

# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, October 21, 2019

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

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Kim Kuchar, Michelle Barrett, Drew Severn, and 49 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich White at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library.

## **Secretary's Report**

The secretary's report was read by Adam Green. Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting held on September 16, 2019.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

## **Correspondence**

Adam Green, Greg Ruddy and Rich White all received a phone call from a parent regarding a student matter.

## **Student Section**

Student Council Representatives – Jordan Belmer and Michael Castillo.

Will Taylor was the student observer for tonight's meeting.

## **Presentations/Updates**

*Hornet Hot Shots and Employee of the Month – Kim Kuchar*

Ms. Kuchar recognized the Hornet Hot Shots for the month of October.

Junior High Hornet Hot Shot, Rylee Elkins (8<sup>th</sup> grade); High School Hornet Hot Shot, Rebecca Bigelow (12<sup>th</sup> grade) and Staff Hornet Hot Shot, Leah Joynt (English Teacher).

*Mental Health Summit – High School students*

High School Students Carson Hersch, Connor Aiello, Grace Adelberg and Chalea Herrron attended a MASSP sponsored Student Mental Health Summit at the Lansing Center. This group of students presented to the Board of Education what they learned at the summit and how to address student mental health concerns. These students plan to promote awareness here at New Lothrop Junior High/High School.

*Math and Science Manufacturing Experience (MSME) – Jessica Marcet*

Jessica Marcet presented to the board some of the ideas she has implemented in her classroom that she received through her summer internship experience with Delta College. Mrs. Marcet visited Gougeon Brothers in Bay City, MI for one week during the summer for her internship experience. Each teacher involved delivered a lesson with their experience. Mrs. Marcet included problem solving, thinking through and working together as a group to form a model.

*Robotics Club – David Wenzlick*

David Wenzlick and Mrs. Jane Devota presented to the board that they would like to get a First Robotics Club Program here at New Lothrop High School. Mr. Wenzlick spoke that the district would apply and potential received several grants to get the program started up here at New Lothrop. Thus far, we have

14 kids signed up that would like to be a part of the club. So far, the group has signed up for two competitions for this school year.

*Principals Month – Anthony Berthiaume*

Dr. Berthiaume recognized Mrs. Barrett, Ms. Kuchar and Mr. Severn for their dedication and service to the school district.

*Christman Company/THA Architect – Jacob Kulhanek and Madonna Bennett*

Jacob Kulhanek from Christman Company presented to the Board of Education a recap of the project list and the needs assessment which recapped the total dollars available and proposed projects. Mr. Kulhanek also gave context to the Series 1 design and estimate update for the Bond and Sinking Fund. Madonna Bennett of THA Architect spoke of the projects and designs that would be taking place during the summer of 2020. These project designs that were presented consisted of the Media Center, CAD classroom and Science room design. Other projects that will take place this summer include: ceiling and lightning replacement, new lockers, changing some mechanical units, student toilet rooms by the media center and the gym bleachers.

**Committee Reports**

Facilities/Transportation/Extra-Curricular – Greg Ruddy reported the minutes from September 16, October 9 and October 16, 2019.

**Visitors**

Monica Garza, spoke that her son is not feeling safe here. When we have staff members walking in and parents have friends posting things on Facebook, yes I have proof. This school is against school bullying, but yet we have problems with adults bullying. Accusation about my child. These accusations about my child doesn't help that a board members spouse is posting things on Facebook. Mrs. Garza stated who's protecting my child from being bullied by adults??

Brian Mulcahy, took a minute to thank the Board of Education for having a closed session meeting with him on areas where he thinks can be improved.

Joseph Torres, stated that his son is be harassed. Mr. Torez stated that were he works he cleans up wastes. Bigger problem is he doesn't feel like his son is safe. The one student involved doesn't even attend this school anymore. What are you going to do about the safety of my child?

**Financial Reports**

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$752,804.96; school service, \$41,566.91; for a total of \$794,371.87.

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

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$1,352,570.44; receipts, \$55,869.42; expenditures: \$794,371.87; for an ending balance of \$614,067.99.

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

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

### **Action Items**

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Eustace to resignation of Jill Severn, 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls volleyball coach, effective October 16, 2019.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve hiring Nate Browning, junior high wrestling coach for the 2019-2020 school year.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Ruddy to approve hiring Rondalee Beardslee, 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' volleyball coach, as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2019-2020 school year.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to approve hiring Trevor Beach, 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball coach for the 2019-2020 school year.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve New Lothrop High School Course Guide for the 2019-2020 school year as presented.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Vincke to approve the purchase of the protective window film covering at the elementary and high school from Perrin Construction Co., at a cost not to exceed \$24,744.00 paid out of capital projects to be reimbursed by the Michigan State Policy safety grant.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

### **Building/District Updates**

#### *Athletics – Drew Severn*

Mr. Severn reported that middle school wrestling will begin Monday, October 28 and middle school volleyball will begin on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. New Lothrop will be hosting the MMAC wrestling meet on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. The high school girls' basketball season will begin on November 11<sup>th</sup>, boys' basketball on November 18<sup>th</sup> and wrestling and bowling will both begin on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Severn shared that New Lothrop will also be hosting the MMAC All-league fall meeting this coming Sunday at 1:00 p.m. The Red Cedar League for youth basketball is moving forward as planned. Packets were sent out last week and are due Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. From that point we will be able to determine how many teams we will have per grade level. The JV football team will play this Thursday vs. Frankenmuth as well as the Varsity will play post season games on our field as well. Cross Country regionals are this Friday at Uncle John's Cider Mill beginning at 3:30 p.m. The Pixellot system is up and running in the gym and on the football field. The next steps are making sure the scores are showing up properly. Mr. Severn also had updates from the Science department. The Science teachers has been working to prioritize NGSS standards and curriculum maps currently for the K-5<sup>th</sup> grade levels. Those teachers attending a curriculum work day for K-5 teachers on September 26<sup>th</sup> and they are working on our goals of K-12 progression. The 7<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grade teachers worked on unit district assessments on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Elementary – Michelle Barrett*

Mrs. Barrett stated that she is continuing to get in the swing of the busy days, but students are starting to settle down a little. Mrs. Barrett spoke on the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade behaviors and has sent home a letter to parents talking about lunch detentions in the classroom, in the office, enrichment block detention. Sarah Lewindowski and Ellen Kasik will be heading out PBIS Student Council. Two students from each classroom to represent the grade level. They will come up with way to get students to buy in to make good choices – respect and determination. The bathrooms have also been an issue, with students writing on the stalls. Parent Teacher conferences will take place this Thursday. The elementary had Team Buddy Day this past Friday. The Team Buddy Foundation purchased lime green popcorn for all of our students. Buddy's family came to school for a balloon release and to pass out popcorn to call classes. The family continues to be so humbled and appreciative of the support. Mr. Barrett shared that the school did use biodegradable balloon this year. In the future, we will look for a different

option next year to show support and remember Buddy instead of a balloon release. Mrs. Barrett has met with all teachers to review goals. Personal goal, Writing across the Curriculum goal and their student achievement goal. The RESD met with 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers to help them with the Individualized Reading Improvement Plan. Mr. Barrett stated that homecoming week was a great week, lots of school spirit was shown. Fun Friday took place last week. This is a great event for students, participation seems to grow every year and the students were very well behaved.

*High School – Kim Kuchar*

Ms. Kuchar mentioned that October is College month. We've had several college representatives visit New Lothrop. This week our Physics and Calculus students will attend a field trip to Kettering University. Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders visited University of Michigan Flint last week. Our Seniors had a work day for college applications last week and this week will meet to work on Financial Aid. Also, former New Lothrop graduate Nicole Jenrow will speak to seniors about goal setting. The FFA held a successful Pig Roast last month. Our Quiz bowl team competed and won their 1<sup>st</sup> match against Marlette and fell to Roscommon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds. Homecoming week was very successful, here at New Lothrop. PSAT is complete and Shiawassee Scholars met with Renee Dotson from the RESD for dish and dessert. Ms. Kuchar also mentioned that she's been in several classroom reading to students. She also met with staff to review their goals and discussed the 40% achievement component of their evaluation and staff also discussed over-hauling our final exams to be more rigor.

*District – Anthony Berthiaume*

Dr. Berthiaume reported that it's a good check in point, staff survey of the culture and climate have shown that 87% of staff say that's we've had a very positive or positive. Parent teacher conferences relations between students, parents and teacher. This is a circle that all should be meeting. Even at the junior high and high school level, it's very important to know each other on that level. Dr. Berthiaume stated that the state budget has been approved and we will see a \$240 per student increase. Our fall count is 422, which is a 22 student increase from last fall. Dr. Berthiaume stated the district is coming up with an Emergency Operation Plan that is mandated by state law. This is being worked on and will be presented at the December board meeting. Dr. Berthiaume stated that the district will be re-evaluating the AdvancEd and looking at state accreditation and possibly looking at other district improvement plans that would be a good transition to make. Dr. Berthiaume mentioned that the Math curriculum council K-5 is looking at a different pilot for math. Current 5<sup>th</sup> graders are piloting Envision math. The district is looking at a K-5 math curriculum that will help to bridge Connected Mathematics Project (CMP) math for when those students get into junior high. Dr. Berthiaume noted that he heard mention of Facebook this evening and he wanted to mention that it is our job as adults to teach our young and we need to be appropriate. Our students need to feel safe. Let's me cautious as community members and adults.

Recess 7:34 p.m. – 7:43 p.m.

**Closed Session**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve entering closed session to consider a student privacy matter. Entered at 7:43 p.m. – 8:50 p.m.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve entering closed session for negotiations. Entered at 8:53 p.m. – 9:16 p.m.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Unangst to approve the tentative agreement between the New Lothrop Board of Education and the MEA/New Lothrop Educational Support Personnel Association for the 2019-2021 school year as presented.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve entering closed session for review of the Superintendent's evaluation. Entered at 9:18 pm. – 9:25 p.m.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to approve the completed 2018-2019 year-end evaluation for the Superintendent.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to adjourn.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Adjournment at 9:25 p.m.

The next meeting of the board will be a regular school board meeting on Monday, November 18, 2019 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

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Adam Green, Board Secretary