

BOARD NOTES
November 26, 2012

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, November 26, 2012 with Rich Shail, Al Williamson, LuAnn Schwingendorf, Bernie Baltes and Dale Groves present. Jim Dermody was also present.

Rich Shail reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

- The School Board recognized members of the Olive Spell Bowl Team, along with Coach Gail Hartman. The Team placed second in State competition.
- The School Board recognized members of the New Prairie Middle School Spell Bowl Team for placing third in State competition in the Junior Division and sixth overall out of 30 teams in the State. The Spell Bowl Team is coached by Jennifer Smith.
- The New Prairie High School Spell Bowl Team was also recognized for placing third in the State in Division 2 competition. The High School Team is coached by Jim Groendyke who has recently been named Academic Coach of the Year.
- The School Board recognized Scott Braun who was named IASP Assistant Middle School Principal of the Year for District 2.
- Jim Holifield was recognized by the School Board for being selected as IASP Middle School Principal of the Year for District 2. Jim then qualified for and was selected as Middle School Principal of the Year.
- Melissa Kobitz, 2nd Grade Teacher at Prairie View Elementary School, was selected as WSBT Teacher of the Month for October.
- Carrie Cannon and the School Board recognized Candice Dickinson for her hours of volunteering to help complete the Math initiative project. Barb Hart also worked with Carrie and Candice to complete this project.

- Carrie Cannon presented information on the Growth Model A-F Grades for the New Prairie United School Corporation which have recently been released through the Indiana Department of Education. The A-F Grades are based on two measurement criteria: Student Performance and Student Growth.

SCHOOL	ENROLLMENT	GRADE
Olive Elementary	472	A
Prairie View Elementary	314	B
Rolling Prairie Elementary	474	A
New Prairie Middle School	728	C
New Prairie High School	867	A
New Prairie United School Corp.	2884	A

PUBLIC HEARING

- A Public Hearing was held to consider the additional appropriation of the bonds in the amount of \$1,000,000 that the School Board has determined the financing to meet the needs existing at this time. There were no public comments. On a motion by Schwingendorf, seconded by Baltes, the hearing was adjourned at 6:33 p.m. The regular meeting resumed at that time.

CONSENT ITEMS

- Minutes – October 22, 2012
- Financial Reports
- Claims
- Payroll
- Personnel as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 - Sandra Murray – Spanish Teacher – NPHS – Extend Leave of Absence until approximately December 12, 2012
 - Wendy Sundwall – 3rd Grade Teacher – Olive Elementary School – Leave of Absence beginning December 11, 2012 through approximately December 21, 2012.

3. Deanne Gonzalez – Math Teacher – NPHS – Resignation effective January 4, 2013.
 4. Nicole Bowen – P.E./Health Teacher – NPMS – Extend Leave of Absence through the end of the 2012-2013 school year.
- Employment/Transfers
 1. Melanie Groves – Math Teacher – NPHS – Transfer to full-time Math – NPHS effective January 7, 2013.
 2. Brandi Heeter – Temporary Half-time 5th Grade Teacher – All Elementary Schools – Effective November 12, 2012 through the end of the 2012-2013 school year.
 3. Mikayla Dyer – 1st Grade Teacher – Olive Elementary School – Beginning January 7, 2013. (Pending Expanded Criminal Background Report Results)

NON-CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Angie Rose – Food Service – NPHS – Resignation effective December 21, 2012.
 2. Teena Trent – Transfer from Food Service to Instructional Assistant – Prairie View Elementary School effective November 6, 2012.
 3. Tim West – Building Tech – NPMS – Resignation effective November 30, 2012.
 4. Ron Tepper – Building Tech – NPHS – Resignation effective November 19, 2012
 5. Bob DeMeyer – Bus Mechanic – Leave of Absence beginning December 19, 2012 and continuing through approximately February 8, 2013.
- Employment/Transfers
 1. Heather Wishin – Data Analyst – NPMS – Effective immediately.

2. Debora Tuszynski – Instructional Assistant – Olive Elementary School – Effective November 12, 2012.
 3. Kelly Sturgeon – Instructional Assistant – Prairie View Elementary School – Effective November 26, 2012.
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Kathy Nova – Co-Assistant Girls Swimming – NPHS
 2. Dan Bellinger – 6th Assistant Boys Basketball – NPMS
 3. Dan Robertson – Co-Assistant Girls Basketball – NPHS
 4. Lou Ann Dixon – Co-Assistant Girls Swimming – NPHS
 5. Bryan Dolezal – Head Wrestling - NPMS
 6. Fred Scott – Freshman Boys Basketball

REPORTS

- Superintendent's Report
 - The NPUSC participated in a Youth Symposium in LaPorte.
 - The Board received enrollment information for the NPUSC which includes the entire student population including our students attending the South LaPorte County Special Education Cooperative.
 - The NPUSC was named one of 21 school districts in Indiana and 539 school districts throughout the United States and Canada to be placed on the AP District Honor Roll by the College Board.
 - The New Prairie Middle School held their annual Make-A-Difference Day on October 26th.
 - The New Prairie High School presented the theater production of "Footloose" recently.
 - Mr. Dermody announced that Tim Adams, a former NP graduate, received the "Realize the Dream Award".
 - Mr. Dermody announced that Grand Valley College won the NCAA Division II Championship in Cross Country. The boys and girls team is coached by Jerry Baltes, former New Prairie graduate. Jerry has led Grand Valley to six NCAA championships and named Division II Coach of the Year for the tenth time.

ACTION ITEMS

- The Board approved the Additional Appropriation Resolution of the bonds in the amount of \$1,000,000 which was deemed necessary due to the refunding of the NPUSC's outstanding Taxable General Obligation Pension Bonds of 2004.
- The Board approved the Resolution Authorizing Temporary Loans to meet current expenses of the Debt Service and Transportation Funds necessitated by the current property tax issues with LaPorte County.
- The Board approved the Resolution Authorizing the corporation permission to purchase and issue gift cards as long as the corporation's procurement and payment policies are adhered to. This will allow the corporation's extra-curricular accounts to purchase gift cards such as I-Tunes, etc. for use as prizes and awards.
- The Board approved the contract with Delta Dental to be the authorized carrier for the 100% employee-paid dental insurance plan. The current carrier, Dental Resources, reduced plan coverage options and raised rates under the current plan. Delta will lock rates for 2013 and 2014 at the current 2012 rates.
- The Board approved the Chemistry Articulation Agreement with Purdue North Central to benefit prospective students who desire to receive credit for CHEM 11500/11600 General Chemistry from Purdue North Central. Students will pay applicable tuition and fees.
- The Board approved Donations as listed:
 - Olive PTO – Bridges Program in the amount of \$750
 - Make-A-Difference Day – NPMS – Gertrude Barnes - \$40
 - Feed the Children – Value - \$7,809.40
- The Board approved the Overnight Field Trips Requests as follows:
 - Young Astronauts – Olive Elementary – Huntsville, Alabama – April 19-20, 2013
 - Robotics Team – NPHS – Purdue University – March 14-16, 2013
 - Robotics Team – NPHS – Knoxville, TN – March 27-30, 2013
- The Board approved the second reading and adoption of Board Policies Volume 24 – No 2 - #2623, 2623.01, 5120, 5130, 5340.01, 5410, 5464, 6520, 7540.03, 7540.04, 8310, 8330, 8405, 8431, 8615, and 8750 amending #5340 – third paragraph – changing the word “plan” to “play”.

- The Board approved the Resolution Transferring a Parcel of Land to the Town of New Carlisle. The transfer of a small parcel of land by Bourissa Park will be used as a parking lot for the existing facilities at the park. This parcel of land would be a benefit to the NPUSC and the Town of New Carlisle.
- The Board approved the Conflict of Interest Disclosure for Al Williamson and Dale Groves.
- The Board approved the second amended and restated MASE (Midwest Area School Employees' Insurance Trust) medical insurance agreement effective January 1, 2013.
- The Board approved the establishment of the Brandon Hora Memorial Scholarship Fund at New Prairie High School effective immediately. The purpose of the scholarship is to provide one deserving NPHS graduating senior interested in or intending to pursue post-high school course of studies at either a college/university or other post-secondary educational institutions in the amount of \$1,000.
- The Board approved the grant from LaPorte Savings Bank for \$1,000 for the next three years to help fund the Activity Center. This \$1,000 will be matched by the private family foundation for another \$1,500 over the three-year period. This sponsorship was received with assistance from Liz Kaminski and Deb Varnak. Deb has a student at Rolling Prairie Elementary School.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Dale Groves indicated that the recent production of "Footloose" drew families from surrounding school corporations both in state and out of state.
- Al Williamson indicated that we are seeing amazing things at New Prairie. He would like to thank the Hora family for the formation of the scholarship. Al said the Board and corporation will do all we can to support this scholarship.
- Bernie said there is no better way to memorialize an individual than supporting a scholarship.
- LuAnn said it is great to have a board meeting announcing so many accomplishments and people like the Hora's who want to give back to the community. Rich Shail agreed.