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, October 15, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Ron Mariani in the Media Center of Westwood High School at 6:31 p.m.

Members Present: Donna Champion, Randy Couveau, John Grove, Ron Mariani, Wendy Pederson

Members Absent: Kathleen Carlson, Brett French

Administrator’s Present: Bryan DeAugustine, David Boase, Chris Marana, Michael Wommer

Administrator’s Absent: Jon Beckman, Nathan Longton

Public Comment (regarding agenda): None

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Anderson Tackman presented the Annual Audit

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of $783,823.81 for the period of September 17, 2018 through October 12, 2018; to approve the September payrolls in the amount of $562,077.11 for total disbursements in the amount of $1,345,900.92; to approve the Treasurer’s Report of the General Fund with total receipts of $225,203.20 and total disbursements of $990,230.41; to approve the Debt Retirement balance in the amount of $114,104.37; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of $243,388.28 of September 30, 2018. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Superintendent’s Report
Bryan DeAugustine reported that he will be traveling to Lansing in November for continued work on Senate Bill 390. He asked that everyone received the template for the Superintendent Evaluation and also gave the latest update on the Cyber Security team competition and some potential collaborations with Michigan Tech and LSSU.

Aspen Ridge Elementary School Report
Chris Marana reported that it was hard to believe the end of quarter one and Parent/Teacher conferences are in the not too distant future. The elementary was participating in fire prevention week activities for grades PreK-3. Learning Lab, Power Hour and morning math interventions are set to begin. The elementary school also plans to hold a hat day with all proceeds being donated to the Real Yoopers Wear Pink campaign through the American Cancer Society of which Mr. DeAugustine is participating in.

Aspen Ridge Middle School/Athletics Report
Dave Boase reported for Jon Beckman that the first round of NWEA testing is complete at the middle school. For athletics, the girls’ cross country team took home the MPC championship and the cross country team will compete at the UP Finals coming up on Saturday, October 20. The girls’ tennis team won the UP Championship again this year. The football team qualified for playoffs again this year and girls’ volleyball districts begin the first week of November.
Westwood High School Report
Dave Boase reported that it's been really busy at the high school with homecoming last week, the Marquette County Pops Concert, juniors taking the PSAT test, NMU band day coming up as well as high school bowl and the Newsies musical.

Special Education Report
Mr. DeAugustine reported for Nathan Longton that the behavioral team is up and running with the help of the grant that both Mr. Longton and Mr. Marana wrote and so far it was going well.

Transportation Report
Mike Wommer reported things are running smoothly for transportation. He has been meeting with the drivers more frequently since the bus accident in Ishpeming and just reiterating how important it is to be aware of who is on the bus at all times. He also talked about the Ok to Say program and the shirts the drivers will receive.

Committee Reports

Academic Achievement
NWEA Fall Testing wrapping up. Summer falloff is seen and not unexpected. We're getting them back into the swing of school after the summer holiday.

Finance and Ops
Audit presentation this evening.

Personnel
No activity this month.

Policy
No activity this month.

School Improvement
No activity this month.

Sinking Fund
Look for an upcoming meeting for the 2019 project cycle.

Business / Action Items

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by Donna Champion to hire Denise Bannan as a teacher aide.

Roll Call Vote:
Donna Champion aye Randy Couveau aye John Grove aye
Ron Mariani aye Wendy Pederson aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Couveau supported by Wendy Pederson to hire Brenda Martin as an SCI Aide.

Roll Call Vote:
Donna Champion aye Randy Couveau aye John Grove aye
Ron Mariani aye Wendy Pederson aye

Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to hire George Ward as a part-time bus driver.

Roll Call Vote:
Donna Champion aye Randy Couveau aye John Grove aye
Ron Mariani aye Wendy Pederson aye

Motion carried.
Community Comments: Kris Sibley congratulated Mr. Chris Jackson on the Girls'UP Tennis Championship and Mr. Eric Hill on the Girls'MPC Cross Country Championship.

Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:

Randy Couveau thanked Mr. DeAugustine and Melissa Maki for their continued work on the 5-year projection. He also asked what kinds of things the district has looked at to help the lack of academic progress with the class of 2024.

Wendy Pederson mentioned the crack in the new pavement of the front entrance and asked if there was a warranty for the work. (Mr. DeAugustine did explain the warranty and how it will work with the contractor). She also asked if bus aides could be a possibility to deal with difficult behaviors, if all invoices have been paid for sinking fund projects and there was some discussion about those projects and the status.

Donna Champion mentioned that it is nice to be gaining respect in the community in other areas such as the more recent success in some of the sports that haven't seen success recently.

Ron Mariani echoed Randy Couveau’s comments on the continued finance work. He also thanked Mr. Eric Hill for his work in getting his government students and cross country athletes involved in Project Keep Kids Warm. He commended Mr. Beckman for the action he took during a JV football game with an opposing coach.

Motion by Randy Couveau supported by John Grove to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.