

**Board Notes**  
August 28, 2023

The regular meeting of the School Board was held Monday, August 28, 2023, at NPUSC Central Office Board Room with Mr. Phil King, Mr. Jason DeMeyer, Mrs. Jill Smith, Mr. Dale Groves and Mr. Rich Gadacz 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 Mrs. Smith to adopt the agenda, seconded by Mr. DeMeyer. Mr. Groves made a motion to amend the Agenda adding Action Item "L" and moving the Consent Items to follow the Action Items. The motion was approved 5-0.

On a motion by Mr. Gadacz, seconded by Mr. Groves the regular meeting was suspended to hold the annual Budget Hearing.

### **BUDGET HEARING**

Tim Scott, Director of Finance explained the Budget Timeline to the Board then presented the proposed 2024 Budget Appropriations as follows:

- Educational Fund - \$22,936,272
- Debt Service - \$ 4,309,616
- Referendum Debt Service \$ 3,263,000
- Operations Fund \$10,275,245
- Rainy Day - \$ 2,000,000

The Board members thanked Mr. Scott for his Budget presentation. There were no questions from the Board.

On a motion by Mr. DeMeyer the Budget Hearing ended and the regular meeting was reconvened.

### **REPORTS**

#### Superintendent's Report

- Dr. White thanked Mr. Scott for his work and his efforts in regards to the Budget and the preparation process.
- Dr. White stated that the school year is off to a great start adding that he is excited about the efforts of the administration, teaching staff and all support staff in the corporation.
- Dr. White reminded everyone that September 22<sup>nd</sup> is a Flex Day with students e-Learning and staff engaged in Professional Development.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- (A) The Board accepted the following donations:
- Olive Twp. Elementary School received:
    - School Supplies for students and teachers from the American Legion
    - \$208.48 from Hudson Lake Mennonite Church
  - Rolling Prairie Elementary School received:
    - School supplies from GAF of Michigan City
    - School supplies from New Carlisle Sons of the American Legion
    - Box of Books from Tiara DeGroote
    - School supplies from Bill & Regina Welch
  - Prairie View Elementary School received:
    - School supplies from New Carlisle Sons of the American Legion
    - 12 school supplies filled backpacks from Gleaners

- (B) The Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding with Indiana University on behalf of The Advance College Project (ACP) and NPUSC for Dual Credit
- (C) The Board approved the Ivy Tech Community College Agreement of Affiliation with New Prairie Erin Middle School for Practicum Experience
- (D) The Board approved Overnight Field Trip Requests
- (E) The Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding with Bethel University regarding Student Teacher Candidate Placement
- (F) The Board approved the Renewal Quote for Heartland Payment Systems, LLC for 2023-2024 school year
- (G) The Board approved the Resolutions for New Prairie High School and New Prairie Middle to receive Purple Star Designation from the IDOE
- (H) The Board approved the 2023-2024 School Year COVID Protocols
- (I) The Board approved a Job Description:
  - Director of College and Career Readiness
- (J) The Board approved the Agreement between Swanson Center and New Prairie United School Corporation
- (K) The Board approved the Closure of Olive Twp. Elementary School Kindergarten to Transfer Students for the 2023-2024 school year
- (L) The Board approved Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

- (A) Minutes – July 17, 2023, August 7, 2023
- (B) Claims
- (C) Payroll
- (D) Financial Reports
- (E) Personnel Report:

### **CERTIFIED**

#### ▪ **Leaves/Resignations/Retirements**

1. Krissy Surma – ECA Resignation as 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Volleyball Coach at Rolling Prairie Elementary School effective 8/1/2023
2. Robyn Kubsch – Resignation as Assistant Principal of College and Career Readiness at New Prairie High School effective 8/10/2023 with an additional 30 hours owed to NPUSC
3. Todd Dermody – ECA Resignations as NPMS CTE Dept. Head and NPMS Leadership Team effective 8/7/2023
4. Wendi Hemphill – Intermittent FMLA Leave as Prairie View Elementary Title I Teacher beginning 8/10/2023 through 8/10/2024
5. Kasey Leake – ECA Resignation as NPMS Student Senate Sponsor effective 8/11/2023
6. Jennifer Soos – ECA Resignation as NPMS PLC Leadership Team Member effective 8/14/2023

#### ▪ **Employment**

1. Shalon Kirkwood – NPMS Temporary 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts Teacher start date pending criminal background check results
2. Tara White – Temporary Administrator College and Career Readiness start date pending criminal background check results

#### ▪ **Employment – Afterschool Program**

1. Joseph Hurt – NPMS Afterschool Math Tutor Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year paid from HFL Grant
2. Shannon McBride - NPMS Afterschool ELA Tutor Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year paid from HFL Grant
3. Julie Kirkham – RPES Bulldog Club Certified Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title 1 Grant

4. Jarret Spence – RPES Bulldog Club Certified Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title 1 Grant
5. Cheryl Karczewski - – RPES Bulldog Club Certified Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title 1 Grant
6. Sandra Ernst – PVES Bobcat Club Certified Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title 1 Grant
7. Christy Pietrzak – NPHS Afterschool World Language Tutoring for the 2023-2024 school year paid from HFL Grant
8. Angela Ruiz - NPHS Afterschool World Language Tutoring for the 2023-2024 school year paid from HFL Grant
9. Timothy Flanagan – PVES Nutrition Instructor for the 2023-2024 school year paid from HFL Grant
10. Timothy Flanagan – PVES Bobcat Club Certified Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year paid from the Title I Grant
11. Paige Gonzales – Olive Twp. Elementary School Afterschool Site Coordinator for the 2023-2024 school year
12. Gale Gonder - NPHS Afterschool Mathematics Tutoring for the 2023-2024 school year paid from HFL Grant

▪ **Employment – Extra-Curricular/Ancillary Duties**

1. Barb Papai – Olive Twp. Elementary Cross-Country Coach beginning 2023-2024 school year
2. Jacqueline DeShone – Olive Twp. Elementary Student Council Sponsor beginning 2023-2024 school year
3. Ashley McClintock – Olive Twp. Elementary Volleyball Coach beginning 2023-2024 school year
4. Madeline Mills – Olive Twp. Elementary Young Astronauts Sponsor beginning 2023-2024 school year
5. Daniel Reffo – Olive Twp. Elementary Athletic Supervisor beginning 2023-2024 school year
6. Adam Branch – NPHS PLC Leadership Team Member beginning 2023-2024 school year
7. Anthony Renwand – NPHS Drama Club Sponsor beginning 2023-2024 school year
8. Elizabeth Schmitt – Olive Twp. Elementary New Teacher Mentor for the 2023-2024 school year
9. Mikayla Golden – Olive Twp. Elementary PLC Leadership Team Member beginning 2023-2024 school year
10. Kelle Cartwright – NPMS New Teacher Mentor for the 2023-2024 school year
11. Melissa Kuczanski – Rolling Prairie Elementary PLC Leadership Team Member beginning 2023-2024 school year
12. Casey Gumm – Olive Twp. Elementary New Teacher Mentor for the 2023-2024 school year
13. Laura Schreiber - Olive Twp. Elementary New Teacher Mentor for the 2023-2024 school year

▪ **Adjustments**

1. Todd Dermody resignation date adjustment from 8/4/2023 to 8/11/2023.
2. Sarah Binder, Prairie View Elementary Interventionist temporary reassignment to Olive Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher beginning 9/5/2023 through 11/22/2023.

**CLASSIFIED**

▪ **Leaves/Resignations/Retirements**

1. Morgan Livinghouse – Resignation as RPES Instructional Assistant effective 8/22/2023
2. Savannah Keldsen – Resignation as Olive Twp. Elementary School Custodian effective 8/18/2023
3. Thomas Wacnik – Termination as NPUSC Custodian as of 8/23/2023

- **Employment**

1. Brooke Aloia – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Library Assistant beginning 8/14/2023
2. Jessica Van't Hof – Olive Twp. Elementary School Instructional Assistant start date pending criminal background check results
3. Rebecca Dennis – Rolling Prairie Elementary Instructional Assistant start date pending criminal background check results
4. Melissa Arndt – Olive Twp. Elementary School Instructional Assistant beginning 8/21/2023
5. Angela Savely - Olive Twp. Elementary School Instructional Assistant start date pending criminal background check results
6. William Gakle – NPUSC Custodian start date pending criminal background check results
7. Kelly Goufas – NPUSC Custodian beginning 8/28/2023
8. Taylor Keller – NPUSC Bus Aide start date pending criminal background check results

- **Employment – Afterschool Program**

1. Kailey Kalk – Rolling Prairie Elementary Afterschool Bulldog Club Coordinator for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title I Grant
2. Kristine Gadacz – Prairie View Elementary Afterschool Bobcat Club Coordinator for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title I Grant
3. Megan McGuire – RPES Bulldog Club Instructional Assistant for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title I Grant
4. Caryn Spence - RPES Bulldog Club Instructional Assistant for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title I Grant
5. Lauren Woltman – NPHS Student PVES Bobcat Club Instructional Assistant for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title I Grant
6. Trent Sample - NPHS Student PVES Bobcat Club Instructional Assistant for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title I Grant
7. Emma Holmes - NPHS Student PVES Bobcat Club Instructional Assistant for the 2023-2024 school year paid from Title I Grant

- **Employment – Extra Curricular**

1. Richelle Kmak – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Athletic Supervisor for the 2023-2024 school year
2. Jason Clemons – NPHS PLC Leadership Team and NPHS CTE Dept. Head for the 2023-2024 school year
3. Jason Clemons – NPMS 7<sup>th</sup> grade head coach for the 2023-2024 school year
4. Angela Reffo – Olive Twp Elementary School Cross Country Coach for the 2023-2024 school year
5. Sarah Albert – Prairie View Elementary School Co-Volleyball Coach for the 2023-2024 school year
6. Tony Chelminiak – NPHS Boys Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach for the 2023-2024 school year
7. Johnny Lopez – NPMS Head Wrestling Coach for the 2023-2024 school year

- **Adjustments**

1. Kristina Emerick, already approved as Prairie View Elementary School Volleyball Coach for the 2023-2024 school year, will be sharing the coaching position as Co-Volleyball Coach with Sarah Albert for the 2023-2024 school year splitting the stipend.
2. Erica Durk, Nutritional Service Worker at Rolling Prairie Elementary School, to receive a .50 raise per hour wage increase effective 8/28/2023.
3. Kala Gerencser, Nutritional Service Worker at NPMS, to receive a .50 raise per hour wage increase effective 8/28/2023.
4. Kayla Lindgren, Nutritional Service Worker at NPHS, to receive a .50 raise per hour wage increase effective 8/28/2023.

5. Kasilynn Lloyd, Nutritional Service Worker at NPHS, to receive a .50 raise per hour wage effective 8/28/2023.
6. Tara Murray, Nutritional Service Worker at NPMS, to receive a .75 raise per hour wage effective 8/28/2023.
7. Erin Jenkins to receive a stipend of \$150 from McKinney-Vento Grant for her time in Back-to-School shopping with families.
8. Katie Ring, NPUSC Bus Driver, to take a mid-day LaPorte Pre-school route effective 8/28/2023
9. Karen Swanson, current NPUSC Substitute Bus Driver, to receive substitute driving wage equivalent to hourly driving rate at retirement as NPUSC Bus Driver.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Mr. King gave a shout out to the HS Marching Band who enthusiastically played at the football game last Friday evening. Mr. King stated that he heard some people from the opposing team mention how great our Pep Band sounded. The energy they bring to the stands is like no other.
- Mr. King congratulated NPUSC Attorney, Bill Kaminski, who was voted by his peers as one of the “ Best Lawyers in America” in the area of education law by the “The Best Lawyers in America” publication. “Best Lawyers” is regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence.
- Mr. King announced that the next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> in the corporation Board Room at 6:00 pm.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. King asked if the Board had any further business. The Board had no further business to discuss. The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.