

BOARD NOTES

March 20, 2017

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, March 20, 2017 with Rich Shail, Al Williamson, Dale Groves, Phil King, and Dr. Paul White present. Dale Groves, Board Secretary, entered late.

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

There was a motion by King to adopt the agenda, seconded by Williamson and approved 4-0-1.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION

Ms. Rhonda Myers introduced Lauren Dyer and Becky Reider who are presenting the wonderful world of Kindergarten writing. Becky Reider did a powerpoint on her Kindergarten writing plan for the year. She teaches the students to like writing. She states that the kindergarten writing process goes from 0 to 60 real fast. She starts with letters, sight words and vowel rules. Her process catches every child with mini lessons, small group lessons, interactive read-alouds and independent writing or just getting their thoughts down on paper. ISTEP scores show that this process is working. At this point of the school year the students are writing. By 1st grade the students are ready to work on paragraph structure. The Board thanked Rhonda Myers, Becky Reider and Lauren Dyer for their presentation.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirements
 1. Timothy Eldridge – Resignation as Girls Golf Coach at NPHS effective 2/24/2017
 2. Greg Miller – Intermittent FMLA Leave as World Language Teacher at NPHS beginning 2/16/2017 through 2/15/2018
 3. Melissa Kuczmanski – Intermittent FMLA Leave as Counselor at Rolling Prairie Elementary School beginning 2/7/2017 through 8/7/2017
 4. Sandra Murray – Resignation as Academic Decathlon Sponsor/Coach effective 2/28/2017
 5. Linda Behm – Co-Curricular Resignation as Assistant Girls Swim Coach NPHS effective 3/10/17
 6. Amy Burris – FMLA Leave as Kindergarten Teacher at Olive Elementary beginning 2/9/2017 through 4/17/2017
 7. Lydia Bower – Co-Curricular Resignation as Assistant Volleyball Coach at NPHS effective 3/16/2017
 8. Jim Miko – Co-Curricular Resignation as Social Studies Department Chair effective 3/15/2017
- Employment
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
- Adjustments
 1. Mark Schellinger to receive a stipend of \$900 for services as a 21st Century SAT English Tutor at NPHS for the 2016-17 school year
 2. Natalie Spevak to receive a stipend of \$450 for services as a 21st Century SAT Math Tutor at NPHS for the 2016-17 school year
 3. Gale Gonder to receive a stipend of \$450 for services as a 21st Century SAT Math Tutor at NPHS for the 2016-17 school year

NON-CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
 1. Patricia Koegler - Resignation as Cafeteria Manager at Prairie View Elementary effective March 10, 2017
 2. Christal Jonas – FMLA Leave as Corporation Receptionist beginning 3/7/2017 through approximately 3/20/2017
 3. Joyce Collins – Intermittent FMLA Leave as NPHS Cafeteria Manager beginning 2/7/2017 through 6/30/2017
 4. Teresa Osborne – Superintendent approved Medical Leave as Instructional Assistant at Olive Elementary beginning 3/15/2017 through 5/1/2017
 5. Sarah Prather – Resignation as Instructional Assistant at Prairie View Elementary effective 3/31/2017
 6. Kathy Zielke – FMLA leave as Corporation Nurse beginning 3/30/2017 through 5/26/2017
- Employment
 1. Jessica Lichtenbarger – Rolling Prairie Elementary Food Service Aide at \$9.00 per hour beginning 3/20/17
 2. Karen Ouhduis – NPMS Food Service Aide at \$9.00 per hour beginning 2/15/2017
 3. Melissa Krycka – Prairie View Elementary Food Service Manager at \$13.00 per hour beginning 3/8/2017
 4. Kyle Gotschalk – New Prairie Middle School Building Technician starting at \$14.82 per hour for a 90 day probation period then upon successful probation period, increase to \$15.04 per hour. Start date pending criminal background check results.
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
- Adjustments
 1. Theodore Emigh – IT Specialist at NPHS/CO to receive a raise from \$14.82 per hour to \$15.04 per hour.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report:

- Dr. White congratulated Dr. Carrie Cannon on obtaining her PHD.
- Good news regarding extra-curricular competitions:
 - NPHS Show Choir finished 5th in state with 1st year teacher James Bennett
 - NPHS Robotics qualified for state competition
 - Pom & Dance finished 2nd at state competition
- Grace Jones, NPMS student, finished 1st at the National Spelling Bee qualifying her to attend the competition in Washington DC
- Dr. White introduced Dr. Cannon to present her update on ISTEP. Dr. Cannon handed out data to the Board members. She explained that adjustments as a corporation are already being made to increase scores as math scores have gone down. A Math program with digitally strong elements needs to be adopted. She has met with the math teams and brought in a consultant to help shift thinking. New standards are a lot more rigorous and teachers will have to change how they are teaching. 12 math adoption vendors have been brought in for our review and have narrowed down to 8. Dr. Cannon highlighted things to work on. 3rd grade math scores went up. Teams met to discuss how they combatted the standards. 3rd grade ELA went down. Becky Bartlett at Rolling Prairie used a pilot program a week ahead of time called Frontloading which worked with scores. Other schools in the district are trying it. Science went down across the district. Science standards have more rigorous standards. The teachers overall said that ISTEP went better this year. They are frustrated with the ISTEP timeframe for

reading with no time allowed for writing. The 10th grade ISTEP is harder than the ECA and not reflective of our students. ECA's are better in English 10. English 10 retesters have done very well this year. Corporation wide results are above state average. We will not be complacent with where we are. Early release days have proven great with working on strategies. ELL students are still not all passing but continue to improve. High Ability at the middle school are at 92 – 95%. Most of the time we are above state level. Pre-AP Science course teachers are doing a great job with the High Ability program at the Middle School based on recent testing data. Prairie View and Rolling Prairie have phenomenal HA Data. We are still focused on being an “A” school corporation.

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board approved the Summer Programs – 2017
- (B) The Board approved the Summer Cougar Camps – 2017
- (C) The Board accepted Donations as follows:
 - Rolling Prairie Elementary 5th Grade Class received a donation of \$500.00 from Mr. & Mrs. Davis of South Bend toward the Manner’s Luncheon at Heston Supper Club
 - NPHS HOSA Team received a donation of \$50.00 in memory of Henri Aerts from Cathy Pieroni
 - NPHS Robotics Team received a donation of:
 - \$200 from Zolman Tire, Inc., Mishawaka
 - \$150 from Five Star Sheets, LLC, New Carlisle
- (D) The Board approved the 2017 New Prairie Little League and Rolling Prairie Little League Agreements
- (E) The Board approved the IndianaMAC Program Participation Agreement
- (F) The Board accepted the NPHS PLTW Biomedical Science Grant for the 2017-18 School Year
- (G) The Board approved the Contractor’s License Bond for Keith Hite
- (H) The Board approved the Contract Renewal for Lawn Care and Maintenance for the 2017-18
- (I) The Board approved the Renewal Agreement with Schoology for 2017-18
- (J) The Board approved the Alternative Education Teaching Position for New Prairie High School

DISCUSSION

- 1st Reading of Board Policies, Volume 29, Number 1, was reviewed by the Board members and there were no questions from the Board on these policies.

BOARD COMMENTS

- Dale Groves wished everyone a safe and relaxing Spring Break.
- Rich Shail congratulated Dr. Carrie Cannon on her great accomplishment and great success. He added that the 3 forums that Dr. White held to update the community on construction were very good and he is happy the facts are out there. He was disappointed with the poor attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Dale Groves the meeting was adjourned.