

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, June 21, 2021

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

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

Absent: Richard White

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Kim Kuchar, Kevin Murphy and 14 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Greg Ruddy at 6:01 p.m. The pledge to the flag was said.

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 dated May 17, 2021 as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence

Wendy Vincke received a couple different phone calls and she addressed them with Dr. Berthiaume.

Greg Ruddy received several calls from parents on the seniors last day and he spoke with Dr. Berthiaume regarding this situation.

Presentations/Updates

Report of Bullying Incidents for the 2020-2021 school year – Principals

Dr. Berthiaume reported that the elementary had no bullying incidents reported for the 2020-2021 school year.

Ms. Kuchar reported that the high school had no bullying incidents reported for the 2020-2021 school year.

Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume noted that no changes have been made to the COVID-19 learning plan and this is the last filing of the extended learning plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

Budget Hearing

Superintendent Anthony Berthiaume presented the final 2020-2021 budget revisions.

2020-2021 final revision

Superintendent Berthiaume reviewed areas of revenue and expenditures throughout the year. The district ended the year with the fund equity at 11.61%.

Committee Reports

Finance– Jessica Unangst presented the minutes from June 16, 2021.

Visitors

None

Financial Reports

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: general fund \$879,452.99; school service \$28,235.06; for a total of \$907,688.05.

Motion by Vincke supported by Eustace to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried 6-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance \$1,361,366.60; receipts \$1,016,800.94; expenditures \$907,688.05; for an ending balance of \$1,470,479.49.

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

Motion carried 6-0.

Action Items

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to accept the final amended budget, including general fund, capital projects, food service, debt retirement and special revenue accounts for the 2020-2021 school year as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Vincke to accept the initial projected budget, including general fund, capital projects, food service, debt retirement and special revenue accounts for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Eustace to approve the resignation of Jackie Carnell, elementary aide, effective June 16, 2021.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve the resignation of Debra Tessmer, library aide/teacher aide effective June 11, 2021.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve the resignation of Jean Emmendorfer, instructional aide, effective June 11, 2021.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the resignation of Susan Gauger, data management/pupil accounting position, effective June 30, 2021.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to approve Aubrey McClain, elementary teacher at MA+10, Step 5 effective June 14, 2021.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Henige to approve the hire of Scott Sovis, Technology Director effective June 2, 2021.

Motion carried 5-0.

Eustace abstained

Motion by Green, supported by Vincke to approve the hire of Mark Wakefield, Transportation Director effective July 1, 2021.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve the hire of Emily Birchmeier, Athletic/Transportation Coordinator, effective July 1, 2021.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to approve the Covid-19 extended learning plan as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Unangst to adopt the MHSAA resolution for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Green to approve the following teachers as summer enrichment program teachers for the summer of 2021: Ashley Zervan (Kindergarten), Aubrey McClain (5th grade) and Ryan Marshall (Special Education).

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the following as summer enrichment program latchkey aides for the summer of 2021: Carrie Bennett and Leandra Birchmeier.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Henige to approve the crack seal repair bid to the campus parking lots from Asphalt Management, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$11,262.00 to be paid out of the general fund, capital projects.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Vincke to approve the purchase of i-Ready, K-8 Diagnostic Tool for the 2021-2022 school year at a cost not to exceed \$20,072.50, as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve the elementary playground repairs estimate from Snider Recreation Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$11,583.92 to be paid out of the general fund.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to authorize and direct the Superintendent to sign the Attorney-Client Fee contract on behalf of the school and to take such other action as necessary to obtain monetary damages and injunctive relief for the school, as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Unangst to approve the removal of #2 diesel fuel contents in the underground storage tank and 5 bus fuel tank with a sum of 5,410 gallons from Oscar Larson along with a lab testing done at Corrigan Labs at a cost not to exceed \$10,516.69 to be paid out of the general fund.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the board meeting dates be scheduled on the third Monday of each month with the exception of December 2021, January 2022 and February 2022 meetings as presented.

Motion carried 6-0.

District Updates

Athletics – Kevin Murphy

Mr. Murphy reported that spring sports have wrapped up for this school year. Track finished as league champions; softball earned league champions and were also district champs; and baseball was league, district and regional champs. The basketball banquet will take place this evening and softball banquet will take place Wednesday evening. Mr. Murphy stated that Brady Birchmeier was selected as all-state baseball player. Mr. Murphy recently attended a sports booster meeting and it was a small turnout. Anyone that is interested in helping out would be greatly appreciated. Mr. Murphy thanked the administration and board for the great school year and noted that New Lothrop is a very special place.

Elementary – Andrew Severn

Dr. Berthiaume reported for Mr. Severn at tonight's meeting. Kindergarten roundup was a success, all students and parents that signed up attended. The elementary completed two days of Bridges math curriculum professional development. Teachers also met after the trainings to begin implementation of the new math curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year. Mrs. Severn and Mrs. Jacobs completed the first official week of i-Ready summer learning blitz last week. These teachers are tracking the incentive piece for students and also answering any questions parents may have. The preschool and kindergarten celebrations were a success, they were hosted in the elementary gym and all families were appreciative of the opportunity to be in attendance for the events. We have 460 total students in Pre-K through 6th grade and 30 students are currently virtual. We are at 98% compliance with attendance for our building overall. The elementary is in the process of hiring several aide positions. Due to the IEP number increase we will have to switch one of our Special Ed/At-Risk teachers to full-time special ed.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar reported that at the end of the school year we had about 75% face-to-face and 25% virtual students. The high school is at 90% compliance with attendance for our building overall. Ms. Kuchar stated that several events took place over the last month. Those events included: blood drive, lunch for the next year's 7th graders and Shiawassee Scholars. We had 15 – 8th graders that tested out of algebra and received credit for that and will be moving on to Geometry this coming fall. Report cards were mailed out last week. Parents were surveyed on when they would like graduation in the spring of 2022. It was decided that graduation will take place on Sunday, May 22 at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Kuchar stated that summer school is in full swing here at the high school. We have 17 high school students that are recovering ½ of a credit of Math/English. Along with 23 junior high students that are attending summer school. Next year the Jr. high/high school is looking to bring back field trips for 7th – 12th graders. Ms. Kuchar also stated that if kids choose to do virtual schooling next fall they will be doing that with Equinity which is a 3rd party vendor for online students.

District – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume congratulated all those staff that retired this year. Mr. Rich O'Connor, Mrs. Mary Johnson and Ms. Jean Emmendorfer for their years of service. Summer school we are still waiting for a state grant to help out with summer school but for now the money is coming out of general fund. We are looking to hire some new bus drivers so we can get back to our regular schedule. Dr. Berthiaume stated that negotiations will be taking place soon with bus drivers, support staff and teachers. A staff survey was sent out to staff on the last day of school and feedback was very positive, these results will be shared in the months to come as part of the superintendent's evaluation (which the process starts in August). Lastly, Dr. Berthiaume thanked everyone for a great school year. As far as masks, quarantining and contact tracing we need to be notified by the state to let us know the guidelines for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to enter closed session for negotiations.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to return to open session.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to adjourn.
Motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment at 7:46 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be Monday, July 19, 2021 in the high school library at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary