

Board Notes
December 18, 2023

The regular meeting of the School Board was held at 6:00 p.m., Monday, December 18, 2023, at NPUSC Central Office Board Room with Mr. Phil King, Mr. Jason DeMeyer, Mrs. Jill Smith, and Mr. Rich Gadacz 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. DeMeyer to adopt the agenda, seconded by Mr. Gadacz. There was a motion by Mrs. Smith to Amend the Agenda removing Agenda Item III. "Book Challenge Appeal Hearing" postponing it to a later date and adding Action Item (P) "Approve the 2024 Bus Replacement Recommendation", seconded by Mr. DeMeyer and approved 4-0-1.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved Consent Items as follows:

- (A) Minutes – November 27, 2023
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
 1. Katherine Ott – Approved Medical Leave as NPHS Business/Computer Science Teacher beginning 12/6/2023 through 1/9/2024
- Employment – Extra-Curricular/Co-Curricular/Ancillary
 1. Katherine Ott – NPHS FBLA Sponsor beginning 2023-2024 school year
- Adjustments
 1. Catherine Saylor to receive a \$2,500 stipend from the High Ability Grant for her role as the High Ability Coordinator for the 1st semester of 2023-2024 school year.
 2. Kortney Brennan, NPHS English Teacher, to receive a \$300.00 stipend for attending New AP Teacher Training.
 3. Jessica Sinka, NPHS English Teacher, to receive a \$300.00 stipend for attending New AP Teacher Training.
 4. Kristen Barden, NPHS English Teacher, to receive a \$300.00 stipend for attending New AP Teacher Training.
 5. Stipends to be paid on Dec, 22, 2023 in lieu of raises are for the following certified administrators:
 - Tara Bush (\$2000)
 - Kris Staats (\$2000)
 - Pamela Moore (\$2000)
 - Justin Heinold (\$2000)
 - Justin Holmquest (\$2000)
 - Ben Bachmann (\$2000)
 - Jen Sass (\$2000)
 - Paul White (\$2000)
 - Brandon Groves (\$1500)

CLASSIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
 1. Colleen Chance – Resignation as Rolling Prairie Elementary School Instructional Assistant effective 12/23/2023

2. Loriann Bailey – FMLA Leave as NPHS Custodian beginning 12/8/2023 through 1/8/2024

- Employment
 1. Christine Maesch – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Instructional Assistant pending criminal background check results
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Andrew Morris – NPHS Percussion Instructor for the 2023-2024 school year
 2. Cody Downs – NPHS Co-Asst. Wrestling Coach for the 2023-2024 school year
- Adjustments
 1. Cory Shultz, IT Specialist, to change position name to IT Systems Architect effective 12/18/2023.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

- Dr. White recognized and congratulated Olive Twp. Elementary School for becoming a “Heart Safe School”. All 5 New Prairie Schools are now official “Heart Safe Schools” which means that all schools are now “cardiac ready” with trained staff. NPUSC is the first corporation in the State of Indiana which all schools in the corporation are “Heart Safe Schools”. This is quite an amazing accomplishment. Dr. White especially thanked Mrs. Aerts for her leadership for continually keeping this goal at the forefront in all NPUSC schools. Dr. White also explained that Mr. Bachmann and the Athletic Department arranged that each athletic team gets a session from HOSA on AED training in case of a cardiac arrest situation during an athletic event.
- Dr. White reminded everyone that there are 2 snow days built into the current school calendar for cancellation days that will **not** be eLearning Days. The 3rd day **will** be eLearning as well as any subsequent cancellation days that follow. The 2024-2025 school calendar being approved this evening will also have the 2 built in snow days with subsequent snow days being eLearning days like this current year.

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board Set the Board Organizational Meeting for January 8, 2024
- (B) The Board approved the School Board Meeting Schedule for 2024
- (C) The Board approved the Resolution to Transfer Amounts from Education Fund to Operations Fund
- (D) The Board approved Debt Payments
- (E) The Board accepted Donations:
 - NPHS Robotics Team received:
 - \$300 from Elkins Deer
 - \$150 from MonoSol
 - \$1,000 from Rever Machine & Tool
 - \$1,000 from Kirby Risk Electrical
 - \$260 from Valve Tool
 - \$600 from Workman Concrete
 - Rolling Prairie Elementary School received a donation of fabric and felt from Steady Stickers in LaPorte for Art classes
 - Prairie View Elementary School received the following Donations:
 - \$75 gift certificate for a family in need for Thanksgiving
 - Sweatpants and t-shirts for the health clinic from New Carlisle American Legion Post 297 Auxiliary
 - Tim & Jackie Ohlund donated the Room Charge for use of Heston Hills Event Center valued at \$1,500 for the NPUSC PLC Award Celebration Event
- (F) The Board approved the New Prairie High School Curriculum Guide for 2024-2025

- (G) The Board approved the 2024-2025 School Days Calendar
- (H) The Board approved the NPHS Tennis Court Replacement Project
- (I) The Board approved the NPUSC Paving Projects
- (J) The Board approved and adopted the Second Reading of the Following Board Policies:

2nd Reading of updated Board Policies July 2023 Special Release from NEOLA:

- Po1521 – Personal Background checks, References, and Mandatory Reporting (Revised)
- Po 2221 – Mandatory curriculum (Revised)
- Po 2414 – Reproductive Health and Family Planning and Human Sexuality (Revised)
- Po 2416 – Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information (Revised)
- Po 2510 - Adoption of Curricular Materials (Revised)
- Po 2520 – Selection of Curricular Materials, School Library Materials, and Equipment (Revised)
- Po 3120.02 - Adjunct Teachers (Revised)
- Po 3121 – Personal Background Checks, References, and Mandatory Reporting (Revised)
- Po 3220.01 – Teacher Appreciation Grants (Revised)
- Po 4121 – Personal background Checks, References, and Mandatory Reporting (Revised)
- Po 6152 – Student Fees and Charges (Revised)
- Po 9130 – Public Complaints and Concerns (Revised)
- Po 9700 – Relations with Special Interest Groups (Revised)

2nd Reading of updated Board Policies Volume 35, No 2 from NEOLA:

- Po 0141 Number (Technical Correction)
- Po 0142 Election and Eligibility to Serve (Revised)
- Po 0142.1 – Term (Revised)
- Po 0142.2 – Oath (Revised)
- Po 0142.3 – Vacancies and Appointment of Board Members (Revised)
- Po 0144.1 – Compensation (Revised)
- Po 0144.2 – Board Member Ethics (Revised)
- Po 0152 – Officers (Technical Correction)
- Po 0164.5 – Member Participation in Meetings Through Electronic Means of Communication (Revised)
- Po 1213.01 – Staff-Student Relations (Revised)
- Po 1615 – Tobacco Use Prevention (Revised)
- Po 2461 – Recording of IEP Team Meetings/Case Conferences (Technical Correction)
- Po 2462 – Dyslexia Screening and Intervention (Technical Correction)
- Po 2510 – Adoption of Curricular Materials (Revised)
- Po 3124 – Employment Contracts with Professional Employees (Technical Correction)
- Po 3213.01 – Staff-Student Relations (Revised)
- Po 3215 – Tobacco Use Prevention (Revised)
- Po 3231 – Outside Activities of Staff (Technical Correction)
- Po 3362.01 – Threatening and/or Intimidating Behavior Toward Staff Members (Revised)
- Po 4120 – Employment of Support Staff (Revised)
- Po 4213.01 – Staff-Student Relations (Revised)
- Po 4215 – Tobacco Use Prevention (Revised)
- Po 5330 – Use of Medication (Revised)

- Po 5512 – Tobacco Use Prevention (Revised)
- Po 5517 – Anti-Harassment (Revised)
- Po 5517.01 – Bullying (Revised)
- Po 5771 – Search and Seizure (Revised)
- Po 6152 – Student Fees and Charges (Revised)
- Po 6250 – Required ADM Counts for the Purpose of state Funding and Verification of Residency for Membership (Revised)
- Po 6550 – Travel Payment and Reimbursement/Relocation Costs (Revised)
- Po 6700 – Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) (Technical Correction)
- Po 7434 – Use of Tobacco on School Property (Revised)
- Po 7440 – Facility Security Program (Technical Correction)
- Po 7540.02 – Web Accessibility, Content, Apps and Services (Revised)
- Po 8310 Public Records (Technical Correction)
- Po 8451 – Pediculosis (Head Lice) (Revised)

2nd Reading of updated Board Policy:

- Po 8510 – Wellness (Revised)
- (K) The Board approved fund transfers to close out Budget Year 2023
- (L) The Board approved the Drainage System Replacement under Olive Elementary Playground
- (M) The Board approved the Updated Classified Personnel Handbook
- (N) The Board approved the Closure of Inactive Accounts Transferring Funds to the Education Fund
- (O) The Board approved a New Job Description for “Assistant to the Transportation Director”
- (P) The Board approved the 2024 Bus Replacement Recommendation

DISCUSSION

BOARD COMMENTS

- The Board members wished everyone “Happy Holidays”.
- Mr. King congratulated Olive Twp. Elementary for obtaining their “Heart Safe School” distinction in turn making New Prairie United School Corporation the 1st corporation in the State of Indiana to be a “Heart Safe School District”
- Mr. King complimented the High School and Middle School Choirs and Bands for their wonderful winter concerts last week. Merry Christmas to everyone.
- Mr. King stated that the next regular Board meeting is the Board Organization Meeting will be January 8, 2024, beginning at 5:00 p.m., with the Board of Finance Meeting beginning at 5:15 pm. The rescheduled Public Hearing on the “Book Challenge Appeal” will follow beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Board Room at the Corporate Office Building.

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.