

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, April 19, 2021**.

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Mariani at 6:34 p.m.

Members Present: Kathleen Carlson, John Grove, Scott Mann, Ron Mariani, Wendy Pederson

Members Absent: Dave Boase, Randy Couveau

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

Administrator's Absent: PJ O'Brien

Public Comment (regarding agenda): None

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Kathy 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 previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$834,002.51 for the period of March 15, 2021 through April 16, 2021; to approve the March payrolls in the amount of \$616,685.79; for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,450,688.30; to approve the Treasurer's Reports of the General Fund with total receipts of \$2,281,959.93 and total disbursements of \$1,293,186.62; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$1,358,942.91 for March 31, 2021. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Superintendent & Administrator Reports

Bryan DeAugustine gave updates on attendance, active COVID-19 cases, finance/budget, staff daycare, a new high school course offering, and weight room fundraiser. He also mentioned that he would like to work on a human trafficking and safety awareness reminder message for high schoolers.

Chris Marana reported on the mStep testing that was just completed for 5th grade and that 3rd and 4th grades will begin next week.

Jon Beckman reported that the middle school students were also taking the mStep. He thanked John Kinney for all of his hard work as the testing coordinator and also Cliff Fossitt for lending some Chromebooks from the high school to the middle school. Regarding athletics, spring sports have begun. Athletes will be COVID-19 tested weekly and competitions begin this week with softball.

Cliff Fossitt reported that the high school students are wrapping up their testing cycle. Last week Juniors took the SAT, and freshman and sophomores took the PSAT. Make up testing for those who were absent will be next week. NWEA testing will begin in May. He thanked Nate Longton and Becky Halamka for coordinating and organizing the testing and Mr. Marana for lending Chromebooks from Aspen Ridge. Lastly, he talked about the new outdoor recreation PE class that's going to be offered next year.

Nathan Longton thanked all of the staff involved in the testing process. He also stated that May 7th is the annual preschool developmental screening.

Bryan DeAugustine reported for PJ O'Brien that new buses will be here in mid-July, Bus 21D is getting a new engine which is under warranty, Semco will be at the high school to work on the gas meters and some work flushing the heating system lines at the high school will begin when school is out. The parking lot lines will also be repainted at WHS during the summer.

Committee Reports

Academic Achievement – No activity this month.

Finance and Ops – No activity this month.

Personnel – No activity this month.

Policy – No activity this month.

School Improvement – No activity this month.

Sinking Fund – There was an update meeting held electronically with the committee for our upcoming small project cycle for this summer.

Business / Action Items:

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to hire Tammy Johnson as the Head Volleyball Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Kathleen Carlson to hire Mary Peterson as a Track Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Kathleen Carlson to hire Milton Braga as a Track Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Wendy Pederson to appoint April Radcliffe as the Head Softball Coach; to appoint Bill Radcliffe, Cherish Ostola, Jason Salmi and Cory Stille as Volunteer Softball Coaches; to appoint Jared Koski as a Volunteer Golf Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove to hire Paula Gravedoni as an LRE Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove to hire Deidra Ogea as an SCI Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to approve Maria Young's request for maternity leave. Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Pederson supported by John Grove to approve Natalie Young's letter of retirement. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to extend our services agreement with ESS as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Scott Mann to authorize renewing a cooperative agreement with Negaunee for MHSAA Gymnastics as presented. Motion carried.

Community Comments: Scott Syrjala, Eli Wolf and Garrett Mann spoke in support of weight room upgrades.

Closing comments by Board or Superintendent:

Scott Mann stated that it was nice to see the support at the meeting for the weight room fundraiser. He agreed that it's an important area for student athletes to be able to utilize fully.

*NICE Community School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
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Wendy Pederson stated that as the board treasurer, we simply do not have the funds for the entire weight room right now, but wanted everyone to pause and celebrate the other projects that we have completed. She also said we should encourage the fundraiser and thanked the Booster Club for their role as fiscal agent for this project.

Kathleen Carlson stated that she acknowledges and supports the passion of all who came to support and to speak on the weight room upgrades. She also mentioned May being teacher appreciation month and wants to give an early thanks to all of the staff for getting us through this school year.

Ron Mariani thanked everyone for showing up and said that it's great to have the interest in the school and community. He echoed Mrs. Carlson's comments about thanking staff. He also stated that the fund balance is a bit tighter than it has been so it's easy to understand how we don't have the funds for the weight room project right now.

Bryan DeAugustine commented that he's asking for the community's trust to work on the weight room project from the fundraising route and grant writing route.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

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