

**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, May 15, 2017**

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: Donna Champion, Randy Couveau, Brett French, John Grove, Ron Mariani, Wendy Pederson

Members Absent: Kathleen Carlson

Administrators Present: Bryan DeAugustine, David Boase, Chris Marana, Nathan Longton

Administrators Absent: Jon Beckman, Michael Wommer (excused)

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

**Approval of Agenda:**

Motion by Randy Couveau supported by John Grove to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

*Due to close proximity in scheduling, the minutes of the May Special Board Meeting will be approved at the next scheduled board meeting.*

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$574,268.94 for the period of April 24, 2017 through May 12, 2017; to approve the April payrolls in the amount of \$532,361.28 for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,106,630.22; to approve the Treasurer's Report of the General Fund with total receipts of \$1,038,444.43 and total disbursements of \$1,007,217.13; to approve the Debt Retirement balance in the amount of \$106,452.37; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$657,695.76 of April 30, 2017. Motion carried.

**Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items**

Superintendent's Report

Bryan DeAugustine reported that the spring count for students was 1204.71. The student enrollment for the fall of 2017 is climbing into the 1,240 plus. The BPA staff has conducted an amazing program for our kids with big accomplishments. Our students went to Orlando, Florida in May to compete. We have eight National Top Ten finishers and two Second Place finishers who competed at the National BPA Competition.

Aspen Ridge Elementary

Chris Marana reported our fourth graders are finishing the 4<sup>th</sup> grade science testing with local math testing to follow. One hundred fifty seven art pieces will be on display at NMU until May 20<sup>th</sup>. The annual Family Night will be held from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24, at Aspen Ridge.

Aspen Ridge Middle School/Athletics Report

Bryan DeAugustine reported for Jon Beckman that the M-STEP tests are concluding this week and the NWEA MAP testing will take place next week. The results will be returned shortly. Congratulations to the girls' softball team championship. The track regional finals will be hosted at Westwood High School. The spring sports season is nearing conclusion.

Westwood High School

Dave Boase reported of the successful year experienced by the BPA. The National Honor Society luncheon was held in May. Nine athletic events took place in one week in May. Graduation will take place on Thursday, June 1. Sixty-nine students will receive diplomas (pending final graduation requirements). Mr. Kevin Nelson, a 1987 graduate of Westwood High School, will be the guest speaker. He is the CFO of a big corporation.

Special Education Report

Nathan Longton reported the SEPAC teacher of the year would be recognized at the next MARESA Board Meeting. The intensive training for nine special education teachers is almost concluded.

Transportation

Bryan DeAugustine reported for Mike Wommer that the old tennis court space may be used for the location of a pole barn to be constructed by Mr. Jessen's class. Sinking Fund money may be used for that project. The plan will be investigated to determine if it proves to be beneficial.

**Committee Reports**

Academic Achievement . A lot of work is being done to define success and the district's needs such as evaluating student growth and achievement data from administrations' compilation for the recent past years to identify areas where the District excels and note which deficiencies need to be targeted for improvement. The next committee meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of June 5, 2017.

Facilities . A committee meeting will be scheduled shortly for discussion of the results of the Bond Referendum election. Any possibility of considering another vote for an additional gymnasium must originate from a large interest from the community members to attend a board meeting with a list of support signatures to justify their wishes.

Finance and Ops . Preparing to close out the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year and present the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year budgets. Additionally forecasting long-term projections for presentation and discussion.

Personnel . Develop core strategies for improving faculty/staff performance and achievement and present options for Board consideration. The next meeting is scheduled for May 22.

Policy . No update at this time.

School Improvement . No report at this time.

Sinking Fund . The 2017 Summer Projects are about to commence.

**Business / Action Items**

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported Ron Mariani to hire Renae Carlson as an SCI summer classroom aide for the summer of 2017.

<u>Roll call vote:</u>	Champion	aye	Couveau	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Mariani	aye	Pederson	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Couveau supported by John Grove to hire Jacob Laakso for our General Laborer position.

<u>Roll call vote:</u>	Champion	aye	Couveau	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Mariani	aye	Pederson	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by Ron Mariani to accept Kate Hill's letter of retirement as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Couveau supported by Wendy Pederson to accept Jill Korpi's letter of resignation. Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove to accept said teacher's letter of retirement as presented, respecting her name be withheld as requested. Motion carried.

Motion by Ron Mariani supported by Randy Couveau to accept Steve Pellinen's letter of resignation as a bus driver. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to resolve to solicit bids to finance the bus purchases as presented.

<u>Roll call vote:</u>	Champion	aye	Couveau	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Mariani	aye	Pederson	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove after much discussion, to resolve to designate Ron Mariani as our representative and Donna Champion as our alternate representative for the upcoming MARESA election as presented, noting our vote will be to abstain.

<u>Roll call vote:</u>	Champion	aye	Couveau	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Mariani	aye	Pederson	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Couveau supported by Ron Mariani to authorize the superintendent to renew our subscription with NWEA as presented.

<u>Roll call vote:</u>	Champion	aye	Couveau	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Mariani	aye	Pederson	aye

Motion carried.

**Community Comments:** None

**Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:**

Randy Couveau asked what the long-term thoughts are on the previous election. Board members and Bryan DeAugustine had ample time to share their ideas concerning the low voter turnout and reasons for the way people voted.

Brett French thanked Bryan DeAugustine for all of his work and time to inform the public. He also mentioned an upcoming meeting of the Facilities Committee. Bryan DeAugustine mentioned all of the media sources which were used such as multiple radio announcements, many Facebook contacts, television, the Mining Journal, visits and presentations to all the townships, plus meetings at the Patriot Performing Arts Theatre for public questions and 1,500 informational brochures distributed throughout the area.

Wendy Pederson suggested the possibility of scheduling a committee meeting similar to previous workshops held to discuss ideas.

Bryan DeAugustine state we need to remember all the great things we have accomplished which are happening on our district and be thankful for that.

Brett French mentioned the need to draw attention to our good points and use that as a starting point to build on.

Motion by John Grove supported by Ron Mariani to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

*NICE Community School District  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 15, 2017*

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