

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, June 19, 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: Anthony Berthiaume, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn and 6 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Richard White at 6:00 p.m. The pledge to the flag was said.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report was read by Adam Green. Motion by Green, supported by Vincke to accept the minutes from the special board meeting held on June 15, 2023 as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Correspondence

The board received a thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement from the Diana Dunn family.

Adam Green received an email from a parent that their complaint has not been fully fulfilled.

Tim Birchmeier received a complaint from a parent with the Assistant Softball coach and he will talk with Anthony on this.

Presentations/Updates

Report of Bullying Incidents for the 2022-2023 school year – Principals

Mr. Severn reported that the elementary had four official bullying incidents reported for the 2022-2023 school year.

Ms. Kuchar reported that the high school had one official bullying incident reported for the 2022-2023 school year.

Budget Hearing

Superintendent Anthony Berthiaume presented the final 2022-2023 budget revisions.

2022-2023 final revision

Superintendent Berthiaume reviewed areas of revenue and expenditures throughout the year. The district ended the year with the fund equity at 12.35%.

Committee Reports

Personnel/Curriculum – Jim Eustace presented the Personnel/Curriculum committee meeting minutes from June 6th.

Facility – Adam Green presented the Facility committee meeting minutes from June 14th.

Finance – Jim Eustace presented the Finance committee meeting minutes from June 14th.

Visitors

Brian Bendixen stated that he moved here a year ago in August and has been pleasantly surprised. Topic of communication during the Sinking Fund, the communication from the school was wonderful. The problem is that it shows your ability to communicate and then don't. He didn't know of the

curriculum meeting a few weeks ago with a large group of us in attendance. The school shouldn't pick and choose when to communicate.

Financial Reports

Jim Eustace read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: general fund \$1,114,416.15; school service \$53,774.38; for a total of \$1,168,190.53.

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

Motion carried 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance \$1,383,503.38; receipts \$1,200,457.51; expenditures \$1,168,190.53; for an ending balance of \$1,415,770.36.

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

Motion carried 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Eustace, supported by Birchmeier to accept the final amended budget, including general fund, capital projects, food service, debt retirement and special revenue accounts for the 2022-2023 school year as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to accept the initial projected budget, including general fund, capital projects, food service, debt retirement and special revenue accounts for the 2023-2024 school year as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Henige to approve the resignation of Dominic Poletti, Assistant Cross Country coach, effective May 12, 2023.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to approve the resignation of Bridget Adkins, English Teacher, effective August 31, 2023.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Eustace to accept the 30-day notice of resignation from Anthony Berthiaume dated June 12, 2023.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Birchmeier to approve the resignation of Misty Thiel, part-time Preschool teacher, effective June 14, 2023.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Henige to approve the hire of Casadi Smith as the Preschool/Latchkey Director effective June 20, 2023 as a contracted employee of PCMI.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Vincke to approve Laura Andres, Instructional Aide for high school summer school effective June 13, 2023.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to approve Ashley Zervan, extended school year teacher, effective June 12, 2023 – August 11, 2023.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Birchmeier to approve Tom Kohlmann, 7th grade girls basketball coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to approve Ashley Zervan, Assistant Cross Country Coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion failed 1-6.

Roll call:

Ayes: White

Nays: Krupp, Green, Henige, Vincke, Eustace, Birchmeier

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to approve the following as elementary summer enrichment program teachers for the summer of 2023: DeeDee Brunet (Special Education), Mary Webster (Kindergarten).

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Birchmeier to approve Leandra Birchmeier and Carrie Bennett as summer Latchkey aides.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Eustace to approve Wayne Wright, Interim Superintendent, effective July 5, 2023.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Vincke to adopt the MHSAA resolution for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to approve all administrative and non-instructional administrative contracts for the 2023-2024 school year, effectively July 1, 2023 as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

Green abstained

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to approve the purchase of i-Ready, K-8 Diagnostic Tool for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost not to exceed \$20,763.50, as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Krupp to participation in the Schools of Choice program under Section 105 and 105c of the Revised School Code for the 2023-2024 school year except for 3rd grade which will be capped and limited openings in Developmental Kindergarten, Kindergarten and 5th grade for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Green to approve the crack seal coating bid from Asphalt Management, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$8,483.00 to be paid out of the 2022-2023 capital projects.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the purchase of Social Studies Curriculum from McGraw Hill with \$32,602.50 to be paid from ESSER II funding and the remaining amount of \$13,837.70 to be paid from the 2022-2023 general fund.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to approve the pilot of CKLA English Curriculum from Amplify in the amount not to exceed \$15,767.72 to be paid out of the 2023-2024 general fund.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Eustace to approve the board meeting dates scheduled on the third Monday of each month with the exception of December 2023, January 2024 and February 2024 meetings as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

District Updates

Athletics – Marty Weese

Dr. Berthiaume reported for Mr. Weese. Varsity Softball earned academic All State for the 2023 season and they won the district championship. We had several students compete at the MHSAA Division 3 State Track meet. New Lothrop hosted Softball Regionals on June 10th. A huge thank you to Denny Ruddy as the softball fields looked great and the repairs made to the stairs were appreciated. Several youth camps took place last week: girls basketball, youth football and youth wrestling. Boys basketball camp will take place on July 10-12 and Cross Country camp on July 24-25.

Elementary – Andrew Severn

Mr. Severn reported that for the 2023-2024 school year we will be recommending capping 3rd grade and limited spacing for DK, Kindergarten and 5th grade. The elementary is working on finalizing the Fall Professional Development agenda. The elementary is in the process of posting and interviewing for the following positions: elementary teacher, part-time Preschool teacher, DK/K Instructional Aide, 5/6 grade Math teacher and the part-time Office Manager. iReady Summer learning blitz is underway. Thus far, we have 54 students that have confirmed they will be attending the elementary Summer Enrichment program. Mr. Severn stated as we wrap up the school year, we need time to break down the data further and reflect on what the needs are of our students and staff. Thank to all who filled out the perception surveys to help guide the process. Also, thanks to the Board of Education for supporting our students and staff in their needs.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar reported that Senior week was a huge success. The underclassmen awards ceremony took place on the last full day of school. Ms. Kuchar gave some FFA summer updates: home visits for the hogs/sheep will be taking place, students will be attending the Tigers game based on the awards system, a group of three students will be attending Michigan State University participating for Challenge 24. Thanks to Mr. Butcher for all his guidance to these students. Report cards will be mailed out this week. The scheduling process has started. Ms. Kuchar stated that she met with Kelly Knieper and Joe Henige from St. Michael's church talking about reestablishing Catholic religion for the Junior High students. Fall Professional Development day agenda has been finalized. Ms. Kuchar thanked Dr. Berthiaume for all his time here at New Lothrop.

District – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume mentioned that from the Facilities meeting he will be submitting the paperwork to the state for the Night Lock. As of now, it will tentatively be coming together in early August for July approval on the board agenda. We will be looking at interior film as well. We had the Public Complaint

Book review committee prior to tonight's meeting and the committee recommended keeping the novel "The Giver" in our curriculum here at New Lothrop. Dr. Berthiaume thanked the anonymous donor who has been giving gift cards to those families in need. Thank you to the staff, parents, community and board. This has been a hard decision for me, this next step is a career advancement and without Rich White I wouldn't be where I'm at today. On an ending note Dr. Berthiaume wanted to give the Board of Education some advice: let this next person grow into this position. This person has to learn and do their job. Am I ready for my next position, well I better be. Thanks for the support you've given. Team – I can't stress a board workshop with Administration as a team.

Closed Session

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to enter closed session for negotiations.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Henige to return to open session.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Birchmeier to adjourn.

Motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment at 8:46 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, June 26, 2023 in the High School Library at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary