

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education – High School Library
Monday, January 8, 2024
6:00 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Heather Luznak, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn and 23 visitors.

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

Statutory Topics for Board Consideration/Organization Action

Nomination of Rich White for President by Adam Green.

Motion by Green, supported by Eustace to close nominations and that a ballot be cast for Rich White as President.

Motion carried 7-0.

Nomination of Wendy Vincke for Vice President by Joe Henige.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to close nominations and that a ballot be cast for Wendy Vincke as Vice President.

Motion carried 7-0.

Nomination of Adam Green for Secretary by Wendy Vincke.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Eustace to close nominations and that a ballot be cast for Adam Green as Secretary.

Motion carried 7-0.

Nomination of Jim Eustace for Treasurer by Joe Henige.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Krupp to close nominations and that a ballot be cast for Jim Eustace as Treasurer.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to appoint Adam Green as liaison from the Board to the MASB.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Vincke to appoint Joe Henige as liaison from the Board to the Shiawassee RESD.

Motion carried 7-0.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report was read by Adam Green. Motion by Green, supported by Eustace to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting dated December 11, 2023 as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Correspondence

None

Student Section

Student council representative for tonight was Klara Mulcahy and Bryce Kuchar.

Staff Recognition

School Board Recognition – January is School Board Recognition month. Ms. Kuchar and Mr. Severn presented the Board of Education members a gift from their staff and thanked them for all they do. Dr. Luznak also presented the Board members a token of appreciation and thanked them for their support and all the time they volunteer to the district.

Presentations/Updates

Robotics Students – Jane Devota

Mrs. Devota and students from her First Lego League, First Tech Challenge and First Robotics attended the meeting. Ms. Devota stated that her 6th grade team “Kingdom of Koders” competed on Saturday, December 9th at the State competition in Mason, MI. Students walked away with a Second Place Design Award and placed 4th overall in the robot portion of the competition. The 5th grade team competed a week earlier in Freeland and just missed qualifying for States.

Neola First Reading – Dr. Heather Luznak

Dr. Luznak read a brief description of each policy that was included in the Neola Special Update. The board will approve to waive the 2nd reading of the policies tonight and adopt all the polcies.

Committee Reports

Policy – Wendy Vincke reported the minutes from January 4th.

Facilities – Adam Green reported the minutes from January 8th.

Board Discussion

New Committee Assignments – President Rich White noted that each member received a list of the current committee assignments, if anyone wishes to be placed on a different committee you are to contact Rich and let him know. At the February board meeting we will have a complete listing of the committee assignments.

Visitors

None

Financial Reports

Jim Eustace read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$833,453.68; school service \$46,839.23; for a total of \$880,292.91.

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

Motion carried 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$798,938.83; receipts, \$1,045,106.37; expenditures: \$880,292.91; for an ending balance of \$963,752.29.

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

Motion carried 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Green, supported by Eustace to approve the hire of Courtney Jordan, Junior High English teacher at MA + 10, Step 9.5, effective January 3, 2024.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Henige to approve the hire of Cassandra Pajtas, Title I/At-Risk Teacher at MA, Step 6.5, effective January 8, 2024.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Birchmeier to approve the lease of 4 buses at a cost not to exceed \$30,026.00 per bus, per year from Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc. for three years as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to waive the 2nd reading of the Neola policies Special Update.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to approve the approve the 2nd reading of the Neola Special Update policies: 0122, 1420, 3120, 3130, 3131, 3132, 3139, 3140, 3142, 3220.

Motion carried 7-0.

District Updates

Elementary – Andrew Severn

Mr. Severn stated that the Daddy Daughter Dance is on February 3rd, Candy Bar Bingo is February 1st. Bridges Intervention training will take place in January. We have two student teachers in the building and two student observers. We will begin recognizing Hornet PRIDE students of the month at future board meetings. Mr. Severn stated that each board member had a School Index update in front of them for review. In ending, Mr. Severn thanked the board for all their hard work and dedication that each board member gives the district. Your efforts do not go unnoticed and how glad we are you are on our team.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar reported that last year at this time compared to this year our attendance, discipline referrals and failures are all looking a lot better. Discipline is down 20% and every senior is on track to graduate. Students in grade 5-12 will be educated with the dangers of vaping this month with a presentation from Catholic Charities and School Nurse, Sam Krupp. Parents have the option to opt their student out of the presentation, if they wish to do so. FFA leadership contests begin this month. We have over 60 students participating in the contest. Districts will take place in Lapeer Tech Center and Regionals at Webberville High School. Mr. Butcher is advising two crop management teams this year. We have a student teacher in the JH/High School with our History teachers. Ms. Courtney Jordan started in the JH English position last week. Ms. Kuchar stated that each board member will see a school index in front of them, this is the best once since Covid. Lily Bruff is the Tri-County Citizen student of the month. The High School is starting to highlight a Senior and Staff member Spotlight. Happy Board Appreciation month. Thanks for your selfless service to our students and District.

Athletics – Marty Weese

Ms. Kuchar reported the Athletics report. Leo Bauman is the Tri-County Citizen athlete of the month. Congrats to Ashtin Andres as he is the MMAC's conference representative for Kiwanis Athlete of the Month for December. The New Lothrop Hall of Fame Tournament was held this past weekend. New Lothrop Statisticians that have helped over the years were honored. Inducted into the New Lothrop Wrestling Hall of Fame was Justin Krupp. Friday night's event saw over 250 wrestlers which was a JV tournament and Varsity Girls tournament. Saturday over 21 Varsity boys teams competed. Upcoming

events include hosting Wrestling team districts in February. We have a few open positions : HS Varsity Track Assistant and two JH Baseball coaching positions (recommendation for both in February).

District – Dr. Heather Luznak

Dr. Luznak mentioned that it was great to see was a great success the Wrestling Tournament was over the weekend. All positions in the district are officially staffed. The district has currently been doing a lot with social media as well is working on redesigning our website. Dr. Luznak gave a shout out to Denny and mark for putting in so many hours over the holiday break.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to adjourn.

Motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment at 6:43 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be February 12, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Library.

Adam Green, Board Secretary