

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education
Monday, December 18, 2017
6:00 p.m. in the High School Library

Board Members Present: Rich White, Adam Green, Jessica Unangst, Kevin Birchmeier, Jim Eustace and Joseph Henige.

Absent: Greg Ruddy

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Michelle Barrett, Kim Kuchar and 14 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.

It was noted that Jessica Unangst would need to leave by 7:00 p.m. if the meeting was not adjourned by that time.

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 November 20, 2017.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Correspondence

None

Student Section

Student observers for tonight were Malary Thorsby and Tate Steinborn.

Presentations/Updates

Sue Spiegel - Retirement

Dr. Berthiaume recognized Sue for her years of service to the district. Sue is a caring lady who devoted her time and energy to the district.

Hornet Hot Shot Students and Employee of the Month – Kim Kuchar

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

Junior High Hornet Hot Shot, Madeline Eustace (7th grade); High School Hornet Hot Shot, Kyle Mulcahy (12th grade) and Staff Hornet Hot Shot Melissa Jacobs (Teacher).

Alumni – Bethany Kviz, Author

Dr. Berthiaume recognized Bethany Kviz and her sister Amanda Kviz who recently published the book *Otis goes to CMU* (Central Michigan University). Both of these young ladies are graduates of New Lothrop High School.

CTE Update – John Long

John Long, High School Teacher presented the Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that the district currently houses. He highlighted the different areas of the three programs: Business – Kendra Knieper, Agri-Science – John Wyrick and Machine Tool/Industrial Technology – John Long.

Committee Reports

None

Visitors

Amber Whitman, Kindergarten teacher, wanted to thank all the staff and Board of Education for the Christmas Breakfast that was served to the staff this past Friday.

Financial Reports

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: general fund, \$703,444.77; school service, \$36,753.42; for a total of \$740,198.19.

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

Motion carried, 6-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$830,630.40; receipts, \$795,030.71; expenditures, \$740,198.19; for an ending balance of \$885,462.92.

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

Motion carried, 6-0.

Action Items

Motion by Unangst supported by Eustace to approve the hire of Benjamin Almasy, Varsity Baseball Coach, as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Eustace to approve hiring Tim Krupp, Head Girls Track Coach, for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Unangst to approve hiring Jamie Krupp, Head Boys Track Coach, for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve hiring Tim Howard, Assistant Track Coach, for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion carried, 6-0

Motion by Henige, supported by Birchmeier to approve hiring Justin Skinner, 7th grade Baseball Coach, for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion carried, 6-0

Motion by Green, supported by Eustace to approve hiring Chad Henige, 8th grade Softball Coach, as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion carried, 6-0

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Eustace to approve hiring Briana Giffel, 7th grade Softball Coach, for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion carried, 6-0

District Updates

Athletics

Dr. Berthiaume reported that the district is still in need of an 8th grade boys' basketball coach. We will be posting the J.V. baseball position. The wrestling team traveled to Marquette this past weekend and overall the team took 3rd place. The New Lothrop Hall of Fame wrestling tournament will take place the 1st weekend in January. Both varsity girls and boys basketball are off to a great start for the winter season. Dr. Berthiaume also reported that he's heard a lot of positives on the new J.V. boys' basketball coach. Overall, Anthony is looking forward to our new Assistant Principal/Athletic Director starting on January 22nd.

Elementary – Michelle Barrett

Mrs. Barrett shared that our preschool program recently received 4 stars on our recent evaluation. Our preschool program also had a drop-in licensing inspection and the district received a letter that there were no rule violations. The district was asked to help support the RESD's preschool fund to help families who couldn't afford preschool. We donated over \$500 for a t-shirt fundraiser that was held at the beginning of the year. The M-Step was revamped for this year, a lot was taken out and some new parts have been added in. Our literacy coach, Margy Dewey is coming in to support our Science and Social Studies teachers, to model a unit on a text dependent analysis which is a new part of the M-Step. Margy will also be working with 4th-6th grade English Language Art teachers to look at instructional content and alignment. Michelle Perry, VFW Teacher of the Year, also went on to receive Regional and State VFW Teacher of the Year. The elementary building recently took part in the annual granting Christmas wishes. The district was able to help over 30 families and we received some very generous donations. Next month, the elementary will start classroom students of the month. Mrs. Barrett also made mention that the elementary recently had a gingerbread house decorating contest, staff vs. students basketball game and classroom parties.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar reported that to date she has completed 40 learning walks and all probationary teachers have had one formal observation. Kim has worked with social studies teachers on SAT question analysis. Ms. Kuchar stated that our January professional development day will focus on PSAT question analysis and instructional changes. Mrs. Devota and Mrs. Robison will begin SAT coaching upon returning from Christmas break. Celebrations this month include: hosted the FFA Region IV degree; students went on a career field trip to Agroliquid Ag Business; drama fall performance; Mrs. Robison's juniors attended a "A Christmas Carol" play at Wayne State University; Mrs. Wickerham hosted a craft night for about 50 elementary students; Jr. High family night took place last week with over 80 people in attendance; Jr. High book fair took place last week; our choir performed at the mall and MediLodge for its residents; 20 stockings were filled for MediLodge residents; shout out to the Fras family – Whispering Pines for donating our beautiful Christmas tree; students participated in Wreaths Across America; Mrs. Bemis's Spanish II class visited the New Lothrop Methodist Church to count and organize over 600 cans of food donated to the Food Bank by Infinity Dance Company; Varsity Quiz Bowl tied for 2nd – best overall finish ever; Mrs. Knieper's VEI Business class participated in a Business Trade Show in Midland.

District – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume mentioned that along with all that Kim, Michelle and Amber have stated, he too is overwhelming pleased with the culture and climate here in the district. We need to remember these ups throughout the school year.

Student achievement – preparing for upcoming testing. When Drew Severn comes aboard he will be getting to know the students and the principals will complete all the teacher evaluations for this school year.

Facilities – Facility workshop will take place Wednesday, December 20th at 5:00 p.m. The district will be interviewing two vendors and dialogue will take place after the interviews.

Lastly, Dr. Berthiaume wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to adjourn.

Motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment at 6:59 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, December 20, 2017 in the High School Library beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary