

BOARD NOTES
February 28, 2022

The regular meeting of the School Board was held Monday, February 28, 2022, at the Central Office Board Room with Mr. Phil King, Mr. Dale Groves, Mr. Jason DeMeyer, Mr. Al Williamson, and Mrs. Jill Smith present. Dr. Paul White, Superintendent, was also present.

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

There was a motion by Mr. Groves to approve the Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Smith and approved 5-0.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

(A) Public Recognition

- Dr. White stated that there is a lot to celebrate this evening and that he is honored & proud to be part of this school system. He spoke on one of the Core Values of this school system which is to pursue excellence in academics and extra-curricular activities. Dr. White recognized and congratulated the accomplishments of the Wrestling and Swim programs, complimenting the coaches and the students who made it to the State competition. He introduced the Wrestling Head Coach, Mr. Bobby Whitenack, who spoke on his season and the 3 wrestlers who made it to state competition. Mr. Whitenack introduced the three State Qualifiers and listed their accomplishments: Jayden Lewis, Grade 9, State Qualifier who is 1 of now 2 9th graders in the history of NPHS wrestlers who qualified for State competition; Hunter Whitenack, Grade 12, who placed 7th ; Christian Carroll, Grade 11, who is the first ever State Champ for NPHS. As a team the wrestlers placed 10th in State finals. Mr. Whitenack stated that it was a great season!
- Dr. White introduced Miss. Wojtysiak to speak about the gentlemen swim State Qualifiers who competed at State this past weekend. Miss. Wojtysiak introduced the senior swimmers Mason Young, Gabriel Groves, Landon Farmer & Roman Piergalski along with junior Ethan Radtke who all finished as a team in the top 13 overall in the State. Miss. Wojtysiak stated that these young men put New Prairie Swim on the map as they competed the last 3 years at State.
- Dr. White exclaimed that he is speechless and very proud of the representation and determination of our NPHS athletes.
- Mr. Groves stated that the student athletes here tonight are so deserving of all they have achieved. He went on to thank the unsung heroes, the coaches, for their many, many hours of work helping the athletes to achieve what they have.
- Dr. White presented the athletes with certificates from the Board and congratulated them all individually.

(B) Dr. Cannon Presentation of RTI Data

- Dr. White explained that the Administration and the Board made a substantial investment in Response to Intervention processes by putting things in place to reteach those students who have not learned essential skills. The process offers opportunities to relearn essential skills with classroom teachers and designated Intervention Teachers. Dr. White

introduced Dr. Cannon, Assistant Superintendent, who explained that the Interventionist Teachers from each school will give an update on the data obtained from the first semester of working with Tier 3 students who are New Prairie's most struggling learners. She explained that the Interventionists will also share a success, a challenge, and a need with the Board. Dr. Cannon feels it is vitally important to New Prairie students to keep the Interventionist positions at each school permanently past the 3 years of the Grant funding.

- Dr. White thanked everyone for organizing the data and presenting this evening. Dr. White said it is good to see tangible results with the investment that has been made, which is grant funded at this point. Dr. White went on to explain that the long-term funding of the Interventionist positions will be a task that is critical to keep this program going for kids beyond the grant funding with the positive results presented. He went on to say that international research is very clear that the Response to Intervention process has a real impact on student learning that can't be disputed and we are seeing it play out in our schools already. Dr. White stated that it was great to hear all the teachers here tonight from each school say they are thrilled and excited to be doing the right work for kids.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

- (A) Minutes – January 24, 2022
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Rachel McCaulley – Resignation as New Prairie Middle School 6th Grade ELA teacher effective 1/26/2022
 2. Tim Scott – FMLA Leave as Assistant Principal at NPHS beginning 12/17/2021 through 2/20/2022
 3. Tina Trojanowski – Intermittent FMLA Leave as Prairie View Elementary School 1st Grade Teacher beginning 1/3/2022 through 7/3/2022
 4. Martin Mosson – Retirement as New Prairie Middle School 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher effective 6/30/2022
 5. Steve Wade – Retirement as New Prairie High School Mathematics Teacher effective 6/30/2022
 6. Carrie Cannon – Resignation as NPUSC Assistant Superintendent effective 4/11/2022 (pending employment approval as Superintendent of Fairfield Community School Corporation by their School Board on March 10, 2022)
 7. Andrew Maez – ECA Resignation of Coaching duties: NPHS Asst. Soccer Coach, NPMS Asst. Wrestling Coach, & RPES Head Wrestling Coach effective 6/30/2022
- Employment
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Kim Holifield – New Teacher Mentor beginning for the second semester 2021-22 school year beginning 1/5/2022

2. Bobby Whitenack – Olive Elementary Wrestling Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 3. Jim Matz – Prairie View Elementary Wrestling Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 4. Everett Forrester – NPHS Vocal Music Director (Fall Musical) beginning 2021-2022 school year
- Adjustments
 1. Sarah Hernandez, NPMS Temporary Contract change as 6th Grade ELA teacher to a regular contract NPMS 6th Grade ELA Teacher effective 2/28/2022
 2. David McGhee will receive a \$500 stipend for Afterschool Enrichment Activities for Bulldog Club at Rolling Prairie Elementary paid by Title I
 3. Tim Flanagan will receive a \$500 stipend for Afterschool Enrichment Activities for Bobcat Club at Prairie View Elementary paid by Title I

CLASSIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
 1. Michelle Ruff – Resignation as RPES Instructional Assistant effective 2/25/2022
 2. Jane Bealor – Intermittent FMLA Leave as Prairie View Secretary beginning 2/9/2022 through 2/9/2023
- Employment
 1. Hannah Shoue – Rolling Prairie Elementary Instructional Assistant beginning 2/7/2022
 2. Rachel Gentry – Olive Twp. Elementary Instructional Assistant beginning 2/7/2022
 3. Ashley Sparks – Olive Twp. Elementary Instructional Assistant start date pending criminal background check results
 4. Nicole Stiffler – NPMS Nutritional Services Worker beginning 2/8/2022
 5. Elicia Coursey – Prairie View Elementary Instructional Assistant start date pending criminal background check results
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Cody Downs – NPMS Head Wrestling Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 2. Dan Luther – Olive Twp. Elementary Wrestling Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 3. Scott Meredith – NPHS Assistant HS Softball Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 4. Alyssa Staley – NPMS Cheer Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
 5. Kyleigh Kubik – NPHS Freshman Girls' Basketball Coach (3/4 time) for the 2021-2022 school year
 6. Jared Emmons – NPHS Head Boys Tennis Coach for the 2022-2023 school year
 7. Shaunna Sommers – NPHS JV Softball Coach for the 2021-2022 school year
- Adjustments
 1. Caryn Spence to transfer positions from Olive Twp. Elementary School Instructional Assistant to the Dyslexia Reading Assistant, beginning March 1, 2022, funded through the Remediation Grant through June 1, 2023.

2. Richelle Kmak, Central Office Receptionist, to receive a wage increase of \$1.00 hour beginning March 1, 2022

REPORTS

- (A) Dr. White mentioned he will be working with Mr. Holifield to find ways to fund the Interventionist positions beyond Grant Funding.

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board accepted Donations:
 - NPHS Robotics received the following donations:
 - \$1,000 from Notre Dame Federal Credit Union
 - \$100 from Feeney's Hometown Goods
 - \$250 from D.A. Dodd Inc.
 - Prairie View Elementary received a donation of \$160 for student needs from Hudson Lake Mennonite Church
- (B) The Board approved Drivers Education Summer Program & Fees for 2022
- (C) The Board approved the Insurance Renewal with Gibson Insurance
- (D) The Board approved the Conflict of Interest Form for:
 - Adam Podell
- (E) The Board approved Consulting Services Agreement with Lachesis Group, LLC.
- (F) The Board approved the 2023 Budget Calendar
- (G) The Board approved the CPR Agreement between NPUSC and St. Joe Regional Medical Center, Inc.
- (H) The Board approved the 2022 New Prairie Little League and Rolling Prairie Baseball Association Agreements
- (I) The Board approved the Revised 2021-2022 School Calendar
- (J) The Board approved the Contract between NPUSC and YMCA Camp Eberhart
- (K) The Board approved the Summer 2022 Athletic Camp Schedule
- (L) The Board approved Overnight Field Trip Requests
- (M) The Board approved the sale of NPUSC iPads as Surplus Equipment

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- (A) 1st Reading of Revised Board Policy 7510
 - Mr. King stated that he feels that the daily rental rate for Gym, Auditorium and Pool should be increased. Mr. Kaminski stated that he will find out what LaPorte schools charge and let Dr. White know.
 - Dr. Cannon stated that she and Mrs. Conley are trying to find dollars for more life jackets for summer swim for Mrs. Wojtysiak.
 - Dr. White will add a clause regarding damages to the policy and will also add an additional clause regarding lifeguards.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Mr. DeMeyer commented that the presentation was great tonight. It was rewarding to see the teacher's excitement with the student's growth at all the schools.
- Mrs. Smith congratulated the athletes that showed up this evening. Mrs. Smith also thanked the teachers tonight for all their time and hard work.
- Mr. Williamson echoed what Mr. DeMeyer and Mrs. Smith said adding that it was an amazing night. He added that he is glad to see the improvement with the little ones as he had no idea the amount of high school students who were so far behind. It does answer a lot of questions. He concluded by thanking Dr.

Cannon for securing the grant funds for this program and to the teachers who are making the difference.

- Mr. Groves said that it was wonderful to see the academic and athletic successes our students are having and the hard work that our teachers and coaches are putting in to get those students where they need to be. He added that since he has been on the Board that we always have been able to find a way to find funding for what is best for kids.

ADJOURNMENT

- Mr. Groves made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.