

# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, July 19, 2021

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 and 15 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 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 held on June 21, 2021.

**Motion carried, 7-0**

## **Correspondence**

Jim Eustace received a couple correspondences regarding busing and start times for school this fall as well as what's actually being done with our summer projects maybe a drawing, blue prints, visuals would be helpful for the community to see.

Wendy Vincke received several concerns on what the district's plan is for busing, start times of school this fall and the mask situation.

## **Presentations/Updates**

*Construction Update – Christman Company, Nick Zemlick*

Nick from Christman Company updated the board on the summer 2021 bond projects. The high school locker room renovation is going well, the stadium improvements are coming along well and should be finished within the next couple of week. Other projects that are taking place this summer include: track surfacing, new ticket booth and team room buildings. The cafeteria, kitchen and auditorium lights are being replaced. The CTE barn is up and will be sided and roofed soon, the elementary boiler replacement has taken place as well.

*Back to School Update – Dr. Anthony Berthiaume*

Dr. Berthiaume addressed that he is currently waiting for recommendations from the CDC on a back to school plan. Definitely, we know that school will be five days a week, Monday – Friday, and anyone that is interested in virtual has that option. Dr. Berthiaume discussed our need for bus drivers and at this time we are still trying to fill our seven bus routes, we have four full-time drivers and we need three more drivers. Dr. Berthiaume did state that currently the federal requirement will be for students to wear a mask while riding on the bus. Dr. Berthiaume stated that before communicating with parents the district's plan he wants to make sure he is confident in his decision and that it won't be changed. Dr. Berthiaume stated he would like the least restrictive environment for staff and students when they return to school this fall. Dr. Berthiaume's recommendation will be no masks in school; no tracing for vaccinated or unvaccinated and as of right now we will not be asking for a vaccination card. Again, all these things can change if a recommendation comes out.

## **Committee Reports**

None

### **Visitors**

Lisa Williams addressed the board with her concern that she thought the district was going to tear down the old concession stand and now a new building is being built beside it, why?

Becky Naessans-Knieper expressed her concern that she's heard of other parents in other districts talking about the Covid funds that their district has received. Becky was inquiring how much New Lothrop got and how it was being utilized?

### **Financial Reports**

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$852,788.77; school service, \$59,663.80; for a total of \$912,452.57.

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

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$1,470,479.49; receipts, \$889,165.46; expenditures: \$912,452.57; for an ending balance of \$1,447,192.38.

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

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to designate Fifth Third Bank, serving the Michigan Liquid Assets Funds accounts, and Huntington National Bank as the depositories for school funds and the officers of the board, superintendent and director of finance be authorized as official signatures of record.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to place Thrun Law Firm on retainer as legal counsel for the school district for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Ruddy to approve a levy of 18 mills of non-homestead properties for the general fund for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve a levy of 5.870 mills for the 2006 debt retirement, 0.580 mills for the technology bond, 1.250 mills for the sinking fund and 0.930 mills for the 2019 bond, 0.640 mills for the 2021 bond and 1.050 for the 2021 refunding bonds as presented for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

### **Action Items**

Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to approve the State Aid Operating Notes Resolution as presented.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Green to approve the School Bond Qualification and Loan Program Resolution as presented.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to approve the resignation of Kayla Riley, junior high and junior varsity girls basketball coach, effective June 22, 2021.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Eustace, supported by Ruddy to approve the resignation of Ashley Kuhl, elementary teacher and cross country assistant coach, effective July 1, 2021.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve the hire of Briana Amman, one-on-one aide and lathchkey aide, effective August 26, 2021.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to approve the hire of Kristina Lebourdais, certified teacher aide, effective August 26, 2021.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to approve the hire of Nicole Demeter, part-time certified teacher aide/library aide, effective August 26, 2021.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to approve the hire of Anita Watters, full-time bus driver effective August 26, 2021.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Green to approve the stone and fabric bid from Gross Construction in an amount not to exceed \$7,157.50 to be paid out of the general fund, capital projects.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Green, supported by Henige to approve the Fall Schedule C appointments for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

Roll call:

Ayes: Unangst, White, Green, Henige, Eustace, Ruddy.

Nays: Vincke.

**Motion carried, 6-1.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve all administrative and non-instructional administrative contracts for the 2021-2022 school year, effective July 1, 2021 as presented.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

### **Closed Session**

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

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

### **Action Items**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve the tentative agreement between the New Lothrop Board of Education and the MEA/New Lothrop Educational Support Personnel Association for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years as presented.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Henige, supported by Unangst to approve the tentative agreement between the New Lothrop Board of Education and the MESPA (Transportation) for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years as presented.

**Motion carried, 7-0.**

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to adjourn.

**Motion carried 7-0.**

Adjournment at 8:17 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be a regular meeting on Monday, August 16, 2021 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

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Adam Green, Board Secretary