

## BOARD NOTES

July 22, 2013

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, July 22, 2013 with Al Williamson, Dale Groves, Bernie Baltes and Phil King present. Rich Shail was absent. Jim Dermody was also present.

Al Williamson reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

The Board adopted the agenda as presented.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

- Minutes – June 24, 2013 and July 16, 2013
- Financial Reports
- Claims
- Payroll
- Personnel Report as follows:

### **CERTIFIED**

- Employment
  1. Brandi Heeter – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Olive Elementary School – Full-time beginning August 12, 2013.
  2. Kevin Macias – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Rolling Prairie Elementary School – Beginning August 12, 2013. (Pending acceptable Criminal Background)
  3. Aintzane Zaton Verdes – Spanish Teacher – NPHS – Beginning August 12, 2013. (Pending acceptable Criminal Background)
  4. John Berning – Social Studies – NPHS – Beginning August 12, 2013. (Pending acceptable Criminal Background)
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
  1. Lori Kienitz – Vocal Music Director – NPMS – Beginning August 12, 2013.
  2. Marty Mosson – Co-Team Leader – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade
  3. Susan Johnson – Co-Team Leader – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

## **ADJUSTMENT**

1. Approve compensation for Kregg VanMeter for salary and an annuity which matches a PERF contribution. This increase was initiated on August 20, 2009, but was not brought before the Board at that time.
2. Approve Settlement Agreement and General Release for Ron Tepper.

## **NON-CERTIFIED**

- Employment/Transfer
  1. Judy Ekovich – Bus Driver – Transfer from Route #49 to Route #1 effective August 14, 2013.
  2. Pat Koegler – Food Service – Transfer from Cook – NPHS to Cafeteria Manager – Prairie View Elementary School beginning August 14, 2013.
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
  1. Shari Rose – Compensation for full-time responsibilities for Cheerleading and Pep Club for 2012-2013 school year. Shari was hired as half-time Cheerleading and Pep Club but assumed full-time responsibilities due to a leave of absence during the 2012-2013 school year.
  2. Doug Matthys – Head Girls Basketball Coach – NPHS – 2013-2014 school year
  3. Craig Kuta – Head Boys Golf – NPHS – 2013-2014 school year
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  5. Joel Hostetler – Head Boys Tennis – NPHS – 2013-2014 school year
  6. Teresa Hostetler – Assistant Boys Tennis – NPHS – 2013-2014 school year
  7. Alexandria Cooper – Co-Flag Corp Sponsor – NPHS – 2013-2014 school year
  8. Lyndee Stisher – Co-Flag Corp Sponsor – NPHS – 2013-2014

Jim Dermody recognized Sharon Strieter, Bus Driver, who recently retired. Sharon started in 1985 as a sub bus driver and hired full time in 1988. Sharon served as a Vocational School driver, regular route driver, summer school, bus safety program and Kindergarten route driver. Sharon served the NPUSC faithfully.

## **REPORTS**

- Superintendent's Report
  - The Board/Administrative Retreat will be held on Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - Success by Six Program started on July 22, 2013. Mr. Dermody visited Rolling Prairie for the start of the program as well as the Activity Center which is now housed at Rolling Prairie Elementary. Mr. Dermody is pleased with the United Way sponsorship of the program. Carrie Cannon has done an outstanding job in organizing the program along with Kelley Kitchen, Kregg VanMeter and Chris Pate of the United Way. Carrie said T-shirts were donated as well as providing back packs with supplies and gym shoes for each student.
  - ISTEP+ scores may be released in late July according to the IDOE.
  - Discussions will be held with the New Prairie Classroom Teachers Association regarding an IDOE recommended modification to the RISE Evaluation Model.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- The Board approved the resolution for the designation of qualified publications to the South Bend Tribune and LaPorte Herald Argus.
- The Board approved the revision to the Classified Handbook to include Bus Drivers as amended.
- The Board approved the Continuing Disclosure Services with Umbaugh & Associates to assist the NPUSC with the annual compilation of financial information required for compliance with the taxable general obligation bonds and the refunding bonds.
- The Board approved the Transfer Student Resolution deadline for the NPUSC as May 23, 2014. The IDOE has mandated school corporations to establish a deadline date when outside transfer students will be accepted. This resolution will be reviewed annually.
- The Board accepted the donation from Feed the Children valued at \$6,896.44. Feed the Children provides books and supplies to school corporations.

- The Board approved the second reading and adoption of Board Policies Volume 25, No. 1 as follows: #0150, 0160, 1422, 2260, 2340, 3122, 4122, 4162, 5136, 5463, 5530, 5630, 7434, 7440, 7440.01 and 7530.02.
- The Board approved the second reading and adoption of Board Policy #8510 – Wellness Policy. Bernie indicated that exercise is also a key to a healthy life style.
- The Board approved the second reading and adoption of the Acceptable Use Policy as presented. Bernie said the challenge will be the enforcement of the policy. Mr. Dermody said we will learn as we go. There are corporations which have changed their policy multiple times during the school year after adopting 1-1 practices.
- The Board approved the Athletic Trainer agreement with I.U. Health LaPorte Hospital beginning August 1, 2013 through July 31, 2014 at the cost of \$18,000. The Board is pleased with the services of the Athletic Trainer and feels it is a much needed position.
- The Board approved the status quo NPHS Credit Program at 40 credits. This will allow our new high school administration an opportunity to examine the change in graduation requirements, review area high school requirements and meet with staff members to discuss the current program. A proposal will be presented to the School Board at the December, 2013 Board meeting.
- The Board approved the Red Cross Provider agreement that enables our certified instructors to teach the Red Cross training courses specified in the agreement. Mr. Dermody wanted to credit Ashley Wojtysiak for her efforts in securing this agreement.
- The Board approved the Crisis Prevention Response Plans for the 2013-2014 school year for NPHS, NPMS, Olive, Prairie View and Rolling Prairie Elementary Schools as submitted.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Dale has advocated the offering of a K-12 foreign language program at NPUSC. He believes we have made great steps towards achieving this. He recently read an article in “Time” magazine entitled “Power of the Bilingual Plan” that emphasizes the advantages of bilingual languages. Dale’s goal would be that all New Prairie graduates are bilingual when they leave our corporation.
- Bernie had a relative visit from Iowa and remarked how well kept Indiana schools are, particularly New Prairie, compared to Iowa.

- Phil King was also impressed with the first day of the Success by Six program and how well organized and behaved the children were.
- Phil wanted to remind the public of the Leprechaun Hunt that will be held on August 4<sup>th</sup> at Sharing Meadows in Rolling Prairie. It is a great community/family event.
- Phil wanted to recognize the custodial staff at Rolling Prairie Elementary and all of the NPUSC custodians for all their efforts preparing the buildings for the start of school.
- The Pancake Breakfast will be held during Hometown Days to support the Touchdown Club.
- Al wanted to congratulate the administrative team for all their hard work.