

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, August 25, 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.

The following individuals were in attendance: Dr. McNulty, Tim Guse, Aaron Rust, Chad Howell, Melanie Mills, Nick Poort, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Irwin, Lynette Mroz, Lisa Rosenkranz, Mrs. Messner, Zachary Messner, Mr. & Mrs. Dan Sykora, Ty & Lance Sykora, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Condon, Tori DeMoss, Brian McMahan, Dara Guse and Theresa McArdle

- 1. Open Board Meeting** - Meeting was called to order by Tim Guse, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. Presentation** - Zach Messner & Ty Sykora were recognized for their performance this summer with the INpact band.
- 3. Consent Items**
 - a. Minutes - Chad Howell motioned to approve July minutes, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
 - b. Financial reports - Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
 - c. Claims - Nick Poort motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
 - d. Payroll - Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
 - e. Personnel report

Certified

Leaves/Resignations

Employment

Adjustments

Classified

Leaves/Resignations

- Kevin Juris resigned as IT - Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Aaron Rust seconded. ALL AYES

- Stephanie Davis resigned as 2nd grade teacher - Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES

Employment

- Ivan Avila as IT - Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
- Amanda Beckman as PreK para - Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
- Blake Logsdon as 5th grade teacher - Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Aaron Rust seconded. ALL AYES
- Morgan Kleckner as substitute bus driver - Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
- Tammy Clark as high school & middle school assistant cross country coach - Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
- Savannah Sonaty as Robotics coach - Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
- Jason Kaiser as Robotics coach - Nick Poort motioned to approve, Aaron Rust seconded. ALL AYES
- Lucas Sonaty as Robotics coach - Nick Poort motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

Adjustments

- Alicia Trauscht to 2nd grade from 5th - Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

4. Public Comment - none

5. Reports

- Mrs. Clemons** expressed her appreciation to everyone at Tri-Township for their hard work in preparing for the new school year. Teachers came in over the summer to get their classrooms ready, and the results look wonderful. Back-to-School Night was a huge success thanks to the efforts of staff, the PTO for providing shirts, a photo balloon arch, and hallway decorations, as well as the Wanatah Lions for the Sundae Bar, the LaCrosse Lions for hot dogs and chips, and Modern Woodmen for locker decorating. Additional thanks were given to Superior Cleaning and Brian Wozniak for ensuring the building was ready for the first day of school, and to Gayla Porch for covering 5th grade until the new teacher arrived. Students in grades K–5 are currently completing diagnostic testing through the new iReady program, which will guide Title I recommendations and high ability placement. PLCs are also underway, with the first Friday focusing on rubrics and defining collaborative practices, an essential

part of improving student learning. Elementary teachers will continue using the UFLI phonics program in PreK–5 for a second year, and with growing confidence as well as support from Mrs. O'Hare in training new teachers, the program is expected to produce meaningful gains in student learning and positively impact ILEARN scores.

- b. **Mr. McMahan:** We've had a great start to the school year, with many students excited about the curriculum changes at the middle school level, including new PLTW classes and an updated schedule. Lunches have also run much smoother this year thanks to timing adjustments, and I want to thank Mrs. Brown for her work in making that happen. A special thanks as well to Mrs. Huhnke, who has once again taken on the big task of preparing Chromebooks for the start of the year. I also want to recognize all of our staff for the time and effort they put in to ensure everything was ready for students on the first day. We've now had two successful late start Fridays, which are new this year and have provided valuable collaboration time for teachers—something we previously had to fit into prep periods, which wasn't ideal. Finally, I'd like to thank you for allowing me to attend the PLC conference in July. I was able to bring back ideas that we are already putting into practice at both the middle school and high school levels.
- c. **Dr. McNulty** reported, It's wonderful to see so many students and parents here tonight to celebrate the accomplishments of our kids. We've had a great start to the year, with Back-to-School Night being a huge success and very well attended. I'd like to again thank the Lions Club, PTO, and Modern Woodmen for their generosity, hard work, and support in making that event possible. We've been very busy, and our late start Fridays are off to a strong start, giving teachers time to dig into data that will drive improvements and keep momentum going for student achievement. This year, we are also exploring synchronous eLearning, which would allow students to live stream with their teachers on days when school is canceled. In addition, several school projects are underway: renovations have begun in the athletic building for the weight room and golf simulator, and the Tiger Den has seen many exciting enhancements, including a completely updated and refurbished concession stand that looks outstanding. Work on the track completion is continuing, and I will keep the board updated as we move forward. As we've discussed, we are also exploring going out for a new bond in the coming months. Due to timing considerations, our October meeting will be moved to October 21st. And finally, as a bit of a teaser, we have a big announcement coming soon regarding our robotics program—so stay tuned!

6. Action Items

- a. Approve the PR marketing consultant agreement with Chelsea Whittington for the 2025/26 school year. - Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
- b. Approval of ending relationship with William Kaminski and entering into contract with Jackie Pillar as Board/Superintendent attorney counsel. - Melanie Mills motioned to approve, Aaron Rust seconded. ALL AYES
- c. Approval of Resolution of Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures. Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Nick Poort seconded. ALL AYES
- d. Approve to advertise the Tri-Township 2026 budget, Capital Projects Plan and Bus Replacement Plan. - Aaron Rust motioned to approve, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES
- e. Approve Riley Charlesworth as member of the building corporation - Chad Howell motioned to approve, Melanie Mills seconded. ALL AYES
(addendum approved by Aaron Rust, Chad Howell seconded. ALL AYES

7. Discussion Items - none

8. Board Comments - none

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

Our next regular meeting will be held on September 22, 2025.

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
Treasurer, Dara Guse		dguse@tritownship.k12.in.us
Deputy Treasurer, Amy Wozniak		awozniak@tritownship.k12.in.us

