

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education
Monday, November 15, 2021
6:00 p.m. in the High School Library

Board Members Present: Richard White, Jessica Unangst, Joe Henige, Jim Eustace and Wendy Vincke.

Absent: Greg Ruddy and Adam Green

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Kim Kuchar, Kevin Murphy and 8 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich White at 6:02 p.m. The pledge to the flag was said.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report was read by Wendy Vincke. Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting dated October 18, 2021 as presented.

Motion carried 5-0.

Correspondence

None

Student Section

Klara Mulcahy was the student council representative for tonight.

Student Observers

None

Presentations/Updates

2020-2021 Audit – Steve Kirinovic

Steve Kirinovic from Stevens, Kirinovic & Tucker (SKT) presented the 2020-2021 audit to the Board. As of June 30, 2021 the district has a fund balance of 12%. Overall, the district is in good financial standing.

Construction Update – Christman Company

Rob Crowe of Christman Company updated the board on the summer 2021 projects. Mr. Crowe stated that three of the four locker rooms are complete with the epoxy flooring. The flooring looks fantastic and that was a great choice. The fourth locker room will be complete next week. The architect will be completing a final punch list of items that need to be completed before the district gets full turnover. Mr. Crowe stated that he has been very grateful for the patience the district has had with this project.

High School Social Emotional Learning Update – Amanda Kviz

Ms. Kviz presented to the board that she has implemented a group called junior high at-risk group. This is for students that are failing one class and Ms. Kviz is pulling the students every other week during their elective class to work on the skills they are lacking. All junior high students have also been working each day for 10 minutes on discussing social/emotional needs. Students have discussed some really neat things including respect, gratitude and kindness. Ms. Kviz also mentioned that the Outreach group will be helping in town with various events including: the candle walk, VFW's poppy sale, and raking leaves around town.

Committee Reports

Facilities Committee – Rich White reported the minutes from October 21st.

Policy Committee – Wendy Vincke reported the minutes from November 8th.

Visitors

None

Financial Reports

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: general fund \$914,995.70; school service \$65,964.21; for a total of \$980,959.91.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried 5-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance \$762,326.23; receipts \$764,121.08; expenditures \$764,121.08; for an ending balance of \$545,487.40.

Motion by Henige, supported by Eustace to accept the monthly financial report as submitted.

Motion carried 5-0.

Action Items

Motion by Eustace, supported by Unangst to approve the resignation of Denelle Klein, elementary secretary, effective October 29, 2021.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve the hire of Larry Dumond, music teacher at MA + 5, effective October 27, 2021.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Vincke to approve hiring Misty Thiel, one-on-one aide, effective November 15, 2021.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Unangst to approve the hire of Megan Bishop, part-time evening custodian, effective November 15, 2021.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported Henige to approve the hire of Cheryl Littlejohn, full-time bus driver, effective November 16, 2021.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve hiring Brady Simons, Varsity Boys Basketball coach for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Unangst to approve hiring Adam Johnson, JV Boys Basketball coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Henige to approve hiring James Perry, Girls Varsity Basketball coach for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to approve hiring Jeff Campbell, Head Wrestling coach for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve hiring Kevin Clark, Assistant Wrestling coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 4-1.

White, Unangst, Henige, Vincke – yes

Eustace – no.

Motion by Henige, supported by Unangst to approve hiring Nate Browning, Jr. High Wrestling coach for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Henige to approve hiring Heather Osborn, 8th grade Volleyball coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve hiring Steve Gauger, Junior High Boys Basketball coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Eustace to approve the participation in the School of Choice program under Section 105 and 105c of the Revised School Code for the second semester of the 2021-2022 school year except for 4th and 6th grade which will be capped and limited openings in 1st, 3rd, 7th, and 8th for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the Emergency Operations Plan as presented.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Unangst to approve the second reading of the Fall 2021 NEOLA policy updates (new, revised, replacement) and guidelines as presented.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the High School Handbook revision as presented, effective second semester of the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the Athletic Handbook revision as presented, effective winter sports season of the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Vincke to approve the epoxy floor quote for the high school locker rooms from Lansing Tile in the amount of \$37,176.56 to be paid out of the bond.

Motion carried 5-0.

Jessica Unangst left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

District Updates

Athletics – Kevin Murphy

Mr. Murphy stated that according to MHSAA student athletes are down 12%. Mr. Murphy did an analysis of our fall sport numbers and noted that we are pretty stable with our student athletes. Cross country had three athletes make it to the state meet. Football and Volleyball both had successful seasons. The Varsity Volleyball head coach position will be posted tomorrow.

Elementary – Andrew Severn

Mr. Severn reported that popcorn Friday's will be back at the elementary soon. The elementary has five student teachers with us from the University of Michigan- Flint. Mr. Severn stated that he is still in the process to find an elementary secretary. Larry Dumond, music teacher was welcomed and Mr. Severn noted what a huge asset he will be to both of our buildings and our music program. The elementary will host a Title/At-Risk Zoom meeting on November 18th, at 7:00 p.m. to answer questions and explain the what, would, why, and how process to parents. Also, to discuss what the program is and does for their child. Mr. Severn stated that the grandparents luncheon has been canceled for this year as the district is taking precautions.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar reported that she has a new 8th and 10th grade students starting this week, which will bring her enrollment numbers up. Mrs. Jessica Marcet was awarded the high school teacher of the year. While, Mrs. Barb Andres has been nominated as the Michigan Teacher of the Year. Progress reports will be mailed out today. We have 21 days until the semester is over. Ms. Kuchar stated that we have a drama advisor that is looking to get a drama production underway with a late spring production. The high school held a dual enrollment parent meeting last week, in which 30 parents attended. The SIP team met last week and laid out the exam schedule for the high school. Exams will take place the week of December 13. Exams for 1st, 3rd and 5th hours will take place on Tuesday, December 14 and 2nd, 4th and 6th hours will take place on Thursday, December 16. Mrs. Blake is working to support out local veterans. FFA students recently competed in a broiler contest. The Ag issues team won the bronze award at Nationals. Varsity Quiz bowl has had an up and down season, but they are having a lot of fun. The next Quiz Bowl competition will take place here at New Lothrop on Wednesday, November 17. Ms. Kuchar stated that the high school granting Christmas wishes tree is up and students are encouraged to take a tag. On Thursday, the Cadets will be taking a field trip to the Children's Museum in Saginaw and to the toy store in Frankenmuth. Lastly, the high school awards assembly will take place next Tuesday for current 8th – 12th graders.

District – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume recognized the custodial staff on all the time they spend making sure the buildings high touch areas are cleaned. Special Education numbers have been reviewed and the elementary will be posting for a special education teacher who is on leave to stabilize our case load numbers. Dr. Berthiaume thanked Christman Company and THA Architects for the wonderful partnership and stated what a pleasure it was to work with them through the bond process. Dr. Berthiaume stated that the operating millage will be up for renewal and we will be looking at placing that on the May or August ballot. The operating millage will be no increase on taxes. On Friday, November 19, students and staff will have the choice if they want to wear a mask or not. Dr. Berthiaume stated as the year started a goal of his is to not go virtual this year, to stabilize our number of positive cases and to make sure we have appropriate staff with credentials in the classrooms. The district will make the best judgement for students and staff.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to enter closed session for the Superintendent's contract.

Motion carried 4-0.

10-minute recess

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve contributing \$1,390.00 per month to a 403b employer contribution annuity effective November 1, 2021.

Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Eustace to adjourn.

Motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment at 8:08 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, December 13, 2021 in the high school library at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary