

BOARD NOTES
January 28, 2013

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, January 28, 2013 with all Board members present.

Rich Shail reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

- Bernie made a motion to add an additional overnight field trip request for the Academic Decathlon for February 8-9, 2013 to West Lafayette, IN. under Action "B" of the agenda.
- The Board adopted the agenda as amended.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

- Carrie Cannon and Barb Papai discussed the transitional shifts they will be making in the High Ability Program. They have been teaming between the curriculum development and High Ability. They will be redefining the identification of High Ability students to include Grades K, 2 and 5 with a CogAT screening program.
- The recognition of the All Star Band students was postponed until the February 25th Board meeting.

CONSENT ITEMS

- The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. JoAnn Gappa – 2nd Grade Teacher – Rolling Prairie Elementary School – Leave of absence beginning approximately April 8, 2013 and continuing through the end of the 2012-2013 school year.
 2. Angela Ruby – Counselor – NPHS – Leave of Absence beginning approximately March 21, 2013 through the end of the 2012-2013 school year.
 3. Janis Kiff – Language Arts Teacher – NPMS – Retirement effective at the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

- Employment
 1. Meg Buss – Earth Science Teacher - NPHS – Full-time employment effective January 4, 2013.
- Miscellaneous
 1. Tara Bush - Approve stipend (\$36/day) for serving as Interim Principal at Olive Elementary School effective January 4, 2013.
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Krista Smith – Academic Super Bowl – 1/2 – Social Studies
 2. Lori Rose – Science Fair Coordinator – NPMS

NON-CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Jack Haverstock – Bus Driver – Retirement effective December 21, 2012.
 2. Denice Tuholski – Food Service – Leave of Absence beginning February 15, 2013 and continuing for 6-8 weeks.
- Employment/Transfer
 1. Julie Abbot – Food Service – Transfer from 3 hr. cook – MS – to 5 hr. cook – MS effective January 7, 2013.
 2. Heather Adams – Food Service – Transfer from 4-hr. cook – NPHS – to 5 hr. cook – NPHS effective January 7, 2013.
 3. Tonia Armato – Food Service – Transfer from 3 hr. cook – NPMS – to 4 hr. cook – NPHS effective January 7, 2013.
 4. Tina Kelly – Instructional Assistant – Prairie View Elementary beginning January 9, 2013.
 5. Kay Juskiewicz – Instructional Assistant – Rolling Prairie Elementary School beginning January 9, 2013.
 6. Jennifer Slaby – Food Service – 3-hour Cook – NPMS – Beginning January 14, 2013.

7. Geri Welton – Food Service – 4-hour Cook – NPHS – Beginning January 14, 2013.
 8. Caryn Spence – Instructional Assistant – Transfer from Rolling Prairie to Olive Elementary School effective January 7, 2013.
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Doug Matthys – 7th Grade Girls Basketball
 2. Kristen Freitag – Assistant 7th Grade Girls Basketball
 3. Teresa Hostetler – Assistant Girls Tennis
 4. Joel Hostetler – Head Girls Tennis

Mr. Dermody recognized Janis Kiff who will be retiring at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. Mrs. Kiff was hired as a Language Arts teacher at the New Prairie Junior High in 1974. Mrs. Kiff has served as Hoosier Spell Bowl Sponsor, Academic Super Bowl and Team Leader. The NPUSC wishes Janice the very best and wanted to thank her for her service.

REPORTS

- Superintendent's Reports
 - The Athletic Department was notified that NPHS is one of 137 high schools in Indiana of the 410 members that went the entire school year without a sportsmanship violation.
 - The Academic Decathlon Team will be competing on February 8-9, 2013 in West Lafayette. This is the first time a New Prairie Decathlon team has reached the state level. The team is coached by Greg Miller and Mike Babcock.
 - The Boys/Girls Swimming Team and the Wrestling Team all achieved NSC Championships. Congratulations to the team members and coaches for a job well done.
 - A student at the middle school recently experienced a medical problem in the cafeteria. There was an immediate response by Crisis Team members Kathy Rose, Jerry Loy, and Rhonda Smoroske. Debbie Vascil also assisted.
 - Mr. Dermody reported that twice in the last few months the Administrative Team has reviewed our security measures and our Crisis Plans to make sure the procedures are being followed.
 - Congratulations to the Olive School community. On January 11, 2013, the Olive community participated in the Red Cross Blood Drive. There were 39 donors which gave 39 units of blood. Red Cross anticipated 33 units. The 39 units will save 117 lives.

- John Gensic was recognized for his instructional use of technology. John has received an event scholarship to attend the Ted Ed Conference in Palm Springs, California.
- February 18, 2013 will be our next snow make-up day.
- Kelley Kitchen reported that we will be utilizing a new service provider for the collection of delinquent textbook fees. The NPUSC previously spent many man hours providing information to the former service company. The new company provides a flat fee of \$8. They will make all the contacts, mail the notices and make necessary phone calls. The NPUSC will add this service to the charge of the textbook fees. This collection of unpaid fees is a necessary responsibility of the school corporation. Our current balance is a negative \$96,000.
- Jerry Baltes, former New Prairie student, was honored by an award as the U.S. Track, Field and Cross Country Association Women's Coach of the Year. Bernie feels this honor is a result of the experiences he received at the New Prairie United School Corporation.
- Mr. Dermody advised that in late February, the NPUSC will commence the Outside Transfer Requests process for the 2013-2014 school year.

ACTION ITEMS

- The Board accepted donations as follows:
 - LaPorte Savings Bank – Popcorn bags
 - Feed the Children – Valued at \$102.38
 - Donors Choose – Chromebook Laptops & Books – Matt Presley's Language Arts Class at NPHS

Matt Presley explained the donation he received from Donors Choose which is an on-line charity for teachers. Mr. Dermody and the School Board wanted to recognize Matt for his initiative in obtaining the donations for his class. Matt submitted the first project for his students which was to obtain 50 copies of the book, "The Fault in our Stars". Mr. Presley tweeted the author of the book, John Green, who tweeted his distribution list to 2.1 million people. Matt was successful in raising the money for the 50 books in 20 minutes. As a completion of the project, the books will be donated to Riley Hospital.

Mr. Presley then discovered that Google partnered with Donors Choose and was offering \$100 each for a Chromebook laptop. This project which would outline how the students would utilize the computers to complete all phases of the Senior Legacy Project was funded through donations from friends and family. Donors Choose Board of Directors matched a portion of the donations and was funded in two weeks.

- The Board approved the Overnight Field Trip Requests as follows:
 - High School Choir – Competition - Bloomington, IN – March 22-24, 2013
 - Academic Decathlon – State Competition – W. Lafayette, IN – February 8-9, 2013
- The Board approved the Conflict of Interest Disclosure for C.J.'s Outdoor Services – Bill Rose.
- The Board approved the Citizen's Petition to Restore Central Time Zone. A coalition was formed several years ago to gain support from school corporations around the state to establish the Central Time Zone throughout the state. Over 40 school boards have passed resolutions in support of the Central Time.
- The Board approved the appointment of Renee Millar to the New Carlisle-Olive Twp. Library Board to complete a vacated term until December 31, 2014.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Dale asked if there is a counter argument to the Central Time Zone petition. He would just like the entire state to be on one time – whether it is Eastern or Central.
- Al would like to thank Carrie Cannon and Barb Papai for all they are doing with the High Ability Program. He felt it needed to be reviewed by looking at all facets. This program is a plus for promoting enrollment in our schools. Al said Mrs. Kiff was his teacher and has had all three of his children and did a great job. He thanked Matt Presley for his initiative. He said Matt and John Gensic have set the bar high for other teachers.
- Bernie, along with the other Board members, concurs with Al's comments. Bernie said it is not what the teacher can present, but how the teacher can motivate the students.
- Bernie said he has heard a lot of positive comments on the new sign in the NPHS gym.
- Bernie said the Unity Foundation report included a number of very positive comments on the NPUSC.
- Bernie commented on Animal Rights, the recent incident at Newtown, Connecticut and the Right to Life.

- Phil King wanted to thank Rich, Al, Bernie and Dale for welcoming him to the Board. Phil recently attended the new School Board member conference in Indianapolis and is looking forward to learning all he can.
- Rich wanted to thank Tara Bush for stepping in to help at Olive Elementary School.
- Rich said since his job has taken him out of town a lot, he has missed choir and play performances. He is very impressed with the Jazz Band that performs at the ballgames. He hears nothing but great comments from people saying “WOW”!