

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, March 15, 2021**.

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Dave Boase at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Dave Boase, Kathleen Carlson, John Grove, Scott Mann, Ron Mariani (via phone), Wendy Pederson

Members Absent: Randy Couveau

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

Administrator's Absent: None

Public Comment (regarding agenda): None

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Kathy Carlson supported by John Grove to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Scott Mann to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Scott Mann to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Scott Mann to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$834,435.79 for the period of February 15, 2021 through March 12, 2021; to approve the February payrolls in the amount of \$602,993.34; for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,437,429.13; to approve the Treasurer's Reports of the General Fund with total receipts of \$2,048,846.70 and total disbursements of \$1,217,656.20; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$907,091.09 for February 28, 2021. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Superintendent & Administrator Reports

Bryan DeAugustine reported on the following topics: student attendance, active cases update, budget snapshot, daycare for staff members, potential board workshop, MARESA strategic planning, and WHS weight room update.

PJ O'Brien reported that maintenance has been going well, bus fuel consumption is down a bit from last year, bus drivers will likely be needed for next school year and he's been working on some getting some quotes for some of the small sinking fund updates that will be made this summer.

Nathan Longton reported that the annual developmental preschool screening will take place on May 7, 2021 at Aspen Ridge, the summer co-op SCI program will be held this year with both face to face and distance learning options, and other extended school year accommodations are in the works for students with both Ishpeming Public Schools and Negaunee Public Schools.

Cliff Fossitt reported on the upcoming testing dates for SAT and PSAT for high school students on April 13-15, student schedules being finalized for next school year and gave an update on the outdoor prom that's being planned.

Jon Beckman reported on a reward snowshoe outing on the West End trails, middle school student council, dodgeball tourney, free throw contest, and talked about achievement testing. For athletics, he mentioned that WHS would be hosting some district competition for wrestling and basketball, the swim team took 4th at the UP Finals, and Milton Braga was honored with the UP Coach of the Year award for swim and dive. He also thanked Kathleen Carlson, Holly Boburka, Andrea Korpi and Jamie Barbieri for all of their help with the rapid testing for wrestlers.

Chris Marana reported on the recent Kindergarten registration that went very well with face to face appointments or a mail home packet that families could fill out and return to the school. He also thanked MARESA for supplying

families with gift bags filled with resources to prepare for school in the fall. March reading month activities are still going on but on a scaled back schedule this year, prep for Mstep testing is taking place even though it may not happen and plans for summer school are in place with invites being sent out soon to families.

Committee Reports

Academic Achievement – No activity this month.

Finance and Ops – No activity this month but the superintendent will summarize a budget snapshot as we await details from our State’s supplemental budget negotiations.

Personnel – No activity this month.

Policy – No activity this month.

School Improvement – No activity this month.

Sinking Fund – No activity this month. Here is an update on our upcoming Sinking Fund project cycle:

- As you know, this year will be light as we build our fund up from our last cycle’s big projects involving new and renovated locker rooms and a rebuild of our WHS Band Room.
- As a result, if our board pleases, we will be doing the following maintenance this summer with an estimated cost of \$260,000.
 - Replacing classroom carpeting where necessary across our district.
 - Wood Chips for the ARS Playground
 - Replacing stoves in the WHS Life Skills Room
 - Replacing exhaust fans in the WHS Shop

Business / Action Items:

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Wendy Pederson to hire Travis Fredy as a temporary custodian.

Roll Call Vote:

Dave Boase	aye	Kathleen Carlson	aye	John Grove	aye
Scott Mann	aye	Wendy Pederson	aye		

Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Boase supported by Kathleen Carlson to authorize Chris Marana’s contract extension as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Dave Boase	aye	Kathleen Carlson	aye	John Grove	aye
Scott Mann	aye	Wendy Pederson	aye		

Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Boase supported by Wendy Pederson to accept Jenna Peters’ letter of resignation. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Wendy Pederson to authorize our 2021-2022 School Year Calendar as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Scott Mann to reauthorize our Extended Learning and Return to School Plans. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Boase supported by John Grove to authorize extending our service agreements with Johnson Controls as presented. Motion carried.

Community Comments: Nick & Julie Markham, parents of 8 students in the district, spoke to the board about the hard copy correspondence option and how thankful they were for that option. She also asked when students wouldn't have to wear masks at school and if it was possible to get gym time for younger students.

Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:

Kathleen Carlson thanked Holly Boburka and the school nurses for their help with the rapid COVID testing for wrestlers. She also thanked Mr. Beckman for all of his hard work this year.

Bryan DeAugustine stated that this has been the craziest year in his education career but he's never been more proud to be a part of this district. He commented how everyone has handled this well and he thinks it's a testament to how strong our school community is.

Ron Mariani extended his well wishes to Randy Couveau and hopes to see him back at board meetings soon.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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