

BOARD NOTES
February 22, 2016

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, February 22, 2016 with Rich Shail, Dale Groves, Phil King, William Romstadt and Dr. Paul White present. Al Williamson, Board Vice-President, was absent.

Rich Shail, Board President, reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

There was a motion by King to approve the Agenda, Groves seconded the motion and was approved 4-0-1.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

- Mrs. Janet Scott, New Prairie Middle School Principal, and Mr. Jeremy Lugbill, New Prairie Middle School Assistant Principal, presented a video they created called: "Rigor, Relevance and Relationships". Mrs. Scott explained to the Board that last year the new middle school college and career readiness standards that were newly assigned are very rigorous. During the last year and a half, the MS has been working very hard to match the new standards. The biggest issue implementing the new standards, which are very good standards, has been time. The main purpose right now is to produce critical and creative thinkers who can problem solve. Every day is focused on rigor, relevance and relationships. The rigor in the video shows the teachers and the lessons they are creating to meet the new standards. They are finding engaging lessons for students to prove that what they are learning is relevant. Keeping the MS philosophy of relationships going is extremely important as well.

The Board was very excited about the Middle School video and what is happening there to prepare the students for the future as well as bridging the gap between the elementary school, middle school, and the high school.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

- (A) Minutes – January 25, 2016
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Christine Gesse – FMLA leave beginning 1/14/2016 through 1/26/2016
- Employment
 1. Natalie Krause – Assistant Cross Country Coach beginning school year 2016-17
- Adjustments
 1. Brandi Heeter - FMLA Leave correction - beginning 4/10/2016 through approximately 5/22/2016
 2. 2014-15 Performance Stipends in the same amounts as awarded to highly effective and effective teachers will be paid from the general fund to:

- Becky Bartlett
- Rhonda Myers
- Tara Bush
- Janet Scott
- Jeremy Lugbill
- Greg Dettinger
- Candy VanBuskirk
- Carrie Cannon
- Brian Williamson
- Melissa Kuczanski
- Allison Middlebrook
- Tim Flanagan
- Colleen Henehan
- Cassandra Trapp
- Angela Ruby
- Heidi Schellinger
- Jim Groendyke

NON-CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
 1. Lally Andriasco – Instructional Assistant Resignation as of 1/28/2016 from Rolling Prairie Elementary
 2. Jennifer Slaby – Lunch Assistant Resignation as of 2/2/2016 from Olive Elementary School
 3. Maria Leon – Youth Prevention Specialist for the Lead and Seed Program Resignation as of 1/23/2016 from New Prairie Middle School
- Employment
 1. Kim Walter – Instructional Assistant at Rolling Prairie Elementary beginning 2/8/2016
 2. Amanda Davis – Library Assistant at Olive Elementary beginning 2/5/2016
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Grail Gast – Assistant Softball Coach for NPHS (pending background check) for the 2015-16 school year
- Adjustments

REPORTS

Superintendent's Reports

- Dr. White recognized Mrs. Kathy Rose, Lead Custodian at NPMS, who submitted her notification of retirement as of January 25, 2016 after 28 years of dedicated service to New Prairie Middle School. NPUSC wishes Kathy the best in her retirement.
- We appreciate the presentation from Mrs. Scott. We are committed to continually improving standards and taking education farther.
- There is a 1st reading of the updated Wellness Policy for the Board's review that has generated some discussion. Dr. White would like the policy reviewed by the Wellness Committee before final approval.
- The 2016-17 school calendar for Board approval has options for eLearning and flex days to continue learning during snow days.

- Dr. White stated that NPHS pool repairs will take 3 or more months to complete. We are looking at offsite options for the NPHS swim program

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board accepted the following donations as listed:
 - IN/Tek donated \$3,500 to the Mentoring Program
 - Indiana Farm Bureau Inc. donated \$125 to the NPHS FFA Chapter
 - A monetary donations to the NPHS FFA Chapter & NPHS Building Trades in memory of Joe Koziel
 - Feed the Children donated 40 lbs Children's Books & 80 lbs School Supplies valued at \$963.36
 - Dustyn Starkey donated \$20 to NPHS Building Trades
- (B) The Board approved the 2016 New Prairie Little League and Rolling Prairie Little League Agreements
- (C) The Board approved the 2016-2017 School Calendar
Dale Groves stated he still has concerns over eLearning and flex days and he will not approve this calendar.
- (D) The Board approved the Drivers Education Program & Fees – 2016
- (E) The Board accepted and approved the Emergency Pool Repair Quotes
- (F) The Board accepted and approved the Purchase of the New Financial Software Program for NPUSC

DISCUSSION

- Dale Groves stated, regarding the Wellness Policy, that he would like to know why treats cannot be handed out for birthday and holiday parties. Students and parents would be very happy. Dr. White asked that the wellness committee convene and discuss this question before final approval?
- Phil King, Wellness Committee Member, stated that birthdays could end up happening daily in the schools and can get out of control. Also, liabilities for NPUSC could be great if a student had an allergic reaction. Many students do have many types of allergies. These issues have to be considered in the Wellness Policy.
- Kelley Kitchen added that the rules have everything to do with the DOE Audit and passing it. The committee has looked at wording changes and what could be done while staying within the guidelines.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Dale Groves stated that New Prairie United School Corporation is a great place to be and that his kids are getting a great education. He is very glad his kids are in the NP school system.
- Phil King stated that the State Superintendent Glenda Ritz's visit was wonderful. He especially was amazed with NPMS English Teacher, Kim Krauklis and her use of the iPads. Her classroom visit was very motivating. Her use of the iPads proved that they are being used as they should be.
- Rich Shail stated that he was very happy to learn that the NPUSC Show Choir and Band did very well at the Northridge competition last weekend and are moving on to further competitions. He wishes the Band and Choir well and continued success.

Rich stated that he is amused and excited with the NPHS Robotics program robot and what they are required to do with it this year. This program is one of the many here at NPUSC that a lot of schools do not offer and wish they could. We could not offer these programs without the leadership and teachers that NPUSC has. He is proud and thanks everyone involved.

- On a motion by Dale Groves the meeting was adjourned.