

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, September 21, 2015**.

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, Wendy Pederson, Chris Roose

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Bryan DeAugustine, Dave Boase, Jon Beckman, Chris Marana, Nathan Longton, Mike Wommer

Administrators Absent: None

Public Comment (regarding agenda): None

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Chris Roose supported by Kathleen Carlson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Communications & Recognition: None.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Kathleen Carlson to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Kathleen Carlson to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Kathleen Carlson to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$1,015,676.56 for the period of August 17, 2015 through September 18, 2015; to approve the August payrolls in the amount of \$409,035.42 for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,424,711.98; to approve the Treasurer's Report of the General Fund with total receipts of \$3,303,689.55 and total disbursements of \$3,482,495.94; to approve the Debt Retirement balance in the amount of \$186,730.09; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$631,523.55 of August 31, 2015. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Superintendent's Report

Bryan DeAugustine reported that he has been invited to go to Lansing in October with the Marquette County Ambassadors to meet with legislators to talk about issues impacting schools. He also mentioned that he attended the MARESA board meeting recently and spoke about his concerns with the Special Education millage that MARESA collects and distributes amongst local school districts. His concern is that the allocation of funds doesn't match the number of Special Education students per district. He also brought up to the MARESA board that there were no flow-through dollars being distributed this year even though MARESA was still charging us for the services that their staff offers to NICE. During October and November, Bryan plans to attend some of the township board meetings to briefly present on the facilities plan. He also mentioned that he will be gone to the State Superintendents Conference later this week.

Aspen Ridge Elementary

Chris Marana reported that the first two weeks of school have been solid. The elementary school is implementing a math intervention block at each grade level. Six elementary students from the wellness team, along with Mr. Marana, Mrs. Cousineau, and one parent will head to Ford Field for a leadership skills and healthy activities event for the "Fuel up to play 60+" campaign. Heather Lander from the Ishpeming Carnegie Library received a grant that will bring author Lori Keller to Aspen Ridge School to promote her book "Due unto Otters" which is a story about treating others with respect.

Aspen Ridge Middle School/Athletics Report

Jon Beckman reported that the middle school is also off to a great start. The 6th grade class has 107 students which is the largest class in a long time, and has created some class size issues. Because of this, two specials classes will be added-Science Olympiad and Social Skills. This will keep the numbers where they should be. The seventh graders returned from Clear Lake camp and all had a great time. Special thanks to Mr. Dennis Tasson in his continued efforts to make sure that the trip doesn't go away. Tom Coverly, illusionist and motivational speaker, came and spoke to the middle school students. In athletics, the tennis season is nearing the end, the Croatian Chicken dinner was a huge success again. Westwood High School was selected to host the Class D volleyball regionals in November which is a great opportunity to showcase our district.

Westwood High School

Dave Boase reported that the new construction has brought a lot of positive comments our way- especially the new tennis court complex. Homecoming is next week, the Marquette County Pops concert is coming up and the musical Nunsense 2+ will be performed in November. He also mentioned that there are 20 students taking advantage of the NMU college course offerings, and 11 students are involved in internships at Bell Hospital, area churches and local dental offices. There are also a great number of students supplementing their schedules with online courses through the Patriot Online Academy, and soon the Peer to Peer program will be up and running.

Special Education Report

Nathan Longton reported that he can now monitor the activity of the MARESA staff who work with NICE students on the PCG system. MARESA also offered some trainings during the PD days before school began and it was nice that they came here to hold the trainings specific to our staff. He also reported that a new sensory area has been created at Aspen Ridge in the multi-purpose classroom and a section in that room has been created with gear on loan from MARESA for that purpose.

Transportation

Mike Wommer reported that the first two weeks went well and there were no bus issues other than a few kids getting on the wrong bus. He also said it was nice to start off the year with drivers in all positions. Five buses are at or near capacity right now out of the 20 bus runs. There are currently 11 students on the waiting list for the bus that runs to the city of Ishpeming and that is constantly monitored for changes and possibly an addition of another bus to that area.

Committee Reports

Academic Achievement Committee

The committee has not met.

Finance & Operations Committee

The committee has not met.

Personnel

The committee has met and there are some action items on the agenda tonight.

Sinking Fund

The committee will meet soon.

Policy

The committee will meet soon.

Facilities Enhancement & Expansion

The committee has not met, but there has been ongoing work on the facilities plan.

School Improvement/Schools of Choice

The committee has not met.

Business / Action Items

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Wendy Pederson to hire Jan Fredrickson as a Supervisory Aide.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Donna Champion to hire Patty Luke as a Supervisory Aide.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by Kathleen Carlson to hire Rachel Pabian as an SCI aide.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Wendy Pederson to hire Lisa Ruby as a special education teacher.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Kathleen Carlson to grant Courtney Saberniak maternity leave.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by Donna Champion to hire Bryan Steede as a bus driver.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Chris Roose supported by Kathleen Carlson to hire Eric Warlin as a part-time bus driver.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Wendy Pederson to extend Michael Wommersley interim status until January 27, 2016.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

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Motion carried.

Motion by Chris Roose supported by Kathleen Carlson to recognize this as the first reading to revise the bullying policy which reflects new requirements. Motion carried.

Motion by Chris Roose supported by Wendy Pederson to resolve to set the Operating Millage rate at 18 mills, the Debt Retirement Millage rate at 0.9 mills, and the Sinking Fund Millage rate at 1.7438 mills.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to authorize the Superintendent to seek quotes and/or bids for up to \$25,000 worth of portable devices for student use. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Wendy Pederson to authorize the Superintendent to liquidate the oldest district automobile. Motion carried.

Motion by Chris Roose supported by Wendy Pederson to authorize the Superintendent to sign the preschool services agreement with AMCAB on behalf of the District.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by Donna Champion to appoint Chris Roose as the Board Treasurer. Motion carries.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by Donna Champion to authorize the board to enter into contract negotiations with AFSCME.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to authorize the board to enter into contract negotiations with the NTA.

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	Carlson	aye	Champion	aye	French	aye
	Grove	aye	Pederson	aye	Roose	aye

Motion carried.

Community Comments: Shelley Paavo requested to talk to the board without any administrators present.

Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:

Kathleen Carlson mentioned that the construction improvements look lovely.

Bryan DeAugustine thanked the students, parents, faculty, staff and administration for a smooth start to the school year.

Brett French said that it was nice to see the district back in the swing of the school year. He continues to see the positive developments of the district and appreciates the work of everyone involved.

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Motion by Chris Roose supported by Donna Champion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Board President: _____ **Board Secretary:** _____