

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, August 21, 2023.**

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Mariani at 6:31 p.m.

Members Present: Steve Baril, John Grove, Chad Korpi, Crystal LaFreniere, Scott Mann, Ron Mariani

Members Absent: Kathleen Carlson

Administrator's Present: Bryan DeAugustine, Cliff Fossitt, Griffin Lawson, Nathan Longton, Chris Marana, Jake Skewis, Eric Warlin

Administrator's Absent: None

Public Comment (regarding agenda): None

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$2,452,826.74 for the period of July 17, 2023 through August 18, 2023; to approve the July payrolls in the amount of \$545,698.51; for total disbursements in the amount of \$2,998,525.25; to approve the Treasurer's Reports of the General Fund with total receipts of \$2,691,942.98 and total disbursements of \$2,742,573.38; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$4,066,364.96 for July 31, 2023. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Bryan DeAugustine stated that the 45-day suspension administrative guideline for discipline hearings will remain with an emphasis on prevention and academic support for those who violate this rule. He also mentioned an easement for the utility companies on Westwood Drive, a potential flyover at the first home football game from 2 WHS alumni who are involved in local and regional aviation groups, and the free school meal update.

Chris Marana reported that Kindergarten screening went well, summer school wrapped up and was successful, the building looks great and everyone is looking forward to welcoming students back at the open house.

Griffin Lawson reported that there are two new teachers on staff at the middle school, the newsletter is returning as well as a podcast, and everyone is looking forward to the new school year.

Jake Skewis reported that athletics has been very busy with fall sports up and running and the energy is high with the athletes and coaches. He also mentioned an update on the 1000 point club banner for the gym.

Cliff Fossitt stated that he's thankful for Jake Skewis taking over the Athletic Director duties. He also said that building projects are progressing and the cafeteria is nearly complete. He's optimistic everything will be ready for the start of school with some minor finishing touches that won't impact student learning.

Nathan Longton reported that the summer SCI program was a success this summer. He also stated that the elementary will have a new sensory room and that there are a couple of new partnerships with NMU in social work and mental health support. MARESA will also assist.

Eric Warlin reported that the annual bus driver meeting is coming up. The buses are ready for the new school year with a lot of maintenance taking place this summer to ensure that. He thanked John Jessen and Hunter Warlin for their hard work.

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. Policy update coming in September.

Sinking Fund – No activity this month. Summer projects moving along well.

Business / Action Items

Motion by Crystal LaFreniere supported by John Grove to acknowledge Kris Burke's resignation. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Scott Mann to acknowledge Michael Coduti's retirement. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by Crystal LaFreniere to authorize a part-time counseling position as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by Steve Baril to hire Emily Grout as a Cross Country Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by Scott Mann to hire Erik Anderson as an Assistant Football Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to hire Gavin Dawson as an Assistant Football Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Steve Baril to hire Kris Scherer as an Assistant Football Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by Steve Baril to hire William Hightower as an Assistant Football Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove to hire Lilianna Briggs as a Freshman Volleyball Coach.

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Baril	aye	John Grove	aye	Chad Korpi	aye
Crystal LaFreniere	nay	Scott Mann	aye	Ron Mariani	aye

Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Scott Mann to hire Ashley Allen as a Middle School Cheer Coach. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove to hire David Finegan as a bus driver. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by John Grove to hire John Kohtala as a substitute bus driver. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to hire Carissa Magnuson as an LRE Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by Steve Baril to acknowledge Melissa McCoy's resignation. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by John Grove to acknowledge Emily Meier's resignation. Motion carried.

Motion by Crystal LaFreniere supported by John Grove to hire David Opperman as a part-time Groundskeeper. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by Scott Mann to authorize the start of our auditing process. Motion carried.

Motion by Crystal LaFreniere supported by John Grove to authorize our participation in the Talent Together Apprentice Teacher program as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to authorize our curriculum guide and course offerings as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove to set the first day of school for the 23/24 School Year as Tuesday, September 5, 2023. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove to accept Jilbert Dairy's bid for dairy products as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by Chad Korpi to accept Scott Brenneman Distribution for bread products as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by Scott Mann to renew our service agreement with Community Action Alger Marquette as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by John Grove to authorize Marquette County as our School Plan Review and Inspection Authority as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to upgrade our WHS Gym lighting system.
Roll Call Vote:

Steve Baril	aye	John Grove	aye	Chad Korpi	aye
Crystal LaFreniere	aye	Scott Mann	aye	Ron Mariani	aye

Motion carried.

Community Comments

Kris Sibley spoke thanking all of those involved in the UP Fireman's tournament, 3-on-3 tournament at Ishpeming Township courts, National Night Out, Gus Macker and all the volunteers that work to make our district great.

Closing Comments by Board & Superintendent

Ron Mariani thanked all of the administration and staff working hard over the last few month behind the scenes as we prepare for the new school year.

Bryan DeAugustine welcomed everyone back.

Motion by John Grove supported by Scott Mann to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

*NICE Community School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 21, 2023*

President: _____

Secretary: _____