

Board Notes
August 24, 2026

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, August 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. CST, at New Prairie United School Corporation in the Board Room with Mr. Phil King, Mr. Jason DeMeyer, Mrs. Jill Smith, Mr. Rich Gadacz and Mr. Rich Shail. 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. DeMeyer to approve the Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Smith. The Agenda was approved 5-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved Consent Items:

- (A) Minutes – July 29, 2026, August 3, 2026
- (B) Claims
- (C) Payroll
- (D) Financial Reports
- (E) Personnel Report

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Adam Branch – ECA Resignation as NPHS Guiding Coalition Member effective 8/4/2026
 2. Ryan O'Shea – ECA Resignation as NPHS Lunchroom Supervisor effective 8/7/2026
 3. Jacquelyn Short – ECA Resignation as Olive Twp. Elementary Student Council Sponsor effective 8/10/2026
 4. Tina Trojanowski – Intermittent FMLA Leave as Prairie View Elementary School Teacher beginning 8/5/2026 through 8/5/2027
- Employment
 1. Rebecca Bockhorst – NPHS Business Teacher beginning 8/10/2026
- Employment – Extra-Curricular/Co-Curricular/Ancillary Duties
 1. Neil Hackett – NPHS Teacher Mentor for 2 new teachers for the 2026-2027 school year
 2. Kasey Leake – NPHS New Teacher Mentor for the 2026-2027 school year
 3. Kortney Brennan - NPHS New Teacher Mentor for the 2026-2027 school year
 4. Meg Buss - NPHS New Teacher Mentor for the 2026-2027 school year
 5. Crystal Rhodes - NPHS New Teacher Mentor for the 2026-2027 school year
 6. Erica White - NPHS New Teacher Mentor for the 2026-2027 school year
 7. Lisa Smiertelny – Rolling Prairie Elementary New Teacher Mentor for the 2026-2027 school year
 8. Elizabeth Hayden – Rolling Prairie Elementary Math Bowl Sponsor beginning 2026-2027 school year
 9. Kristen Kleist - Rolling Prairie Elementary Spell Bowl Sponsor beginning 2026-2027 school year
 10. Sandra Ernst - Prairie View Elementary New Teacher Mentor for the 2026-2027 school year
 11. Sharon Bashaw - Prairie View Elementary New Teacher Mentor for the 2026-2027 school year
 12. Terrie Sult – NPHS Lunchroom Supervisor beginning 2026-2027 school year
 13. Emily Huff – NPHS Head Cheer Coach beginning 2026-2027 school year
 14. Adrienne Hurt – NPHS New Teacher Mentor for 2026-2027
 15. David McGhee - NPHS New Teacher Mentor for 2 new teachers for the 2026-2027 school year

16. Angela Ruiz - NPHS New Teacher Mentor for 2026-2027
17. Julie Beakas - NPHS New Teacher Mentor for 2026-2027
18. Jared Jaggi – NPHS Guiding Coalition beginning 2026-2027 school year
19. Mia Wind – NPHS National Honor Society Co-Sponsor beginning 2026-2027 school year
20. Jennifer Soos - NPHS National Honor Society Co-Sponsor beginning 2026-2027 school year

- Adjustments

1. Casey Gumm, Olive Twp 1st Grade Teacher to voluntarily transfer to 2nd grade teacher beginning 2026-2027 school year.

CLASSIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements

1. Madison Wells – Resignation as a Prairie View Elementary Instructional Assistant effective 8/5/2026
2. Sarah Reyna – Resignation as a Prairie View Elementary Instructional Assistant effective 8/7/2026
3. Angela Colalillo – ECA Resignation as NPHS Cheer Coach effective 8/13/2026
4. Erika Burcham – FMLA Leave as NPUSC Bus Driver beginning 9/25/2026 through 11/6/2026
5. Darcie Graham – Resignation Olive Twp Elementary Instructional Assistant effective 8/28/2026
6. Marjorie Young – Resignation as Rolling Prairie Elementary Instructional Assistant effective 8/24/2026
7. Tersandro Santos – Resignation as NPHS Assistant Girls Soccer Coach effective 8/7/2026

- Employment

1. Chelsie Jaybar – Olive Twp. Elementary Instructional Assistant start date 8/6/2026
2. Courtney Priebe – NPUSC Bus Driver beginning 8/5/2026 driving a single HS/MS route
3. Christopher Torrez – NPUSC Bus Mechanic beginning 8/17/2026 pending criminal background check results
4. Tammy Mitchell – Prairie View Elementary School Instructional Assistant start date 8/17/2026
5. Tanna Benham - Prairie View Elementary School Instructional Assistant start date pending criminal background check results

- Employment – Extra Curricular

1. Monique Fredline – NPHS Drama Club Sponsor for the 2026-2027 school year
2. Candice Scott – Prairie View Elementary School Volleyball Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
3. Derrick Smous – NPMS Co-Asst. Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
4. Kasey Conklin - NPMS Co-Asst. Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
5. Stephen Nokes - NPMS Co-Asst. Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
6. Dylan Schuman - NPMS Co-Asst. Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
7. David Loftus - NPMS Co-Asst. Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
8. Kasey Doorn – NPHS Girls Asst. Soccer Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
9. Robert Adams – NPHS Co-JV Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
10. Cody Downs – NPHS Co-Freshmen Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
11. Jacob Pinter - NPHS Co-Freshmen Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
12. Amber Oldham – Rolling Prairie Elementary Volleyball Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
13. Josephine Troy – NPMS Gr. 7/8 Assistant Volleyball Coach for the 2026-2027 school year pending criminal background check results
14. Joshua Bolakowski – NPHS Asst. Football Coach for the 2026-2027 school year

15. Brandee Helms – NPMS 6th Grade Asst Volleyball Coach for the 2026-2027 school year
16. Toree Friedrich – RPES Athletic Supervisor for the 2026-2027 school year
17. Angela Reffo – Olive Twp. Elementary Volleyball Coach for the 2026-2027 school year

▪ Adjustments

1. Tricia Toth – NPUSC Bus Driver to take over HS/MS route, previously Bus 81, and keep her Rolling Prairie Elementary Route.
2. Paul Friedrich – NPUSC Bus Driver to switch from a HS/MS route to a single Olive Twp. Elementary School route.
3. Erin Sass, NPMS Social Worker, to receive \$1000 stipend for her role as a summer system navigator for McKinney-Vento families and another \$250 for planning a Back-to-school McKinney-Vento event at Full Tilt.

REPORTS

• Superintendent's Report

- Dr. White reminded everyone that next week on September 1st and 2nd, students will not be in attendance, nor will those days be eLearning days. Those dates are corporation teacher workdays for Professional Development.
- Dr. White introduced Mr. Mark Stone, retired Agriculture Teacher and FFA Sponsor, and Miss. Madison Coates, current Agriculture Teacher and FFA Sponsor, to highlight New Prairie's Intra-Curricular FFA program. An impressive, in-depth presentation was given. Current FFA student officers were also present. A slide show was presented to show the Board what the students participate in and take care of outside of the classroom. Mr. Stone suggested adding FFA classes to the Middle School in the future along with many other courses that are available that could be added to this pathway. Dr. White stated that he is looking into Mr. Stone's and Miss. Coates suggestions. Dr. White also added that he is highlighting the FFA program and its successes in the newsletter.

ACTION ITEMS

(A) The Board accepted the following donations:

- Rolling Prairie Elementary received the following donations:
- School supplies and backpacks from New York Blower
- Various school supplies from the Sons of the American Legion
- NPHS received a donation of 100 clear backpacks with school supplies from Indiana Toll Road
- NPMS Football Program received anonymous community donations in the amount of \$561

(B) The Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding between NPUSC and Northwest Health LaPorte

(C) The Board approved the Board Policy Management System change from NEOLA to the ISBA Comprehensive Policy Management Services Subscription

(D) The Board approved the Additional iPad Purchase with Four Years of AppleCare+

BOARD COMMENTS

- Mrs. Smith thanked Mr. Stone and Miss. Coates for all their hard work with the FFA Program.
- Mr. DeMeyer congratulated Mr. Stone and Miss. Coates on the successes of the FFA program and the students. He stated that they are doing a great job!
- Mr. Gadacz thanked Mr. Stone and Miss. Coates for their presentation on the FFA Program.
- Mr. King announced that the 2027 Budget Hearing has been postponed until next Monday, August 31st. The Special Board Meeting will begin at 6:00 pm. Mr. Holmquest will present the 2027 proposed Budget with the School Board and the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. King asked if the Board had any further business. The Board had no further business to discuss. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.