

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Tri-Township Consolidated School Corporation

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Tri-Township Schools

Tri-Township Schools Cafeteria

309 School Drive

Wanatah, IN 46390

Monday, December 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Our vision is that all students will be college and career ready.

Our mission is to guarantee that every student achieves high levels of learning and development.

In attendance were: Dr. Paige McNulty, Tim Guse, Aaron Rust, Chad Howell, Melanie Mills, Nick Poort, Todd & Michelle Grace, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Irwin, Jim Sheely, Alissa Clemons, Dara Guse, and Theresa McArdle.

1. Open Board Meeting - Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance, meeting was called to order by Tim Guse, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consent Items

- a. Minutes, Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
- b. Financial reports, Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
- c. Claims, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Aaron Rust seconded. ALL AYES
- d. Payroll, Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
- e. Personnel report

Certified

Leaves/Resignations

- Kristina Urban leave of absence, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

Employment

- Todd Grace Athletic Director, Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

Adjustments

Classified

Leaves/Resignations

- Amanda Beckman resigning 12/19/25, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

Employment

- Kelly Crownover PreK/1st grade Para 1/6/26, Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

Adjustments**3. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only**, none**4. Reports**

- a. Principals' report - see attached
- b. Superintendent's report, Dr. Paige McNulty reports: As you've heard, we've had a very busy month here at Tri-Township! Several projects are underway over break, including replacing the pump outside that we've been discussing, which should be completed this week. The gym floor at Wanatah is being painted, and the broken sinks in the high school bathrooms are being replaced, and banners are being hung at the Tiger Den. We also have two new carts being delivered this week that will be ready for student use next semester. We enjoyed a wonderful Christmas concert with a great turnout of families who came to celebrate and watch their students perform — made even more special with a surprise visit from Santa himself. We're also eagerly preparing for the 75th anniversary celebration of the Tiger Den and the girls' basketball tournament on January 2nd and 3rd. Tickets are still available, and we hope to see everyone there for this special tradition. Last but certainly not least, we have some big news to celebrate. One of our students, Lupita Osornio, competed against hundreds of students and was awarded the Lily Endowment Grant. Lupita has earned a full four-year scholarship to any state school in Indiana. Congratulations to her on this well-deserved achievement — we are incredibly proud!

5. Action Items

1. Approve Gennifer Messer as Wanatah Library Trustee from 1/1/26-12/31/29, Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
2. Approve Peggy Stalbrink as LaCrosse Library Trustee from 1/1/26-12/31/29, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
3. Approve 2026-27 Academic Calendar, Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
4. Continuing Jacquelyn Pillar's Legal Representation, approve rates for 2026, Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES

6. Discussion Items, none**7. Board Comments**, none

8. Adjournment, Aaron Rust motioned to adjourn, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES

Our next regular meeting will be held on January 26, 2026.

NOTE: The Board's meeting site is fully accessible to all persons. Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the Superintendent's Office with the School Corporation's administrative office at 219-754-2709.

BOARD MEMBERS/OFFICERS

President, Tim Guse	2023-2026	tguse@tritownship.k12.in.us
Vice President, Aaron Rust	2025-2028	aaronrust@tritownship.k12.in.us
Secretary, Chad Howell	2025-2028	chowell@tritownship.k12.in.us
Member, Melanie Mills (ISBA Legislative Liaison)	2023-2026	mmills@tritownship.k12.in.us
Member, Nick Poort	2023-2026	npoort@tritownship.k12.in.us
Superintendent, Dr. Paige McNulty		paigemcnulty@tritownship.k12.in.us
Treasurer, Dara Guse		dguse@tritownship.k12.in.us
Deputy Treasurer, Amy Wozniak		awozniak@tritownship.k12.in.us

Board Meeting-December 22, 2025

Elementary Principal Report by Alissa Clemons

I. Celebration of Students, Staff, or Families

- a. Special shout out to Miss Demoss for two fabulous Elementary Christmas Programs.
- b. Big thank you to Mr. Santa Claus for coming in to spread some joy to the elementary students!
- c. Of course the students looked dazzling in their Christmas dresses and suits.
- d. And the parking lot was filled with parents and grandparents!
- e. It's great to see strong family support!

II. Backpack Blessings

- a. Shout out to Katie Wright for organizing the Backpack Blessings program for our students for Christmas.
- b. With the help of her Leo's Club members and several teachers and volunteers, the program was able to provide enough food and supplies for the Christmas vacation to many of our Tiger families!
- c. Some additional essentials were also added from our HFL grant (like blankets, socks, and jammies)

II. Teaching and Learning

- a. PLCs (Professional Learning Communities)
 - i. The elementary staff finished their book study- "Teach, Breathe, & Learn".
 - ii. Our teachers learned several strategies about mindfulness and I have already seen several teachers implement this in their classrooms. (Especially during a busy December)
 - iii. Sometimes a 30 second deep breath can reset an entire class!!
 - iv. We ended the book practicing a High Ability strategy using the "Jigsaw" method. I modeled the example and then each teacher took a chapter and "taught" it to the other teachers during our PLC time. They also created infographics/handouts to share for a quick handout to refer to.
 - v. We hope to start another one for the second semester as well.

III. Data:

- a. The elementary staff is working on the second round of ILEARN checkpoints.
- b. They are also completing IREADY middle of the year diagnostic testing to see where students are at this point in the year.
- c. High Ability teacher, Mrs. Peeples, spent the week completing the testing of all students in grade 1-5 and created groups to begin in Jan.

IV. Events:

- a. 5/6/and 7th boys basketball season is over. Looking forward to the girls season next!

Board Meeting-December 22, 2025

JR/SR High Principal Report by Brian McMahan

December marks the close of a productive first semester, and I want to recognize the strong commitment from both our students and staff as we've worked to raise expectations and strengthen academic focus.

Teachers have implemented instructional goals, and I've met individually with staff to review evidence, progress, and the impact on student learning. Those conversations have been focused and meaningful.

Staff have also stepped up to support Next Level Teaching and Student Resource Time, providing targeted academic support while reinforcing student accountability. Teachers are using assessment data and classroom evidence to identify students who will need additional support going into second semester. Moving forward, our expectation remains clear: instruction is the priority, with consistency and follow-through across all classrooms.

Student behavior has remained stable and, in many areas, improved as academic expectations have increased. Attendance continues to be an area of focus, and administration is working directly with families to reinforce expectations and support consistent attendance.

As we look ahead to January, our focus will be on a strong start to second semester on January 6, finalizing student schedules and academic supports, expanding work-based learning partnerships for the 2026–27 school year, and implementing SAT and ILEARN interventions during Student Resource Time.

December is both a reflection point and a reset. I'm proud of the progress made this semester and confident in our continued growth moving forward.