

BOARD NOTES

December 17, 2012

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, December 17, 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.

The Board adopted the agenda as presented.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

- The Board presented certificates to Ashley Suppinger, Brittany West and Kaitlyn Jurgens – New Prairie Middle School winners of the VFW's Patriot's Essay Contest.

CONSENT ITEMS

- The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:
 - Minutes – November 26, 2012 and December 7, 2012
 - Financial Reports
 - Claims
 - Payroll
 - Personnel Report as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Bill Spier – Earth Science Teacher – NPHS – Resignation/Retirement effective January 1, 2013
 2. Sandy Murray – Spanish Teacher – NPHS – Extend leave of absence from December 12, 2012 to approximately January, 2013.
 3. Gabriela Post – Title I Teacher – Rolling Prairie Elementary School – Leave of Absence beginning December 12, 2012 through approximately January 4, 2013.
 4. Sherry Bailey – Principal – Olive Elementary School – Leave of absence beginning December 10, 2012 for approximately three months.

5. Deanne Gonzalez – Teacher – NPHS – Resignation - Co-Varsity Letter Club Sponsor – Effective December 5, 2012.
 6. Josh Bolakowski – Lunchroom Supervisor – 1/3 – NPHS – Resignation effective 12/21/12.
- Employment
 1. Tara Bush – Interim Administrative Assistant – Olive Elementary School – Beginning December 11, 2012 through December 21, 2012
 2. Ben Ingram – Extend Administrative Contract from November 8, 2013 through June 30, 2014 to align all administrators within the NPUSC to a common June 30 contractual closing date.
 3. Phyllis Shepherd – Temporary P.E./Health Teacher – NPMS – Beginning January 4, 2013 and continuing through the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

NON-CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Karen Swanson – Bus Driver – Leave of Absence beginning December 26, 2012 and continuing through approximately February 11, 2013.
 2. Leslie Monroe – Bus Driver – Leave of Absence beginning December 4, 2012 for approximately 4-6 weeks.
 3. Tricia Giesler – Instructional Assistant – Olive Elementary – Resignation effective December 21, 2012.
 4. Lianne Bellivue – Instructional Assistant – Prairie View Elementary School – Resignation effective December 21, 2012.
 5. Brenda Boniface – Bus Driver – Leave of Absence beginning December 14, 2012 and continuing for approximately one week.
 6. Nancy McCormick – Food Service – Olive Elementary School – Resignation effective December 14, 2012.

- Employment
 1. Amanda Koehler – Youth Prevention Specialist – NPMS – (Through the LaPorte County Drug Free Grant) beginning January 16, 2013 at the rate of \$18 per hour.
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Craig Kuta – Girls Golf Coach– 2012-2013 school year
 2. Craig Kuta – Boys Golf Coach – 2012-2013 school year
 3. Kelle Cartwright – Assistant Girls Track Coach – NPMS
 4. Katie Konieczny – 8th Grade Girls Basketball

Mr. Dermody wanted to recognize Bill Spier upon his retirement in January. Bill was employed as a teacher at NPHS beginning in 1979 serving in areas of coaching football, wrestling, Quiz Bowl, and Advance Field experience taking students to Canada and Colorado. Bill's excellent service will be missed by the corporation.

REPORTS

- Superintendent's Report
 - Mr. Dermody wanted to recognize the horror of the events that took place last Friday in Connecticut. A school safety letter was sent to our parents and appears on the website.
 - The fog delay make-up day will be January 21, 2013.
 - Tara Bush will continue as Interim Administrative Assistant at Olive Elementary School through December 21st. The position will then be re-assessed based on Mrs. Bailey's recovery.
 - Mr. Dermody announced that the Winter Choir show at NPHS was an outstanding performance. He wanted to credit Chad Strasser, Tiffany Galus, Cortny Barnes along with all the students and support personnel.
 - Kelley Kitchen and Jim Dermody have been discussing the possible fiscal cliff our school corporation could find itself in due to the economic challenges ahead.
 - The NPUSC has been notified that the Americanism test administered through the American Legion has been re-established at NPHS. Kyle Kenyon and Lisa Fischer were recognized as the Third District winners.
 - The Central Office Holiday schedule will be posted on the website.
 - NPMS conducted their annual food drive sponsored by the Lion's Club and Delta Theta Tau. They have collected over 6,897 items. Tammy Moore should be credited for her efforts in this drive.
 - Tina Bernth highlighted the Care/Share Program operated out of Prairie View Elementary School and supported by many churches, businesses, staff and

community. Over 300 students will be serviced by this event. Tina credits the efforts of Jane Bealor, Lori Keller and Anita Smith. Prairie View also collected over 3,157 during their food drive.

- December 21, 2012 marks the end of the first semester.

ACTION ITEMS

- The Board approved the bio-diesel and unleaded fuel bids to Co-Alliance.
- The Board approved the agreement with Go Solutions to provide Title XIX fees to the LEA. Go Solutions will serve as Title XIX Fee for Service and Administrative Outreach administrator with the LaPorte Co-Op for Medicaid billing. We can no longer bill for services through the Co-op. This agreement now meets Federal guidelines.
- The Board accepted donations as follows:
 - Lambs Chapel - \$150 for the Activity Center
 - Feed the Children – Value of \$5,239.16
 - Dudeck's Pine Country – Tree replacements (13) for NPHS landscaping at the value of \$395.00.
- The Board approved the resolution granting the Treasurer permission to transfer from major accounts and approve Line 2 budget cuts within various accounts as part of the end-of-the year process.
- The Board approved a 1.5% stipend for certified and non-certified personnel employed on or before July 1, 2012 to be tentatively disseminated by December 31, 2012. This stipend will be based on the employee's base salary or hourly wage. Funding for this stipend has been budgeted for the 2012 calendar year. Rich Shail said this stipend has been well earned by our deserving employees.
- The Board approved the recommendation to award Performance Services as the Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract Provider for the NPUSC. This allows the NPUSC to complete projects through the CPF over a period of years that we would not otherwise be able to afford. Mr. Dermody credits the efforts of Greg Dudeck, Kelley Kitchen, Kevin Smith and Rodney Hughes for the successful completion of this task.
- The Board approved the 2013-2014 NPHS Curriculum Guide as submitted. Rich Shail said we are able to provide our students with a lot of great opportunities.
- The Board set the Organizational Meeting for January 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. At this time, newly elected Board members Rich Shail, Dale Groves and Philip King will be officially sworn in.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Each Board member expressed their respect and admiration for retiring Board member LuAnn Schwingendorf. LuAnn expressed the satisfaction and pride she felt for the Corporation during her tenure as a Board member.