

**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, January 20, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Mariani in the Media Center of Westwood High School at 6:38 p.m.

Members Present: Steve Baril, Kathleen Carlson, Donna Champion, Randy Couveau, John Grove, Ron Mariani

Members Absent: Wendy Pederson

Administrator's Present: Bryan DeAugustine, Cliff Fossitt, Chris Marana, Nathan Longton, PJ O'Brien

Administrator's Absent: Jon Beckman

Public Comment (regarding agenda): None

### **Approval of Agenda**

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove** to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

### **Consent Agenda**

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove** to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove** to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$772,259.66 for the period of December 16, 2019 through January 17, 2020; to approve the December payrolls in the amount of \$636,875.98 for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,409,135.64 to approve the Treasurer's Report of the General Fund with total receipts of \$1,029,403.82 and total disbursements of \$1,194,946.52; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$63,423.44 of December 31, 2019. Motion carried.

### **Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items**

#### Superintendent's Report

Bryan DeAugustine gave a brief Sinking Fund update and that the committee will meet toward the end of January or early February 2020.

#### Aspen Ridge Elementary School Report

Chris Marana reported that last week fifty elementary students who are 9 years old participated in the NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) test. Aspen Ridge was randomly selected from across the state of Michigan to participate. The winter testing cycle for NWEA MAP assessments also has begun. Coming up, there is a meeting with some teachers from the Eastern Upper Peninsula districts to talk about test scores.

#### Middle School / Athletics Report

Bryan DeAugustine reported that the middle school students will begin the winter testing cycle for NWEA MAP as well. He also said that there are currently 77 students signed up to go on a middle school trip next year to Washington DC. Athletics is in full swing with success in all of our sports.

#### High School Report

Cliff Fossitt reported that the high school students will also begin round 2 of NWEA toward the end of the month. He wants to recognize Mrs. Taavola and the drama class for their recent performance. The kids did a great job. He also wants to recognize the entire staff for welcoming him and especially Mr. Boase for all of his help.

#### Special Education Report

Nathan Longton thanked Mr. O'Brien and his entire staff for adding and rearranging routes during the half days especially with regard for the SCI program.

Transportation/Grounds/Facilities Report

PJ O'Brien reported that it seems he's treading water with some buses at the moment. There have been some unexpected but necessary repairs recently. One of the substitute drivers is back in the rotation which makes things easier. He's pleased with the snow removal crews on the awesome job they've been doing. He also reported that for anything maintenance related within our facilities, he's hoping that his new system of emailing him first starts to become habit for the staff. He also briefly talked about recycling.

**Committee Reports**

Academic Achievement – No activity.

Finance and Ops – No activity.

Personnel – No activity.

Policy – No activity.

School Improvement – No activity.

Sinking Fund – No activity, but plans are coming along nicely.

**Business / Action Items:**

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove** to hire Rebecca Anderson as an LRE Aide.

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Baril	aye	Kathleen Carlson	aye	Donna Champion	aye
Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye	Ron Mariani	aye

Motion carried.

**Motion by Donna Champion supported by Randy Couveau** to hire Tammy Carello as an SCI Aide.

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Baril	aye	Kathleen Carlson	aye	Donna Champion	aye
Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye	Ron Mariani	aye

Motion carried.

**Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove** to hire Emily Grout as a Science Teacher.

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Baril	aye	Kathleen Carlson	aye	Donna Champion	aye
Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye	Ron Mariani	aye

Motion carried.

**Motion by Randy Couveau supported by Kathleen Carlson** to hire Bill Hereford as a bus driver.

Roll Call Vote:

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Steve Baril	aye	Kathleen Carlson	aye	Donna Champion	aye
Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye	Ron Mariani	aye

Motion carried.

**Motion by Randy Couveau supported by Donna Champion** to authorize the superintendent to sign a letter of agreement with AFSCME and to hire an additional groundskeeper on behalf of the district as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Baril	aye	Kathleen Carlson	aye	Donna Champion	aye
Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye	Ron Mariani	aye

Motion carried.

**Motion by Steve Baril supported by Kathleen Carlson** to resolve to enter into the Installment Purchase Agreement as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Baril	aye	Kathleen Carlson	aye	Donna Champion	aye
Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye	Ron Mariani	aye

Motion carried.

**Community Comments:** None

**Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:**

Kathleen Carlson offered her thanks for the board member recognition.

Randy Couveau stated that since this is his first board meeting back after a 6-month absence due to work, he wanted to welcome the two new administrators, PJ O'Brien and Cliff Fossitt. He also thanked the board, administration, etc. for allowing him to remain on the board despite his 6-month absence and he hopes that the training he received and the work he did will help him to become a better board member and member of the community.

Bryan DeAugustine said that he is proud of what we do here and he thinks it's great how involved we have become with other districts wanting to see what we are doing.

Ron Mariani thanked the board for having confidence in him and voting for him to remain as the board president. He is proud to serve on the board alongside the others. He also wanted to recognize Mr. DeAugustine and the recent TV6 story on the upcoming renovations that are part of the Sinking Fund.

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove** to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

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