

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, March 18, 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, Michelle Barrett, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn and 19 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 February 11, 2019.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Correspondence

None

Student Section

Zane Taylor and Jared Gasper were the student observer for tonight's meeting.

Presentations/Updates

Hornet Hot Shot Students – Kim Kuchar

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

Junior High Hornet Hot Shot, Elizabeth Heslip (7th grade); High School Hornet Hot Shot, Charles Weber (12th grade) and Staff Hornet Hot Shot, Kia Robison (English Teacher).

Budget Revision – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume presented the March budget revision.

Junior High Bowling Proposal – Caryl Walling

Caryl Walling, bowling coach at New Lothrop High School, presented to the Board of Education her hopes of forming a junior high bowling team starting with 2019-2020 school year. Caryl expressed that this club would fill in the gaps and give junior high students another choice.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Jessica Unangst reported the minutes from February 19, 2019.

Facilities/Transportation/Extra-Curricular – Greg Ruddy reported the minutes from February 26, 2019.

Visitors

Charles Weber

Mr. Weber spoke to the board and noted that he has been collecting names of students that are interested in the Aerospace club, he has ten interested as of today.

Brina Gross

Mrs. Gross mentioned that on Thursday, February 21, 2019 she emailed the Board of Education members and did not receive a response back. Mrs. Gross questioned why the Chemistry teacher's resignation, on last month's board agenda, did not get a second and voted on. Mrs. Gross is wondering why it was not seconded, she went through all the chain of command. Thought the teacher violated the

IEP and HIPAA laws. Mrs. Gross feels like the children and the parents deserve an official statement of what is going on. Does this mean this teacher can come back? Mr. White, Board President, noted to Mrs. Gross that he could respond back to her. Policy states that the superintendent accepts resignations on behalf of the district.

Dan Gross

Mr. Gross mentioned that he would like to know the hiring process of the district as this is taxpayer's dollars. His two daughters need this class. Mr. White, Board President, noted that Dr. Berthiaume will send you the new hire process policy.

Jerry Birchmeier

Mr. Birchmeier mentioned that this rules of engagement is abuse and harassment. Keep targeting a person who needs support, not criticism. Ms. Kuchar gave all these students hugs who just received awards. This is what New Lothrop is like. These comments that are being made about this teacher are career ruining comments and they should not be allowed. Mr. Birchmeier stated that he is appalled to hear this. This teacher would go out of the way to help students during her prep time and lunch. Mr. Birchmeier stated that it's up to you folks, we have to move on. To curve the student's grades, these kids need to be prepared for college and the work place. Employers are not going to put up with this. This is abuse, harassment and work place violence. Mr. Birchmeier stated that he is ashamed to have to be here.

Financial Reports

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$624,666.33; school service, \$24,674.26; for a total of \$649,340.59.

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

Motion carried, 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$793,542.30; receipts, \$910,880.54; expenditures: \$649,340.59; for an ending balance of \$1,055,082.25.

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

Motion carried, 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to approve the March 2019 budget revision as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Ruddy to approve the 2019-2020 school year calendar as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the revised Online, Dual Enrollment, Independent Study and Seat-time waiver roster for second semester as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Henige to approve the contract with Focal Revolution in an amount not to exceed \$7,700.00 as presented.

Green, abstained

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Unangst to approve participation in the Shiawassee RESD Mutual Aid Agreement, as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Green to approve the designation of a school safety liaison and emergency contact to the attorney general hotline resolution, as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to approve the Aerospace club proposal.

Motion carried, 7-0.

District Updates

Athletics – Drew Severn

Mr. Severn reported that the wrestling team won team regionals in Cass City. Also, qualified eight out of individual regionals and made it all the way to semifinals at team states, before falling to Clinton. At individual states we had 6 placers: Alex Wolford (7th), Cam Orr (6th), Micah Poletti (6th), Andrew Krupp (5th), Logan Zell (2nd) and Austin Wolford (State Champion). Boys basketball made it all the way to district finals against Ithaca and lost in the finals. Girls basketball beat Millington to clinch the girls district championship. The girls then lost a hard fought battle against Hamady in the regional tournament. The bowling team qualified for the state bowling tournament held in Battle Creek. They made it into the top ten just missing the finals qualification which is the top eight teams. Tate Steinborn qualified for individual states and was runner-up. Lastly, Tate and Braden Sovis were named Academic All-State for the 2019 bowling season. Next projects include the baseball and softball scoreboards. These scoreboards are projected to be installed during spring break. Spring sports began on Monday, March 11th with first practice; junior high baseball/softball begins today and track will begin on April 1st. The winter sports surveys are being finished up by players this week and the parent survey deadline was last Friday. Winter coach evaluations will begin after spring break. Mr. Severn discussed the possibility of the MMAC league incorporating a 3rd/4th, 5th/6th boys' and girls' basketball league. Also, considering possibly adding 3rd/4th, 5th/6th flag football in the spring. Discussion and voting will take place at the April MMAC meeting.

Elementary – Michelle Barrett

Mrs. Barrett reported that the third trimester began on March 11th and report cards were sent home today. Recently, the elementary hosted several great events including: Family STEM night, candy bar bingo, dodgeball tournament and the Mott Clowns performed an anti-bullying assembly. The master schedule for 2019-2020 is being put together. Mrs. Barrett mentioned that next year's 5th and 6th graders will be moving into two sections each and moving one teacher down to 3rd grade. Looking at moving 2nd graders into lunch/recess with the 3rd and 4th graders to even out numbers at recess. Also looking at religion times and what works best in the schedule. For March is reading month several fun activities took place: the read-a-thon wrapped up today and the student council is going to put on an Animal Zoo for the winning grade level. The mobile STEM lab took place a few weeks ago, it was a neat opportunity for students to learn science in a different environment. Kindergarten and Developmental Kindergarten numbers are looking really good for the start of next school year.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar stated that she has not received any applicants for the Chemistry/Physics position. Patti Copes has been hired as the temporary instructional aide. Varsity quiz bowl league champs qualified for the state championship on April 12 and 13. National Honor Society recently hosted a blood drive and we had 39 donors that produced 32 units of blood. The FFA Convention and Labor Auction took place last week. Ms. Kuchar read to Mrs. Whitman's kindergarten class. Staff and administration met for a student handbook meeting. High School SIP meeting discussed vaping and the formula for determining Valedictorian and Salutatorian. The 35th annual Mock Rock took place last Friday, March 15th and the 1st annual Sadie's dance took place on Saturday, March 16th. The World War II Museum took place in the high school gym on Tuesday, March 19th. National Honor Society committee meets tomorrow. Three of our students were inducted into the Shiawassee Scholars. Quarter three ends this Friday. The high school is gearing up for testing day. The 8th -11th graders will be taking the PSAT/SAT, Seniors will be off that day, and 7th graders are taking a field trip. Course requests have been completed and entered into PowerSchool.

District – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume mentioned that the district recently received exemplary status and our graduation rate was 100% for 2018. Thank you to our teachers and our staff for their time and commitment to the district. Dr. Berthiaume noted that our campaign committee has met several times over the past month and he can't thank them enough for their time and effort. The district is getting ready for next

school year. Administration will be attending the upcoming Career Fair at Michigan State University on April 8th. Dr. Berthiaume noted that he's looking forward to spring break and the district has a big month coming up.

Closed Session

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the Board entering Closed Session at 7:19 pm to discuss the Attorney-Client Privileged Communication.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Ruddy, supported by Henige to return to Open Session at 7:59 p.m.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve the Board entering Closed Session for the Superintendent's mid-year evaluation at 8:02 p.m.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Eustace to return to Open Session at 8:40 p.m.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Action Item

Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to approve a one-year extension to the Superintendent's contract.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to adjourn.

Motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment at 8:42 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, April 15, 2019 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary