

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
New Lothrop Board of Education  
Monday, November 20, 2023  
6:00 p.m. in the High School Library

Board Members Present: Richard White, Wendy Vincke, Jim Eustace, Joe Henige, Tim Birchmeier and Ashley Krupp

Absent: Adam Green

Others Present: Heather Luznak, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn and 28 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich White at 6:01 p.m. in the high school library. The pledge to the flag said.

**Secretary's Report**

The secretary's report was read by Joe Henige. Motion by Henige, supported by Eustace to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting held on October 16, 2023.

**Motion carried, 6-0**

**Correspondence**

Thank you from the Leann Kurney family for the flowers.

Jim Eustace had a community member reach out to him with some questions and concerns. He spoke to Heather about them, and they've been taken care of.

**Student Section**

Klara Mulcahy was the student council representative.

**Presentations/Updates**

*Foreign Exchange Students – Kate Weber*

Kate Weber introduced this years Foreign Exchange students: Denise Guenther from Germany and Elif Arikian from Turkey. Mrs. Weber also introduced their host mom and fellow American Field Service (AFS) volunteer, Aubrey Pinchock and Tammy Schiefer who is the AFS liaison. Mrs. Weber thanked New Lothrop Schools for the warm welcome to these students.

*FFA Students – John Wyrick*

Mr. Wyrick introduced the students that recently attended the National FFA Convention. Sara Dammon received a Bronze award in Prepared Public Speaking. Alexis Andres received 6<sup>th</sup> place in the Nation with her Science fair project. Zachary Sigmund and Danielle Wendling both received their American Degree at the National Convention.

Jaedyn Kline stated that the New Lothrop Chapter submitted an application and the Chapter placed in the top 300 in the Nation out of 9,000, that is top 3% in the Nation. Kenny Eickholt and Jaedyn Kline walked across the stage to received this award at the National Convention.

*Neola First Reading – Dr. Heather Luznak*

Dr. Luznak read a brief description of each policy that was included in the Fall Neola 2023 update. The 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the polices and approval will take place at the December 10, 2023 meeting.

## **Discussion**

### Safe Routes to School

The Board of Education discussed the recent Safe Routes to School grant. Dr. Luznak stated that she's asked the Village for more clarification with what the district would owe and also requested two bids for engineering. In an email communication it was stated that a response was required by Friday of last week and at this point the school can't approve anything without Board approval. It's listed on the agenda today as a discussion. Carl Seamon stated that the school accepted \$28,000 and snow removal of the sidewalks. The previous Superintendent committed to and signed the agreement for this.

## **Committee Reports**

Facilities – Tim Birchmeier reported the minutes from October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Policy – Wendy Vincke reported the minutes from November 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Visitors**

Elaine Dammon expressed that her only comment is in regards to Safe Routes to School. She stated this is an overall great idea but her concerns as a community member is the money and it's not a solid number that's been talked about this evening. I don't know if any of you have seen the contract that Anthony signed.

## **Financial Reports**

Jim Eustace read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$795,431.82; school service, \$59,788.35; for a total of \$855,220.17.

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

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$603,197.28; receipts, \$893,926.54; expenditures: \$855,220.17; for an ending balance of \$641,903.65.

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

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

## **Action Items**

Motion by Krupp, supported by Vincke to approve the resignation of Jeff Campbell, Varsity Head Wrestling Coach, effective November 7, 2023.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Birchmeier to approve the resignation of Jessica Kilburn, part-time Custodian, effective November 10, 2023.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Birchmeier supported by Eustace to approve Brady Simons, varsity boys' basketball coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to approve Adam Johnson, JV boys' basketball coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Birchmeier to approve James Perry, girls' varsity basketball coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve DeeDee Brunet, JV girls' basketball coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Birchmeier to approve Kevin Clark, assistant wrestling coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to approve Nate Browning, Jr. high wrestling coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Vincke to approve Jill Severn, 8<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve Heather Osborn, 7<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Krupp, supported by Henige to approve Tom Kohlmann, 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Eustace, supported by Birchmeier to approve Steve Gauger, 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball coach as a contracted employee of PCMI for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Eustace to approve the shaper cabinet door system from Weaver Company at a cost not to exceed \$33,752.00 to be paid out of CTE added cost funding.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Birchmeier to approve the New Lothrop Area Public Schools Local Wellness Policy as presented.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to approve participation in the Schools of Choice program under Section 105 and 105c of the Revised School Code for the second trimester of the 2023-2024 school year except K, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade which will have limited openings.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Motion by Krupp, supported by Henige to approve the Safe Routes to School grant application as written for the amount of \$28,000 from New Lothrop Area Public Schools.

**Motion carried, 5-1.**

**Roll call:**

**Ayes: Krupp, Henige, Vincke, White, Birchmeier**

**Nays: Eustace**

### **District Updates**

Elementary – Drew Severn

Mr. Severn stated that the Grandparent's Luncheon will take place tomorrow at the elementary school. Parent Teacher Conferences took place on October 26<sup>th</sup> and 97% of parents attended. After the Thanksgiving break the elementary will start up the after-school tutoring and homework club for students K-6, 4 days a week by appointment. Currently, the elementary has a Title I and SE/At-Risk opening. Interviews will take place tomorrow afternoon for the Title I position. An elementary group attended a Bridges Intervention training on November 16<sup>th</sup> and the next session will take place in January. The CKLA Program Curriculum review meeting took place on November 17<sup>th</sup> with the Title/At-Risk/Special Education group and more discussion will take place at the January Professional Development Day.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar stated that our teacher cadets attended the Life Conference sessions at Saginaw Valley State University in which they discussed preparing for college, getting paid for student teaching, teaching science methods. Mrs. Andres attended a session on articulated credits for our students at Saginaw Valley State University. Casey Lambert was the H15 guest speaker who talked with students about managing anxiety/pressure when planning for the future, nontraditional roads/paths, and building soft skills. The Career Fair at NLHS had over 50 exhibitors and half of those were NLHS alumni. The school collected over 60 pairs of shoes/boots and they were delivered to the VA Medical Center in Saginaw. Students grade 7-12<sup>th</sup> did some fall clean up today. In a total of 3 hours they cleaned up 27 yards. We do have an ELA Candidate and the interview will take place next week. For the month of November Rilee Masteron is the Student of the Month and Kara Wendling is the Athlete of the Month.

Athletics – Dr. Heather Luznak

Dr. Luznak reported that Brynn Birchmeier was selected as Kiwanis Female Athlete of the Month for September and will be in the running for Kiwanis Student Athlete of the Year later this school year in May. Clint Galvas, Varsity Football Coach earned Division 8, Region 2 Coach of the Year. Upcoming events: January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Wrestling will be hosting the Hall of Fame Wrestling Tournament. Currently, we have two coaching positions open which are Varsity Track Assistant and Varsity Wrestling.

District – Dr. Heather Luznak

Dr. Luznak stated that a lot of amazing things have been going on here in the district. We have put together a media coverage listing and have started to invite those organizations into our schools when we have certain events happening in our district. Dr. Luznak is working with Drew and Kim and starting to look at cycles of Curriculum. Dr. Luznak has fulfilled her 30-day plan which she presented at her 2<sup>nd</sup> round interview. Surveys have been sent out to staff and several staff have responded. Dr. Luznak has also met with the Union President, several

community partners and emergency personnel and is hearing the good and also what the district needs to work on.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to adjourn.

**Motion carried, 6-0.**

Adjournment at 7:24 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, December 11, 2023 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

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Adam Green, Board Secretary