

BOARD NOTES  
September 12, 2011

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, September 12, 2011 with all Board members present.

Rich Shail reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items

The Board adopted the agenda as presented.

**INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION**

- Allison Middlebrook worked with Dawn Krueger of Hamilton Communities to secure a donation of approximately 100 CPR Face Shields for our trained CPR employees. The Board and Administration are very appreciative of this donation.
- Jim Holifield reported that the Mandarin Program now utilizes two teachers – May Tang and Wei Han. May teaches two Introductory Mandarin classes at NPMS, one Mandarin I class at NPMS and one Mandarin I class at NPHS. Wei Han teaches one Introductory Mandarin class at NPMS, one Mandarin II class at NPHS and a variety of Mandarin programs at the three elementary schools. Over 350 students will be impacted by this program.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

- The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:
  - Minutes – August 15, 2011
  - Financial Reports
  - Claims
  - Payroll
  - Personnel Report as follows:

**CERTIFIED**

- Leaves/Resignations
  1. Bill Spier – Science Teacher – NPHS – Leave of Absence extended through approximately September 2, 2011.
  2. Bruce Bergeron – Temporary Science Teacher – NPHS – Resignation effective August 26, 2011.

3. Natalie Krause – Spanish Teacher – NPHS – Leave of Absence extended through December 2, 2011.
  4. Clara Clark – Principal – NPHS – Resignation effective October 1, 2011
- Employment
    1. Stephanie Bellinger – Temporary Grade 3 Teacher – Rolling Prairie Elementary School – for 2011-2012 school year
    2. Stephen Kubik – Temporary Science Teacher – NPHS – Beginning August 11, 2011 and continuing through approximately September 2, 2011.
    3. Amy Bauer – Temporary Kindergarten Teacher – Rolling Prairie Elementary School – Beginning approximately August 26, 2011 and continuing for 6-8 weeks.
    4. Diane Miko – Temporary Half-time 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – Beginning approximately August 30, 2011 and continuing through October 28, 2011
    5. Rebecca Humbarger – Temporary Physics Teacher – NPHS – Beginning approximately August 29, 2011 and continuing through November 3, 2011.
    6. Brad Phillips – Temporary Half-time 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts/Social Studies Teacher – NPMS – Beginning August 31, 2011 and continuing through the end of the 2011-2012 school year.
  - Employment – Extra-Curricular
    1. Ron McVay – Assistant 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach
    2. Jeff Meinhard – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball
    3. Mark McBride – Student Council – Olive
    4. Tina Stombaugh – RTI Member – 1/7 – Olive
    5. Holly Hauck – Assistant Robotics Team Leader - NPHS
    6. Rachel Chelminiak – RTI Member – 1/7 – Olive
    7. Jim Groendyke – Spell Bowl Sponsor – NPMS
  - Resignations – Extra-Curricular
    1. Jeff Meinhard – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball

## **NON-CERTIFIED**

- Leaves/Resignations
  1. Charlotte Hunt – Bus Driver – Leave of absence beginning approximately May 6, 2011 until approximately October 3, 2011.
- Employment
  1. Valerie Seemiller – Lunchroom Assistant – Olive Elementary – Effective August 10, 2011
  2. Lauren Smith – Instructional Assistant – Prairie View Elementary – Effective August 30, 2011
  3. Caryn Spence – Instructional Assistant – Rolling Prairie Elementary – Effective August 30, 2011
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
  1. Tara Blair – Head Softball Coach – NPHS
  2. Cheryl Pumroy – Co-Student Council Sponsor – Prairie View Elementary
  3. Shannon Wilkins – Co-Student Council Sponsor – Prairie View Elementary
  4. Shannon Wilkins – Science Fair Coordinator – Prairie View Elementary
  5. Marlene Nickerson – Assistant Cross Country Coach – NPMS
  6. Daniel Bellinger – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach
  7. Bryan Dolezal – Assistant Football Coach – NPMS

Mr. Dermody announced that the NPUSC has employed Tara Blair as the Head Softball Coach. Tara was the JV Coach at Mishawaka High School during the past year and a member of the Bethel Softball team for four years.

Mr. Dermody also advised that Mrs. Clara Clark has tendered her resignation to accept a position as a School Improvement Consultant with the Southern Regional Education Board which is a parent organization of High Schools That Work. Mr. Dermody indicated that Mrs. Clark's dedication, work ethic, and willingness to take on tough issues for the betterment of students will be missed. Board members indicated that Mrs. Clark will be missed by all. She has made a positive difference at the high school and brought a lot of new programs to the school. A process to identify a permanent or interim principal will begin tomorrow, September 13, 2011.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- The ME Student Count Day is approaching. Mr. Dermody will be giving the Board an exact number in October. We are approximately 30 students over from the 2010-2011 school year ME count.
- Mr. Dermody wanted to thank the Board for the additional half-time 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher to reduce classroom numbers. Mr. Dermody would also like to thank the Teachers' Association for its positive participation in this process.
- Teacher's Credit Unit has offered to sponsor the Opening Day Breakfast as their thanks for being invited to attend. They want to continue this gesture for next year as well.
- John Gensic, High School Science Teacher, has been selected as a Jacobs Educator by the Indiana School of Education. This was an extremely competitive year and this is a great honor. John will work with the students in the field of education and attend a gala in Bloomington. He will receive \$1,000 to be used within the classroom and a \$1,500 stipend. Mr. Dermody said he appreciates what John has put forth as an educator. Mr. Gensic wanted to thank Clara Clark for bringing him to New Prairie.
- The Indiana State Police will be at the High School and Middle School for a presentation on Cyber Bullying on Friday, September 16, 2011.
- We are in the process of renewing our ROCK Program through the Swanson Center. This program reinforces positive student behaviors.
- The School Buddies Program through the Youth Service Bureau will also be approved.
- An Open House for the Kitchen Projects at New Prairie High School and Rolling Prairie Elementary School has been scheduled on September 20, 2011.
- An Open House has been scheduled for Lloyd Wood, Sharon Heirbrandt and Clara Clark on Thursday, September 22, 2011 from 2:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- An All-School Choral Festival will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup>. This Festival was requested and organized by the NPUSC Music teachers.
- The largest high school athletic event – the Cross Country Invitational – will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2011 at New Prairie High School.

- The Girls' Golf Team finished first in the Northern State Conference Tournament.
- The Administrative Team attended a seminar on Common Core Standards that focused on the sweeping changes that will effect student learning The first assessment will be tentatively scheduled for 2014.
- Keith Dennis gave an update on the construction project. We are working on some comfort levels in the kitchen. Some necessary change orders are:
  - Electrical work – HS main services may not be grounded properly.
  - Install a timer for external lights.
  - Storage rooms do not have smoke dampers in doors.
  - Install disposal in another sink
  - Doors keyed on both sides with thumb latches.

Dale asked how much additional testing will be required with the Common Core. Mr. Dermody responded that the NPUSC will await further direction for Common Core Standards and PARCC assessment implementation from federal or state educational agencies for 2012-2013 and beyond.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- The Board approved the following 2012 Budget items:
  - Approval of 2012 Budget and Resolution of Appropriations and Tax Rates.
  - Adopt Capital Projects Plan and Resolution for 2012-2013-2014.
  - Adopt Transportation Bus Replacement Plan and Resolution for 2012.
  - Approve Resolution of Tax Neutrality for School Pension Debt Fund.
  - Adopt Resolution to Reduce The General Fund Appropriations.
  - Adopt Resolution to Transfer CPF Interest Earned to General Fund.
- The Board approved a Resolution with 1<sup>st</sup> Source Bank for a signature change for Kelley Kitchen.
- The Board approved the employment of Paul Chandler as Attendance Officer for the NPUSC. This half-time position is supported by Educational Stimulus Funds. Mr. Chandler has an active teaching license and has taught and coached in Indiana and Illinois. Mr. Chandler will operate between the home and school to insure the best attendance. Mr. Chandler thanked the School Board for this opportunity.
- The Board approved a Residential Lease for the rental of a house for the Mandarin teachers as part of the Visiting Teachers Agreement.
- The Board approved the revised Vision and Mission Statements and Educational Goals established recently at a Board Worksession/Retreat and reviewed with the Teachers Association leadership.

- The Board accepted a donation from the American Legion Auxiliary Post 297 in the amount of \$150 for Olive Elementary School for leveled books for their literacy book room. The Auxiliary also gave the first graders pencils, book marks and a book about the American Flag.
- The Board approved the Conflict of Interest Disclosure for Nadine Kaminski.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- The Board received a copy of the ISBA Delegate Assembly minutes from September 27, 2010. Mr. Baltes wanted to bring the Board up to date as to what transpires at the meeting.
- The Board also received a copy of the ISBA Delegate Assembly Proposed 2011-2012 Legislative Resolutions. Mr. Baltes asked the Board to express any items they would like brought forward at the Assembly.
  - Dale Groves would like legislation to address the proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading test and the retention of students not passing the test.
  - Bernie said he is asking the ISBA to sponsor a resolution as to how they supervise homeschooled students.
  - Bernie said in reference to the vouchers – he does not have a concern with the voucher system – just wants everyone to be on the same playing field as the public schools.
  - Dale would like the legislatives to look at beginning school after Labor Day and looking at switching from the amount of minutes in school rather than days to be counted.
  - Mr. Dermody said Bernie Baltes is a great representative for the corporation and is very well respected by both legislators and ISBA delegates.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Dale wanted to welcome everyone back. He said his son is off to a good start due to wonderful things by Sherry Bailey and the teachers. As a parent, he appreciates everything being done at Olive and knows it is being done at the other NPUSC schools.

- Al Williamson wanted to thank Clara for everything she has done for NPUSC. Bernie and LuAnn said the same.
- Bernie said he heard a quote on 9/11 that said the worst in people brought out the best in people.
- Rich said there has been overwhelming support in the school and community for Lauren Pokuta. He would like to commend everyone involved for what they have done. He hopes this effort brings home good news.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.