



WABASH AND OHIO VALLEY SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT

Monica Girten, Director

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The Governing Board of the Wabash and Ohio Valley Special Education District (WOVSED) of Edwards, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Pope, Saline, Wabash, Wayne, and White Counties, Illinois, met on August 26, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., in regular session at the WOVSED Central Office in Norris City, Illinois. All members had been previously notified of the time and place of the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Vice Chairman, Dale Woods. Upon Roll Call the following members were found present: Kelly Ackerman, Carmi-White Co. CUSD #5; Samantha Anselment, Wayne City CUSD #100; Casey Carlile, Eldorado CU #4; Ryan Cowsert, Hardin Co. CU #1; Lindsey Edmison, North Wayne CUSD #200; Lori Ellis, Fairfield HS #225; Theresa Hocking, Wabash CUSD #348; Nick Hunt, Gallatin Co. CUSD #7; Rebecca Jeffords, Pope Co. CUSD #1; Jamie Jones, Fairfield #112; Matt McArthy, NCOE CUSD #3; Clay Nolen, Carrier Mills CUSD #2; Andrea Short, Hamilton Co. CUSD #10; Jen Wellen, Geff CCSD #14; Melissa Wise, Allendale CCSD #17; Dale Woods, Edwards Co. CUSD #1; and Monica Girten, WOVSED Director.

The following members were not present for the meeting: Tom Barton, New Hope CCSD #6; Amy Richey, Galatia CUSD #1; Jon Risley, Grayville CUSD #1; Billy Smith, Harrisburg CUSD #3; and Josh Zurliene, Jasper CUSD #17.

There were 16 members present and 5 absent; thus, a quorum was declared and the meeting opened for official business.

Twelve new board members were seated. The floor was then opened for the election of Governing Board Members.

Motion made by Hocking to nominate Dale Woods for Chairperson.

Motion made by Wellen to nominate Jamie Jones for Vice Chairperson.

Motion made by Jones to nominate Jen Wellen for Secretary.

Motion made by McArthy, seconded by Hocking to close the 2025-2026 Governing Board election. Roll call indicated: Ackerman-aye; Anselment-aye; Barton-absent; Carlile-aye; Cowsert-aye; Edmison-aye; Ellis-aye; Hocking-aye; Hunt-aye; Jeffords-aye; Jones-aye; McArthy-aye; Nolen-aye; Richey-absent; Risley-absent; Short-aye; Smith-absent; Wellen-aye; Wise-aye; Woods-aye; Zurliene-absent. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Ellis, seconded by Hunt to appoint Dale Woods as the 2025-2026 WOVSED Governing Board Chairman. Woods will serve a two-year term (25-26, 26-27).

Roll call indicated: Ackerman-aye; Anselment-aye; Barton-absent; Carlile-aye; Cowsert-aye; Edmison-aye; Ellis-aye; Hocking-aye; Hunt-aye; Jeffords-aye; Jones-aye; McArthy-aye; Nolen-aye;

Richey-absent; Risley-absent; Short-aye; Smith-absent; Wellen-aye; Wise-aye; Woods-abstain; Zurliene-absent. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Ellis, seconded by Hunt to appoint Jamie Jones as the 2025-2026 WOVSED Governing Board Vice Chairman. Jones will serve a two-year term (25-26, 26-27).

Roll call indicated: Ackerman-aye; Anselment-aye; Barton-absent; Carlile-aye; Cowsert-aye; Edmison-aye; Ellis-aye; Hocking-aye; Hunt-aye; Jeffords-aye; Jones-abstain; McArthur-aye; Nolen-aye; Richey-absent; Risley-absent; Short-aye; Smith-absent; Wellen-aye; Wise-aye; Woods-aye; Zurliene-absent. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Ellis, seconded by Hunt to appoint Jen Wellen as the 2025-2026 WOVSED Governing Board Secretary. Wellen will serve a two-year term (25-26, 26-27).

Roll call indicated: Ackerman-aye; Anselment-aye; Barton-absent; Carlile-aye; Cowsert-aye; Edmison-aye; Ellis-aye; Hocking-aye; Hunt-aye; Jeffords-aye; Jones-aye; McArthur-aye; Nolen-aye; Richey-absent; Risley-absent; Short-aye; Smith-absent; Wellen-abstain; Wise-aye; Woods-aye; Zurliene-absent. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Wellen, seconded by Jones that the Consent Agenda Items be approved by the board as follows:

- a. Approve minutes of Governing Board – March 2025
- b. Approval of Policy Updates
 - i. 2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited
 - ii. 7:255 Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence
 - iii. 2:265 Title IX Grievance Procedure
 - iv. 2:130 Board-Director Relationship
 - v. 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure
 - vi. 4:15 Identity Protection
 - vii. 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
 - viii. 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
 - ix. 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
 - x. 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited
 - xi. 7:70 Attendance and Truancy
 - xii. 7:140 Search and Seizure
 - xiii. 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
 - xiv. 7:185 Teen Dating Violence Prohibited
 - xv. 7:190 Student Behavior
 - xvi. 7:250 Student Support Services
 - xvii. 7:270 Administering Medicines to Students
 - xviii. 7:340 Student Records
 - xix. 2:220-E9 Requirements for No Physical Presence of Quorum and Participation by Audio or Video During Disaster Declaration
 - xx. 4:80 Accounting and Audits
 - xxi. 5:60 Expenses
 - xxii. 5:100 Staff Development Program
 - xxiii. 6:235 Access to Electronic Networks
 - xxiv. 7:60 Residence
 - xxv. 8:80 Gifts to the District

- xxvi. 1:10 District Legal Status
 - xxvii. 1:20 District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements
 - xxviii. 1:30 District Philosophy
 - xxix. 2:10 District Governance
 - xxx. 2:140 Communications To and From the Board
 - xxxi. 2:140-E Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use
 - xxxii. 2:240 Board Policy Development
 - xxxiii. 3:30 Chain of Command
 - xxxiv. 4:50 Payment Procedures
 - xxxv. 4:180 Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery
 - xxxvi. 5:35 Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act
 - xxxvii. 5:270 Employment At-Will, Compensation and Assignment
 - xxxviii. 7:90 Release During School Hours
 - xxxix. 7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 - xl. 8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns
- c. Destruction of Executive Session Audio Tapes older than 18 months per provision of Section 2.06© of the Open Meeting Act.

Roll call indicated: Ackerman-aye; Anselment-aye; Barton-absent; Carlile-aye; Cowsert-aye; Edmison-aye; Ellis-aye; Hocking-aye; Hunt-aye; Jeffords-aye; Jones-aye; McArthy-aye; Nolen-aye; Richey-absent; Risley-absent; Short-aye; Smith-absent; Wellen-aye; Wise-aye; Woods-aye; Zurliene-absent. Motion Carried.

There were no items under Public Comments.

Old Business:

None

Under New Business:

Motion made by Hocking, seconded by Anselment to approve the Financial Report. Roll call indicated: Ackerman-aye; Anselment-aye; Barton-absent; Carlile-aye; Cowsert-aye; Edmison-aye; Ellis-aye; Hocking-aye; Hunt-aye; Jeffords-aye; Jones-aye; McArthy-aye; Nolen-aye; Richey-absent; Risley-absent; Short-aye; Smith-absent; Wellen-aye; Wise-aye; Woods-aye; Zurliene-absent. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Edmison, seconded by Anselment to approve the FY 2026 Budget. Roll call indicated: Ackerman-aye; Anselment-aye; Barton-absent; Carlile-aye; Cowsert-aye; Edmison-aye; Ellis-aye; Hocking-aye; Hunt-aye; Jeffords-aye; Jones-aye; McArthy-aye; Nolen-aye; Richey-absent; Risley-absent; Short-aye; Smith-absent; Wellen-aye; Wise-aye; Woods-aye; Zurliene-absent. Motion Carried.

Under Agenda Item “Director’s Report,” Director Monica Girten discussed the following:

- a. WOVSED Facility Updates
- b. Staff & Services Overview

Motion by Jones, seconded by Wellen to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m. Voice vote indicated all ayes; Motion carried.

Board Chairman

Secretary

Minutes from: August 26, 2025

Approval Date: March 24, 2026