

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 18, 2019**

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

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

Members Absent: Steven Baril, Kathleen Carlson

Administrator's Present: Bryan DeAugustine, Chris Marana, Nathan Longton, Michael Wommer

Administrator's Absent: David Boase, Jon Beckman (both 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 Donna Champion supported by Wendy Pederson to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Wendy Pederson to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by Wendy Pederson to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$592,230.26 for the period of January 21, 2019 through February 15, 2019; to approve the January payrolls in the amount of \$831,803.68 for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,424,033.94; to approve the Treasurer's Report of the General Fund with total receipts of \$1,222,952.97 and total disbursements of \$1,337,740.91; to approve the Debt Retirement balance in the amount of \$223,615.88; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$196,944.27 of January 31, 2019. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Superintendent's Report

Bryan DeAugustine reported that we have used eight snow days and we are allowed six. There is a possibility of receiving credit for certain days. He thanked Mike Wommer for all of the early conversations regarding snow days.

Aspen Ridge Elementary School Report

Chris Marana reported that 30 students were selected to have their artwork on display for the Dog Dayz of Winter art exhibit at NMU. Many students won prizes including three who won a grand prize. He also mentioned some upcoming events such as the Family Tubing event at Al Quaal, the Community Marketplace hosted by the Family Resource Center, and Kindergarten Registration. Finally he talked about two community service projects.

Aspen Ridge Middle School/Athletics Report

Bryan DeAugustine reported for Jon Beckman that NWEA Testing for the winter testing cycle is complete, PSAT and MSTEP prep have begun, 2nd quarter reward outings to Al Quaal tubing hill are finally taking place after a couple of weather related reschedules and Mr. Corcoran and his students are moving forward with RAMBA and the bike trail project. For Athletics there has been a lot of success recently. In Wrestling, Sam Gilles earned U.P. Champion honors, and both he and Rocco Carlson qualified for the state championship. In Swim & Dive, Brock Sundberg is the Boys' U.P. Diving Champion. In Bowling, Alex Miller is the U.P. Singles Champion and the Boys' Team is the U.P. Team Champion. For Basketball, Boys' District play begins February 25 at Manistique and Girls' District play begins March 4 at home vs. Negaunee. Finally, three senior Football players have signed National Letters of Intent to play football at Michigan Tech: Nathan Beckman, Sam Gilles and Blake Hewitt.

Westwood High School Report

Bryan DeAugustine reported for Dave Boase that the Marquette-Alger Reading Council featured WHS Social Studies teacher, Eric Hill, in their monthly newsletter for his work with Project-Based Learning.

Special Education Report

Nathan Longton reported that a Math accessibility specialist from MDE will be working with our middle school special education department to help students with learning disabilities increase access to math content. MARESA will be providing another training next Wednesday to paraprofessional staff and Dr. Daar from NMU will reschedule the paraprofessional training originally scheduled on one of the recent snow days. He will be discussing foundations of behavior and strategies for addressing behavior.

Transportation Report

Mike Wommer reported that the driver continuing education class is now completed by all drivers and they are certified until September 30, 2021. He also thanked Mr. DeAugustine for working with him at the very early morning hours on the days when school is canceled. He also mentioned that the two days that we dismissed early went very well and he thanked all involved for making them go smoothly.

Committee Reports

Academic Achievement – No activity this month. Winter NWEA MAP testing is wrapping up.

Finance and Ops – Budget amendment coming up in March as the Severance Tax payment crystallizes.

Personnel – No activity this month.

Policy – Policy Update coming in March.

School Improvement – No activity this month.

Sinking Fund – 2019 Summer Projects bid solicitation request tonight.

Business / Action Items:

Motion by John Grove supported by Randy Couveau to authorize ARMS to pursue their grant funded mountain bike trails project as presented.

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 authorize the purchase of two buses as presented.

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 resolve to participate in Schools of Choice as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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Donna Champion	aye	Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye
Ron Mariani	aye	Wendy Pederson	aye		

Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove to authorize bids to be solicited for the 2019 potential Sinking Fund projects as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Wendy Pederson to consider Closed Session under Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of a strategy session for negotiations for the NTA and AFSCME Collective Bargaining Agreements.

Roll Call Vote:

Donna Champion	aye	Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye
Ron Mariani	aye	Wendy Pederson	aye		

Motion carried.

The meeting entered Closed Session at 7:05 p.m.

The meeting returned to Open Session at 8:53 p.m.

Community Comments: None

Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:

Wendy Pederson stated that she appreciated the information received during the closed session and would like more meetings like this which would also be beneficial for new board members.

Randy Couveau said he also appreciated receiving the closed session information.

Bryan DeAugustine stated he will be communicating with the NTA and AFSCME negotiators for feedback concerning dates to meet, etc.

Ron Mariani mentioned the importance of the presence of the entire board for the closed session meetings.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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