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 17, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Mariani in the Media Center of Westwood High School at 6:34 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, Jon Beckman, Cliff Fossitt, Chris Marana, Nathan Longton, PJ O’Brien

Administrator's Absent:

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 $826,508.59 for the period of January 20, 2020 through February 14, 2020; to approve the January payrolls in the amount of $868,034.75 for total disbursements in the amount of $1,694,543.34 to approve the Treasurer’s Report of the General Fund with total receipts of $1,380,632.56 and total disbursements of $1,500,703.12; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of $208,530.99 of January 31, 2020. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Superintendent's Report
Bryan DeAugustine reported on the potential partnership with NMU / BCC for an exchange student program. He also reported that work was being done with the NTA to finalize the 2020-2021 academic year calendar.

Aspen Ridge Elementary School Report
Chris Marana reported that some elementary students had artwork on display at an art show at Peter White Public Library recently. He also mentioned that Kindergarten registration would be taking place soon for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Middle School / Athletics Report
Jon Beckman reported that the middle school students recently participated in the 2nd quarter reward outing to the Al Quaal tubing hill. He received several compliments on the behavior of the students. In athletics, he spoke of the success that the wrestling team has had by winning the team district championship for the third straight year with both individual and team regionals coming up. He also mentioned that the swim and dive season has successfully wrapped up with both the girls and boys team diving records broken during the season, and a two-time U.P. diving champion for the boys.

High School Report
Cliff Fossitt reported that the scheduling process has begun for the 2020-2021 academic year, the tenth grade class attended the technical career day at NMU, and he also mentioned a student-driven paper recycling program that has begun.

Special Education Report
Nathan Longton reported that the NMU Behavior team offered another professional development training session to our staff that went well. He also stated that preschool screening is scheduled for April 30.
Transportation/Grounds/Facilities Report
PJ O'Brien reported that one bus will have the engine repaired and the company who manufactured the bus is providing the replacement parts so it will only cost the district the labor cost. He also talked a bit about the replacement of the heat exchangers in the Aspen Ridge building and that he reviewed the electrical and mechanical drawings for the upcoming sinking fund projects.

Committee Reports
Academic Achievement – No activity.
Finance and Ops – No activity.
Personnel – No activity.
Policy – No activity.
School Improvement – No activity.
Sinking Fund – We will recommend adding new ARS bleachers to this summer's Sinking Fund projects.

President Mariani discussed the updated committee structure for 2020.

Business / Action Items:

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to authorize the administrative contract extensions as presented for Mr. Beckman, Mr. Corcoran, and Mr. Longton.

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 Donna Champion to accept Mrs. French’s letter of retirement. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to accept the potential graduate list for the WHS Class of 2020 pending successful completion of their graduation requirements. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Donna Champion to resolve to participate in Schools of Choice as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Donna Champion supported by John Grove to add new ARS bleachers to this year’s Sinking Fund Project.

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 Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to authorize the updated WHS Curriculum Guide.
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: Shelley Paavo spoke about several items and requested to be able to speak to the board again regarding her ability to attend events across the district.

Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:

Randy Couveau stated that a lot of good things are going on in the school and he’s very happy with that.

Donna Champion stated that is seems there are always new and exciting things to report at each meeting and that she’s proud of everything the district offers.

Kathleen Carlson stated that she is very proud of the class of 2020 and that they’ve accomplished so much throughout the years both academically and athletically.

Steve Baril thanked Ron Mariani for the updated committee assignments and he looks forward to participating.

Ron Mariani thanked everyone at the meeting from community members to administration. He sees that people are executing their jobs well and professionally. A special thanks to Mrs. Halamka for all of her hard work especially with regard to curriculum.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.