

School Board Meeting – June 26, 2025 Regular Session

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL – 7:00 P.M.

ESTABLISH A QUORUM AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of School Trustees of the John Glenn School Corporation met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on June 26, 2025, at the John Glenn Administration Building. Board members present were Jared Egger, Christine Carson, Kathy Jaworski, Ryan Knowlton, Christian Mattix, Todd McGaughey and Carissa Smith. Superintendent Christopher Winchell and five observers were present through Consent Agenda, and three observers were present through the remainder of the meeting.

DONATIONS & FUNDRAISERS (WES, NLES, UMS, JGHS)

There were no donations or fundraisers presented at this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment was made at tonight's meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #1 – 3

1. Approve Minutes – June 17, 2025 – Regular and Executive Session
2. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Retirements/Resignations

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| a. Luke Krizman | JV Baseball Assistant Coach, John Glenn High School |
| b. Jason Goodsell | Girls Soccer Assistant Coach, John Glenn High School |
| c. Heather Boyer | Instructional Aide, Walkerton Elementary School |

Appointments

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| a. Trenton Woods | Instructional Aide, Walkerton Elementary School |
| b. Joanna Lax | Teacher, Walkerton Elementary School |
| c. Heather Thompson | Summer School Nurse, Walkerton Elementary School |
| d. Sean Steinkellner | Principal, Urey Middle School |

3. Approve Transfer Students

To date, we have 46 new transfer requests for the 2025-2026 school year, including the four presented for approval at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Todd McGaughey asked if we could provide a breakdown of what corporations students are transferring from, and what areas of the surrounding communities. This information will be presented at the next meeting.

Mr. Winchell noted that there was one additional candidate listed in the Consent Agenda provided in the original board packet sent to the board last week. That candidate informed Mr. Romer this morning that

she had decided to take another opportunity and would no longer be joining us at NLES. She was removed from the recommendations this evening.

Mr. Jared Egger made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-3, and Ms. Carissa Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

Mr. Winchell introduced Mr. Sean Steinkellner as the Principal of Urey Middle School.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve Food Procurement Bids

Mr. Winchell explained that this is our annual process of our board approving the bids that were accepted and approved by the Northern Indiana Educational Service Center (NIESC). This checks some boxes for the State Board of Accounts and Federal Food Program audit process, so we do recommend that the board approve these procurement bids. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Food Procurement Bids, and Mrs. Kathy Jaworski seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

2. Approve English Language Arts Curriculum

Mr. Winchell reminded the board that it used to be recommended that we choose updated subject materials every six years. That recommendation has fluctuated somewhat over the years, but we still follow that pattern of choosing new materials every six years. When we choose new curriculum materials, we actually do two different things: we approve the actual curriculum, and then we choose the materials that we will use to teach the curriculum. Dr. Fuller and the selection team have pored over the state and local standards and compiled what our Language Arts Curriculum will be for students K-12. Dr. Fuller prepared a packet outlining the curriculum for the board, which will be included on our website.

Dr. Fuller provided an overview of the curriculum report and answered questions from the board. The report details what students are expected to learn by grade level, our state testing scores for the last several years, and lists the IDOE standards that are to be taught K-12.

Mr. Todd McGaughey made a motion to approve English Language Arts Curriculum, and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

3. Approve English Language Arts Materials

Dr. Fuller provided a quick overview of the materials that we will be purchasing. We have used most of these products in the past and we are looking forward to working with these partners and their updated products. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve the English Language Arts Materials, and Mr. Jared Egger seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

4. Approve Customer Service Agreement with UniFirst

Mr. Winchell explained that UniFirst supplies all of our custodial supplies and our rug service. Mr. Groves has worked hard to streamline this ordering process, and UniFirst provides excellent service. Mr. Winchell went on to thank Mr. Groves for his hard work. This is another example of how he is looking for ways to save money and to create lasting partnerships with our vendors that result in excellent service. Mr. Ryan Knowlton made a motion to approve Customer Service Agreement with UniFirst, and Ms. Carissa Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

5. Approve Food Service Inactive Accounts over \$10.00 to be transferred to the School Lunch Account

Mr. Winchell reminded the board that in June and December, we clean up accounts for fiscal and calendar year-end. Per our Board Policy, we should not keep inactive lunch accounts for more than two years. Mr. Bendy and his staff have reviewed accounts and tried to make contact with the families who still have a balance that is nearing two years old. This action will transfer \$82.30 to the School Lunch Account. Mr. Mattix asked if we are able to transfer these balances to other lunch accounts that are negative. Mr. Bendy noted that these particular funds are deposited into the general School Lunch Account, but when clearing accounts that are under the \$10.00 threshold, those funds are distributed to each building equally and deposited into what we call our lucky account, which can then be used to support students who might need it. Mr. Knowlton asked if it was possible for the board to approve this action to just be automatic, similar to our purchasing thresholds. Mr. Winchell noted that since we are dealing with Federal Food Funds that are frequently audited, it is best to keep this type of transfer as an action item, despite the dollar amount. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Food Service Inactive Accounts over \$10.00 to be transferred to the School Lunch Account, and Mr. Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

6. Public Hearing – Proposed Superintendent’s Contract

Mr. Winchell noted that Indiana Code requires a public hearing to be held to hear support for, or opposition to, a proposed Superintendent’s Contract, or amendments to a Superintendent’s Contract. The Board advised that they wished for Mr. Winchell to take any legal steps necessary to allow a one-time, \$3,000 stipend for extra duties taken on by serving as the Urey Middle School Interim Principal. The Board also gave permission to adjust the cashing in of five vacation days to ten vacation days. They also requested amending dates for the superintendent’s evaluation and goal setting to reflect the traditional calendar. At the recommendation from Mr. Kaminski, Corporation Attorney, the board also added contract language that would allow them the authority to make amendments to the contract without completely revising it in the future. Per Indiana Code, a chart was published in the South Bend Tribune and Plymouth Pilot outlining the superintendent’s salary and benefits, with special note of the one-time \$3,000 stipend for the additional duties. Before the board can consider taking official action, a public hearing must be held to hear support for or opposition to it. Mr. Winchell made special note that this is not a new contract. This is an amendment to the contract that was approved last year for the 2024-25 school year. Mrs. Carson opened the public hearing at 7:39 PM. With no comment being heard, the hearing was closed at 7:40 PM.

7. Approve Updated Superintendent’s Contract

Mr. Winchell commented that under the previous Indiana Code, you could not approve the superintendent’s contract in the same meeting that you held the public hearing. You used to have to wait 48 hours before you could take official action. Thanks to recent changes in the Indiana Code, both items can now be handled in the same meeting. Based on the directions given by the board, we have met all statutory requirements. Mr. Christian Mattix made a motion to approve Updated Superintendent’s Contract, and Mrs. Kathy Jaworski seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of seven to zero.

REPORTS

1. Assistant Superintendent’s Report– Dr. Patrick Fuller

Dr. Fuller reported the following:

- We are very excited to welcome Mr. Steinkellner to our team. We completed an extensive principal search, and we were blessed to have many highly qualified candidates.

2. Superintendent’s Report – Mr. Christopher Winchell

Mr. Winchell reported the following:

- The ISBA/IAPSS Fall Conference dates have been announced, and the early registration window is very short. If you know you will be able to attend, please let Kristan know, and she will handle registration.
- Tom, Collin, and I were able to attend the Budget Planning seminar earlier this week that was held by the ISBA, IAPSS and IASBO. We were able to hear Dr. McKibben present his thoughts on the demographics of the state. We also heard an economist speak on the importance of keeping college prep work in our high schools. It was interesting to hear the differing opinions on why Indiana isn't growing at the same rate as other states. Mr. Winchell shared a few thoughts on how the recent changes in legislation will continue to affect school finance. To briefly summarize: For the short term, we are going to have a small impact of lost revenue and greater circuit breaker losses. As the next five years progress, our assessment will be arbitrarily reduced, which will cause our tax rate to increase, which will cause more circuit breaker losses. We have been reassessing where we are with capital projects, what we want to do with Greene Township, and reviewing whether we want to take another GO Bond, but that was not planned until 2027. School finance is very complicated, and we work hard every day to figure it out. We are a very fiscally sound and extremely fiscally responsible school corporation. We have another seminar on July 11th to learn even more.
- At the direction of the board, I am going on vacation for the next two weeks!

BOARD COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING DATE: July 15, 2025 7:00 P.M. JG Admin Regular Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Christine Carson called the meeting adjourned at 8:11 P.M.

PRES. _____

SEC'Y. _____
