

BOARD NOTES
December 19, 2016

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, December 19, 2016 with Rich Shail, Al Williamson, Dale Groves, Phil King, and Dr. Paul White present.

Bill Romstadt was absent.

Rich Shail, President, reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

There was a motion by King to adopt the agenda, seconded by Williamson.

There was motion by Dale Groves to amend the Agenda removing Action H, seconded by King and approved 4-0-1.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

- Ashley Robbins, Enrichment Program Coordinator, and Robert Hoke, outside evaluator for the 21st Century Program, were present to provide updated information on the 21 Century Programs that are benefiting New Prairie students. Ashley reported in 2015-16 over 700 students utilized these programs. The 21st Century ISTEP students are in the top 75% in growth for ISTEP scores. The after school program for high school students focuses on College and Career Readiness. SAT and ACT tutoring is provided at the high school level. The number of students taking these tests has increased significantly in the last couple of years as well as scores. We are in year three of a four year grant so a huge goal is to increase community partners as well as parental involvement.
- Robert Hoke added that he is impressed with amount of credentialed staff members working in the afterschool programs which sets NPUSC apart from other schools. Our staff members believe in the programs and how much it helps our students.
- Rich Shail congratulated Ashley on a great job and wished her continued success.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved the Consent Items:

- (A) Minutes – November 28, 2016
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Heather Willsey – FMLA Leave as 2nd Grade Teacher at Prairie View Elementary beginning 12/14/2016 – 3/8/2017
- Employment
 2. Sara Huff - NPUSC BioMed 21st Century After School Program Teacher for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year at a stipend of \$2,000
 3. Christine Hunter – New Prairie High School Library-Media Specialist beginning 1/5/2017
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Daniel Reffo – 5th Grade Girls Basketball Coach at Prairie View Elementary beginning 12/5/2016
 2. Linda Behm – NPHS Assistant Girls Swim Coach beginning 11/07/2016

- Adjustments
 1. Purchase of Kim Holifield's plan period at a cost of \$4,580 for assumption of additional duties.
 2. Tonya Aerts stipend of \$815.65 for additional 27.5 hours at her hourly rate for assumption of additional duties.
 3. 2015-16 Performance Stipends in the same amounts as awarded to highly effective and effective teachers will be paid from the general fund to:
 - Becky Bartlett
 - Rhonda Myers
 - Tara Bush
 - Janet Scott
 - Jeremy Luginbill
 - Carrie Cannon
 - Brian Williamson
 - Melissa Kuczmanski
 - Allison Middlebrook
 - Tim Flanagan
 - Colleen Henehan
 - Angela Ruby
 - Heidi Schellinger
 - Jim Groendyke

NON-CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
 1. Roxanne Hussey – NPMS Food Service Crew Leader Termination as of 12/6/2016
 2. Kelly Toppen – NPHS BioMed 21st Century After School Program Teacher Resignation as of 11/23/2016
 3. Christine Hunter – Olive Elementary School Library Aide Resignation as of 12/20/2016
 4. Candace Swihart – Instructional Assistant Resignation at Prairie View Elementary as of 12/21/2016
- Employment
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Dylan Ebersole – Assistant 5th Grade Boys Basketball Coach at Olive Elementary for the 2016-17 School Year
- Adjustments
 1. Traci Runkle, Food Service Worker at New Prairie Middle School to transfer her position to Food Service Crew Leader at New Prairie Middle School at \$11.50 per hour as of 12/19/2016

REPORTS

(A)

Superintendent's Report

- Dr. White introduced Bernie Baltus who wished to share an update with the Board on a very important scholarship to him that is through the Unity Foundation of LaPorte County called *The Benzhaf Memorial Scholarship Fund*. He shared that \$60,000 has been given out and it still maintains its fund balances. Three NPUSC students have received funding through this scholarship. Bernie also reported that his personal Athletic Scholarship he started many years ago, has grown which he donates the value of a load of corn per year. His goal is to have the fund at \$100,000 and self-sustaining before granting awards. Rich Shail thanked Bernie for bringing this information to the Board.

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board approved the Organizational Meeting to be held on January 2, 2017
- (B) The Board approved the Property/Liability Insurance Renewal
- (C) The Board accepted Donations:
 - LaPorte County Farm Bureau, Inc., donated \$250.00 to the New Prairie High School FFA Club
 - Delta Beta Phi Sorority donated hats, gloves, sweatpants, socks and underwear to Rolling Prairie Elementary School and Olive Elementary School
 - O'Tech Corporation donated \$1,000 to NPHS Technology Fund
- (D) The Board approved the Resolution to Assign Construction Bids Related to the NPUSC Renovation Project to the New Prairie United School Building Corporation
- (E) The Board approved Replacement of Dishwasher & Ovens at New Prairie High School & Pass-Thru Units at the Middle School
- (F) The Board approved Unleaded & Bio-Diesel Fuel Bids
- (G) The Board approved the Overnight Field Trip Request:
 - NPHS Wrestling Team to Lafayette Jefferson High School 12/29-30/2016

DISCUSSION

BOARD COMMENTS

- Phil King stated that Ashley Robbins gave a great presentation on the tremendous growth of the 21st Century programs. He recognized the hard work done by Carrie Cannon, Craig Van Meter and now Ashley Robbins in making these programs a success. Merry Christmas and have a great winter break everyone.
- Dale Groves wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He also stated he had attended a middle school band concert and is very happy to see the future of the band department.
- Al Williamson thanked Bernie Baltes for attending and giving his scholarship updates.
- Rich Shail wanted to thank the Notre Dame Football Team for what they did for NPUSC kids. Merry Christmas everyone.

On a motion by Dale Groves the meeting was adjourned.