

## BOARD NOTES

July 18, 2016

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, July 18, 2016 beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Al Williamson, Phil King, Bill Romstadt and Dr. Paul White present.

Absent were Rich Shail, Board President and Dale Grove, Board Secretary.

Al Williamson, Board Vice-President, reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

There was a motion to adopt the Agenda by Romstadt, seconded by King and was approved 3-0-2.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION**

Carrie Cannon, Curriculum Director, began her presentation on Flex Days by explaining that 26 schools were chosen through an application process to hold Flex Days at their schools in Indiana which NPUSC was chosen as one of the 26 schools. The two Flex Days for this school year are Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Teachers report to their building for PD as well as eLearning format. The platform for those days for students K-4<sup>th</sup> grade will utilize Google Classroom and grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> will utilize Schoology. Teachers are required and responsible for corresponding with students during the Flex Day in a timely manner. Teachers will be available from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm during the Flex Day through Schoology and Google Classroom.

Our school corporation has worked closely with our corresponding special education cooperative. Steps are in place to support our special education students. The steps are aligned directly from the IDOE guidance for virtual learning.

The ELL coordinator will check in with students throughout the day using Google Classroom and/or Schoology.

Title One teachers will be added as an additional teacher to Google Classrooms or Schoology.

Carrie reported that a video will be uploaded to our website explaining what the Flex Days would encompass.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

- (A) Minutes – June 20, 2016 & July 6, 2016
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report as follows:

### **CERTIFIED**

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
  1. Heidi Babin – Retirement as 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher from Prairie View Elementary effective 6/30/2016
  2. Susan Koziel – Retirement as 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher from Prairie View Elementary effective 6/30/2016
  3. Kaitlyn Touhey – Resignation as English Teacher at NPHS effective 6/30/2016

4. Lisa Kovach – Resignation as Vocal Music Teacher at Prairie View Elementary effective 6/30/2016
  5. Diana Jones – Resignation as Kindergarten Teacher at Olive Elementary effective 6/30/2016
  6. Natalie Krause – Resignation as Assistant Cross Country Coach for NPHS effective 6/30/2016
  7. Caryn Schmidt – Resignation ½ Time Counselor NPHS as of 7/18/2016
- Employment
    1. Justin Holmquest – NPHS Assistant Principal beginning 7/22/2016 Pending Criminal Background Check results
    2. Robert White – NPHS English/Spanish Teacher beginning 8/9/2016 pending Criminal Background Check results
    3. Heather Kitchen – Vocal Music Teacher at Prairie View/Olive Elementary beginning 8/9/2016 pending Criminal Background Check results
  - Employment – Extra-Curricular
  - Adjustments

### **NON-CERTIFIED**

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
- Employment
  1. Nancy Pilarski – ELL Aide at NPMS beginning 8/11/2016
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
- Adjustments
  1. Rodney Wash Summer Camp stipend adjustment from \$870 to \$1,170

### **REPORTS**

#### Superintendent's Report

- Dr. White read statements on each of two elementary teachers who are retiring, Mrs. Susan Koziel and Mrs. Heidi Babin from Prairie View Elementary, thanking them for their many years of service to NPUSC and wished them well in their retirement.
- Dr. White introduced Justin Holmquest, New Prairie High School's new Assistant Principal. Dr. White gave a synopsis on Mr. Holmquest's credentials and experience welcoming him to NPUSC. Mr. Holmquest thanked NPUSC for approving and accepting him. He stated he is very happy to be here working with the great teachers, students and community of NPUSC. He is excited and ready to go to work.
- Dr. White introduced State Senator Jim Arnold who gave his Legislative Update. Senator Arnold stated that 841 bills were filed this year with 216 signed by the Governor. Senator Arnold stated that they did get some important things accomplished with a 26% increase in bills passing. Senator Arnold is very proud of some of the major bills that passed that will be positive for LaPorte County. Senator Arnold asked that everyone pay special attention to the election and make sure you know what the platforms are for the people that are running for office. Senator Arnold announced that he will not be running again and stated that he is proud to have been able to serve the public for 50 years.
- State Representative Tom Dermody expressed his gratitude to the Board for inviting him to the meeting to speak. He congratulated NPUSC for their great

hires of Jennifer Sass, and Justin Holmquest to lead New Prairie High School. State Representative Dermody explained that as the Public Policy Chairman he spends most of his time on some of the most controversial issues; alcohol, gaming, abortion and guns. Public policy does effect the schools with guns as the biggest issue. The last 4 years Mr. Dermody would not look at the policies that came across his desk. With Tom Dermody stepping aside there will be broad debate on that issue. He supports the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment but there are some extremely controversial bills. Roads and School Funding are huge funding issues coming up. Make sure questions are asked of your legislators. It has been an honor to work with New Prairie schools. Senator Arnold and State Representative Dermody stated that they always voted on what is right for our community. Thank you!

- Carrie Cannon recognized United Way representatives thanking them for their funding for the summer program, Success by Six, for the last 4 years. This summer 131 students applied for the program with 100 spots available. This has been a very successful program. We have been very proud to partner with United Way for early learning. Hopefully this will not be the last year for this partnership. Early education has been found to be the most important time for kids.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- (A) The Board accepted the following donations:
1. Delta Theta Tau Sorority of New Carlisle donated \$500 to the New Prairie High School Theatre Program
  2. Target's "Take Charge of Education Program" made an undisclosed cash donation to NPUSC based on 1% of the purchases made in the name of NPUSC schools.
  3. NPHS HOSA Program received donations in Memory of Henri Aerts from:
    - Cathy Pieroni - \$50
    - Tom Hathoot - \$100
  4. Feed the Children donated to NPUSC the following valued at \$4,170.60:
    - 217 lbs. of Children's Books
    - 209 lbs. of School Supplies
- (B) The Board approved a Construction Agreement between Gail & Carl Ritola and the New Prairie Building Trades for the 2016-17 School Year
- (C) The Board approved the Administrative Changes at New Prairie High School for the Banking and Investment Accounts
- (D) The Board approved the Special Education Joint Agreement for 2016-17
- (E) The Board approved the Amended School Police Resource Officer Agreement

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Al Williamson welcomed Justin Holmquest to the New Prairie United School Corporation.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Phil King the meeting was adjourned.