

## BOARD NOTES

May 23, 2022

The regular meeting of the School Board was held Monday, May 23, 2022, at New Prairie United School Corporation 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.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

- (A) Minutes – April 25, 2022 & May 9, 2022
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report:

### **CERTIFIED**

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
  1. Kristina Pentelow – ECA Resignation as NPMS Academic Superbowl Coach effective end of 2021-2022 school year
  2. Jennifer Smith – ECA Resignation as NPMS ¼ Academic Superbowl Coach effective end of 2021-2022 school year
  3. Mark Stone – ECA Resignation as NPHS Sophomore Class Sponsor effective end of 2021-2022 school year
  4. Sara Gillen – FMLA Leave as Kindergarten Teacher at Olive Twp. Elementary beginning 8/8/2022 through 11/3/2022
  5. Sara Gillen – Child Rearing Leave as Kindergarten Teacher at Olive Twp. Elementary beginning 11/4/2022 through 1/3/2023
  6. Jalen Alexander – Resignation as NPMS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Teacher effective 6/30/2022
  7. Rebecca Bartlett – Resignation as Rolling Prairie Elementary School Principal effective 6/30/2022
- Employment
  1. Madeline Mills – Olive Twp. Elementary School 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher beginning 7/1/2022 pending criminal background check results
- Employment – Summer 2022
  1. Kimberly Stepp – Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
  2. Jeff Meinhard - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
  3. Ron McVay - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
  4. Barb Papai - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
  5. Ashley Hernandez - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
- Employment – Extra-Curricular/Ancillary Duty
  1. Bobby Whitenack - NPHS Assistant Football Coach for the 2022-2023 school year
- Adjustments

1. Ashley McClintock – Olive Twp. Elementary Temporary Teacher to receive a stipend of \$500 from the High Ability Grant.
2. Barb Papai – NPUSC High Ability Coordinator to receive a stipend of \$500 from the High Ability Grant
3. Aiden Cotter - NPHS ELA Teacher to receive a \$500 stipend for his work on the Partner's in Prevention implementation team
4. Jacqueline Scarborough NPHS Art Teacher to receive a \$500 stipend for her work on the Partner's in Prevention implementation team
5. Timothy Scott - NPHS Assistant Principal Voluntary Transfer to NPUSC Finance Director/Corporation Treasurer effective 5/27/2022

**CLASSIFIED**

▪ Leaves/Resignations/Retirements

1. Dawn Wilhelm – FMLA leave as Custodian at NPMS beginning approximately 7/30/2022 through 10/22/2022
2. Tricia Toth – FMLA leave as NPUSC Bus Driver beginning 5/13/2022 through 8/5/2022
3. Yessica Jimenez – Resignation as RPES Instructional Assistant and Translator effective 5/24/2022
4. Madeleine Leonhardt – Resignation as Rolling Prairie Elementary Instructional Assistant effective 5/24/2022
5. Doris Price – FMLA Leave as NPHS Custodian beginning 6/8/2022 through 7/11/2022
6. Shanda Nguyen – Resignation as PVES Instructional Assistant effective 5/16/2022
7. Laura Wozniak – Resignation as RPES Instructional Assistant effective 5/24/2022
8. John Cosman – Retirement as NPUSC Bus Driver effective 5/24/2022
9. Pam Cosman - Retirement as NPUSC Bus Driver effective 5/24/2022
10. Kari Webber – Resignation as Olive Twp. Elementary Instructional Assistant effective 5/24/2022
11. Rachel Gentry - Resignation as Olive Twp. Elementary Instructional Assistant effective 5/24/2022

▪ Employment

1. Jill Bublitz – Prairie View Elementary Instructional Assistant beginning 8/11/2022 pending criminal background check results

▪ Employment – Summer 2022

1. Nancy Bond – IREAD Instructional Assistant for Summer 2022
2. Caryn Spence - IREAD Instructional Assistant for Summer 2022
3. Angela Lenig – Summer 2022 Health Aide
4. Matthew Dettinger – Summer 2022 Tech Aide
5. Zoie Martinez - Summer 2022 Tech Aide
6. Logan Kuzdas – Summer 2022 Tech Aide
7. Lydia Chappell - Summer 2022 Tech Aide
8. Brayden Conley - Summer 2022 Tech Aide
9. Jane Bealor - Summer 2022 Tech Aide
10. Patrycja Maciata - Summer 2022 Tech Aide
11. Christal Jonas - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff
12. Corbin Jonas - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
13. Abigail Huff - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
14. Angela Deutscher - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant

15. Jessica Finn - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
  16. Marguerite Kieszkowski - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
  17. Haley Roberts - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
  18. Teresa Roberts - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff Pd. By HFL Grant
  19. Kristine Gadacz - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff
  20. Richelle Kmak - Summer 2022 Camp Eberhart Staff
  21. Amanda Kindig – Summer 2022 Custodial Staff
  22. Hayley Shankland – Summer 2022 Custodial Staff
  23. Julie Abbott – Summer 2022 Custodial Staff
  24. Traci Rykhus – Summer 2022 Custodial Staff
  25. Alexas Rykhus – Summer 2022 Custodial Staff
  26. Kiyomi Trent - Summer 2022 Custodial Staff
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
    1. Bill Gumm – NPHS Assistant Football Coach for the 2022-2023 school year
    2. Zachary Ketterer – NPHS Assistant Football Coach for the 2022-2023 school year
    3. Kenneth Shipley - NPHS Assistant Football Coach for the 2022-2023 school year
    4. William Chalik – NPHS Boys Assistant Soccer Coach for the 2022-2023 school year
  - Adjustments
    1. Sue Aikman – Position change from Nutritional Services Coordinator to Nutritional Services Director effective 6/1/2022
    2. Angela Curless – Position change from Secretary Treasurer at Rolling Prairie Elementary School to NPUSC HR/Payroll Coordinator effective 6/1/2022

## **REPORTS**

- Dr. White invited Mrs. Aerts, NPHS Biomedical Science Teacher and NPHS HOSA Team Sponsor, to give an overview of the HOSA project that went to State competition and present her State winners going to the National competition in June most of whom were present to discuss. Dr. White congratulated the students and presented certificates to the winners on behalf of himself and the Board.
- Dr. White then congratulated Mrs. Aerts for being chosen as Outstanding Teacher for the “Dude be Nice Foundation”.
- Dr. White recognized Mr. Jim Holifield who will be transitioning to Valparaiso Community School Corporation. Dr. White explained that Mr. Holifield’s work has been respected and appreciated and that he will be missed. Dr. White also congratulated Mr. Tim Scott who will be stepping into Mr. Holifield’s position.
- Dr. White recognized Mr. Mark Norton, Director of Technology for NPUSC, stating that Mr. Norton and his team tirelessly keep NPUSC up to date on technology of which he appreciates. Dr. White gratefully thanked Mr. Norton who applied for a 1.4-million-dollar Emergency Connectivity Federal Grant and won for the corporation. These funds will be substantial help with many technological needs. Again, many thanks to Mr. Norton.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- (A) The Board accepted the following donations:
- Rolling Prairie PTO donated a \$50 Gift Card for a raffle for attendees of the PLC Community Meeting held at the Middle School on April 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Heston Supper Club donated a \$50 Gift Card for a raffle for attendees of the PLC Community Meeting held at the High School on May 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Heston Hills Event Center, Tim & Jackie Ohlund, donated the room charge for the NPHS Top Ten Dinner valued at \$2,000 and reduced the room rate for the NPHS Prom valued at \$1,600
  - INDOT donated 230 bike helmets for all K-2 students at Olive Twp. Elementary School
  - Delta Beta Phi donated 78 Silky Dogwood trees for all 4<sup>th</sup> Graders at Olive Twp. Elementary School
  - Bud Ziegert from Gates Automotive in South Bend donated basketballs to each elementary school in the corporation
- (B) The Board approved the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Adoption of Updated Board Policy 0167.3
- (C) The Board approved the Resolution to Transfer Funds from Rainy Day Fund to Operations Fund
- (D) The Board approved the Resolution for Temporary Inter-Fund Loans
- (E) The Board approved the IXL Math & ELA Agreement for 2022-2023
- (F) The Board approved the NIESC Director of Food Service Consultant Agreement
- (G) The Board approved the MOU for the LaPorte County Public Library “Libraries 360 Services”
- (H) The Board approved the Overnight Field Trip Requests
- (I) The Board approved the Nutritional Services Maintenance Program Agreement
- (J) The Board approved the recommendation for Snow Removal beginning 2022-2023 school year
- (K) The Board tabled the Student Handbooks for the 2022-23 School Year
- New Prairie High School
  - New Prairie Middle School
  - Elementary Schools – Olive, Prairie View, Rolling Prairie,
  - Elementary General Handbook
  - NPMS & NPHS Athletic & Parent Handbooks
- (L) The Board approved the updated Position Descriptions for:
- Director of Health Services
  - Lead Grounds Maintenance

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- (A) Board Policy 8600 Transportation – Walk Zones
- Dr. White reviewed the current walk zones for students in Rolling Prairie and New Carlisle. Dr. White recommended that both of those transportation walk zones be doubled in size to provide for more efficient bus routes. There was no discussion by the Board.

- Mr. King asked for discussion on the tabled handbooks and the Board's concerns.
- Mr. Groves asked about the severe vaping concern at the high school in the bathrooms. He is looking forward to hearing about how to rectify that situation and address it in the handbooks.
- Mrs. Sass and Mr. Scott explained to the Board that they have installed vaping sensors of late which have helped with identifying students along with adding teacher patrols. When caught the student's 1<sup>st</sup> offense is 1 day of ISS and take a class on vaping. Mrs. Sass stated that they have found that students who vape are addicted as they tend to be repeat offenders. 2<sup>nd</sup> offense, the student has 1 day of OSS and a ticket for \$168. 3<sup>rd</sup> time is more days of OSS and another ticket. The ticket seems to be most effective in prevention. Parents are becoming more aware their students are vaping.
- Mr. Groves said that as a parent, he is so sorry that the principals have to deal with such time-consuming bologna. He tells his own kids that if they break a rule then they have to deal with the consequences. Rules are rules and consequences have to be tough to be effective.
- Dr. White suggested giving the ticket the 1<sup>st</sup> offense and ISS then 2<sup>nd</sup> offense more ISS days.
- Mrs. Smith suggested keeping the vaping class at the 1<sup>st</sup> offense along with Dr. White's suggestion then the student pays for the vaping class on 2<sup>nd</sup> offense and take it again.
- Mr. Williamson suggested the MS mirror the HS rules on offenses.
- Mr. Groves asked about the elementary schools and if students are vaping there. Dr. White responded that there is not information on that.
- Dr. White will put together options for the Board to review for recommendation at the next Board meeting so they can be added to the Handbooks and the handbooks approved.
- Mr. King then recommended that the transportation discipline referral be tweaked removing the current 1st offense then moving the current 2<sup>nd</sup> offense up to the 1<sup>st</sup> offense. It has become necessary to be tougher on the students on the bus. Mr. Groves agreed. Dr. White shared Lory Samford has encouraged the drivers take more pro-active steps and make calls to parents. Mr. Williamson stated that the drivers may need to make those calls from the bus garage on a school phone with Lory present. Serious offenses then move on to the Administration. The Board agreed and this should be in the student handbooks as well.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Mrs. Smith thanked Mr. Holifield for time at NPUSC and congratulated the HOSA students and Mrs. Aerts.
- Mr. Williamson welcomed Mr. Scott and Mrs. Sass to the central office. He then stated that HOSA students work is very impressive. Thanking them for their presentation. Mr. Williamson then thanked Mr. Holifield for his time here and stated that he will be missed and wished him luck.
- Mr. Groves echoed what the Board said.
- Mr. King congratulated the graduating seniors adding that Graduation is on. Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at Amzie Miller Field. He also thanked Mr. Holifield for his time here and his work with the referendum wishing him luck at Valparaiso Community School Corporation.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- Mr. Groves made the motion to adjourn the meeting.