LAKE RIDGE SCHOOLS

Date:August 10, 2026
Invocation given by: _____
Call this meeting to order.
Mission Statement
Pledge of Allegiance
This is aRegular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Lake Ridge Schools, Lake County, Indiana, August 10, 20266:00 PM, in the
Lake Ridge Schools
6111 West Ridge Road
Gary, IN 46408
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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 approval of the attached Accounts Payable Vouchers and the payrolls dated July 24, 2026, and August 7, 2026, for payment.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried

III. Consider the Treasurer Report as of June 30, 2026.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Consider the Old National Athletic Complex Donations Fund Treasurer Report as of June 30, 2026.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

V. Consider the Old National Self Insurance Fund Treasurer Report as of June 30, 2026.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

VI. Consider the minutes of the July 13, 2026, school board meeting.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

VII. **Superintendent Report**

VIII. **Additions and Deletions**

IX. **Professional Development**

IX.A. Recommend approving the Professional Development items.

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.

X. **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

X.A. We recommend accepting the retirement request of Scott Donald, 3rd Grade Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective at the conclusion of the 2025–2026 school year.

X.B. We recommend accepting the retirement request of Betty Svetich, District IT Support, effective August 4, 2026.

X.C. We recommend accepting the retirement request of Ann McCollum, Principal's Secretary at Calumet New Tech High School, effective September 4, 2026.

X.D. We recommend accepting the retirement of James Parvo, Credit Recovery Teacher at Calumet New Tech High School, effective at the conclusion of the 2025–2026 school year.

X.E. We recommend accepting the resignation of Adriana Straunch, Registrar at Lake Ridge New Tech Middle School, effective July 29, 2026.

X.F. We recommend accepting the resignation of Cheryl Dance, Science Teacher at Calumet New Tech High School.

X.G. We recommend Pamela Glenn be employed as Literacy Interventionist at Lake Ridge New Tech Middle School, effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.H. We recommend Kathyleen Smith be employed as 6th Grade Science Teacher at Lake Ridge New Tech Middle School , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.I. We recommend Kelley Nemcek be employed as Literacy Cadre Coach at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School/Hosford Park Early Learning Center , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.J. We recommend Jelena "Lanie" Hagy be employed as 5th Grade Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.K. We recommend Katelyn Parker-Clark be employed as Math Interventionist at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.L. We recommend Jacki Thorn be employed as 4th Grade ELA Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.M. We recommend Earl Smith be employed as Credit Recovery/Alternative Education Teacher in the Lake Ridge Schhols Alternative Setting , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.N. We recommend Ronda Knight be employed in the Reset/Alternative-to-Suspension Room at Lake Ridge New Tech Middle School , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.O. We recommend Rebecca Smith be employed as 5th Grade Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.P. We recommend Maria Delgado Acevedo's employment status be changed from part-time Teacher Aide to full-time Teacher Assistant at Head Start effective August 26, 2026.

X.Q. We recommend Tiarah Smith be employed as full-time Lead Teacher at Head Start effective August 26, 2026.

X.R. We recommend Alexia McClellan be employed as full-time Teacher Assistant at Head Start effective August 26, 2026.

X.S. We recommend Miracle Jordan be employed as part-time Aide at Head Start effective August 26, 2026.

X.T. We recommend Michelle Roman be employed as full-time Teacher Assistant at Head Start effective August 26, 2026.

X.U. We recommend Megan Reiser be employed as part-time Aide at Head Start effective August 26, 2026.

X.V. We recommend Samantha Bernardy be employed as a 5th Grade Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.W. We recommend Alyssa Bell be employed as a Math Interventionist at Hosford Park Early Learning Center, , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.X. We recommend Dawn Pagin be employed as a Kindergarten Teacher at Hosford Park Early Learning Center, , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.Y. We recommend Starr Williams be employed as a Social Worker at Calumet New Tech High School and Lake Ridge New Tech Middle School, effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.Z. We recommend Rae Lopez be employed as the District Director of Technology for Lake Ridge New Tech Schools, effective August 1, 2026.

X.AA. We recommend Ann McCollum be employed as a Part-Time Library Aide, effective September 8, 2026.

X.AB. We recommend Cody Snook be reassigned to Credit Recovery at Calumet New Tech High School, , effective 2026-2027 school year.

X.AC. We recommend Felicia Raspberry be employed as a Fifth Grade Paraprofessional at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AD. We recommend Timber Clemons be employed as a Fifth Grade Paraprofessional at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AE. We recommend Athena Reyna be employed as a Fourth Grade Math Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AF. We recommend Bernique Joanes be employed as a Seventh Grade Social Studies Teacher at Lake Ridge New Tech Middle School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AG. We recommend Ricci Ricciardi be employed as a Kindergarten Paraprofessional at Hosford Park Early Learning Center, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AH. We recommend Arritha Burnett be employed as a First Grade Paraprofessional at Hosford Park Early Learning Center, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AI. We recommend Seryna Smith be employed as a Library and First Grade Paraprofessional at Hosford Park Early Learning Center, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AJ. We recommend Angele Johnson be employed as a Library Paraprofessional at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AK. We recommend Katelynn Bournazos be employed as a Paraprofessional at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AL. We recommend Forest Glasper Jr. be employed as a Computer Science Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AM. We recommend Lexi Katsilieris be employed as a Fourth Grade Math Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AN. We recommend Kyla Putz be employed as a Fifth Grade English Language Arts Teacher at Longfellow New Tech Elementary School, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

X.AO. We recommend DeZaree Smith be employed as a Nurse Aide at Hosford Park Early Learning Center, effective for the 2026–2027 school year.

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

_____ moved _____ seconded. Motion carried.

XI. **New Business**

XI.A. We recommend approving the NIESC Director of Media Contracted Services Agreement for Tara White.

XI.B. We recommend approving the proposal for Financial Advisory Services with Baker Tilly.

XI.C. We recommend approving the purchase and renewal of Math and ELA curriculum products and materials for the 2026–2027 school year.

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

XI.E. We recommend approval of the transfer from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund, effective June 30, 2026.

XI.F. We recommend approving the second reading of the attached NEOLA Policy Updates, including the revisions, technical corrections, replacement policies, rescinded policies, new policies, and Administrative Guidelines as presented.

Policy Updates

- Bylaw 0100 – Definitions (Revised)
- Bylaw 0151 – Organizational Meeting (Revised)
- Policy 1220 – Employment of the Superintendent (Revised)
- Policy 1520.08 – Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities (Revised)
- Policy 1623 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment (Revised)
- Policy 1662.01 – Threatening and/or Intimidating Behavior Toward Staff Members (Revised)
- Policy 2221 – Mandatory Curriculum (Revised)
- Policy 3120.02 – Adjunct Teachers (Revised)
- Policy 3120.08 – Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities (Revised)
- Policy 3121 – Personal Background Checks, References, and Mandatory Reporting (Technical Correction)
- Policy 3123 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment (Revised)
- Policy 3131 – Reduction in Force ("RIF") in Certificated Staff (Revised)
- Policy 3139 – Staff Discipline (Revised)
- Policy 3142 – Cancellation of a Teaching Contract (Revised)
- Policy 3220 – Staff Evaluation (Revised)
- Policy 3220.02 – Supplemental Payments for Teachers (Revised)
- Policy 3362.01 – Threatening and/or Intimidating Behavior Toward Staff Members (Technical Correction)
- Policy 3430 – Leaves of Absence (Revised)
- Policy 4120.08 – Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities (Revised)
- Policy 4123 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment (Revised)
- Policy 4150 – Disciplinary Actions (Replacement Policy)
- Policy 4362.01 – Threatening and/or Intimidating Behavior Toward Staff Members (Technical Correction)
- Policy 5111 – Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students Without Legal Settlement in the Corporation; Proof of Indiana Residency (Technical Correction)
- Policy 5136 – Personal Communication Devices (Revised)
- Policy 5136.01 – Personal Electronic Equipment Other Than Personal Communication Devices (Revised)
- Policy 5310 – Health Services (Technical Correction)
- Policy 5462 – Retaking a Class (Revised)
- Policy 5540 – The Schools and Law Enforcement Agencies (Revised)
- Policy 5600 – Student Discipline (Revised)
- Policy 5840 – Criminal Organizations and Criminal Organization Activity (Rescind)
- Policy 6109 – Acceptance of Payment by Credit Card (New)
- Policy 6152 – Student Fees and Charges (Revised)
- Policy 6325 – Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds (Revised)
- Policy 7420 – Hygienic Management (Revised)

- Policy 7541 – Electronic Data Processing Disaster Recovery Plan (Rescind)
- Policy 8120 – Volunteers (Revised)
- Policy 8300 – Continuity of Organizational Operations Plan (Revised)
- Policy 8305 – Information Security (Revised)
- Policy 8400 – School Safety Information (Revised)
- Policy 8455 – Coach Training, References, and IHSAA Reporting (Revised)
- Policy 8462 – Child Abuse and Neglect (Revised)
- Policy 3220.01 – Teacher Appreciation (Revised)
- Policy 6210 – Fiscal Planning (Revised)
- Policy 7540.03 – Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (Revised)
- Policy 7540.04 – Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety (Revised)
- Policy 7540.09 – Artificial Intelligence ("AI") (Replacement)
- Policy 7544 – Use of Social Media (Revised)

Administrative Guidelines

- AG 2260.01B – Section 504/ADA Complaint and Due Process Procedures (Revised)
- AG 2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities (Technical Correction)
- AG 5460A – Waiver Options for the Graduation Examination or Postsecondary Readiness Competencies for the Graduation Pathways (Revised)
- AG 5517.01 – Bullying (Revised)

XI.G. We recommend approving the purchase of the following ELA curriculum and assessment product renewals and materials
for the 26-27 school year.

XI.H. We recommend approving the attached Director of Technology job description.

XII. Recommend approval of the new business items.

_____ moved. _____seconded. Motion carried.

XIII. **Administrative/ Board member Comments**

XIV. **Adjournment**

_____ moved. _____ seconded. Motion carried.