

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NORTH BRANCH EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER  
6655 JEFFERSON, PO BOX 3620  
NORTH BRANCH, MICHIGAN 48461-3620**

The regular meeting of the North Branch Board of Education was held 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 8, 2018 in the board room located in the North Branch Educational Services Center, 6655 Jefferson, North Branch, Michigan.

President Mabery called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call indicated the following Board members present:

Members Present: Cory Mabery, President  
Daniel Deshetsky, Vice President  
Cheryl Howell, Treasurer  
Melissa Schank, Secretary  
Lori Lane, Trustee  
Brenden Miller, Trustee  
Absent: Tom Nellenbach, Trustee

Others Present:	James D. Fish	Superintendent
	Melissa Montgomery	Business Director
	Amber White	Director of Curriculum and Instruction
	Jeff Drayton	Director of Buildings and Grounds
	Mark Hiltunen	High School Principal
	John Sherman	High School Assistant Principal
	Cindy Howe	Middle School/Ruth Fox Principal
	Greg Matheson	Elementary Principal
	Rhoda Lucia	Recording Secretary

Community Members - 20

Moved by Howell, support by Schank the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Howell aye, Nellenbach aye, Schank aye, Mabery aye, Lane aye, Miller aye, Deshetsky aye

6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent - Motion Carried

**Presentations-**

**Kaytlin Newton – FFA** - Mr. Hiltunen thanked Mrs. Hyatt for all of her work with our students through her Ed Tech class and her evening FFA Class. Mrs. Hyatt then introduced Katie Newton. Katie is a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student at North Branch High School. She submitted a 21 page award application for the supervised agricultural experience. As of now she is in the top 3 in the state but on Thursday, January 11 she will have her final interview to see how she places. Good Luck Katie.

**BPA Regional Leadership Conference-** Connie Anderson shared that the BPA club has grown to 33 members. There were 19 competitors that went to Baker College and came home with 13 medals. Claire Lyons, Cole Kinder, Allyson Severance, Luke Rutledge and Olivia Sweeney spoke of their journey this year through the BPA club.

**Comments from the Public** – none

### **Consent Agenda**

Moved by Howell, supported by Schank the Board of Education has received and reviewed information for the consent agenda including the approval of minutes from December 11, 2017, December Accounts Payables in the amount of \$625,454.66, December Food Service Bills in the amount of \$25,168.84, December Financial Report and acknowledge the resignation for retirement of Lori Shaver, High School Media Specialist, Connie Gerwolds, High School Cook, and resignation of Leann Kerr, High School Teacher with regrets and best wishes.

Roll Call Vote: Mabery aye, Howell aye, Lane aye, Schank aye, Deshetsky aye, Miller aye 6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

### **Items for Discussion/Action**

Moved by Lane, supported by Schank the Board of Education adopt the 2018 Board of Education meeting schedule as presented and attached.

Roll Call Vote: Lane aye, Mabery aye, Miller aye, Schank aye, Howell, Deshetsky aye 6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Deshetsky, supported by Schank the Board of Education approve designation Thrun Law Firm for the district's legal counsel, the firm of Taylor, Butterfield, Howell, Churchill, & Garner P.C. of Lapeer for all real estate transactions and other local matters.

Roll Call Vote: Deshetsky aye, Lane aye, Miller aye, Schank aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye 6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Howell, Supported by Lane the Board of Education adopt the following goals for 2017:

1) North Branch Area Schools and the Board of Education will teach, measure, and continuously improve instruction aligned to state standards for increased student achievement and College and Career readiness.

2) North Branch Area Schools and the Board of Education will evaluate and enhance opportunities for students by adopting and executing a budget that prioritizes teaching and learning while improving the district's financial stability.

3) North Branch Area Schools and the Board of Education will validate the importance of every staff member as critical to the success of the district and will maintain partnerships of integrity and trust within the North Branch Community.

Roll Call Vote: Schank aye, Lane aye, Deshetsky aye, Mabery aye, Howell aye, Miller aye 6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent – Motion Carried

Moved by Schank, supported by Miller the Board of Education approve the Senior Class overnight trip to Cedar Point

Roll Call Vote: Mabery aye, Deshetsky aye, Miller aye, Schank aye, Lane aye, Howell aye 6 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent

## **Communications**

### **Principals Report –**

#### **Mr. Matheson, Elementary**

- December was a time to celebrate the season and share the gift of giving
  - Letters to Santa – thanks to Mrs. Soit and Mrs. Sylvester for responding to letters
  - Visit from Santa – thanks to K. Macksoud (A.K.A. Santa)
  - Adoption a Family
  - Donations to Animal Rescue
  - Core Essentials – Generosity
  - Holiday Celebrations
  - Kids Helping Kids – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
  - Strengthen Families began tonight

#### **Mrs. Howe, Ruth Fox/Middle School**

- Christmas Giving
- Attendance Update
- Gaming club

#### **Mr. Hiltunen, Quest**

- Quest Annual Spaghetti Dinner made \$1400 this year and thanks to the Masonic Lodge members help they have made \$19,550
- Quest volunteered for Shop with a Cop and Santa Kyle's visit to the elementary
- 2016 Shayna Rowden – Received her Certification in Diesel Mechanics
- 2017 Randy Jackson – Graduated from Basic Training in the US Army

#### **Mr. Hiltunen, High School**

- Senior Trip to Cedar Point
- OK2SAY/Michigan Cyber Safety Initiative
- BPA brings home 13 gold medals
- Student Directed One Act Plays
- Kaylin Newton – FFA STAR Finalist
- Isabelle Bucholtz – received Award of Appreciation by Michigan Vietnam Veteran's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Committee
- Juniors perform well on PSAT
- Counseling Department is receiving the Cardinal award
- 506 Application have been turned in by HS Students
- STEM Academy – 2 Students passed the test to Enter the Nursing Program and received their "White Coats"

#### **Amber White, Director of Curriculum & Instruction**

- New Technology Infrastructure
- NBE Prysm Interactive Display
- MDE Released Parent Dashboard for School Transparency
- NB Students Meet AED & CPR Requirements – Thank you LeAnn Gwinn for loaning us the equipment
- Holiday Happenings
  - HS Special Education VIP program – 1<sup>st</sup> holiday garage sale
  - MS hosted a Holiday Variety Show

- EL hosted a building-wide Sing-Along with the HS Band Students and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade classroom performers
- Upcoming District Provided Professional Development- January 15

### **Special Education Report –**

- North Branch High School Special Education students participated in a MOTT Community College event.
- North Branch High School Vocational Independence Program (VIP) held a garage sale event at a Friday night basketball game. One purpose of the event was to practice marketing, display products, and manage money appropriately. The money raised in this event (\$300) will be used to purchase supplies to assist in building vocational skills
- A pre vocational class, for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade special education students is being added to the High School Special Education program. It is a partnership between the school, Blue Water Center for Independent Living (BWCIL) and Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS).
- The Community Mentor Program is going strong with 19 student/Mentor pairings. They meet for one hour a day, every week. We still get together as a whole group once a month. The program has expanded this year and includes students in grades 5th-8th.

### **Superintendent Report –**

Mr. Fish, Superintendent – Informed the board of the following:

- January 15 – Community Appreciation Breakfast for Board of Education, Administrators, Teachers, Secretaries and other employees working this day.
- Wifi Update & Room 140 computers, 2 cameras are being installed on each buss – Jeff Drayton
- Staffing Updates
  - Roxanne Boyle will replace Robin Wilkins
  - Billie Dhooghe will replace Roxanne Boyle and continue part time at the Elementary School
  - Shanon Sylvester will move to full time at the elementary school
  - Speech Pathologist – most likely will contract out
  - Barry White retired – Sue Bucholtz will long term sub the rest of this year
  - Lori Shaver retired – will be posting on Tuesday
  - Leanne Kerr resigned – will be posting on Tuesday
  - Connie Gerwolds retired – will be posting on Tuesday
- 3% Healthcare Contributions
- Bus Inspections – Came back very positive with 0 citations
- NB Branding & Imaging update
- News articles
- Community Giving during Christmas
- LCISD Common Calendar
- Lapeer County Community Foundation Letter
- Fitness Center Schedule for January 2018
- CCLC Grant Application for NB Student Learning Center
- Congressional Record honoring veterans in Representative Mitchell's district
- Social Media posting on specials classes at the elementary

- January is School Board Recognition Month – Request to move the BOE meeting on 1/22/18 to the HS Media Center at 7pm. Prior to this meeting the administration will host a BOE appreciation Dinner for each board members and a guest from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Student Council and Bronco Brew students will also help with the dinner.
- Finance Committee Meeting to review 17-18 amended budget – (Feb 6 at 7 am)
- Athletic Update
  - Janel Ruhlman – signing Tuesday, 1/9 at 8:15 am to play volleyball at Sienna Heights
  - Olivia Sweeney – signing Thursday, 1/11 at 8:15 am – to play volleyball at Madonna University
  - Allyson Severance – 2017 MaxPreps Junior All-American Volleyball Team
    - 2017 Thumb player of the year
  - Riley Schlaud – 2017 Co-Thumb soccer player of the year

**Items for Future Discussion/Action**


- a. 2017-2018 Budget Amendment
- b. Curriculum Committee Meeting
- c. Balanced Calendar

**Comments from the Public – none**

**Comments from Board Members – The board members made comments.**

Moved by Schank, support by Howell that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Miller aye, Deshetsky aye, Lane aye, Schank aye, Howell aye, Mabery aye aye, nay, absent – Motion Carried

  
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 Melissa Schank, Secretary