

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, May 17, 2021

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

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn, Kevin Murphy and 30 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich White at 6:00 p.m. The pledge to the flag was said.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report was read by Adam Green. Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to accept the minutes from the special board meeting dated May 17, 2021 as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Correspondence

Student Section

Maddie Eustace was the student council representative for tonight.

Presentations/Updates

District Service Awards – Anthony Berthiaume

Employees of the New Lothrop Area Public Schools were recognized tonight for years of service. Dr. Berthiaume presented service year awards. All staff members were thanked for their hard work and dedication to the district.

Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume noted that no changes have been made to the COVID-19 learning plan.

Elementary Handbook – Andrew Severn presented the elementary, latchkey and preschool handbooks with changes for 2021-2022 school year.

High School Handbook – Kim Kuchar presented the high school handbook with changes for the 2021-2022 school year.

Athletic Handbook – Kevin Murphy presented the athletic handbook with changes for the 2021-2022 school year.

Committee Reports

Policy – Jim Eustace presented the minutes from May 11, 2021.

Visitors

Becky Knieper-Naessens addressed the board and asked, "how can we work with you on masking, testing and quarantining students?" Mrs. Naessens stated that she truly believes we need to work together. New Lothrop has done a great job, but has a long way to go.

Kaven Unangst, addressed the board wondering if they are looking at offering dual sports again.

Merrick Matthews addressed his concern that he was trying to understand why parents could not at least be spectators at the track and field day. Flag football is going on every weekend with no masks, no distancing and it's not a school event. Merrick also discussed the next phase of the bond project and wondered if the athletic boosters need to clear out the building before construction takes place.

Sheryl Bauman stated that Mrs. Naessens pretty much summed up what she wanted to say. She stated that New Lothrop did an awesome job by offering in-person instruction. Mrs. Bauman feels it's important to look at our own school data and she would love to see the masks and quarantine go away. Mrs. Bauman urged the district to look into the spray that is used on the desk surfaces.

Financial Reports

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: general fund \$867,755.28; school service \$34,814.11; for a total of \$902,569.39.

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

Motion carried 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance \$1,432,526.43; receipts \$831,409.56; expenditures \$902,569.39; for an ending balance of \$1,361,366.60.

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

Motion carried 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Unangst, supported by Ruddy to approve the resignation of Shawana Bigelow, night-time custodian effective April 21, 2021.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Vincke to accept the retirement of Mary Johnson, Transportation Director effective June 30, 2021.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the 2021-2022 SRES D budget as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Vincke to approve the resolution designating the district's election representatives for the RESD election.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Ruddy to approve the second reading of the Spring 2021 NEOLA policy (new, revised, replacement) and guidelines as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to approve the 2021-2022 elementary handbook changes as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Ruddy to approve the 2021-2022 Latchkey handbook changes as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve the 2021-2022 preschool handbook changes as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Ruddy to approve the 2021-2022 high school handbook changes as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to approve the 2021-2022 athletic code of conduct changes as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve the Covid-19 extended learning plan as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Green to approve the following as summer enrichment program teachers for the summer of 2021: Ashley Zervan (at-risk), Krista Ketterer (title), Mary Webster (1st grade co-teach), Jen Ramey (1st grade co-teach), Jill Severn (2nd), Justin Skinner (3rd), Brianna Cervoni (4th), Alexandra Blake (junior high), Melissa Jacobs (junior high), Kia Robison (high school) and Barb Andres (high school).

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the following teachers as i-Ready summer school learning program mentors: Jill Severn (K-2) and Melissa Jacobs (3-6).

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Green to approve Steph Freed and Vicki Vincke as food service workers for the summer school program.

Motion carried 7-0.

District Updates

Athletics – Kevin Murphy

Mr. Murphy reported that spring sports are going really well. Track regionals will take place this Friday at 1:00 pm in Shepherd. New Lothrop will be hosting baseball districts and softball is currently 9th in the state. Lastly, Mr. Murphy stated that we have three scholar athletes this year: Drew Kohlmann, Carson Hersch and Brooke Wenzlick.

Elementary – Andrew Severn

Mr. Severn reported that the third i-Ready window opened on May 3rd and closes on June 4th. Mr. Severn will be meeting on Friday, May 28th to discuss current 504/IEP/At-risk/Title I numbers. Also, planning for the 2021-2022 school year with current students. Looking at what we need to possibly change for next year and looking at implementing intervention and support where we need it most. Mr. Severn stated that for the 2021-2022 school year we will be looking to hire another teacher with the upcoming student numbers. For the 2021-2022 school year we will be recommending capping 1st, 4th and 6th grade and will have limited spacing in 3rd grade. The elementary will be moving forward with Bridges Math Curriculum for next school year. Summer opportunities for elementary students will take place for all K-6 students through our i-Ready platform. The i-Ready summer learning platform will be student led with two staff monitoring and answering questions weekly. Mr. Severn stated that the PreK celebration will take place Wednesday, May 26th at 6:30 p.m. and the Kindergarten celebration will take place on Wednesday, June 6th at 1:30 p.m. We have 460 total students in Pre-K through 6th grade and 30 students are currently virtual. We are at 99% compliance with attendance for our building overall.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar reported that currently we have 108 students that are virtual, that is 75% face-to-face and 25% virtual students. The high school is at 92% compliance with attendance for our building overall. Ms. Kuchar stated in the next few weeks we will be celebrating our seniors. Graduation will take place on Sunday, May 23rd at 2:00 p.m. at Hornet field. Masks are not required, but optional for individual comfort level. Graduation ceremony will also be streamed on NFHS network.

District – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume mentioned that since the RESD could not host certain honor events this year administration took the CTE honors, Top 10 and the MAAC scholars out for lunch. Dr. Berthiaume stated that he will be taking some time off this summer to reset. Kindergarten roundup will take place on June 16th. Negotiations will take place with all three groups this summer. Summer school programs will be taking place this summer as well. Dr. Berthiaume updated the board that first round interviews for Technology Director took place last week. The committee narrowed it down to two candidates, in which they both will job shadow with Mr. O'Connor and then once the final decision has been made the top candidate will start transitioning with Mr. O'Connor. Lastly, Dr. Berthiaume stated that he is looking forward to graduation this coming weekend.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to adjourn.

Motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment at 7:38 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, June 21, 2021 in the high school library at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary