

# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, April 18, 2022

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

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn, Kevin Murphy and 7 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich White at 6:02 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 March 21, 2022 as presented.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

## **Correspondence**

Adam Green, Joe Henige, Wendy Vincke, Greg Ruddy and Jim Eustace all received calls from a concerned parent regarding the softball program.

## **Student Section**

None

## **Student Observers**

None

## **Presentations/Updates**

None

## **Committee Reports**

None

## **Visitors**

Elaine Dammann addressed the Board of Education that she is a parent of a varsity softball player and she's become aware of rumors regarding a softball coach. She is not sure how true these are and stated that this coach holds the kids accountable and demands their best

## **Financial Reports**

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: general fund \$903,680.78; school service \$47,348.33; for a total of \$951,029.11.

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

**Motion carried 7-0.**

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance \$1,192,060.24; receipts \$1,020,850.41; expenditures \$951,029.11; for an ending balance of \$1,261,881.54.

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

**Motion carried 7-0.**

### **Action Items**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the resignation of Ryan Marshall, elementary special education teacher effective April 3, 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve the resignation of Tara Shorey, part-time Preschool lead teacher, effective April 7, 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to approve the resignation of Emily Moore, elementary one-on-one aide effective April 15, 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Unangst to approve the retirement of Ellen Kasik, elementary teacher, effective June 30, 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve Melissa Jacobs and Jane Devota for the Math pilot credit recovery teaching position March – May 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the hire of Bridget Adkins, junior high track head coach, effective April 4, 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Green, supported by Henige to approve the hire of Clint Galvas, 7<sup>th</sup> grade baseball coach, effective April 4, 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Ruddy to approve the hire of Nate Browning, junior high track assistant coach, effective April 11, 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve the resolution calling a special election of the school electors of the district be called and held on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, as presented.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

### **District Updates**

#### *Athletics – Kevin Murphy*

Mr. Murphy explained how he covers the evaluation process for coaches and that surveys are sent out to parents. The baseball fields are all ready to go. With the spring weather the athletic department is modifying schedules daily. A lot of MMAC league schools do not have both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade baseball and softball teams, so we are seeing those districts combine grades for one team. Mr. Murphy has been meeting weekly with the transportation department on providing, for the most part, two-way transportation for spring athletes.

#### *Elementary – Andrew Severn*

Mr. Severn reported that the third window of i-Ready data opens on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Special education, at-risk and Title I all met to discuss current 504/IEP's, at-risk and title numbers. The group started to plan for the 2022-2023 school year with current students. The preschool open house took place last Thursday. It was nice to see all the future New Lothrop Hornets walking in our building. The M-Step is rolling. With the current plan in place we are able to provide for our virtual students during test

dates by grade level. Mr. Severn reported that we are trying to close the gap with particular grade levels due to the Covid shutdown and he still is recommending that we shift staff for the 2022-2023 school year. This will help us add a section for 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Severn is also recommending to keep our At-Risk Intervention Teacher for next school year. The elementary will have a summer learning option for all K-6 students through our i-Ready platform. The i-Ready summer learning platform will be student led with two staff monitoring and answering questions weekly. In addition, the elementary will look at this for any student who is recommended by their teacher who is being considered for retention. The three-week enrichment program will focus on foundational skills in reading, writing and math. The program focus will be K-5 students.

#### *High School – Kim Kuchar*

Ms. Kuchar mentioned that all juniors showed up on the day of PSAT/SAT testing and only a few students were absent in grades 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade. The M-Step science and social studies will take place this week and make up testing the following week. We will be offering junior high students next year some different rotations/exploratory classes including: media exploration, life skills, speech, health & wellness and introduction to stem. The incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be divided into three sections, instead of 32 in a class. The student code of conduct and handbook has been overhauled and will be presented to the board policy committee next month. Several upcoming events will take place over the next month: top ten luncheon, Shiawassee scholar night, FFA spring skills contest, FFA banquet/awards ceremony, CTE luncheon, National Honor Society induction, New Lothrop Showcase, prom, MITES competition, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Mackinac trip and 8<sup>th</sup> graders to Lansing Lugnuts game. The seniors are winding down with only 22 days left. Ms. Kuchar stated that the group had a great time at Dave & Busters, cap and gowns have been handed out, Baccalaureate is planned for May 12<sup>th</sup> as well as honors night, senior sunrise celebration will take place on May 17<sup>th</sup> and graduation will take place on May 22 on Hornet Field.

#### *District – Anthony Berthiaume*

Dr. Berthiaume stated that a policy committee meeting will be scheduled for May to discuss student handbook and the athletic code of conduct. The district is having a hard time with teachers committing to teaching summer school. The Attorney General visit that was supposed to take place this month will be rescheduled for a later date. The district has a lot of end of year ceremonies this year, with them being canceled over the last two years it feels nice to have them again. Dr. Berthiaume mentioned that he is waiting for the house and senate to come out with their budget so we will have an idea of the increase per pupil. Lastly, Dr. Berthiaume stated that Christman will hopefully be at next month's board meeting for a final update on the construction projects. They did tell us today that the locker room work was completed last Friday.

#### **Closed Session**

Motion by Unangst supported by Henige to enter Closed Session for a student discipline hearing.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

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

**Motion carried 7-0.**

#### **Action Item**

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Unangst that the superintendent recommends to the Board of Education that student X be expelled from New Lothrop Area Public School effective April, 18, 2022.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to adjourn.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Adjournment at 8:13 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, May 16, 2022 in the high school library at 6:00 p.m.

---

Adam Green, Board Secretary