

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education – High School Auditorium

Regular Meeting

Monday, April 21, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Wendy Vincke, Richard White, Adam Green, Ashley Krupp, Tim Birchmeier, Jenn Otter, Joseph Toma.

Absent: Marty Weese

Others Present: Wayne Wright, Kim Kuchar and 55 visitors

The meeting was called to order by President Wendy Vincke at 6:02 p.m. The pledge to the flag was said.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report was read by Ashley Krupp. Motion by Krupp, supported by Green to accept the minutes for the regular meeting held on March 17, 2025 as presented.

Motion carried 7-0.

Correspondence

None.

Student Section

Student Council Representative for tonight was Lydia Keeler.

Presentation/Updates

Spotlight Students of the Month (Elementary)- Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar recognized Preston Arndt, Camryn Bannan, Oliver Bendixen, Jacob Birchmeier, Hudson Bishop, Cecil Bouchillon, Graham Brashaw, Evelyn Brown, Scarlett Brown, Callie Carlson, Tino Castiglia, Hannah Chrysler, Lyla Coulter, Kinley Cowan, Ace Ebenhoeh, Jack Gross, Oakley Hope, Jedediah Hursh, Amelia Kinsey, Aubrey Klein, Payson Krupp, Gwentyth Kumpelis, Emerson Long, Mattelynn Lozon, Addison Moore, Lily Plumb, Lillianna Taylor, Lila Velat, Trey Wenzlick and Jaycie Wheeler for their acts of integrity they displayed this past month.

March – Hornet of the Month students (High School)- Drew Severn

Mr. Severn recognized Gus Wickerham (7th grade), Aiden Jacobs (8th grade), Ava Riehl (9th grade), Leah Janson (10th grade), Brenden Olsen (11th grade) and Cody Kopenski (12th grade) as the high school Hornet of the Month recipients.

Neola Frist Reading- Wayne Wright

Wayne Wright read the updated Spring 2025 policies.

Committee Reports

Finance- Rich White reported minutes from the March 17th meeting.

Policy- Joe Toma reported minutes from the April 7th meeting.

Personnel- Ashley Krupp reported minutes from the April 7th meeting.

Facilities- Adam Green reported minutes from the April 17th meeting.

Visitors

Kimberly Ryan addressed the board about the school's attendance policy, particularly concerning her daughter. Kimberly wanted the board to look at the policy of 8 absences a semester, all which include excused or unexcused absences. She stated that her daughter has 12 absences, with 7 of those absences being excused by a doctor's note, 5 of them for the flu, and one for job shadowing which is a requirement for graduation. Her daughter was informed that she must attend 3 Saturday schools to be eligible for graduation. Kimberly stated she was concerned about the fairness of the situation, opposed to other students who are considered on a case-by-case basis. She stated that surrounding schools such as Montrose, Chesaning, Durand, and Owosso attendance policies state that absences accompanied by a doctor's note will not count toward the total days absent. Kimberly was concerned that if her daughter was unable to do all 3 Saturday schools that she wouldn't be able to walk with her class.

Samantha Krupp addressed the board about the concern of her position as the school nurse no longer being funded by the Federal HRA Grant effective March 24, 2025. Samantha stated that as the first school nurse on staff in the New Lothrop District she has brought our school up to current best practices, ensuring medication safety, verifying vaccination compliance, removing expired products and creating safe procedures for student health care. Samantha stated that up to date she has documented over 675 individual student visits at the elementary school this year, sees 5 students for daily medications. By the end of the school year, she will have administered between 850-900 doses of daily medication. Sam stated that without the nurse at the school, the responsibility falls on the office staff with limited medical training. She stated that she also works closely with our social workers to address the growing number of mental health and behavioral health concerns among children. Sam stated that if the grant funding can no longer support her position, she would like to sit down to help figure out how we can adjust the district's budget to ensure the role continues permanently.

Bryan Bendixen addressed the board requesting that the school board make sure they are more transparent during this superintendent search process so that rumors do not get started. He asked that the board be more transparent with the meeting agendas.

Financial Report/Fiscal Organization

Adam Green read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund: \$1,141,381.47; school service: \$58,487.55; for a total of \$1,199,869.02.

Motion by Krupp, seconded by Toma to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried 7-0.

The monthly financial report read as follows: beginning balance: \$2,444,232.44; receipts: \$1,229,041.47; expenditures: \$-1,199,869.02; for an ending balance of \$2,473,404.89.

Motion by White, seconded by Birchmeier to accept the monthly financial report as submitted.

Motion carried 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Krupp to approve the resignation of Diana Dunn, certified preschool aide, for the purpose of retirement effective June 1, 2025.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by White to approve the hire of Nick Andres, full-time evening custodian, effective April 2, 2025.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Toma, seconded by Krupp to approve the 1st reading of the Neola Spring 2025 policies: 0131.1, 1430, 2266, 2340, 3430, 4430, 5320, 5330, 5330.01, 5460, 8320, 8500, 8510.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Green, seconded by Birchmeier to accept the donation for the football stadium sound system from Signature Home Pros for \$6,000.

White abstained.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Green, seconded by Otter to approve the LED Lighting bid for the elementary building from Symons Electric in an amount not to exceed \$48,612.18 to be paid from Sinking Fund, Bond capital projects and General Fund.

Birchmeier abstained.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, seconded by White to approve the crack seal bid for the district parking lots from Hutch Paving in an amount not to exceed \$8,985.00 to be paid from capital projects.

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, seconded by Otter to approve the purchase of 55 iPads from Apple Store for Education Institution in the amount of \$17,845.00 to be paid from the General Fund.

Motion carried 7-0.

District Updates

Elementary – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar reported that the elementary school finished the MStep today with 100% participation. She made a shout out to Kristi Plumb who had the test tickets and assisted with the students who needed more time to take the test. She also made a shout out to the entire staff for being flexible and accommodating during testing. She reported that Mr. Clark's band students 5-12th went to UMAA campus to watch the UM Symphony Band perform their season finale concert. Ms. McCollum's 2nd graders are working with MSU extension on a chick's project. They received 24 eggs today and will have a 3-week incubation period. Mr. Perry's PE classes have been participating in glow bowling, shout out to the PTO who provided glow sticks and necklaces. T2 Pride assembly was held, shoutout to the PTO for all the prizes, students entered Pride cards in the bags for desired prizes, 15 Pride cards were pulled from the large bin for Book Vending machine tokens. This also included the staff vs student dodgeball game, Mr. Villano was the last man standing. The 5th graders left for Hartley this morning and will return Wednesday. The daddy daughter dance is this Saturday sponsored by the PTO and preparation for Kindergarten Round Up is in a couple weeks.

High School- Drew Severn

Mr. Severn reported that the high school is nearing the end of the M-Step/PSAT/SAT. They had a few hiccups but were on track to finish on time with our testing schedule at the end of the week. Huge shoutout to all our students for being present for testing and a huge thanks to the staff and Mr. Sovis for making the plan come together. Summer positions will be posted in the upcoming weeks. We will have a credit recovery option for 7/8 students and 9-12 students. 7-8 students will be teacher-led and 9-12 will be through Edgenuity. We will begin with all grade levels once school concludes for the 24-25 school year for students. Delta Math/iReady Window 3 will begin May 12th and end on May 23rd. Upcoming events include the Top 10 luncheon Tuesday, April 22nd, Shiawassee Community Foundation Scholarship Awards Night Sunday, April 27th @ 5pm, FFA Banquet April 27th @ 3pm, Spring Band Concert April 30 @ 7pm, EWIMS Data Day Review May 1st @ RESD, Hornet Showcase May 1st 4pm-7pm,

Prom May 2nd, Baccalaureate @ 6pm and Honors night @ 7pm May 8th, Senior Interviews May 13th, Senior Sunrise/Clap out May 15th, Graduation May 18th @ 2pm.

District- Wayne Wright

Mr. Wright met with the support staff for the beginning of the negotiation process. Most of the FFA building has been completed, we are still in need of electricity. The police station reached out for coverage for the district and wanted to meet with the finance committee to discuss it. Mr. Wright stated that he was notified on the 7th of the HRA grant funding being cut on April 24th, and it affects all of Shiawassee County.

Motion by White, supported by Birchmeier to enter closed session, Section 8 (1) (e) of the Open Meetings Act, for pending litigation Case #AAA01-24-0006-1692 and in connection with Section 13 (1)(g) of the Freedom of Information Act, to consider attorney-client privileged correspondence.

Motion carried 7-0

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Krupp to enter Closed Session for negotiations- Section 8c.

Motion carried 7-0

Motion by Krupp, supported by Toma to adjourn.

Motion carried 7-0

Adjournment at 8:08 p.m.

The next board workshop will be on Monday, April 28, 2025, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the High School Library.

Ashley Krupp, Board Secretary