

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
Tri-Township Consolidated School Corporation
MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Tri-Township Schools
Tri-Township Schools Library
309 School Drive
Wanatah, IN 46390
Monday, August 24, 2026 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, Aaron Rust, Chad Howell, Melanie Mills, Nick Poort, Alissa Clemons, Lisa Rosenkranz, Jim Sheely, and Theresa McArdle. Not in attendance were:
Tim & Dara Guse.

- **Open Board Meeting** - Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance, Meeting was called to order by Aaron Rust, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Presentation - NA**
- **Consent Items**
 - a. Minutes, Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
 - b. Financial reports, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
 - c. Claims, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
 - d. Payroll, Chad Howell motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
 - e. Personnel report

Certified

Leaves/Resignations

Employment

- Michelle Richardson for High Ability, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
- Pierre Joseph for Band/Music, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

Adjustments

Classified

Leaves/Resignations

- Approve Annette Brown termination, Nick Poort motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
- Approve Carolyn Pryor termination, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES

Employment

- Samantha Alameda for Kitchen, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
- Chris Mattox for Kitchen, Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
- Alexis Davaney Part Time Kitchen, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

Adjustments

- **Public Comment on Agenda Items Only**, none
- **Reports**
 - a. Superintendent's report, attached
 - b. Principal's report, attached
- **Action Items**
 - a. Approve Danielle Boswell as Boys' & Girls' Varsity Cross Country Coach for 2026/27 School Year, Nick Poort motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
 - b. Approve Dillon Stewart as Assistant Baseball Coach for 2026/27 School Year, Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
 - c. Approve 2026/27 Classified Staff Hourly Pay Schedules, Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded, Aaron Rust abstained. ALL AYES
 - d. Approve to advertise the Tri-Township 2027 budget, Capital Projects Plan and Bus Replacement Plan, Nick Poort motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
 - e. Approve Agreement for LaPorte County Library "Libraries 360" Shared Services, Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
- **Discussion Items**, none
- **Board Comments**, none
- **Adjournment**, Nick Poort motioned to adjourn, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

Our next regular meeting will be held on September 28, 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

Superintendent's Report

Aug. 24th, 2026

- We've had a very busy, and wild start to the school year! We were able to get all of our emergency drills for the semester knocked out in the first 3 days however. Both tornado and fire. The staff and students all did an amazing job following procedures and staying calm. We are so thankful everyone was safe and sound. We send out prayers to our neighboring school districts who have had to miss school and to several of them who are still out of school.
- Our opening day with staff was very productive and our theme for this year is to be "NIMBLE". We understand that we are living in construction, but the contractors have been so kind and responsive to our needs. They are working quickly and we are so grateful for the upgrades for our students. The students are loving the new playground! The elementary bathrooms are very close to being finished, the new HVAC units are installed and hooked up as of today, the athletic building has been painted, the locker room plumbing has been completed and the bus port/solar panel project is underway! We appreciate the board's decision to do these capital projects for the school corporation.
- We were notified this week that our school was selected to receive the robotics grant again! We are very proud of our team and are anxious to watch all of the amazing things they will be doing this year! Congratulations again!
- We have met with the LaPorte Public library and have partnered with them to help expand offerings to our students and staff. By partnering with them, our students will have access to thousands of digital books and hard books. The library will also bring their mobile library bus to our school monthly and do professional development with our staff on how they can support the lesson plans the teachers are introducing, such as Stem kits, etc. Students can access the digital books and resource materials from their chromebook so they can look up information for research papers and additional sources. This is a great opportunity to continue to enhance our learning at our school.
- Lastly, I want to give a big shout out to all of our staff. They have done a phenomenal job of pitching in this past week. We have a very supportive, positive staff that go above and beyond. Great job to the team!

Board Meeting-August 24, 2026

Elementary Principal Report by Alissa Clemons

I. Celebration of Students, Staff, or Families:

Shout out to our Wonderful PTO and The LaCrosse & Wanatah Lions Club

- a. Special thanks to these three special groups.
 - i. The PTO donated t-shirts to all our students at Open House
 - ii. They created our theme "Building Our Future One Brick at a Time!" and spent hours decorating our school and making a photo booth
 - iii. We appreciate their creative ideas and efforts
 - iv. Both Lions Clubs from LaCrosse & Wanatah worked together to donate our meal for Open House
 - v. We appreciate this very much!

II. Teaching and Learning: PLCs & / PDs:

- a. The elementary staff had a successful start to our school year showing grit and flexibility! Routines and procedures are in place and we are ready to go!
- b. We also kicked off our first PLC meeting on Friday with an instructional focus on using data to achieve our school-wide goals with action steps to ensure student success!
- c. We will soon begin implementation of the Zones of Regulation. Students will learn to recognize emotions, develop self-regulation skills, and use appropriate strategies throughout the day.
- d. Our new Tiger Time after-school care program is underway. The program runs from 2:30–6:00 PM and provides homework help, snacks, games, activities, and a safe, structured environment for students. We are excited to welcome our new Director-Chrisy Gast.

III. Events:

- a. Picture Day 8/18

A Great Start!

It has been wonderful welcoming our students and families back to Tri-Township Elementary. We are excited about the year ahead and look forward to continuing to build strong academic foundations, positive relationships, and opportunities for every student to be successful.



Theresa McArdle <tmcardle@tritownship.k12.in.us>

School Board Meeting Report

1 message

Brian McMahan <bmcMahon@tritownship.k12.in.us>

Mon, Aug 17, 2026 at 1:51 PM

To: Theresa McArdle <tmcardle@tritownship.k12.in.us>, Paige McNulty <paigemcnulty@tritownship.k12.in.us>

August 2026

School Safety

In late July, we completed a three-and-a-half-hour school safety audit with a safety specialist from the State of Indiana. The audit included a building walkthrough and an in-depth review of our procedures and practices. We are in full compliance, with only a few updates needed within our safety binder.

Our School Safety Committee will meet to review our shelter-in-place response during the recent tornado warning and our first fire drill of the year. We will use feedback from these events, along with recommendations from the state safety specialist, to continue improving our safety procedures.

Online & Work-Based Learning

Mr. Wellsand and I met with Edmentum and 220 Learning to prepare him to support our work-based learning program and online students. All online students are enrolled and have started their courses. We will continue monitoring student progress and providing support throughout the semester.

Dual Credit

Our Ivy Tech career coach visited the school to assist students with dual-credit enrollment. Students are currently earning college credit through Speech with Mrs. O'Hare, English courses with Ms. McCormick, and Biology with Ms. Beaver. These partnerships continue to expand opportunities for our students to earn college credit while completing high school requirements.

Professional Learning Communities

Our Friday PLC time continues to evolve. Last year, we focused on building the foundation and structures for our PLC work. This year, we are taking the next step by identifying shared skills that cross content areas and determining how we can intentionally develop and measure those skills across classrooms.

This work will allow our teachers, including those in different content areas, to collaborate around common student-learning goals while maintaining a strong focus on their individual curriculum.

Parent & Family Shout-Out

A special thank you to our parents and families for their patience and flexibility during the start of the school year. Construction required us to change our student drop-off and pick-up procedures, and additional adjustments were necessary throughout the first week.

Our families have done a tremendous job following the new procedures and working with us as we make improvements. Their patience, cooperation, and understanding have helped make the transition safer and more