

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, September 18, 2023

6:00 p.m. in the High School Library

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Wayne Wright, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn and 7 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 Henige to accept the minutes from the special board meeting held on September 6, 2023.

Motion carried, 7-0

Correspondence

Jim Eustace stated that he received a phone call wondering if the flower beds could be cleaned out by the Auditorium doors.

Rich White stated that all board members received an email about the Easton Road congestion.

Student Section

None

Presentations/Updates

None

Committee Reports

Facilities – Adam Green reported minutes from August 21.

Finance – Jim Eustace reported minutes from September 5 and 12.

Visitors

Sue Krupp addressed the Board stating that she has a daughter that is a Junior and she's here tonight to talk about the athletic code of conduct and especially the attendance. Last Wednesday morning her daughter was late to school because she had an appointment, she sent her to school with a note. Her daughter was notified by the AD that she would not be able to practice as parent notes are no longer acceptable. Also, her daughter was very upset as she was getting ready and part of her strap was showing. She told her mom it's not acceptable. If their shirt under their sweatshirt is approve suspicious, they are asked to unzip and show the shirt underneath. Sue stated that the information she is getting as a parent and the information her child is getting is not the same. If their shirt under their hoodie is not acceptable then Ms. Kuchar is telling them. This is not appropriate to be telling a 16 year old girl. And as far as being late to school, accidents happen students are also bringing siblings to school with them. My daughter spends over 70 hours here at school last week. Sports are a privilege and you earn your spot and these kids don't deserve to be treated like this. So hopefully we can move forward.

Barb Orr stated that she's here tonight to talk about the same things Sue mentioned. She has a daughter with a lot of anxiety as well because what if there is a car issue or the tardiness is due to weather related. Or they don't feel well for an hour. You expect these three sport athletes to not miss an hour. Mental

health is an issue. Your expectations are unrealistic sometimes. As a parent don't we have the right to make these decisions.

Financial Reports

Jim Eustace read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$858,051.74; school service, \$55,488.50; for a total of \$913,540.24.

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

Motion carried, 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$1,797,177.59; receipts, \$775,702.70; expenditures: \$913,540.24; for an ending balance of \$1,659,340.05.

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

Motion carried, 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the hire of Kim Bowns, high school one-on-one aide, effective August 28, 2023 to be reimbursed by the SRES.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Birchmeier to approve the hire of Samantha Irwin, elementary one-on-one aide, effective August 28, 2023 to be reimbursed by the SRES.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Krupp to approve Sue Peck, full-time evening custodian effective September 1, 2023.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Vincke to approve Jessica Kilburn, part-time evening custodian, effective September 6, 2023.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to approve a 3 year contract with Heather Thompson-Luznak, Superintendent of New Lothrop Area Public Schools, effective October 16, 2023 – June 30, 2026, contingent upon a successful background check.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to approve Joanna Czymbor, as the National Honor Society – Schedule B appointment for the 2023-2024 school year as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Vincke to approve the Online, Dual Enrollment and Independent Study Roster for the first semester as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to approve the Edgenuity course list for the 2023-2024 school year as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Henige to approve the High School course catalog for the 2023-2024 school year as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Eustace to approve a 2.50% salary increase for the 2023-2024 school year to the salaried administrative and central office employees and a 1.25% for those in their first year on schedule, retro July 1, 2023 as presented.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Green abstained

Motion by Vincke, supported by Henige to approve a wage increase for the hourly employees under the central office contract as presented for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

District Updates

Athletics – Marty Weese

Ms. Kuchar reported for athletics stating the JV Volleyball hosted their tournament this past weekend, going undefeated in their pool play before eventually falling in the semifinals to the tournament champion. A huge thank you to coach Severn and Coach Osborn for a very organized volleyball tournament. Upcoming events include: Homecoming Football vs. Lakeville this Friday, Varsity Volleyball tournament on October 7th and hosting: MHSAA Division 3 Volleyball Quarterfinals on November 14th.

Elementary – Drew Severn

Mr. Severn stated that the elementary is still looking for a 1st grade teacher and Special Education/At-Risk teacher. The elementary is looking for teacher subs and sub aides. We have two student teachers at the elementary who are with U of M Flint – Teacher Cadet Partnership. Acadience and i-Ready assessments will be finalized by the end of this week. Special Education numbers are very high and we are carefully observing student needs. The first MTSS meeting is on October 6th at the RESD. Lockdown drills were successfully completed last week and the elementary is looking forward to Halloween parties coming up on October 31. The elementary will once again host the parade outside. The pilot of CKLA pilot is off and running and the next collaboration meeting is October 25th.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar stated that currently the high school is at 408 students. We are reposting the 7-12 English position. It's been a great start to the school year. This week kicks off homecoming spirit week and the theme is Road Trip. Powderpuff takes place on Wednesday and all proceeds will be donated to *I Cancer Vice* at Fringe Salon in Lennon and the *Kiefer Foundation* to end distracted driving. The parade will take place on Friday with Mr. Craig Adkins being the grand marshal. And finally, the dance will take place on Saturday. PSAT testing will take place on October 9th and all teachers will be trained as proctors this Wednesday at the staff meeting. First Robotics club has several students involved at the high school, junior high and the elementary level. We received the news that our club received a \$1,000.00 grant from Autodesk which is a CAD software company. The money will be used to purchase parts. Our FFA chapter received a 5 star rating in the nation out of 9,163 FFA Chapters nationwide. Only 334 chapters received this 3 star rating and New Lothrop was one of them. Lexy Andres is a Junior competing in the National FFA Agri-science Fair. After completing her study on the electrocution of tomato plants, she won the state competition last March and advanced onto the National level. Last week, Lexy presented to AgroLiquid and received some valuable feedback that prepared her for last Thursday's competition. She completed against over 31 other students in her division on a zoom call with national judges and she will find out in November at the National FFA Convention and Expo how she placed. Senior, Sara Dammann will compete against several students as well when she performs at the National Convention. Sara is also a National Merit scholarship semifinalist. The scholarship recognized high academic achievement based on GPA and SAT scores. Lastly, Klara Mulcahy received a \$500 grant from National Agriculture to be used in the classroom. Klara will be forming an elementary after school program for student K-5. Students will meet monthly after school and themed activities will be taught. Mrs. Andres and Mr. Butcher are the Ag advisors helping oversee this afterschool program.

District - Wayne Wright

Mr. Wright reported that student count day is Wednesday, October 4th. Currently we are at 913 students which include 5th year students. We will only receive about 15% funding for those 5th year students. As each building turns in their counts, they have been very stable. Mr. Wright stated the district has been awarded more Juul money and at the October board meeting the resolution will be accepted. Soon the district will be sending out RFP's for a new water heater and the roofs at the buildings. The Facilities committee will meet next week to have more of a discussion on the roofs. The district has Sinking Fund money that can be used and if the RFP goes out now the cost may be cheaper than it would be this summer.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to adjourn.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Adjournment at 6:50 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be a board workshop on Monday, October 16, 2023 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary