid holiday for Lake Ridge New Tech Schools employees.

XI.G. We recommend approving and paying the following staff members for supporting effective instruction work completed with teachers in their building.

XI.H. We recommend approving the following donations for Longfellow New Tech Elementary School:

- The Art of Dentistry, Griffith, IN – 15 gifts for the Angel Tree Program
Approximate value: \$300
- Life Church International, Gary, IN – 15 bags of food for families in need
Approximate value: \$225
- Culver's, Highland, IN – 500 coins for a free scoop of custard (used as prizes for good behavior, book club, PTO incentives)
Approximate value: \$1,145
- Domino's, Griffith, IN – 41 pizzas:
 - 15 for Longfellow Staff
 - 15 for Lake Ridge Middle School (8th grade picnic)
- 6 for Family Night
- 5 for Book Club
Approximate value: \$328
- Arby's, Highland, IN – 200 coupons, each for 5 free kids' meals (summer meals for children)
Approximate value: \$5,790
- Chick-fil-A, Schererville, IN – 500 coupons for free chicken sandwiches (provided to each student)
Approximate value: \$3,395
- Regina Pimentel, Lake County Recorder, Crown Point, IN – 25 Easter baskets
Approximate value: \$375
- Family Christian Center, Hammond, IN – Headphones and school supplies
Approximate value: \$75
- Ross Community Church, Gary, IN – \$50 donation for 4th grade ReadWorks project winners (Mrs. Lark's class)
Approximate value: \$50
- Community Barbers (Alexis Gutierrez, Angel Rodriguez, Roxanna Baez, Kassie, Hilary Gomez, Lisa Love, Jacklyn Fleming, Jamie Verville) – 75 free haircuts for students
Approximate value: \$1,875

- Demittra Adams – Gifts for 40 students through the Angel Tree Program
Approximate value: \$800

XI.I. We recommend approving the following fundraisers for Calumet New Tech High School:

- June 10-14, 2025 – Double Good Popcorn sales for the Football Account.
- July 7- July 11, 2025 - Double Good Popcorn sales for the Volleyball Account

XI.J. We recommend approving the following fundraisers for Lake Ridge New Tech Middle School:

- July 2 - August 2, 2025 - Canning at Strack's for the Girl Volleyball account.
- June 13 - July 13, 2025 - Coupon book sales for the 8th Grade Student Travel Group 2026.
- May 30 - June 29, 2025- Yearbook sales for the Student Council account.
- June 10 - July 10, 2025 – Chicago Sky ticket sales for the Athletic Department account.

XI.K. We recommend granting permission to the Longfellow PTC to conduct the following fundraisers on school property:

- August 7, 2025 – Indoor craft and bake sale.

XI.L. We recommend approving the revised Wellness Policy.

XI.M. We recommend approving the Education to Operations fund transfer effective May 31, 2025.

XI.N. We recommend approving the response to the Excess Transfer Notice.

XI.O. We recommend approving the Custodial and Maintenance Services with ABM for 2025-2026.

XI.P. We recommend approving the attached curriculum and assessment systems for the 2025-2026 school year.

XI.Q. Recommend approval of the new business items.

_____ moved. _____seconded. Motion carried.

XI.R. We recommend approving the Superintendent's separation agreement.

XII. Adjournment

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.