

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, September 15, 2025.**

The meeting was called to order by President Crystal LaFreniere at 5:30 pm.

Members Present: Kathleen Carlson, Jim Gray, John Grove, Crystal LaFreniere, Derrick Magnuson, Scott Mann

Members Absent: Chad Korpi

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

Administrator's Absent: None

Public Comment (regarding agenda): None

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by Scott Mann to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Communications & Recognition: Administrators presented on Academic Assessment Data.

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 \$1,862,503.07 for the period of August 18, 2025 through September 12, 2025; to approve the August payrolls in the amount of \$580,555.66; for total disbursements in the amount of \$2,443,058.73; to approve the Treasurer's Reports of the General Fund with total receipts of \$3,972,735.13 and total disbursements of \$4,081,529.87; to approve the Debt Retirement Fund (2023) balance of \$250.00; to approve the Debt Retirement Fund (2025) balance of \$250.00; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$449,409.57; to approve the 2025 Capital Projects Fund balance of \$4,142,164.53 for August 31, 2025. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Superintendent: Bryan DeAugustine reported that the state budget is still not finalized. He spoke about his meeting with Karl Bohnak. He also reported on the possibility of and NMU Psychology course offering for Fall 2026.

ARES: Chris Marana reported that NWEA is taking place no. Learning Lab will begin in October, playgroups begin October 8, Fire prevention is October 9, and a new bench will be installed on the playground in memory of longtime NICE employee Marsha Fraser.

ARMS: Griffin Lawson reported that NWEA wrapped up last week, Clear Lake for 7th graders is this week with special thanks to Kristi Head for all her hard work planning this trip, MS robotics is up and running and coming up is a STEM event at NMU for 7th graders.

WHS: Cliff Fossitt reported that NWEA starts next week, the first round of safety drills are done, some student council members are going to a leadership summit in Munising on Friday.

SpEd: Nate Longton reported that MARESA held their annual in-house HWC training again recently with two more dates coming up. He also thanked all of the special education staff for all of their hard work even prior to the school year to get the programs up and running.

Athletics: Bobby Zhulkie reported that it's been a busy and exciting month in athletics with Cross Country and Tennis with some strong showing. He also mentioned that JV football had their first win in two seasons. He gave a special shout out to the custodial staff for taking such good care of the locker rooms, and looking ahead, we are hosting a JV tennis invite, a Cross Country meet at Wawonowin, and Homecoming October 10 vs. Kingsford.

Transportation: Eric Warlin reported that transportation is plugging along with many extra sports trips.

Committee Reports

Finance and Ops – No activity this month.

Personnel – No activity this month.

Policy – No activity this month.

Sinking Fund – No activity this month.

Business / Action Items

Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove to hire Tina Henson as an LRE Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by Jim Gray supported by Kathleen Carlson to hire Tom Socha as a Substitute Bus Driver. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathleen Carlson supported by John Grove to authorize Marquette County as our School Plan and Inspection Authority. Motion carried.

Community Comments Kris Sibley spoke of so many positive things in the district happening lately.

Closing Comments by Board & Superintendent

Bryan DeAugustine shared that the Sinking Fund project at Aspen Ridge is on track.

Kathleen Carlson is thrilled with all of the positivity in the district lately.

Scott Mann congratulated the administration, staff, and students for the academic success.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm.

President: _____

Secretary: _____