

Date: July 21, 2025	Kind of Meeting Regular	Where Held Board Room
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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leon Steury, President

Kelly Brown, Vice President - ABSENT

Sherri Strock, Secretary

Craig Davis, Member

Johnathon Shull, Member

Richard Musser, Member

Ben Steury, Member - ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT:

Ryan Abbott, Superintendent

Nick Beard, Principal

Luke Cooper, Principal

Dawn Mason, Business Manager

Jeff Jones, Press

Lynn Reinhart, Patron

Lauren Hook, Teacher

Sarah Lehrman, Parent

Pearl Slentz, Student

Claire Swygart, Student

Marissa Lehrman, Student

Kileen Shaffer, Student

The Board of School Trustees of the DeKalb County Eastern Community School District met in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., July 21, 2025.

At 7:00 p.m., Leon Steury called the meeting to order.

Minutes from the June 16, 2025, meeting were signed as presented.

Claims were approved and school board members signed the claim docket authorizing the validation of checks.

Mr. Abbott recognized the Eastside FFA chapter was awarded a Gold Rating at the state convention and will advance to the National FFA Convention. Pearl Slentz and Claire Swygart (8th Graders) were 3rd in State (Natural Resources Demo), Marissa Lehrman (8th grader) was 4th in State (Creed Speaking), and Kileen Shaffer (senior) earned her Hoosier Degree.

Matt Schumaker, Director of Stifel Public Finance and Jeff Qualkenbush, Bond Counsel of Barnes and Thornburg, presented information regarding the potential bond and explained the two possible resolutions. After discussion, President Steury opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was given. Craig Davis motioned to approve the two resolutions. The motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Contract verification forms were signed for 15 Administrators (Updated to 220 days); 3 New Teachers; Joseph Haupert Jr, Dana Kranz, and Theresa Eagle; 1 NEISEC New Teacher; Candis Munger.

We have received the following resignations/retirements:

- Lori Fleshman, NEISEC Psychologist, resigned June 30, 2025
- Darcey Demmitt, NEISEC Psychologist, resigned July 1, 2025
- Danielle Pelfrey, NEISEC Paraprofessional, resigned July 24, 2025
- Taevyn Shultz, Eastside Food Service, resigned July 14, 2025
- Carlie Krafft, Riverdale Elementary Nurse, resigned July 15, 2025

Mr. Abbot explained that our district applied for two professional development waiver days from the state and was granted approval. These waiver days will be scheduled for all staff on September 15, 2025 and January 26, 2026. Students will not be in attendance on these days. The waiver was approved for the 2026-2027 school year as well, but we will re-evaluate the effectiveness of these days prior to setting them for the following year.

Graduation Day will remain to be on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend. Graduation will take place on May 24, 2026 and May 30, 2027.

Sherri Strock moved to approve the attached Certified and Non-Certified Staff Handbook. We have completed a thorough revision of the staff handbook with the goal of improving clarity, efficiency, and local relevance. This updated version consolidates the expectations for both certified and non-certified staff into a single, cohesive section to ensure consistency across roles. This motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Abbott announced the Northeast Indiana Special Education Cooperative follows Indiana statute known as the Joint Service Supply Fund Agreement. The current agreement is scheduled for renewal in 2029, but due to cleaning up some language components (removing unneeded transportation language, renaming our superintendent advisory committee group, and removing East Noble who is no longer part of the co-op) it is recommended to approve and sign. Craig Davis moved to approve the NEISEC Joint Service Supply Fund Agreement, and the agreement was signed as presented. This motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

HEA 1002 was amended this year to explicitly allow school corporations to assess and collect a reasonable fee for supplies and materials that are not curricular materials and that supplement the instruction. Each DeKalb Eastern student will pay a \$50 fee. This fee will cover supplies and materials that are not part of curricular material (additional science supplies, art supplies, etc.). Past student fees include \$40 for elementary, \$160 for 7th-9th grade, and \$190 for 10th-12th grade. Sherri Strock moved to approve the Supplies and Materials Fees. This motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Leon Steury signed the attached Form 9 as presented. This is for the prior six-month financials, January through June.

The budget schedule will be as follows:

August meeting – Advertise Budget
September meeting - Budget Hearing
October meeting – Budget Adoption

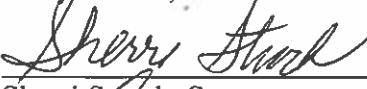
Having no further business to come before the board, Craig Davis moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05. This motion was properly seconded, and the motion carried.


Leon Steury, President


Richard Musser, Member

Kelly Brown, Vice-President

Ben Steury, Member


Sherri Strock, Secretary


Craig Davis, Member


Johnathon Shull, Member