

**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 17, 2021**.

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Mariani at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Kathleen Carlson, Randy Couveau, John Grove, Scott Mann, Ron Mariani

Members Absent: Dave Boase, Wendy Pederson

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

Administrator's Absent: Jon Beckman

**Public Comment (regarding agenda):** Kris Sibley congratulated Donna Champion for her years of service.

### **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 \$826,265.78 for the period of April 19, 2021 through May 14, 2021; to approve the April payrolls in the amount of \$586,040.35; for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,412,306.13; to approve the Treasurer's Reports of the General Fund with total receipts of \$1,038,772.64 and total disbursements of \$1,229,609.24; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$1,370,117.82 for April 31, 2021. Motion carried.

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

#### Superintendent & Administrator Reports

Bryan DeAugustine gave updates on attendance, active COVID-19 cases, the weight room fundraiser, a business department classroom/lab upgrade, a budget snapshot, and the latest CDC & Marquette County Health Department guidance. He also mentioned that several questions have come up lately about whether or not our school is teaching the critical race theory and stated that we don't currently teach this topic in our curriculum. Finally, he thanked everyone involved with the prom.

Chris Marana reported that most of the MStep testing has been completed for the elementary. Overall it went smoothly and now their focus is on the local assessments with NWEA MAP testing. He also reported that Bell Hospital received a grant to provide bike helmets to all Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten students in Western Marquette County and those will be handed out this week. Also, the elementary students will be enjoying their end of the year picnics this year, by grade level, at the Ishpeming Township Park. Finally, he wanted to thank all staff for doing such a tremendous job taking care of our kids and getting us through this tough year.

Bryan DeAugustine reported for Jon Beckman that finalizing testing and end of the year class trips are taking place. In athletics, all spring sports are taking place and one highlight is 8<sup>th</sup> grade student, Lexi Olson, broke the middle school girls high jump record twice.

Cliff Fossitt reported that the WHS prom was a fantastic event and the kids had a blast. He thanked all of the individuals who helped with prom, especially noting the extra work during the week leading up to prom by the school nurses to get all attendees tested for COVID. He also stated that WHS is looking forward to a successful upcoming graduation ceremony.

Nathan Longton reported on the developmental preschool screening held recently and held at Aspen Ridge which was a nice way to showcase our building. He also reported on the summer SCI program and also wrapping up a really good year despite all of the hurdles during this pandemic.

PJ O'Brien reported on all of the end of the year sporting events and field trips. He also stated that he cannot say enough good things about the custodial and bus driving staff. He's beginning to work on bus routes for next year and working through some challenges in finding materials for the Sinking Fund Projects.

**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 – No activity this month.

**Business / Action Items:**

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Randy Couveau** to hire Heather DeAugustine as a temporary teacher for the first week of our SCI Summer School Program. Motion carried.

**Motion by Randy Couveau supported by John Grove** to hire Zachary Steuck as our SCI Summer School Program Teacher for the summer of 2021. Motion carried.

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Randy Couveau** to approve Jody Salmi's letter of retirement. Motion carried.

**Motion by Randy Couveau supported by Kathleen Carlson** to reauthorize our Extended Learning and Return to School Plans. Motion carried.

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Scott Mann** to resolve to solicit bids from financial institutions to finance our school bus purchases as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Kathleen Carlson	aye	Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye
Scott Mann	aye	Ron Mariani	aye		

Motion carried.

**Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove** to adopt the 2021-2022 calendar revision as presented. Motion carried.

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Randy Couveau** to resolve to support MARESA's 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Kathleen Carlson	aye	Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye
Scott Mann	aye	Ron Mariani	aye		

Motion carried.

**Motion by Randy Couveau supported by Kathleen Carlson** to resolve to designate Ron Mariani as our MARESA Elector.

Roll Call Vote:

Kathleen Carlson	aye	Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye
Scott Mann	aye	Ron Mariani	aye		

Motion carried.

**Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Scott Mann** to resolve to designate Randy Couveau as our MARESA Elector Alternate.

Roll Call Vote:

Kathleen Carlson	aye	Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye
Scott Mann	aye	Ron Mariani	aye		

Motion carried.

**Motion by Randy Couveau supported by John Grove** to recommend that our designated elector abstains from voting in the MARESA election.

Roll Call Vote:

Kathleen Carlson	aye	Randy Couveau	aye	John Grove	aye
Scott Mann	aye	Ron Mariani	aye		

Motion carried.

**Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove** to resolve to solicit bids from financial institutions to finance our scoreboard purchases as presented. Motion carried.

**Community Comments:** None

**Closing Comments by Board or Superintendent:**

Scott Mann thanked Donna Champion for her many years of service.

Kathleen Carlson thanked Donna Champion for guiding the board well. She also thanked all of the staff for getting us all through this difficult year.

Randy Couveau thanked Donna Champion for all her dedicated years of service. He stated that he is proud to be part of the board and the District.

John Grove thanked Donna Champion for her years of service to the District and also thanked the entire staff for their work this year.

Ron Mariani thanked Donna Champion for her counsel and advice. He echoed the other board member comments as well.

Bryan DeAugustine stated that looking back on this school year he knows there are silver linings to be found in this experience. He shared his heartfelt thanks to everyone.

*NICE Community School District  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 17, 2021*

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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