

Board Notes
August 26, 2024

The regular meeting of the School Board was held Monday, August 26, 2024, at NPUSC Central Office Board Room with Mr. Phil King, Mr. Jason DeMeyer, Mrs. Jill Smith, Mr. Dale Groves and Mr. Rich Gadacz. Dr. Paul White, Superintendent, was also present.

Mr. Phil King, Board President, reviewed guidelines for speaking on agenda items.

There was a motion by Mr. Groves to adopt the agenda, seconded by Mr. Gadacz and approved 5-0.

On a motion by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. DeMeyer the regular meeting was suspended to hold the annual Budget Hearing.

BUDGET HEARING

Tim Scott, Director of Finance explained the Budget Timeline to the Board then presented the proposed 2025 Budget Appropriations as follows:

- Educational Fund - \$23,412,000
- Debt Service - \$ 2,054,478
- Referendum Debt Service \$ 4,885,500
- Operations Fund \$10,872,177
- Rainy Day - \$ 1,000,000

The Board members thanked Mr. Scott for his Budget presentation. There were no questions from the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Gadacz the Budget Hearing ended and the regular meeting was reconvened.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved the Consent Items as follows:

- (A) Minutes – July 22, 2024, August 5, 2024
- (B) Claims
- (C) Payroll
- (D) Financial Reports
- (E) Personnel Report:

CERTIFIED

▪ **Leaves/Resignations/Retirements**

1. Erin White – ECA Resignation as NPHS PLC Leadership Team Member effective 8/13/2024
2. Barb Papai – ECA Resignation as Olive Twp. Elementary 5th Grade Cross-Country Coach effective 8/12/2024
3. Shannon Edmondson – ECA Resignation as Prairie View Elementary PLC Leadership Team Member effective 8/14/2024
4. Jenn Smith – ECA Resignation as NPMS Spell Bowl Coach effective 8/15/2024
5. Dena True – ECA Resignation as NPMS Robotics Coach effective 8/19/2024
6. Mikayla Golden – FMLA Leave as Olive Twp. Elementary 1st Grade Teacher beginning 8/15/2024 through 8/29/2024

▪ **Employment**

▪ **Employment – Afterschool Program**

▪ **Employment – Extra-Curricular/Ancillary Duties**

1. Jeanne Romstadt – New Prairie High School PLC Leadership Team for the 2024-2025 school year
2. Cathleen Lower – NPMS Co-Head Swim Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
3. Jenn Smith – NPMS New Teacher Mentor for 2024-2025

4. Heather O'Connell – Olive Twp. Elementary New Teacher Mentor for 2024-2025
5. Rachel Chelminiak - Olive Twp. Elementary New Teacher Mentor for 2024-2025
6. Elizabeth Schmitt – Olive Twp. Elementary PLC Leadership Team Member beginning 2024-2025
7. Elizabeth Schmitt – Olive Twp. Elementary New Teacher Mentor for 2024-2025
8. Erica Ketterer – Prairie View Elementary school PLC Leadership Team Member beginning 2024-2025 school year
9. Jeanne Romstadt – NPHS Senior Class Sponsor for the 2024-2025 school year
10. Juan Alvarez Gomez – NPHS Robotics Sponsor beginning 2024-2025 school year
11. Mikayla Golden – Olive Twp. Elementary New Teacher Mentor for 2024-2025
12. Barb Papai - Olive Twp. Elementary New Teacher Mentor for 2024-2025
13. Jacquelyn Short - Olive Twp. Elementary Spell Bowl Sponsor beginning 2024-2025
14. Paige Gonzales - Olive Twp. Elementary PLC Leadership Team Member beginning 2024-2025
15. Nicole McClure – Rolling Prairie Elementary PLC Leadership Team Member beginning 2024-2025

- **Adjustments**

CLASSIFIED

- **Leaves/Resignations/Retirements**

1. Jonathan Chase – ECA Resignation as NPHS paid Assistant Football Coach effective 8/7/2024. Mr. Chase will continue coaching on Volunteer Status.
2. Ross Strieter – ECA Resignation as NPMS Football Assistant Coach effective 8/7/2024
3. Lisa Deutscher – FMLA Leave as Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and School Board beginning 9/25/2024 through 11/6/2024
4. Britney Liverman – Resignation as NPHS Night Custodian effective 8/29/2024
5. Haylee Presley – Resignation as PVES Instructional Assistant effective 5/23/2024
6. Crystal (Skye) Payne – Resignation as Rolling Prairie Elementary School Secretary effective 8/23/2024
7. Dillon James – Termination as NPHS Custodian effective 8/12/2024

- **Employment**

1. Kristina Meller - NPUSC Bus Aide beginning 8/8/2024
2. Ian Whiteman – NPUSC Bus Mechanic start date pending criminal background check results
3. Derek Benson – New Prairie High School Evening Custodian beginning 8/15/2024
4. Cheyenne Hester – NPHS Custodian beginning 8/22/2024

- **Employment – Afterschool Program**

- **Employment – Extra Curricular**

1. Ross Strieter – NPMS 7th Grade Head Volleyball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
2. Eric Lower – NPMS Assistant B/G Swim Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
3. Mike Nelson – Rolling Prairie Elementary School 5th Grade Boys Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
4. Amber Oldham – Rolling Prairie Elementary School 5th Grade Volleyball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
5. Todd Hein – NPMS Assistant Football Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
6. Katlyn Reyes – NPMS Assistant Football Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
7. Alex Csenar – NPHS Girls Assistant Varsity Soccer Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
8. Gage Nierzwicki – NPHS Assistant Football Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
9. Shaunna Tewell – NPHS Girls Grade 9 Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
10. Angela Reffo – Olive Twp. Elementary 5th Grade Volleyball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year

11. Jill Bublitz – Prairie View Elementary 5th Grade Volleyball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
12. Robert Smith – NPMS 6th Grade Assistant Boys Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
13. Bryce Bloode – NPMS 7th/8th Gr. Asst. Boys Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
14. Monique Fredline – NPMS Drama Club Sponsor for the 2024-2025 school year
15. Kelli Smith – NPMS Robotics Team Assistant Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
16. Jason Clemons – NPMS PLC Leadership Team Member for the 2024-2025 school year
17. Jason Clemons – NPMS Freshman Class Sponsor for the 2024-2025 school year
18. Jason Clemons – NPMS CTE Department Chair for the 2024-2025 school year

• **Adjustments**

1. Taylor Keller, current Bus Aide, to transfer to New Prairie High School/New Prairie Middle School Bus Driver, Bus #62 beginning 8/8/2024.
2. Katie Ring, current NPUSC Bus Driver, to add a mid-day preschool route to LaPorte 3 days a week, Monday, Wednesday & Friday.
3. Johanna Pickett, current NPUSC Bus Driver, to add a mid-day preschool route to LaPorte 2 days a week, Tuesday & Thursday.
4. Joshua Bolakowski – Correction to the previously Board approved ECA as Prairie View Elementary Wrestling Coaching for 2024-2025 school year should have been for completion of Coaching for the 2023-2024 school year to be paid August 30th, 2024.
5. Stephanie Callahan-suspension 8/8/24 - 8/14/24; 8/12/24, 8/13/24, 8/14/24 are non-paid suspension days
6. Tara Murray, Part-Time Nutritional Service Worker at New Prairie Middle School, will be moving to Full-Time (30 hours per pay period), effective 8/15/2024

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

- Dr. White introduced the coaches of the NPMS Robotics Team, Mr. Tuholski, Ms. Harris and Mr. Alvarez-Gomez. The coaches then introduced the members of the team present to the Board. Wyatt Keller, DJ Simmons, Eli Whiteman, & Liberty Scanlin gave a presentation on their successes & awards from the last school year. Following the presentation all adjourned to the parking lot for a presentation of the state qualifying robot. The NPMS Robotics Team thanked the Board for their support.

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board accepted the following Donations with gratitude:
- Prairie View Elementary School receive a donation of school supplies from the Sons of the American Legion Post 297 or New Carlisle
 - Olive Twp. Elementary School received a donation of school supplies from the Sons of the American Legion Post 297 or New Carlisle
 - New Prairie High School received a donation of a Yamaha Keyboard from Wendell Bormet
 - NPMS Swim Team received a donation of an AED from Linda Behm
- (B) The Board approved and adopted the 2nd Reading of Updated Board Policies as follows:
- PO 0100 - Definitions (Legislative Changes)
 - PO 0164 – Notice of Meetings (New Bylaw)
 - PO 0164.2 – *Special Meetings (Rescinded Bylaw)*
 - PO 0164.5 – *Member Participation in Meetings Through Electronic Means of Communication (Rescinded Bylaw)*
 - PO 0164.6 – *Meetings During Declared Disaster Emergencies (Rescinded Bylaw)*
 - PO 0165 – Meetings (Replacement Bylaw for the Rescinded Bylaws)

PO 0165.1 – Notice of Regular Meetings (Rescinded Bylaw)
 PO 0165.2 – Notice of Special Board Meetings (Rescinded Bylaw)
 PO 0165.3 – Notice of Emergency Meetings (Rescinded Bylaw)
 PO 0165.4 – Notice Requirements Established by Other Statutes
 (Rescinded Bylaw)
 PO 0165.5 - Series of Meetings (Gatherings) (Rescinded Bylaw)
 PO 1520.8 – Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular
 Activities (Revised Policy)
 PO 1662.1 - Threatening and/or Intimidating Behavior Toward
 Staff Members (New Policy)
 PO 3120.8 - Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities
 (Revised Policy)
 PO 3362.1 – Threatening and/or Intimidating Behavior Toward Staff
 Members (Technical Correction)
 PO 4120.8 - Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities
 (Revised Policy)
 PO 4362.1 – Threatening and/or Intimidating Behavior Toward Staff
 Members (Revised Policy)
 PO 5200 - Attendance (Revised Policy)
 PO 5340.1 - Student Concussions and Sudden Cardiac Arrest
 (Adopt Policy)
 PO 5350 - Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention (Revised
 Policy)
 PO 5517.1 - Bullying (Revised Policy)
 PO 6320 - Purchasing (Revised Policy)
 PO 6320.1 - Purchasing Using Online Reverse Auctions
 (Rescinded Policy)
 PO 7510 - Use of School Facilities (Revised Policy)
 PO 7540.2 - Web Content, Apps and Services (Revised Policy)
 PO 8452 - Automated External Defibrillators (AED) (Revised
 Policy)
 PO 8455 - Coach Training, References, and IHSA Reporting
 (Revised Policy)
 PO 8600 - Transportation (Revised Policy)
 PO 9130 - Public Complaints and Concerns (Revised Policy)

- (C) The Board approved the Renewal Quote for Heartland Payment Systems, LLC for 2024-2025 school year
- (D) The Board approved the Agreement between Swanson Center and New Prairie United School Corporation
- (E) The Board approved the LEA Affirmation of Coordination with Head Start
- (F) The Board accepted the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements
- (G) The Board approved the Revised Board Meeting Calendar for 2024
- (H) The Board approved Overnight Field Trip Requests
- (I) The Board approved the NPUSC Teacher Representative for MASE Trust

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- (A) 1st Reading & Discussion of Board Policy 6250 – Required ADM Counts For the Purpose of State Funding and Verification of Residency for Membership
 Dr. White explained the reasons for the need to review this policy based on recent situations. Policy language has been confusing and families have been unsure as to the required and necessary documentation to verify residency. Discussion led to a consensus to consider adjusting the policy to require two items: utility bill and rental/home ownership documentation. A phone bill will be removed from this required list in the policy.

BOARD COMMENTS.

- Mr. Gadacz thanked the Robotic Team for their presentation. NPHS is doing good things.
- Mr. King thanked the Robotics Team for coming out tonight. He added that it is always fun to have them share the hard work they have done and what they are looking forward to next season. He concluded stating that it is always fun watching the robot.
- Mr. King thanked Mr. Scott for his Budget presentation for 2025. He stated that he appreciates Mr. Scott making his presentation clear and easy to understand.
- Mr. King reminded everyone of the September Board Meeting date change from the previously Board approved date of Monday, September 23rd, 2024 to Wednesday, September 25th at 6:00 pm at the Central Office Board Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. King asked if the Board had any further business. The Board had no further business to discuss. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.