

# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education  
Monday, December 12, 2022  
6:00 p.m. in the High School Library

Board Members Present: Richard White, Adam Green, Jessica Unangst, Joe Henige, Jim Eustace and Wendy Vincke.

Absent: Greg Ruddy

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn, Kevin Murphy and 13 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich 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 regular board meeting dated November 14, 2022 as presented.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

## **Correspondence**

Thank you from the Bruce Cook Family for the beautiful flowers honoring Bruce.

Wendy Vincke received a couple concerns on the 6<sup>th</sup> grade English Language Arts curriculum that was being highlighted.

## **Student Section**

Klara Mulcahy was the student council representative for this meeting.

## **Presentations/Updates**

*Hornet 15 Students of the Semester – Kim Kuchar*

Ms. Kuchar recognized the Hornet 15 Students of the Semester. Junior high student was Keagan Green, 8<sup>th</sup> grader and high school student was Rachel Black, 12<sup>th</sup> grader.

*Robotics – Jane Devota*

Mrs. Devota highlighted the robot that the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders competed with last weekend. She stated this is her fourth year partaking in Robotics. This program is funded through grants. Also, this year the program was opened up to elementary students. They ended the season with 27 elementary participants.

*Recognize Board of Education Members & Athletic Director*

Dr. Berthiaume recognized Mr. Kevin Murphy for his 2.5 years of service to New Lothrop Schools. Also Dr. Berthiaume recognized Jessica Unangst for her 8 years of service to the Board of Education and Greg Ruddy for his 12 years of service.

*Budget Revision*

Dr. Berthiaume presented the budget revision for December. As of today, the district is at 13% fund equity.

## **Committee Reports**

Finance Committee minutes from December 6, 2022 were reported by Jim Eustace.

## Visitors

None

## Financial Reports

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: general fund \$828,517.06; school service \$44,806.27; for a total of \$873,323.33.

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance \$722,255.72; receipts \$1,037,024.62; expenditures \$873,323.33; for an ending balance of \$885,957.01.

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

## Action Items

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the December 2022 budget revision as presented.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve the hire of Justin Skinner, varsity cross country coach, effective November 21, 2022.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve the hire of Marque Wenzlick, junior high cross country coach, effective November 21, 2022 as a contracted employee of PCMI, contingent upon a successful background check.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Motion by Eustace, supported by Unangst to approve the hire of Adam Johnson, varsity baseball coach, effective November 30, 2022.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the hire of Suzanne Peck, part-time custodian, effective December 1, 2022.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to approve the hire of Kortney Bishop, food service worker, effective December 5, 2022.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Motion by Green, supported by Vincke to approve participation in the Schools of Choice program under Section 105 and 105c of the Revised School Code for the second semester of the 2022-2023 school year except for 5th, 8th and 9th grades which will be capped and limited openings in 2nd, 4th, 7th, 10th, 11th, 12th for the 2022-2023 school year.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

## District Updates

*Athletics – Kevin Murphy*

Mr. Murphy mentioned that winter sports are up and running. His goal is to finish up and have no loose ends before he retires. Mr. Murphy gave a couple shout outs to the boosters who recently have distributed \$11,000.00 to winter sports. The district had eight big donors that gave to the turf.

Installation of the turf should take place within the next month. In closing, Mr. Murphy stated that with over 25 years in education, he has attended over 500 board meetings. He appreciated everyone and all the Board of Education members.

*Elementary – Andrew Severn*

Mr. Severn reported that the second Acadience/i-Ready window of the school year is open. Testing for i-Ready will begin on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Classroom Christmas parties will take place on Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and the staff/students basketball game will take place on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Severn went around to every classroom to meet with each teacher on their goals. New teachers will be observed by the end of this week and learning walks have been in full force. Mrs. Megan Roggow, preschool teacher and Paige Brown, student have been recognized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program through Michigan Works. The MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) team will meet on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> to complete the MTFI (Math Tiered Fidelity report). Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and staff raised over \$12,000 this year to purchase clothing and gifts for families in need within our community. A big thanks to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers for making this experience happen for our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. After school tutoring will take place at the elementary on Mondays and Wednesdays with Ms. Zervan and on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Mrs. Pattee. Mr. Severn wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

*High School – Kim Kuchar*

Ms. Kuchar reported that she had three new students in the district. Our quiz bowl team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Division 1 and 8<sup>th</sup> overall out of 18 teams. This week we celebrated FFA (Future Farmers of America) students who earned their Greenhand and Chapter degrees. The New Lothrop VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) Patriot's Pen winner was Brooklyn Bowns and Ty Kohlmann was the Voice of Democracy winner. Ms. Kuchar mentioned that the high school helped 15 families with the holiday giving tree. The blood drive took place last week and we had 28 donors all together. Last Friday, we had seven therapy dogs that came into the district to help ease the students minds with exams coming up. The dog owners were really impressed with our students. Several activities are taking place before the holiday break begins, some of those include dress up days, exam care packages and posting good luck motivational message on student lockers. The NLHS Alumni spotlight this month is Tate Steinborn. Tate is in his senior year at Kettering University. Currently, he is taking on a project as an actuator, working behind the scenes on vehicles to convert energy into a physical action or force.

*District – Anthony Berthiaume*

Dr. Berthiaume mentioned that he wanted to echo what Mr. Severn said about the Granting Christmas Wishes program. A lot happens within the classroom, also this is the time to give back. We had high school students rake leaves in town this fall, those events are giving kids the experience to give back. The district recently conducted interviews for the Assistant Principal/Athletic Director position. Final interviews will take place this week. The grandparents luncheon was a huge success, with over 630 grandparents in attendance. As the ELA (English Language Arts) curriculum was brought up, the district will be researching K-6 ELA curriculum as well as K-12 social studies curriculum. The staff luncheon will take place on December 20<sup>th</sup> from 12:15-1:00 p.m., if board members are able to attend all are welcome. Dr. Berthiaume wished everyone a Merry Christmas, enjoy the time with your family.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to adjourn.

**Motion carried 6-0.**

Adjournment at 6:55 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, January 9, 2023 in the high school library at 6:00 p.m.

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Adam Green, Board Secretary