

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, April 18, 2016

6:00pm in the High School Library

Board Members Present: Stacie Krupp, Curt Bitterman, Rich White, Adam Green, Greg Ruddy, Kevin Birchmeier and Jessica Unangst

Absent: None

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Stephanie O'Dea, Michelle Barrett, Craig Atkins, and 25 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Stacie Krupp at 6:06pm in the high school library. The pledge to the flag was said.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report was read by Greg Ruddy. Motion by Ruddy, supported by Green to accept the minutes from the regular meeting dated March 21, 2016.

Motion carried 7-0.

Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

Student Section

No student observers were present.

Presentations/Updates

No presentations.

Committee Reports

Facility Committee minutes were reported by Curt Bitterman. The committee conducted a walk-through of the building and grounds and noted several areas where improvements were needed. The committee suggested that \$125,000 per year be budgeted each year for the next 5 years to cover the cost of upgrades to the building and grounds. Ed Bennett, Maintenance Supervisor, then presented an overview of a 5-year plan and the cost of each project. Some of the items included replacing classroom carpets, bleachers, boilers and concrete. Estimated cost of the projects were obtained through bids and phone calls.

Visitors

No visitors addressed the Board

Financial Reports

Adam Green read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$689,369.69; school service, \$39,214.51; for a total of \$728,584.20.

Motion by Unangst, supported by White to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$964,885.52; receipts, \$775,414.45; expenditures: \$728,584.20; for an ending balance of \$1,011,715.77.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Bitterman to accept the monthly financial report as submitted.

Motion carried 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Bitterman, supported by Unangst to approve the Designation of Representative Resolution to the Shiawassee R.E.S.D. as presented.

Roll call vote: Krupp-yes; Bitterman-yes; Ruddy-yes; Green-yes; Birchmeier-yes; White-yes; Unangst-yes.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Birchmeier to accept the resignation of Dave Duranso, 8th Grade Softball Coach, effective April 4, 2016.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Bitterman, supported by Unangst to appoint Ed Bennett as the 8th Grade Softball Coach for the 2016 season.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Birchmeier to accept the retirement of Karen Maksimchuk effective June 10, 2016.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to approve Biggers Complete Floor Covering, Inc. to install hallway carpet at the high school at a cost not to exceed \$25,600.00.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by White to approve the 2016-2017 police coverage agreement with the New Lothrop Village Council as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Good News Items

Athletics – Craig Atkins

All spring sports are well underway. Fields are looking great. On April 27th, ten students will attend a Scholar Athlete Luncheon. Mr. Atkins stated this was a great achievement for these athletes as each student maintained a 3.5 average grade point average throughout their high school career.

Elementary – Michelle Barrett

We are in the planning phases for next year. Parent requests for teachers are being accepted. Mrs. Barrett will be conducting a family and retention survey soon. As a reminder, Development Kindergarten will show up on State reports as “retentions”. Early student numbers for the 2016-2017 school year indicate 15 Development Kindergarten students and 51 Kindergarten students. Preschool registration for the upcoming school year is well underway. Applications are being accepted for children of school employees only at this time. Registration will be open to all families next week. M-STEP testing is well underway. Kindergarten Roundup is scheduled for May 9th. The VFW’s Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Amber Whitman, has moved on to the District level. Mrs. Whitman will attend a luncheon in her honor later this month. The YMCA joined our Latchkey staff in assisting with physical activities for students. Mrs. Barrett stated the program was going very well.

High School –Stephanie O’Dea

We had low attendance numbers at the last parent-teacher conferences held the night before students left for spring break. Only 24% of parents attended. Mrs. O’Dea would like to see the timing of the conferences coincide more with the middle of the marking period next year. Testing is well underway and is going much smoother this year than last. Summer school for Jr. High students will be held in August not June this year. High school students will be given the option to attend Montrose Community Schools for summer school as we will not be offering a program this year due to low attendance. Mrs. O’Dea stated 28 new students were inducted into the National Honor Society last Wednesday. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Art Show held in the library on Wednesday. Additional upcoming events include the Shiawassee Top Ten Luncheon, CTE Banquet and Prom. A mock crash will be reenacted on the high school grounds on May 4th.

District – Dr. Anthony Berthiaume

The district received a one day of forgiveness waiver from the State of Michigan. If the waiver was not awarded, the district would have been required to make up one day at the end of this school year. June 10th will remain to be the last day of school for students. August 25th is the first official day of school for students for the 2016-2017 school year. A parent letter link explaining the start date is on the home page of the website. The community meeting went well this past Saturday. Areas of concern included the elementary circle drive, lighting, cursive writing in the classroom, protocol for parent attendance in the classroom, district website and 5th and 6th grade electives. Dr. Berthiaume announced a facilities and technology survey would be conducted soon as well as a staff evaluation of the Superintendent. We continue to work with the New Lothrop Village Council to work out details of the police coverage. We are looking to revamp security procedures. Area Superintendents sat down recently with Tom Mysberge and local, county and State law enforcement to discuss implementing a universal protocol that can be used by all Shiawassee schools. We plan to discuss another Diagnostic Tool as we await to hear what the State will be doing.

Greg Ruddy reflected more on the facility walk through and the importance of budgeting now to maintain our buildings and grounds. Greg thanked staff for their help in keeping the facilities well-groomed and called on everyone to do their part to keep it that way.

Board President, Stacie Krupp, called for a 15 minute recess due to an upcoming hearing scheduled for 7pm. The Board recessed at 6:44pm and reconvened at 7:07pm.

Board President, Stacie Krupp, announced that an Open Appeal to the Board of Education was requested by Mr. Phil Beckman due to a bullying issue. However, Mr. Beckman has now requested the Board hear the appeal in Closed Session.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by White to enter Closed Session for the purpose of a Bullying Appeal.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Closed Session was entered at 7:08pm.

The Board reopened the meeting at 8:44pm.

Motion by Bitterman, supported by Birchmeier, to deny the appeal related to bullying.

Motion carried, 7-0.

The Board is directing administration to work with employee(s) on Professional Development opportunities.

Motion by White, supported by Unangst to adjourn.

Motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment at 8:47pm.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, May 16, 2016 in the high school library beginning at 6:00pm.

Gregory E Ruddy, Board Secretary
New Lothrop Board of Education