

BOARD NOTES

May 24, 2021

The regular meeting of the School Board was held Monday, May 24, 2021, at New Prairie Middle School with Mr. Phil King, Mr. Dale Groves, Mr. Al Williamson and Mrs. Jill Smith present. Dr. Paul White, Superintendent, was also present. Mr. Jason DeMeyer was absent.

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

There was a motion by Mr. Groves to amend the agenda, adding Instructional Presentations and Action Item N, seconded by Mrs. Smith and approved 4-0-1.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

- (A) Mr. King introduced Mrs. Tonya Aerts, NPMS Biomedical Science Teacher & HOSA Leader, who gave the Heart Safe Schools presentation. Mrs. Aerts explained the process and achievement accomplished by NPMS to obtain the very first title in the State of Indiana as a "Heart Safe School". Mrs. Aerts had representatives from Riley Children's Hospital present who explained to the Board the work completed by HOSA and NPMS to obtain the distinctive title. Mrs. Aerts along with Mrs. Sass, principal at NPMS, put together a mock cardiac arrest drill at the high school for the Riley Children's Hospital representatives to observe the hard work, training and planning that prepared NPMS students for any sudden cardiac arrests that could possibly happen. HOSA's AED project has been vital to proving NPMS is prepared earning the high school the distinction of Indiana's first "Heart Safe School".
- (B) Mr. Holmquest, Principal at NPMS, presented this year's NPMS PLC focus on "Fail Forward". Mr. Holmquest shared NWEA data that showed that many students remained at or above grade level throughout the pandemic. He stated that he is looking forward to receiving the latest data to see projected growth. Mr. Holmquest had a presentation for the Board from Mr. Mosson and Mr. Simon on the changes they made in Eastern Culture based on the PLC process. They shared how excited they have been with the positive results in student learning. Mr. Heinold, NPMS Assistant Principal, spoke about the hours spent speaking with a Principal at a model PLC middle school in Alabama. He explained how they compared how the Alabama school does their RTI Teams compared to ours and compared data. Mr. Heinold shared that they are excited to begin a new year at NPMS moving forward with the PLC process. Mr. Heinold explained the plan for the new Interventionists as well as the plan for Social Emotional help for students at the MS. Mr. Holmquest explained that especially this year the focus was on optimism and learning.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved the following Consent Items:

- (A) Minutes – April 26, 2021
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Herman (Thom) Smith – Retirement as NPMS Health/PE Teacher effective 7/31/2021
 2. Jennifer Breitzka – Resignation as NPMS Language Arts Teacher effective 5/28/2021
 3. Jennifer Smith – ECA Resignation as NPMS 6th Grade Team Leader effective 6/31/2021
- Employment

1. Crystal Snyder – NPMS 7th Grade Science Teacher beginning 7/1/2021
 2. Adam Branch – NPHS Mathematics Teacher beginning 7/1/2021
 3. Jessica Winkel – NPMS Temporary position as 6th Grade ELA Teacher beginning 7/1/2021
 4. Lexi Benhart - NPMS Temporary position as 7th Grade Math Teacher beginning 7/1/2021
- Employment – Summer 2021
 1. Sharon Bashaw – Summer 3rd Grade IREAD Instructor
 2. Dan Reffo – Summer HS PE Instructor
 3. Mark McBride – Summer NPMS Math Instructor
 4. Brienne Irely – Summer Leader 6-12
 5. Joshua Bolakowski – Summer Leader 6-12
 - Employment – Extra-Curricular/Ancillary Duty
 1. Jen Soos – NPHS Teacher to Mentor a new teacher for the 2021-2022 school year
 2. Erin White – NPHS ELA Teacher ECA as English Department Chair for the 2021-2022 school year
 3. Cory Neuenschwander – NPMS Athletic Coordinator beginning 2021-2022 school year
 - Adjustments
 1. Lisa Smiertelny, Rolling Prairie Elementary School 3rd Grade Teacher position change to 2-year grant funded Academic Interventionist Teacher at Rolling Prairie Elementary School beginning 7/1/2021.
 2. Barb Papai, High Ability Coordinator position change to 2-year grant funded Academic Interventionist Teacher at Olive Twp. Elementary School beginning 7/1/2021
 3. Sarah Binder, Prairie View Elementary 5th Grade Teacher position change to 2-year grant funded Academic Interventionist Teacher at Prairie View & Rolling Prairie Elementary Schools beginning 7/1/2021
 4. Jen Smith, NPMS 6th Grade ELA Teacher position change to 2-year grant funded Academic Interventionist Teacher at New Prairie Middle School beginning 7/1/2021
 5. Kate VanPelt, NPMS 7th Grade ELA Teacher position change to 2-year grant funded Academic Interventionist Teacher at New Prairie Middle School beginning 7/1/2021
 6. Jen Soos, NPHS Math Teacher position change to 2-year grant funded Academic Interventionist Teacher at New Prairie High School beginning 7/1/2021
 7. Nicole Chase, NPHS Social Studies Teacher position change to 2-year grant funded Academic Interventionist Teacher at New Prairie High School beginning 7/1/2021
 8. Jennifer Soos to receive a stipend of \$800 for work on PRIME Math Grant
 9. Steve Wade to receive a stipend of \$800 for work on PRIME Math Grant
 10. Mike Bauer, Social Studies Teacher at NPHS to change positions to PE/Health Teacher at NPHS beginning 7/1/2021

CLASSIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Alicia Ward – Resignation as Olive Twp. Elementary School Instructional Assistant effective 5/7/2021
 2. Alissa Mathews – Resignation as Olive Twp. Elementary School Instructional Assistant effective 5/26/2021
 3. Michelle Ruff – Resignation as Rolling Prairie Elementary School Instructional Assistant effective 5/27/2021
 4. Debra Wells – Retirement as Olive Twp. Elementary School Instructional Assistant effective 5/27/2021
 5. Tina Thompson – Resignation as Rolling Prairie Elementary School Grant Funded Instructional Assistant effective 5/27/2021
 6. Jackson Buhring – Resignation as Summer 2021 Camp Eberhart Staff Member

7. Erika Buhring – Resignation as Enrichment Program Coordinator/Virtual Academy Coordinator effective 6/4/2021
- Employment
 1. Amy Talboom – Prairie View Elementary School Instructional Assistant beginning 8/11/2021
 2. Marguerite Kieszowski – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Health Aide beginning 8/11/2021
 - Employment – Summer 2021
 1. Laura Spearman – Summer IREAD Instructional Assistant
 2. Angela Lenig – Summer Health Aide/Secretary
 3. Corbin Jonas – Camp Eberhart Staff Member
 - Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Shari Rose – NPHS Senior Class Sponsor for the 2020-2021 school year
 2. Zack Ketterer – NPMS Head Football Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 3. Teresa Hostetler – NPHS Boy’s Tennis Assistant Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 4. Joel Hostetler – NPHS Boy’s Tennis Head Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 5. Anna Piesyk – NPHS Dance Co-Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 6. Tara Dome – NPHS Dance Co-Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Adjustments

REPORTS

- Dr. White thanked the Heart Safe Schools group who attended the HS mock drill and the Board Meeting. Dr. White stated that he experienced the drill the he felt was highly choreographed and was excellent. Mrs. Aerts and HOSA have done an outstanding job.
- Dr. White wished Mr. Thom Smith, NPHS PE/Health Teacher and Mrs. Maggie Stepniewski, Olive Twp. Elementary School 1st Grade Teacher, the very best in their retirement. Their many years of service are greatly appreciated.

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board accepted the following Donations:
 - NPUSC received a Donation of the use of Heston Hills Event Center from the owner, Tim Ohlund, for the NPHS Top Ten Dinner valued at \$2,000
 - Rolling Prairie Elementary received the following donations:
 - 4th grade students received a donation of tree saplings in honor of Earth Day from Delta Beta Phi
 - 3rd grade students receive a donation of a dictionary each from the Lions Club
 - \$400 from Songer Services, Inc.
- (B) The Board approved Conflict of Interest for Dr. Carrie Cannon
- (C) The Board approved Closure of Classes to Transfer Students for the 2021-2022 School Year:
 - Olive Twp. Elementary Kindergarten
 - Prairie View Elementary Grades: Kindergarten & 5
 - Rolling Prairie Elementary Grade 4
- (D) The Board approved Meal Pricing for the 2021-2022 School Year
- (E) The Board approved the 2021-22 Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety (AUP) & Signature Page
- (F) The Board approved the Overnight Field Trip Requests
- (G) The Board approved the 2nd Reading and Adoption of Board Policy 4150
- (H) The Board approved Student Handbooks for the 2021-22 School Year
 - New Prairie High School

- New Prairie Middle School
- Elementary Schools – Olive, Prairie View, Rolling Prairie,
- Elementary General Handbook
- NPMS Athletic & Parent Handbook
- (I) The Board approved the NPUSC 2021 Summer Cougar Camps
- (J) The Board approved Emergency Repair Expenditure
- (K) The Board approved New and Revised Job Descriptions:
 - NPMS Building Athletics/Guidance Admin. Secretary
 - NPMS Building Attendance/Registrar Secretary
 - NPMS Building Treasurer/Librarian
- (L) The Board approved the Summer Programming COVID Protocols
- (M) The Board approved the 2021-2022 USDA Sponsored Free Meal Plan
- (N) The Board approved Trade Contracts for the Football Halftime Building

BOARD COMMENTS

- Mr. Groves sent out a special thank you to everyone who has worked so hard this year to educate our students and keep them safe. Mr. Groves stated that it is evident that New Prairie is still moving forward and exclaimed that he could not be happier.
- Mr. Williamson echoed what Mr. Groves said adding that the collaboration at New Prairie is amazing. He cannot thank the Middle School Administrators enough for their hard work taking the Middle School to the next level. Mr. Williamson thanked Mrs. Sass for allowing HOSA and Mrs. Aerts to make New Prairie High School a “Heart Safe School”.
- Mr. King congratulated the graduating class of 2021 and wished them the best of luck. He went on to commend the students and staff for all that was thrown at them during this extremely difficult year. Mr. King stated that we have amazing teachers and support staff. It takes a village to finish as strong as New Prairie has. Mr. King thanked the parents and wanted them to know that the Board made the best decisions it could for students. Mr. King mentioned he just attended the Choir and Band concerts for the MS & HS and stated that New Prairie has many talented students! He went on to say that he is happy to see so many Overnight Field Trips Requests and feels it is first step toward normalcy. Mr. King invited everyone to the next Regular Board Meeting to be held at New Prairie High School in the Auxiliary Gym with a presentation by the Robotics Team at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Groves made the motion to adjourn at 7:17 p.m.