

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 19, 2024.**

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Mariani at 5:30 pm.

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.

Communications & Recognition: None

Consent Agenda

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by Steve Baril to move the consent agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by Steve Baril to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by Steve Baril to approve the General Fund Bills in the amount of \$1,263,764.00 for the period of July 22, 2024 through August 16, 2024; to approve the July payrolls in the amount of \$585,372.03; for total disbursements in the amount of \$1,849,136.03; to approve the Treasurer's Reports of the General Fund with total receipts of \$2,001,680.34 and total disbursements of \$2,343,827.39; to approve the Debt Retirement Fund balance of \$250.00; to approve the Sinking Fund balance of \$1,114,250.71 for July 31, 2024. Motion carried.

Reports, Presentations, Discussion Items

Bryan DeAugustine reported on upcoming board evaluation training, a meeting with Jim Nankervis from Ishpeming Township to discuss the school resource officer position and stated that we're gearing up for the upcoming year.

Chris Marana reported that it's been a busy summer hiring many new staff members. He also reported that kindergarten screening was held at the beginning of August, summer school just wrapped up for this year and the building has a few projects still wrapping up and will be ready for the Open House on August 29.

Griffin Lawson reported that along with a few new staff and a two student teachers, they are ready for the new school year. The outdoor space is coming along nicely and the custodial crews have been working really hard to get the building in top shape.

Jake Skewis reported that fall sports practices began last week and the first contest of the season is scheduled for Tuesday, 8/20, with a home tennis meet vs. West Iron County. Final Forms is a new system that was implemented to house all of the athletic forms electronically and so far it's been a good transition. Lastly, Westwood will hold Meet the Patriots for the fall season this week and they are looking to do a middle school version of that in September.

Cliff Fossitt talked about the cell phone policy being implemented this upcoming school year, with no cell phone use during instructional time. He also wanted to recognize the custodial and grounds staff and said the buildings and grounds have never looked better. Summer school credit recovery wrapped up with a mid-80% success rate, new staff have been in the building, and scheduling changes are happening this week and next for high school students.

Nathan Longton reported that the summer SCI program was successful this year. He also mentioned two NMU students who are working toward their special education endorsements and will be working with our staff this year.

Eric Warlin said that right now the transportation department is fully staffed with a few subs on the list. The mechanic is test driving buses and a driver meeting will take place this week.

Committee Reports

Finance and Ops – No activity this month.

Personnel – No activity this month.

Policy – Met prior to tonight's board meeting to review the latest NEOLA updates.

Sinking Fund – No activity this month.

Business / Action Items

Motion by Crystal LaFreniere supported by John Grove to hire Evelyn Anderson as an LRE Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by Crystal LaFreniere supported by Scott Mann to hire Kelly Cittadino as an LRE Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by Crystal LaFreniere supported by John Grove to hire Luke Joki, Jeremy Lindsay, and Hunter Warlin to manage our Buildings and Grounds needs as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by Chad Korpi to recognize Savana Driesenga's letter of resignation. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by Scott Mann to authorize an extension of Janine Jurasin's maternity leave. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by John Grove to hire Ariel Machamer as a part-time assistant caregiver. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by John Grove to hire Jillian Mahaffey as an LRE Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to hire Lisa Mattila as a custodian. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by Chad Korpi to hire Dean Rushford as a bus driver. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by John Grove to hire Cheryl Sundling as an LRE Aide. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by John Grove to authorize Anderson Tackman to conduct our annual financial audits. Motion carried.

Motion by Steve Baril supported by Scott Mann to authorize our curriculum guide course offerings as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Scott Mann supported by Steve Baril to accept Jilbert Dairy's bid for milk products for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to accept Scott Brenneman Distribution Company's bid for bread products for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Chad Korpi supported by John Grove to recognize the 1st reading of NEOLA Volume 37, No. 2 Special Release Tobacco Policies, NEOLA Special Update November 2023, and NEOLA Volume 38, No. 2, as presented. Motion carried.

Community Comments

None

Closing Comments by Board & Superintendent

Crystal LaFreniere asked about an update on the parking lot cameras and commented how dark the parking lot is at night. She also wished everyone a great school year.

Chad Korpi stated that the campus grounds look good.

Scott Mann thanked the administration and staff for preparing kids for college and beyond.

Ron Mariani commented that he was thankful for the police presence as the parking lot situation seems to be improving. He also offered condolences to longtime staff member Tim Poissant for his father passing away.

Bryan DeAugustine said that it is always good to see kids back on campus.

Motion by John Grove supported by Chad Korpi to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 pm.

President: _____

Secretary: _____