



Northwest Indiana Lighthouse Charter Schools

Minutes

25-26SY NWILCS April Board Meeting

Date and Time

Monday May 4, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Location

NWILCS Admin Building

1755 W 41st St.

Gary, IN 46408

Directors Present

A. Brown Thirston, A. Nicholson, J. GEORGE, J. Parks, S. Caruthers

Directors Absent

A. Briggs, E. Little

Guests Present

D. Jones (remote), J. Beasley, K. McGuire, L. Franklin, R. Mayberry, S. Breitenbach

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Nicholson called a meeting of the board of directors of Northwest Indiana Lighthouse Charter Schools to order on Monday May 4, 2026 at 5:36 PM.

The agenda is amended to move items that need to be voted upon to the top of the agenda.

C. Approve Minutes - March

March meeting minutes are carried over to June's meeting.

II. Finance

A. East Chicago and Gary Financials

See attached financial reports.

The district remains in good standing.

The financial audit is complete, see completed report.

S. Caruthers made a motion to approve financial reports for the Gary campuses.

A. Brown Thirston seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Little Absent

S. Caruthers Aye

A. Nicholson Aye

J. GEORGE Aye

A. Brown Thirston Aye

A. Briggs Absent

S. Caruthers made a motion to approve the financial reports for the East Chicago campuses.

A. Brown Thirston seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Nicholson Aye

S. Caruthers Aye

J. GEORGE Aye

A. Brown Thirston Aye

A. Briggs Absent

E. Little Absent

B. Final Vote: 26-27SY Budget

Remainder of budget presented for approval.

S. Caruthers made a motion to adopt the FY '27 budget as presented.

J. Parks seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Parks Aye
A. Briggs Absent
S. Caruthers Aye
E. Little Absent
J. GEORGE Aye
A. Nicholson Aye

C. Primary Project Update

See attached report.

The Whiteman company is requesting an increase of \$50,000 due to the size of the project. Ongoing discussions regarding the request between the district and Whiteman.

The project is slated to begin in August.

III. Committee Reports

A. Governance

B. Academic Excellence Report

See report from Mrs.McGuire

Mrs. McGuire-

-Graduation rate increased to 92% of senior student population.

-29 million in scholarships received by students.

--High school graduation is May 27

-Upper campus graduation is May 28

IV. NWILCS District Reports

A. District Level Reports

Please see the attached reports.

Mrs. Beasley:

-The District FY "27 calendar is brought back up for discussion. The calendar needs to reflect make-up days per state mandate.

- Wired contract was reviewed for a three-year renewal.

Mrs. Franklin:

- Staff retention is the focus for the remainder of the school year. Hiring staff for the fall is going as needed.

-Facility upgrades are underway.

- CPI training is in place.
- Leadership seminar/ICIC training

Mr. Mayberry:

- Process to maintain student files is underway.
 - enrollment application are still coming in.
 - partnership with Shine Recovery Cafe has come to fruition/ students with substance abuse challenges will be referred.
 - second parent advisory board meeting is being scheduled.
 - 5/22 district family night at the Railcat Stadium.
- S. Caruthers made a motion to approve the three-year contract upon review by the board attorney.
- J. Parks seconded the motion.
- The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Brown Thirston	Aye
A. Briggs	Absent
E. Little	Absent
J. Parks	Aye
A. Nicholson	Aye
S. Caruthers	Aye
J. GEORGE	Aye

V. Closing Items

A. Public Comments

No public comments.

B. Executive Session

C. Adjourn Meeting

S. Caruthers made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A. Brown Thirston seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. Caruthers

Documents used during the meeting

- 2026_03_23_board_meeting_minutes.pdf
- EC Board Report 2025 2026 March .docx.pdf
- March AprilGLCS Primary Campus Board Report-March.docx (1).pdf
- UPPER BOARD REPORT 25 26 - MARCH_APRIL.docx (1).pdf
- GLCP April Board Report-2026.docx.pdf
- 3rd Quarter 2026 Financial Statements.xlsx
- March 2026 Financial Summary.docx
- March 2026 Financial Statements.xlsx
- March_2026_Final Financial_Summary Graphs (2).docx
- FY27NWILCS (FR- BOARD) DRAFT Budget (1).pdf
- NWILCS 2026 - 2027 District Calendar (4).pdf
- NWILCS - Wired Intuition 1 Year (1).pdf
- NWILCS - Wired Intuition - 3 Year (1).pdf
- April SY2526 Operations Board Report .docx.pdf
- April Executive Director Report 25-26.pdf
- April SY2526 EandCR Board Report .docx.pdf