

BOARD NOTES
February 23, 2015

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, February 23, 2015 with Rich Shail, Al Williamson, Phil King, William Romstadt and Jim Dermody present. Secretary, Dale Groves, was absent.

Rich Shail reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

There was a motion by Phil King to adopt the agenda, seconded by Al Williamson and approved 4-0-1

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

- Mr. Dermody opened the Board meeting by reading an eloquent letter from Sheriff John Boyd thanking the New Prairie staff and students who voluntarily opened the high school to 400 stranded motorists during the Valentine's Day storm. Sheriff Boyd personally thanked Greg Dettinger, Brian Williamson, Bruce Lasley, Bill Rose, Jim Schwingendorf, Bobby Whitenack, Al King, Josh Bolakowski & Tara Dome each with a certificate, a copy of his letter that Mr. Dermody read, along with his grateful handshake.
- Audra Peterson, Director of LaPorte County Career & Technical Education, presented a packet of information to the Board on Career and Technical Education. Audra presented a PowerPoint outline on what CTE is and is not, along with the 16 innovative programs offered. She stated that CTE classes are offered at NPHS, A.K. Smith Career Center and partner sites for Cosmetology. She explained the importance of CTE courses for college and career readiness.
- Janet Scott, Principal of New Prairie Middle School, introduced NPMS iCoach, Jon Schroeder, and iStudents: Olivia Adnson, Jacob Myers, Chandler Lee, Julia Kelley, & Wrigley Hemphill. A movie created by the iStudents, under the direction of their iCoach, was presented on how the iPads are being used at the middle school.

CONSENT ITEMS

- The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:
 - Minutes – January 26, 2015
 - Financial Reports
 - Claims
 - Payroll
 - Personnel Report as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Sidney Shroyer – High School English Teacher – Retirement effective June 30, 2015
 2. Angela Ruby – High School Counselor – FMLA leave beginning approximately 3/30/15 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year
 3. Steve Wade – High School Math Teacher – FMLA Leave beginning 2/5/15 – 3/20/15
 4. Heidi Schellinger – ½ Time HS Counselor – Maternity Leave beginning 4/1/15 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year
 5. Jim Dermody – Superintendent of New Prairie United School Corporation – Retirement effective June 30, 2015

- Employment

1. Megan Horvath – 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
2. Jarret Spence – 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
3. Ben White – 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
4. Vincent Dominello– 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
5. Kevin Macias– 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
6. Lisa Smiertelny - 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
7. Kelli Tanger - 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
8. Mark McBride – 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at Olive Elementary School beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
9. Mikayla Golden– 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at Olive Elementary School beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
10. Casey Gumm– 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at Olive Elementary School beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
11. Sara Benefiel– 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at Olive Elementary School beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
12. Rachel Ralston– 21st Century Learning Program Substitute Teacher at Olive Elementary School beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
13. Lauren Dyer - 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at PVES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
14. Susan Parsons - 21st Century Learning Program Teacher at PVES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
15. Heather Friday– 21st Century Learning Program Substitute Teacher/Aide at PVES School beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
16. Kaitlyn Touhey – 21st Century Learning Program ECA English Teacher at NPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
17. Kristen Menke– 21st Century Learning Program ECA English Teacher at NPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
18. Robyn Kubsch– 21st Century Learning Program, Cougars Unite Teacher at NPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
19. Gabriela Post - 21st Century Learning Program Substitute Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
20. Vicky Mosson - 21st Century Learning Program Substitute Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour

21. Missy Kuczanski - 21st Century Learning Program Substitute Teacher at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$20 per hour
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Steve Hoskins – Dean of Students - Asst. Varsity Softball Coach (2014-15 season) - NPHS
 - Adjustments
 1. 2014 Performance Stipends of \$741.96 awarded to:
 - Becky Bartlett
 - Rhonda Meyers
 - Tara Bush
 - Greg Dettinger
 - Candy VanBuskirk
 - Steve Hoskins
 - Brian Williamson

NON-CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
 1. Staci Barrett – RPES Substitute Teacher for Mrs. Wolff 1st grade – Resignation effective 1/14/15
 2. Craig Kuta – Head Boys and Girls Golf Coach Resignation as of 6/30/15
 3. Tina Bernth – NPUSC Social Service Advisor – Retirement beginning 5/29/2015
 4. Angela Clemons – RPES Instructional Assistant – Resignation effective 2/4/2015
 5. Scott Fischer – NPUSC Bus Driver – FMLA Leave beginning 2/11/15 – 3/29/15
 6. Suzanne King – Instruction Aide at RPES – FMLA Leave beginning 2/24/15 – 3/24/15
 7. Aaron Boyd – Custodian at the Middle School – Resignation effective 2/17/15
- Employment.
 1. Adrienne Farmer – Instructional Aide – Prairie View Elementary - beginning 1/28/15
 2. Danielle Garske – Lunch Room Aide at NPMS beginning 2/9/15
 3. Debra Weller – Moved from Prairie View Elementary as an Instructional Assistant to Rolling Prairie Elementary as a temporary substitute 1st grade teacher beginning 1/14/15 through 2/15/15 for Amy Wolfe
 4. Dorothy Smith – Evening Custodian – Prairie View – beginning 10/01/2015
 5. Kristin Gall – Substitute Bus Driver for NPUSC beginning 2/2/15
 6. Irene Hay – Current NPUSC Substitute Bus Driver taking full-time bus route 27 beginning 2/9/15
 7. Taralyne Hillegonds– 21st Century Learning Program Instructional Aide at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour
 8. Cheryl Smith - 21st Century Learning Program Instructional Aide at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour
 9. Gloria Vega - 21st Century Learning Program Instructional Aide at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour

10. Tashenna Bougher – 21st Century Learning Program Instructional Aide at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour
 11. Nichole Ross - 21st Century Learning Program Instructional Aide at RPES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour
 12. Jen Kress – 21st Century Learning Program Instructional Aide at Olive Elementary School beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour
 13. Maggie Gullota– 21st Century Learning Program Instructional Aide at PVES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour
 14. Teena Trent - 21st Century Learning Program Instructional Aide at PVES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour
 15. Lisa Davis - 21st Century Learning Program Substitute Instructional Aide at PVES beginning 8/15/14 thru the end of the 2014-15 school year at \$10 per hour
 16. Kelson Stone – Part Time Evening Custodian at Rolling Prairie Elementary School – beginning 11/01/14
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Sara Timm – Co-Head MS Swim Coach for the 2014-15 school year
 2. John Hooper – JV Softball Coach for the 2014-15 school year
 - Adjustments –
 1. Julie Olney – FMLA Leave adjustment as previously approved from 2/22/15 – 3/30/15 to 2/2/15 – 2/27/15
- Mr. Dermody recognized Mr. Sidney Shroyer, Language Arts teacher at NPHS, who will be retiring at the end of the 2014-15 school year after 27 years of excellence and dedicated service to the NPUSC. NPUSC wishes Sid Shroyer the very best in his retirement.
 - Mr. Dermody recognized Ms. Tina Bernth, Social Service Advisor at Prairie View Elementary, as she is also retiring May, 29, 2015 after 21 years of caring and dedicated service to her students. NPUSC wishes Tina Bernth the very best in her retirement.
 - Rich Shail announced that Mr. Jim Dermody, Superintendent of NPUSC, will be retiring as of June 30, 2015. Mr. Dermody has been an outstanding leader who has helped move the corporation ahead in his 5 years as Superintendent. The corporation has outstanding employees because of his selections. The Board is sad to see him go but understands his reasons for retiring. The Board will miss Mr. Dermody and wishes him the very best in his retirement. Mr. Dermody replied that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve the New Prairie United School Corporation as both a building administrator and as the Superintendent.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Dermody recognized Greg Dettinger, Principal at NPHS, for winning the VFW District 3, Educator of the Year award for Northern Indiana.
- Mr. Dermody introduced Bethany Gatlin and her mother to the Board. Bethany Gatlin is the first NPHS female swimmer to swim at the state meet at IUPUI in 30 years. She competed in the 200 Individual Medley and the 100 Freestyle.

Bethany made it to state competition by placing first in each of these events at our local sectional finals at Penn High School. She finished 21st in the 200 IM, and 15th in the 100 Freestyle in state competition. Bethany broke many records this year as a freshman. We look forward to her future swimming career at New Prairie.

- Ashley Wojtysiak, NPHS Swim Coach, was voted Penn sectional coach of the year. We are proud of Ashley's hard work and dedication to the NPUSC Swim Program.
- Tonya Aerts, NPHS PLTW Biomed Teacher, has been invited and will be presenting a session at the PLTW State Conference in Indianapolis in March.
- Prairie View Elementary and Olive Elementary were named "I Love to Read" award winning schools.
- Tara Novak, NPHS senior, who is participating in the National High School Equestrian Athlete Program by the US Equestrian Federation and is thriving in that program.
- Bryce Doorn, NPHS Junior, placed 4th in the Automotive Services Regional Competition at the Elkhart Career Center and received a \$500.00 Scholarship.
- Heather Friday, 2nd Grade Teacher at Prairie View, has been recognized as a 2015 Scholastic Reading Club Teacher Advisory Board Member which means she will receive an all expense trip to New York as part of her duties representing New Prairie in March.
- Carrie Cannon has been invited by IASBO, as one of three individuals in the state, to present at a major seminar in Plainfield on the topic "Purchasing Student Technology".
- ISTEP+ testing schedule for this current week is practice test week. The following 2 weeks will serve as the official testing weeks. We are confident our students will be ready. IREAD 3 will follow soon after.
- At the LaPorte County Spelling Bee recently the NPHS spellers finished 4th of the top 6 out of 25 schools competing. All 4 will move on to the Semi-State competition on March 7th at Wheeler High School. If they qualify there they have a chance to go to Washington.

- **ACTION ITEMS**

- (A) The Board accepted the following donations:
 - Robotics Team of NPHS received monetary donations from:
 - Sudlow Excavating \$120.00
 - Allen Bartmess \$25.00
 - Williams Aerial & Mapping, Inc. \$300.00
 - Jeffrey A Huyvaert, DDS \$50.00
 - McDonald's of Michigan City \$50.00
 - Robert & Anne James \$100.00
 - Joe Janas \$200.00
 - David Davis made a donation of \$600.00 toward the 5th grade Rolling Prairie Elementary manners luncheon
- (B) The Board approved the 2015 New Prairie Little League and Rolling Prairie Little League Agreements
- (C) The Board approved the 2015-2016 School Calendar
- (D) The Board accepted the ExploreLearning's Reflex Educator Grant
- (E) The Board Approved the 2nd Reading and Adoption of Board Policies – Volume 27, No.1 - #0100, 0100, 0140, 2221, 2340, 3120, 3120.04, 3120.08, 3122.01, 3140, 3170, 3419, 4120,

4120.08, 4122.01, 4140, 4170, 4419, 5200, 5340.01, 5530, 6150, 7540.02, 7540.04, 8330, 8451, 8455

- (F) The Board approved the Drivers Education Program & Fees – 2015
- (G) The Board approved the 21st Century Community Learning Position Descriptions
- (H) The Board approved the Continuing Bond Disclosure Services with H.J. Umbaugh & Associates
- (I) The Board approved the 2015 Camp Invention & Success By Six Summer Programs
- (J) The Board Approved the Position Description:
 - o Network Administrator
- (K) The Board approved the Indiana MAC Program Participation Agreement
- (L) The Board approved the Design Criteria Consultant Agreement
- (M) The Board approved the Overnight Field Trips
 - o HOSA State Leadership Conference in Indianapolis April 13 – 15, 2015
 - o NPHS Academic Decathlon Team to attend the State Academic Decathlon Competition February 13 & 14, 2015
- (N) The Board approved the Resolution to Appoint Technical Review Committee

DISCUSSION ITEMS

BOARD COMMENTS

- Al Williamson stated that he thought the iPad presentation was incredible! It was a great thing that everyone came together to make the iPad initiative happen. It is tremendous the success we have seen happen with athletics and the opportunities the new conference will present. Al commented that it will be tough without Mr. Dermody and wished him the best.
- Bill Romstadt stated his pleasure at working with Mr. Dermody for the short time he has been on the Board and wishes Mr. Dermody and his family the best.
- Phil King is amazed with how our community came together to help everyone out as proven on Valentine's Day. It really showed what our community is all about. It has been a pleasure working with Mr. Dermody. His vision will be hard to replace.
- Rich Shail stated that having Sheriff Boyd here tonight to talk about the Valentine's Day storm reinforced what New Prairie is all about. We are a community based organization and it is important that everyone knows what we are here for.

Al Williamson made the motion to adjourn.