



**NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION - MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Norwood Public School District Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by School Board President, Mrs. Bray.

ATTENDANCE:

President, Mrs. Nichol Bray	PRESENT		
Vice President, Mrs. Regan Snyder	PRESENT	Treasurer, Mrs. Jackie Hardman	PRESENT
Secretary, Mr. Randy Harris	PRESENT	UNBOCES Rep., Mr. Morgan Rummel	PRESENT
Superintendent, Mr. Todd Bittner	PRESENT	Principal, Sam Ryan	PRESENT
Amanda Pierce	PRESENT		

Others: Those in person (not listed above) were asked to sign in on the sign in sheet.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All those present cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ITEMS: None

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Name – None

CELEBRATIONS

Lego Robotics – Mr. Ryan said the coaches did amazing pushing the kids and encouraging their productivity. The kids also did an outstanding job with their presentations. The level of competition at the state level was exponential so our kids did not place but they had great teamwork and productivity on their project. Mrs. Bray also reiterated the wonderful job of the coaches and their dedication to the kids.

Monday Night Community Discussion – School administration felt it was a good meeting, they received valuable feedback from the community, and board members that attended.

STAFF REPORTS

FFA Students – Grace, Mika, Brenna, and Shay presented via slideshow. Mr. Bittner expressed his excitement of them in the community and their representation of the chapter.

CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Approval of November 15, 2023, Minutes
- A. Approval of Kyle Dinsmore as H.S. Head Wrestling Coach for the 23-24 season
- B. Approval of Justin Franklin as H.S. Assistant Wrestling Coach for the 23-24 season
- C. Acceptance of Abby Thompson’s resignation as a Paraprofessional effective December 21, 2023

MOTION: Mr. Rummel motioned to approve Items A, B, C, and D.

a. Mrs. Snyder seconded.

Discussion: Mrs. Bray made a correction to minutes to remove that she received the oath of office by Mr. Morlang due to the fact she was already a board member and did not need a new oath. Ms. Pierce made corrections to Mr. Rummel and Mrs. Hardman as a second.

Mr. Harris asked why Abby Thompson was resigning and Mr. Ryan stated she had medical issues that had caused her to want to focus on that instead of work.

Roll Call Vote: 5 - "Ayes" and 0 - "Nays". Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Report from CASB

- Mr. Bittner said it was a great conference and he would like to go as a team next year. He made some great partnerships with front range schools that will allow for some great resources. Mrs. Bray also reiterated that having other schools that have the same issues or pros and have people to go through stuff with is beneficial to discuss those items and help find solutions. Both Mr. Bittner and Mrs. Bray said it is a lot of fun and a lot of learning. Clint Wytulka was nominated for Rural Superintendent of the Year.

B. Schedule a January 3, 2024, Special Session for Resolution to Certify Norwood School District Mill Levy

- San Miguel County has submitted their numbers but waiting on Montrose County's submission.
- January 10th deadline to submit Mil Certification to the state.
- Special Meeting via Google Meets
- January 3rd at 6pm google meets for special meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of BEST Application and timelines

- Morgan wanted to bring up some concerns about the soil samples. Ken Watt and Monat Ragsdale sent emails to the board regarding some questions and concerns they had. It was also brought up that the Fire Department is also going to be asking for a mil levy and Mr. Rummel is concerned about how asking the community for both would affect our bond. Mr. Rummel is also concerned about the timeline of 18 months for construction, being able to review plans and design. Mr. Bittner and Mrs. Snyder reiterated that the school is not locked in for a design/build project and that a Request for Bids will go out to anyone interested in bidding, the decision will be based on experience and cost.

Mrs. Snyder asked Mr. Bittner to talk more about the waiver request. Now that the school knows how close they were and there were strong concerns from landowners and ranchers, Mr. Bittner said he is planning to file a waiver. Filing for a waiver is an entirely separate process from BEST and they will not know until May 13th about waiver. Overall, the goal is to prioritize education not aesthetics of the building. Mr. Rummel continued to go over his pro and con list that he wanted to bring up, most of the concerns had been addressed in previous meetings but admin would follow up on the ones that had not been addressed yet.

Mrs. Bray asked what next steps need to be taken for the BEST Grant. Mr. Bittner stated they will be working on the rough draft immediately with a final draft ready by the beginning of January.

Mrs. Snyder felt that it was extremely important to discuss how the plans that are being submitted and look at as a community are completely conceptual and not final. The first step is getting the BEST grant and the bond approved and final design will come with time once it is for sure that they have been approved.

Additionally, discussion about the importance of community education and what can be done better with a bond committee.

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Ryan discussed another influx in students including Spanish speaking students. This is exciting but also causes fluctuation in staffing to ensure proper education and communication for all students.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT (WRITTEN REPORT IN PACKET)

UPK continues to be a struggle statewide with the state not providing funds as agreed, multiple school districts suing the governor’s office. Norwood Schools is putting down one-third of a 110k bus, replacing the 45-passenger bus with a 14-passenger bus due to the lack of CDL drivers. The school plans to apply for two electric route buses with grants. The grant is due in August, but the school will start in January writing the grant.

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mrs. Snyder motioned to adjourn.

- a. Mr. Rummel seconded.
- b. **Discussion:** None
- c. **Roll Call Vote:** 5 - “Ayes” and 0 - “Nays”. Motion Carried.

APPROVED

APPROVED AS CORRECTED

DATE APPROVED:

Minutes Taken by Amanda Pierce