

BOARD NOTES

July 26, 2021

The regular meeting of the School Board was held Monday, July 26, 2021, at New Prairie United School Corporation Central Office Board Room with Mr. Phil King, Mr. Al Williamson, Mr. Jason DeMeyer and Mrs. Jill Smith present. Dr. Paul White, Superintendent, was also present. Mr. Dale Groves was absent.

Mr. Phil King, Board President, reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

There was a motion by Mr. Williamson to amend the Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Smith adding Action Item I and approved 4-0-1. There was a motion to approve the Amended Agenda by Mr. DeMeyer, seconded by Mr. Williamson and approved 4-0-1.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved the following Consent Items:

- (A) Minutes – June 21, 2021 and July 14, 2021
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Dedrae Smiley – FMLA Leave as Rolling Prairie Elementary Kindergarten Teacher beginning 9/22/2021 through 12/17/2021
 2. Erin White – FMLA Leave as NPHS ELA Teacher beginning 8/5/2021 through 11/5/2021
- Employment
 1. Adrienne Hurt – New Prairie Middle School Art Teacher beginning 2021-2022 school year pending criminal background check results
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Aimee Litka – NPMS Exploratory Team Leader beginning 2021-2022 school year
- Adjustments

CLASSIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Meredith Carnes – Resignation as Instructional Assistant at Rolling Prairie Elementary School effective 7/19/2021
 2. Judy Harris – Resignation as Nutritional Services Worker effective 7/12/2021
 3. Alana Boothe – Resignation as Instructional Assistant at Olive Twp. Elementary effective 7/12/2021
- Employment
- Employment – Extra Curricular
 1. Cassie Holmquest – NPMS 7th & 8th Grade Head Volleyball Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 2. William Gumm – NPHS Assistant Varsity Football Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 3. Derek Hicks – NPHS Head Softball Coach for the 2021-2022 school year

4. Evan Beakas – NPHS Cross Country Assistant Boys Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 5. Kenneth Shipley – NPHS Freshman Football Coach 1/3 coaching stipend for the 2021-2022 school year
 6. Jacob Pinter - NPHS Freshman Football Coach 1/3 coaching stipend for the 2021-2022 school year
 7. Daniel Luther - NPHS Freshman Football Coach 1/3 coaching stipend for the 2021-2022 school year
 8. Shaye Tolch – NPHS 9th Grade Volleyball Coach for the 2021-2022 school year pending criminal background search results
- Adjustments
 - \$1.00 hourly rate increase for all NPUSC Bus Drivers
 - Sub Bus Driver Rate and New Driver starting rate increase to \$17.59 per hour
 - Bus Driver rate increase for ECA trip drive time to \$16 per hour, ECA trip wait time stays at \$11
 - Instructional Assts hourly rate increase to a minimum of \$10 per hour, all current Instructional Assts making under \$10 per hour will be adjusted to \$10 per hour. Beginning instructional Asst rate increases to \$10 per hour

REPORTS

- Dr. White stated that he is excited about starting the new school year. Dr. White added that there is professional development planned for the teaching staff on August 5th and 6th with nationally recognized educators specifically looking at PLC implementation with RTI programming along with John Eller who will here to work with teachers on the new teacher evaluation system.
- Dr. White introduced Dr. Watson who took over the Girls Golf Program a few years ago who has brought some wonderful life to the program.
- Dr. Watson introduced his team and a few NP lady alumni golfers who attended the meeting. Dr. Watson gave a brief history of Girls Golf at New Prairie along with the current statistics of his growing team. He listed the festivities planned for New Prairie's 50th year anniversary of instituting Girls Golf at New Prairie. Dr. Watson said he is proud of his golfers and how the Girls Golf Program has grown and plans to keep that trend going with the feeder programs now instituted from elementary through middle school. Dr. Watson thanked the Board and Administration for all their support in helping to grow the Girls Golf program.
- Dr. White stated that we are all very excited for how Dr. Watson is running the program and how it is representing the school.
- Dr. White concluded his report stating that this is a really good example of why NP is a great place to work and a great place to send your students. We offer so many extra-curricular and co-curricular programs that is approached with heart and care.

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board approved the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for Jim Holifield, Director of Finance/Corporation Treasurer
- (B) The Board approved Updated Position Descriptions
- (C) The Board approved the 2021 Bus Replacement Recommendation
- (D) The Board approved NWEA Contract for 2021-2022
- (E) The Board accepted Donations:
 - NPHS Swim & Dive Team received a donation of \$50 from the Fedorchak Family

- NPHS HOSA received a donation of \$4,000 from Northwest Indiana Area Health Education Center for classroom supplies, event materials, and program expenses
- (F) The Board approved a Language Change to the NPUSC Substitute Teacher Handbook
- (G) The Board approved an Overnight Field Trip Request
- (H) The Board approved the 2nd Reading and Adoption of the New Board Policy regarding Board Member Electronic Participation in Board Meetings
- (I) The Board approved Mr. Justin Heinold as Prairie View Elementary School Principal
- Dr. White congratulated Mr. Heinold on his new position as Prairie View Elementary School Principal. He went on to read his press release highlighting Mr. Heinold's past accomplishments.
 - Mr. Heinold took the floor and thanked his wife and family who have challenged him to be the best version of himself. He thanked the New Prairie School Board for their leadership of the district, Mr. Holmquest's leadership that has helped him learn and grow. Mr. Heinold thanked Dr. White, Dr. Cannon and the selection committee that believed and trusted that he will lead with honesty, integrity and care. Mr. Heinold then stated that he is eager to start building relationships with students, parents and families of the Prairie View community. He explained that he feels building those connections are important as a leader and is very excited to join the Prairie View community and continue his leadership here at NPUSC. Thank you again to the School Board for this opportunity. Go Bobcats!

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- (A) First Reading Revised Board Policy 2623.01
- There was no discussion by the Board on this policy.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Mr. Williamson stated that it breaks his heart to break up the "Justin and Justin" team at the Middle School. He thanked them both for their great leadership at the middle school. Mr. Williamson went on to wish Mr. Heinold good luck at Prairie View and feels it is a perfect fit.
- Mrs. Smith congratulated Mr. Heinold and wished him good luck on his next step as Principal at Prairie View. Mrs. Smith also congratulated the Girls Golf Team and what they have accomplished this past year and on their 50-year anniversary.
- Mr. King congratulated Mr. Heinold explaining that when hiring any leadership position the Board has a vision of moving all schools forward. He stated that the Board feels Mr. Heinold is the right for the job of moving Prairie View forward.
- Mr. King welcomed everyone back who has started this week. The next Board Meeting is August 9th.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Williamson made the motion to adjourn at 6:35 p.m.