

**Minutes** of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, NICE Community School District, Townships of Champion, Ely, Humboldt, Ishpeming, Tilden, and Spurr; Counties of Baraga and Marquette; and the State of Michigan held on **Monday, February 15, 2016**.

The meeting was called to order by President Brett French in the Media Center of Westwood High School at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Kathleen Carlson, Donna Champion, Brett French, John Grove, Eric Luttinen, Chris Roose

Members Absent: Wendy Pederson

Administrators Present: Bryan DeAugustine, Jon Beckman, Chris Marana, Mike Wommer

Administrators Absent: David Boase, Nathan Longton

**Public Comment (regarding agenda):** None

**Approval of Agenda:**

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by Kathleen Carlson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Communications & Recognition:**

Travis Hongisto and Phil Niemi from IDI presented the plans for the auditorium and media center renovation.

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by Donna Champion to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by Donna Champion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by Donna Champion to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$617,377.90 for the period of January 18, 2016 through February 12, 2016; to approve the January payrolls in the amount of \$481,285.07 for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,098,662.97; to approve the Treasurer's Report of the General Fund with total receipts of \$1,334,056.09 and total disbursements of \$961,082.25; to approve the Debt Retirement balance in the amount of \$274,448.93; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$511,510.77 of January 31, 2016. Motion carried.

**Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items**

**Superintendent's Report**

Bryan DeAugustine reported on the recent technology issues that the district has faced. He mentioned that the Compudyne Contract was initially for one year so he will begin looking at all options for technology for the future. The State Superintendent will be visiting NICE Community Schools on February 26<sup>th</sup> and will tour both Westwood High School and Aspen Ridge School. He also reported on the possibility of NMU's WiMAX becoming available to all of our students and staff and gave an update on the possibility of a memo of understanding with NMU for the first right of refusal for all face to face class offerings.

**Aspen Ridge Elementary**

Chris Marana reported that the first round of the NWEA MAP testing cycle was complete for grades K-8. Grade level meetings will begin to go over the data and determine the overall results of the first round. He said that the Chromebooks worked great for this testing. The PTO sponsored family tubing night at Al Quaal was a huge success with a large turnout. He also mentioned that Aspen Ridge Elementary School was the recipient of a grant for nutrition education. Lastly, Kindergarten registration is coming up on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Aspen Ridge Middle School/Athletics Report**

Jon Beckman reported that the middle school students recently had their 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter reward outing at the tubing hill at Al Quaal and was well received by all of the students who participated. The students are also looking forward to the annual Winter Olympics Activities. Preparation for the mStep test which will be administered in April is taking

place now. The new athletics website has launched with all positive feedback so far. Recently there were two plaque presentations at home girls basketball games. One was in memory of Matt Davidson and one was in honor of Tom Hammar. Westwood High School will host the district tournament for boys basketball. The high school wrestling program has 5 students going on to regional competition in Rogers City. The WISH tournament was held this past weekend and was very successful after a two year break.

#### Westwood High School

Bryan DeAugustine reported that a Shakespeare performance is coming up along with the middle school and high school band and chorus concerts. The junior class has taken the PSAT test in preparation for the actual SAT test and have access to the Khan Academy for specific help with this test. Also, Excellence in Education is coming up and five Westwood High School seniors will receive a \$1,500 scholarship.

#### Special Education Report

Bryan DeAugustine reported that the Quarter 2 data from interventions are in and a majority of the individual data shows student growth. He also shared that the UP200 mascot and a therapy horse visited the SCI classroom.

#### Transportation

Mike Wommer reported that he has begun work on the bus routes for the 2016-17 year with the hopes to add a second bus into the city of Ishpeming to accommodate more of our Schools of Choice students.

### **Committee Reports**

Academic Achievement: No pressing issues at this time.

Facilities: The township meetings are completed and the RFPs for conceptual drawings of the Summer 2016 projects are due on February 29.

Personnel: No pressing issues at this time. Superintendent's evaluation coming up this spring.

Policy: No pressing issues at this time. NEOLA quarterly updates coming up in March.

School Improvement: No pressing issues at this time.

Sinking Fund: IDI presented tonight regarding this summer's upcoming projects.

Negotiations AFSCME: Negotiations will begin in March. (AFSCME contract expires on June 30, 2016.)

Negotiations NTA: Negotiations will continue this week. (NTA contract expires on August 31, 2016.)

### **Business / Action Items**

Motion by Chris Roose supported by Eric Luttinen to authorize a medical leave of absence for Lynn Haukkala. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Kathleen Carlson to accept Kathy Nelson's letter of retirement. Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by John Grove to hire Lori Nylander as a Lunch Server. Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by John Grove to hire Denise Platteborze as an LRE Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the contract extension as presented with David Boase to perform the duties of the District's High School Principal.

Roll call vote: Carlson aye Champion aye French aye

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Grove aye Luttinen aye Roose aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Chris Roose supported by Kathleen Carlson to authorize the Superintendent to sign the contract extension as presented with Kurt Corcoran to perform the duties of the District's Patriot Online Academy Director.

Roll call vote: Carlson aye Champion aye French aye  
Grove aye Luttinen aye Roose aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by Donna Champion to authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the contract extension as presented with Nathan Longton to perform the duties of the District's Special Education and 504 Coordinator.

Roll call vote: Carlson aye Champion aye French aye  
Grove aye Luttinen aye Roose aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Chris Roose supported by John Grove to authorize the Superintendent to sign the contract as presented to secure Michael Wommersley's services as our Transportation Director.

Roll call vote: Carlson aye Champion aye French aye  
Grove aye Luttinen aye Roose aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Chris Roose supported by Eric Luttinen to authorize the Board President to sign the Annual Delegation of School Plan Review and Inspection Authority to a Local Unit of Government Enforcing Agency agreement with Marquette County on behalf of the District. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Kathleen Carlson to authorize the Superintendent to purchase four (4) new buses, liquidate three (3) old buses and to solicit bids for the financing of the four (4) new buses.

Roll call vote: Carlson aye Champion aye French aye  
Grove aye Luttinen aye Roose aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by John Grove to resolve to continue to participate in the Schools of Choice program with the Board Secretary to sign on the district's behalf.

Roll call vote: Carlson aye Champion aye French aye  
Grove aye Luttinen aye Roose aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Eric Luttinen to authorize the Superintendent to explore finding a group of ten or fewer volunteer basketball coaches for the purposes of youth basketball skills development. Motion carried.

**Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:**

Chris Roose reminded everyone of the tentative date for the Young Americans visit to NICE Community Schools being October 2, 2016.

Kathleen Carlson congratulated the 5 wrestlers who advanced to Regional competition and also mentioned that the youth tournament will be held on February 2, 2016.

Eric Luttinen suggested contacting Tony Bertucci, who works at NMU, for his input on the technology to be incorporated into the new media center.

Donna Champion commended Bryan DeAugustine on the excellent job at presenting our plan to the area township meetings and showing the community what we are doing. She also mentioned the great front page article regarding the Northern Promise program.

Bryan DeAugustine mentioned a strong connection to what we do athletically and that we need to keep it on our radar and continue to work on the change of attitude on how it's approached. He also mentioned that the Governor's CTE advisor is sending up a representative to highlight our CTE programs.

Brett French shared that in talking to other people in other areas of the Upper Peninsula, he was surprised at how little knowledge they have about all of the positive things we have going here at NICE. He thinks we need to continue to take opportunities to showcase NICE as the district of choice and perhaps have the students help to tell our story.

Motion by Eric Luttinen supported by Kathleen Carlson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

**Board President:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Board Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_