

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, November 13, 2023.**

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

Members Present: Steve Baril, Kathleen Carlson, John Grove, Crystal LaFreniere, Scott Mann, Ron Mariani

Members Absent: Chad Korpi

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 Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Communications & Recognition

The financial audit prepared by Anderson Tackman was presented to the Board by Lindsey Besonen.

Consent Agenda

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

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

Motion by Scott Mann supported by Kathleen Carlson to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$840,535.85 for the period of October 16, 2023 through November 10, 2023; to approve the October payrolls in the amount of \$714,789.33; for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,555,325.18; to approve the Treasurer's Reports of the General Fund with total receipts of \$1,676,909.55 and total disbursements of \$1,935,659.18; to approve the Debt Retirement Fund balance of \$100.00; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$1,458,335.36 for October 31, 2023. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Bryan DeAugustine reported on his recent legislative work, but its likely things will be paused during the upcoming legislative shutdown.

Chris Marana reported that parent/teacher conferences went well with good participation and he thanked the high school students for providing babysitting services. He also mentioned that the Aspen Ridge students collected 3500 pounds of canned goods for the TV6 Canathon, and prep is underway for the Christmas program.

Griffin Lawson reported that parent/teacher conferences we well, also with a good turnout of parents. He also highlighted the picture wall, the Patriot Post online newsletter, and an upcoming donation drive for UPAWS.

Jake Skewis reported that athletics was in between fall and winter seasons, but highlighted our athletes who received post season honors for their fall sports. He also mentioned that there will be a 20 year anniversary celebration of the WHS Girls Basketball State Championship on December 16th at the home basketball games.

Cliff Fossitt thanked Chris Marana for the Christmas concert reminder. He also thanked Kristin Marana for her work on the Veteran's Day assembly. He also wanted to recognize the hard work by Mr. Alex Polkinghorne and VIM for their performance of Little Shop of Horrors. Lastly, a group of juniors and seniors will have some upcoming college visits to Michigan Technological University and Northern Michigan University.

Nathan Longton reported on the most recent paraprofessional trainings and Handle with Care trainings provided by MARESA for our staff members. He also reported that the SCI class has stayed consistent with their weekly outings and the Functional Skills Program at Aspen Ridge Elementary is hoping to get those kids out for community field trips as well.

Eric Warlin reported that the transportation department was in pretty good shape both with equipment and staff.

Committee Reports

Academic Achievement – No activity this month.

Finance and Ops – Audit presentation by Anderson Tackman to the Board of the Whole.

Personnel – Salary recommendation for superintendent's contract final year of current deal 2025-2026 (the year after next).

Policy – No activity this month.

Sinking Fund – No activity this month.

Business / Action Items

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Scott Mann to hire John Kohtala as a bus driver. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by John Grove to authorize the superintendent's contract addendum as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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|--------------------|-----|------------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Steve Baril | aye | Kathleen Carlson | aye | John Grove | aye |
| Crystal LaFreniere | aye | Scott Mann | aye | Ron Mariani | aye |

Motion carried.

Community Comments

None

Closing Comments by Board & Superintendent

Crystal LaFreniere stated that she was impressed with the Patriot Post middle school newsletter and also commented that on seeing Jake Skewis at the away sporting events that she's been at.

Steve Baril reported that he enjoys seeing all of the activity at both schools.

Ron Mariani commented on WHS alum, Tessa Leece, starting her final season on the Michigan Tech Huskies Women's Basketball team. He also thanked all involved in the audit process.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

President: _____

Secretary: _____