

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, February 20, 2017

6:00 p.m. in the High School Library

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Stephanie O'Dea, Michelle Barrett, Wes Webster, and 13 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich White at 6:00 p.m. 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 Unangst to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting held on January 9, 2017.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Correspondence

A thank you from Nancy Accardo thanking the Board for the engraved photo album given to her for her retirement.

Presentations/Updates

Mr. Berthiaume recognized Ryan Czymbor for the time and energy he has put toward not only being the long-term choir substitute but for all the extras he did for each individual student. The staff and students very much appreciate all of his efforts. Ryan was wished the best of luck as he moves on to a new position in another school district.

Committee Reports

The Policy Committee meeting minutes were reported by Greg Ruddy.

Rich White presented the new committee assignments for the Board members.

Visitors

None

Financial Reports

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$597,624.78; school service, \$25,088.45; for a total of \$622,713.23.

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Birchmeier to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried, 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$569,793.80; receipts, \$751,345.80; expenditures: \$622,713.23; for an ending balance of \$698,426.37.

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

Motion carried, 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Bitterman, supported by Green to approve the hire of Ellen Albert, payroll clerk, effective January 30, 2017.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Unangst to approve the hire of Brandon Green, 7th grade boys basketball coach as a contracted employee of PCMI, effective January 30, 2017.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Bitterman to approve changing Sheila Mulcahy's title of Business Manager to Director of Finance with an added stipend of \$7,000 for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year with the intention to add the \$7,000 stipend on to her salary starting with the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Ruddy to approve the spring Schedule C Appointments as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to approve the Online, Dual Enrollment, Independent Study and Seat-Time Waiver Roster for second semester as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Bitterman, supported by Eustace to approve the 2017-2018 school year calendar as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Ruddy to approve Cheerleading as a club sport.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to recommend New Lothrop Area Public Schools casts a vote for the candidate Matthew Showalter, for the 2017 MASB Region 4, Board of Directors Election.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Building/District Updates

Athletics - Wes Webster

Mr. Webster presented district summary results after the second round of testing for i-Ready. Kim Kuchar, 5th/6th grade teacher presented her professional insight on how i-Ready has impacted her students from a teachers' perspective. One feature that Kim really likes is the fact that she is able to see results immediately, instead of having to wait for months to see the results of her students.

Upcoming sporting events: February 24th and 25th the wrestling team state meet at Central Michigan University. February 24th varsity girls' basketball parent night. Hoopsters will be playing at halftime during the JV & Varsity boys' games against Bentley. February 25th Regional bowling in Bay City. February 27th girls' basketball districts at Atherton vs. Atherton. February 28th varsity boys' basketball parent night. March 2 - 4 wrestling individual state meet at the Palace. March 6th - boys' basketball districts home vs. Bendle at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Webster updated the Board on the division placement/alignment. New Lothrop has been accepted into the TVC (Tri-Valley Conference) East. The division placement/alignment for the GAC (Genesee Area Conference) will be based on February enrollment numbers. New Lothrop will be a part of the GAC blue for the 2017-2018 school year.

Elementary - Michelle Barrett

Spring scheduled Parent Teacher Conferences were pretty well attended. Teachers and students have been doing some extra cleaning in the classrooms because of the recent number of illnesses. Over the weekend, custodians spent some extra time disinfecting. On February 14th, 5th grade students along with the Andres family released balloons to remember and celebrate A'myracle. Mrs. Barrett updated the board that we have a 2nd grade student with DIPG, an inoperable brain tumor. Several fundraisers have taken place to help support the Miller family. The Kindergarten - 4th grade curriculum teams sat down and reviewed i-Ready data and talked about the next steps and strategies. This year we will be charging \$75 per student to attend Hartley. We have given the students options of a payment plan or candy bar fundraising to help offset the cost. Some students have started selling candy bars and so far,

it seems to be going very well. The PTO donated \$850 and our internal account paid \$1,200. The ELA Curriculum Council recently met. The high school needs some new curriculum resources. We have some companies putting together quotes for us. Summer Reading – research is showing that students thrive when given choices. The school is putting money towards some new books for the library shelves. Elaine Prine with the Community District Library is getting together with Barb Andres' high school students to talk to them about the resources available to them. The March 31st professional development day will be spent looking at Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's). Mary Dewey, Literacy Coach is going to come as a support to help facilitate these discussions. Kim Kuchar is organizing an author visit for Spring of 2018 with the author who wrote *Among the Hidden*, Margaret Peterson Haddix. Melodie Burgess is going to pilot the program, Social Emotional Health with our 1st grade teachers to see if we notice a difference in the social emotional growth of our students. This is a problem solving, empathy, bully proofing, learning skills program. Many area schools use this program. We are possibly looking into switching from D'Nealian to Handwriting Without Tears. There will be a cost to roll out the new program. This will primarily be in Kindergarten – 3rd grade. The first edition of our school newspaper was published last week. Lisa Fulton's 6th grade class did a wonderful job with the paper.

High School - Stephanie O'Dea

Recently, several of our high school students attended the Winter Special Olympics. Mrs. O'Dea received an email from a parent praising our students and saying how awesome they were with the kids. On January 26 & 27, a team of New Lothrop students competed in the 26th Annual Snow Carving Competition sponsored by Zehnder's of Frankenmuth. The team did an outstanding job competing against other high school teams and took third place overall out of twenty-four teams. Kami Aiello played a violin solo this past weekend at District V Solo and Ensemble and earned a Division I rating. She qualified for State Solo and Ensemble. Parent Teacher Conferences were not well attended this spring. This is the 3rd year we have sent out personalized invitations to those parents requested to attend. Out of those invited 40% attended. Our FFA students competed in Regionals last week. It was a rough Regional and we have one student moving on. We have a dual enrollment parent meeting next week. Upcoming dates: March 10th Blood drive and March 30th Mock Rock. The high school will be showing a Human Trafficking video to students. A letter to parents along with a permission slip will be sent home with student's report cards this week. Parents are encouraged to come to the high school and watch the video on Monday, March 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium and the students will be viewing the video on Wednesday, March 29th. The high school received a yellow on the Accountability Scorecard, 1 point kept us from receiving a lime green. We will begin piloting the Next Gen Science Standard next year and working on the implementation of the science standards at the elementary level. These will be discussed at the March 31st professional development day.

District – Anthony Berthiaume

Student Achievement – The district is focusing on i-Ready implementation and recently completed the second window of testing for the school year. The State of Michigan is moving toward implementation of the i-Ready system possibly for the 2018-2019 school year.

Math Curriculum – The math curriculum council recently met. The group is looking at Connected Mathematics, an MSU research based program. At the next professional development day teachers will work on K-12 brochures for parents (Student Learning Objectives) for each subject area. This brochure will include a list of 5-10 things that students should know how to do upon completion of that grade.

Safety and Security – we'll be bidding out four new lease buses for the 2017-2018 school year. We will be inquiring about specs for a back-arm for a least one of our new lease buses. The State police recently conducted our bus inspection. Nine of our 12 buses were green tagged. The three buses that were red tagged have been fixed and approved for use.

Finance – the Finance Committee will be meeting in early March to look at budget cuts and the progression to our upcoming plan.

Technology – both ChromeBook carts are ready to be rolled out.

Closed Session

Motion by Bitterman, supported by Ruddy to enter Closed Session to discuss the Attorney-Client Privileged Communication.

Motion carried, 6-0 (Birchmeier absent)

Closed Session was entered at 7:20 p.m. and exited at 7:30 p.m.

Recess was taken from 7:30 p.m. until 7:38 p.m.

Workshop

Superintendent Evaluation Tool Training - MASB Rep. Tom White presented.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to adjourn.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Adjournment at 9:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, March 20, 2017 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Gregory E Ruddy, Board Secretary
New Lothrop Board of Education