

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
New Lothrop Board of Education
Monday, February 12, 2024
6:00 p.m. in the High School Library

Board Members Present: Richard White, Wendy Vincke, Adam Green, Jim Eustace, Tim Birchmeier and Ashley Krupp

Absent: Joe Henige

Others Present: Heather Luznak, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn, Marty Weese and 47 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich White at 6:01 p.m. in the high school library. The pledge to the flag said.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report was read by Adam Green. Motion by Green, supported by Birchmeier to accept the minutes from the special meeting – board workshop held on January 22, 2024.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Correspondence

A correspondence was received from parents questioning snow day policy and the cancelation of practices.

Student Section

Klara Mulcahy was the student council representative.

Presentations/Updates

SnowFest participants (1st place at Zehnder's) – Mrs. Wickerham, Jaedyn Kline, Maryn Kisser, Delaney Gross and Kayla Brunner.

Mrs. Wickerham presented the team that attended SnowFest. The students spent 10-15 hours on a clay model and then in turn did a snow sculpture that matched the clay model. Students learned teamwork from this competition. This snow sculpture took approximately 20 hours.

Hornet Pride Students – January (Participation)

Mr. Severn highlighted 28 students. These students have shown school spirit and went above and beyond. They are the leaders in participation.

Refinancing of the 2014 Refunding Bonds – Bill Roche and Steve DiClaudio

Bill Roche and Steve DiClaudio presented to the board the refinancing of the 2014 bonds and stated that the bond issuance are accounted for in this analysis. Back in October there were no savings. No down side to the refinancing and no cost until we price the bond rating. The group was looking for a general consensus from the board in regards to proceeding. The next opportunity for this would be in 10 years.

Budget Revision

877 students; budgeted for fall count was 913. With a \$92.00 per pupil increase. GSRP increase, new teachers and lower rates and benefits, CTE and transportation. The district currently has 7 grants currently open. The district is being very cautious moving forward,

ESSER funding and other grants will be ending in future years. 12.62 fund balance once ESSER and bus leases are taken into account.

Committee Reports

Finance – met on February 12th. Public comment included support of electrical program. Discussed removing tuition enrollment. Electrical program was discussed by doing under CTE and will be starting paperwork. Bond refinancing was presented.

Committee Assignments were discussed.

Visitors

None

Financial Reports

Jim Eustace read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$807,159.80; school service, \$47,995.08; for a total of \$855,154.88.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried, 6-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$963,752.29; receipts, \$1,160,435.31; expenditures: \$855,154.88; for an ending balance of \$1,269,032.72.

Motion by Green, supported by Birchmeier to accept the monthly financial report as submitted.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Action Items

Motion by Eustace, supported by Birchmeier to approve the February 2024 budget revision.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Vincke to approve the resignation of Raegan Genovesi, 4th grade teacher effective February 2, 2024.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Green to approve the resignation of Amy Morgan, one-on-one aide, effective March 22, 2024.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Green to approve Heather Colon, part-time evening custodian effective January 9, 2024.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Birchmeier to approve David Baldwin, Junior High Baseball coach, as a contracted employee of PCMI, effective April 2, 2024.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Birchmeier to approve Chad Johnson, Junior High Baseball coach, as a contracted employee of PCMI, effective April 2, 2024.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Krupp to approve Courtney Krupp, Varsity Assistant Track coach, as a contracted employee of PCMI, effective March 11, 2024.

Motion carried, 5-0.

Vincke, abstained

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Vincke to approve the Online, Dual Enrollment and Regional CTE Classes waiver roster for second semester as presented.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Green to approve that the district does not participate in the Tuition enrollment program beginning with the 2024-2025 school year for grades 7th – 12th.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to approve a district wide cell phone ban during the school day beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Birchmeier to approves changing the Neola Policies compliance officer from Anthony Berthiaume to Dr. Heather Luznak in the following policies: 1422, 1623, 1662, 2260, 2266, 2260.01, 5517, 3122, 3123, 3362, 4122, 4123, 4362 as presented.

Motion carried, 6-0.

District Updates

Elementary – Drew Severn

Mr. Severn reported that Parent Teacher Conferences are this Thursday. Mr. Severn gave a handout to show fall and winter data to the Borad and used Acadience and I-Ready as tools of measuring and to look at Tier 1 as a class as a whole. The elementary is preparing for the upcoming M-Step. The Daddy Daughter dance was a huge success last weekend. The book fair is set for February 26 – March 1. Family Literacy Night is set for February 29th.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar stated that the staff embraced the virtual Professional Development Day and all staff touched base with Ms. Kuchar. The High School had a Vape Education presentation in January and they spoke with 5th – 10th graders. The High School teamed with kindergarten teachers for animals in regards to their farming unit. Course requests for 2024-2025 are complete and the master schedule will be worked on. Snowcoming was a great success last weekend with around 190 students. We have 33 students that will be attending the FFA state finals at Michigan State University at the end of this month. Bob Erdman donated a kiln to the art department. NLHS alumni: 2023 Cody and Caleb Symons were awarded the Conservation award.

Athletics – Marty Weese

Mr. Weese stated that Sara Dammann received the MHSAA Scholar Athlete award. Varsity wrestling team won team Districts last week. We have 9 individual wrestlers going on to Regionals this weekend.

District – Dr. Heather Luznak

Dr. Luznak stated that on April 17th a career fair for seniors with the RESD. Parent Teacher conferences are this week. The Professional Development Day this Friday will include a session on AI. FFA was amazing to attend last week. For next school year, Kindergarteners will need an oral exam. Working with Delta on providing services which entails getting a certificate that is has been completed. Shiawassee Scholars will use the PSAT scores starting next year. This will give kids an equitable chance.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to adjourn.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Adjournment at 6:57 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, March 18, 2024 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary