

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, May 18, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Mariani in an **Electronic Meeting via Zoom** at 6:31 p.m.

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

Members Absent: None

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

Administrator's Absent: None

Public Comment (regarding agenda): None

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to approve the agenda as amended. 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 previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$1,557,243.82 for the period of March 16, 2020 through May 15, 2020; to approve the March & April payrolls in the amounts of \$602,706.80 & 547,548.17 respectively; for total disbursements in the amount of \$2,707,498.79; to approve the Treasurer's Reports of the General Fund with total receipts of \$3,288,499.42 and total disbursements of \$2,344,008.85; to approve the Sinking Fund balances of \$435,594.29 for March 31, 2020 and \$462,992.41 for April 30, 2020. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Superintendent's Report

Bryan DeAugustine discussed Financial Speculation Regarding Current Fiscal Year and Upcoming Fiscal Year; Distance Learning Comments Regarding Participation Percentages; August Academic Summer Program Potential; Potential Approaches for Upcoming School Year; and current plans for End of Year Activities.

Aspen Ridge Elementary School Report

Middle School / Athletics Report

High School Report

Special Education Report

Transportation/Grounds/Facilities Report

Committee Reports

Academic Achievement –

Finance and Ops –

Personnel –

Policy –

Sinking Fund –

Regional Leadership Improvement –

Business / Action Items:

Motion by Randy Couveau supported by John Grove to authorize President Ron Mariani to write a letter to the governor’s office regarding the State’s approach to reopening schools and local school board participation in the decision. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to authorize Danielle Lavandoski’s maternity leave request. Motion carried.

Motion by Randy Couveau supported by Steve Baril to accept Steve Pohlman’s letter of retirement. Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove to resolve the Bus 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
Wendy Pederson	aye				

Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Randy Couveau to resolve to approve MARESA’s 2020 budget as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by Wendy Pederson to resolve to issue bonds as presented, with the principal sum thereof not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000), for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the Project cost and the cost of issuing the Bonds. The Bonds shall be designated 2020 School Building and Site Bonds.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

Community Comments: Shelley Paavo stated that she was happy that the District was going to continue with planning some festivities for the senior class. She also mentioned that she was having trouble with the NICE Facebook Page being unable to comment on posts and she also couldn’t find the PEG Committee Facebook page

because she'd like to volunteer. Finally she mentioned a letter that her son received from Coach Syrjala that she wants the board to read. She had sent a copy of the letter to the Principal of Westwood High School.

Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:

Wendy Pederson asked if the board committees should meet in June since the Governor has opened up some restrictions. Bryan DeAugustine and Ron Mariani spoke to that comment stating that committees will meet when the need arises. She also stated that this online meeting was stressful to her and hopes that the June Board Meeting can be face to face.

Randy Couveau thanked Bryan DeAugustine, staff and teachers for their efforts with regard to distance learning. He also agreed that we should fight for fair and equitable distribution of relief money for schools and he thanked Ron Mariani for offering to write a letter on behalf of the Board regarding that.

Ron Mariani stated that with Memorial Day coming up he wants to remember our veteran heroes just as we are thanking today's heroes, the essential workers during this pandemic.

Kathleen Carlson echoed Randy Couveau's comments. She also stated that as a board, there will be some explaining to do with the differences between Sinking Fund and Operating dollars. She is thankful to the District for making every effort to acknowledge the senior class as it's been a rough month or so as the parent of a senior.

Bryan DeAugustine thanked everyone for meeting virtually. He is hoping that if the Board has to meet virtually again, it will go a little smoother.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

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