

Board Notes
December 16, 2024

The regular meeting of the School Board was held Monday, December 16, 2024, 6:00 P.M., at NPUSC Central Office Board Room with Mr. Phil King, Mr. Jason DeMeyer, Mrs. Jill Smith, Mr. Dale Groves and Mr. Rich Gadacz present. 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. DeMeyer, seconded by Mrs. Smith. The motion was approved 5-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

The Board approved Consent Items as follows:

- (A) Minutes –November 25, 2024
- (B) Financial Reports
- (C) Claims
- (D) Payroll
- (E) Personnel Report:

CERTIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
- Employment
 - 1. Madison Coates – NPHS Temporary Contract for Semester 2 as Business/PE Teacher beginning 1/6/2025 through 5/27/2025
 - 2. Veronica DeBone – NPMS Art Teacher beginning 1/6/2025
- Employment – Extra-Curricular/Co-Curricular/Ancillary
 - 1. Kristen Kleist – Rolling Prairie Elementary School New Teacher Mentor for 2024-2025 school year beginning 12/2/2024
 - 2. Terrie Sult – NPMS Business Professionals of America Sponsor beginning 2024-2025 school year
- Adjustments
 - 2023-2024 TAG Stipends in the same amounts as awarded to highly effective and effective teachers will be paid from the Education Fund to the following Administrators, Counselors, Librarian and Social Workers:

Ben Bachmann	Amy Barnard
Tara Bush	Stephanie Callahan
Justin Heinhold	Tim Flanagan
Justin Holmquest	Sara Harmon
Casey Martin	Dawn Horn
Jennifer Sass	Erin Jenkins
Heidi West	Melissa Kuczanski
Tara White	Angela Ruby
Miszalina Twardus	Tara Walden
 - 2022-2023 TAG Stipends in the same amounts as awarded to highly effective and effective teachers will be paid from the Operations Fund to the following Administrators:

Tim Scott	Paul White
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CLASSIFIED

- Leaves/Resignations/Retirement
 - 1. Mary Maynard – Resignation as Nutritional Services Courier effective 11/25/2024
- Employment
 - 1. Jenna Davis – Nutritional Service Worker, Full-Time at NPMS beginning 1/6/2025

2. Kayla Vogel – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Instructional Assistant start date pending criminal background check results
 3. Debra Cole – NPHS Guidance/Health/College & Career Readiness Secretary at beginning 1/6/2025
- Employment – Extra-Curricular
 1. Ryan Wiesemann – NPMS 7th Grade Head Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
 2. Toree Friedrich – Rolling Prairie Elementary School Girls 5th Grade Basketball Coach for the 2024-2025 school year
 - Adjustments
 1. Danielle Blint – NPUSC Bus Driver to receive .50 increase to hourly rate retroactive 7/1/2024.

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

- Dr. White began by wishing everyone "Happy Holidays". Dr. White stated that one item of note is that the State Board of Education passed some arguably significant changes in High School Diploma requirements that will begin with next year's freshman class. The details will be presented at the regular February 24th School Board Meeting to be held at the High School in the Auditorium.

ACTION ITEMS

- (A) The Board Set the Organizational Meeting for January 6, 2025
- (B) The Board approved the School Board Meeting Schedule for 2025
- (C) The Board approved the Resolution to Transfer Amounts from Education Fund to Operations Fund
- (D) The Board approved Debt Payments
- (E) The Board accepted the following Donations with gratitude:
 - NPHS ModelUN Club received the following donations:
 - \$50 from First Source Bank in New Carlisle
 - \$100 from United Steelworkers Local 9231
 - \$100 from Grand Heritage Federal Credit Union
 - \$50 Carlisle Coffees & Sweets LLC
 - \$100 from Spartan Lubricants
 - Team Shirts from Creative Laser Etching & Printing
 - \$150 from Bette O'Malley
 - \$50 from Penelope Fueling
 - NPUSC received a donation of \$600 from Cleveland Cliffs towards Thanksgiving meals for NPUSC families in need
 - NPHS Building Trades Program received a donation of \$1,000 from Eric Derucki of ELD Construction to go toward the Bill Deutscher Memorial Scholarship
- (F) The Board approved the New Prairie High School Curriculum Guide for 2025-2026
- (G) The Board approved Fund transfers to close out Budget Year 2024
- (H) The Board approved the Updated Classified Personnel Handbook
- (I) The Board approved the Closure of Inactive Accounts Transferring Funds to the Education Fund
- (J) The Board approved the Amended MOU for High School Based Dual Credit between NPUSC and Ivy Tech Community College – Valparaiso/Michigan City/LaPorte for 2024-2025 School Year
- (K) The Board approved the Updated Transportation Personnel Handbook
- (L) The Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding between Boys and Girls Clubs of LaPorte County and NPUSC for the 2024-2025 School Year

BOARD COMMENTS

- Mr. King reminded everyone that the Board Reorganization and Finance Meeting will be held Monday, January 6th beginning at 5:00 pm at the Central Office in the Board Room. Mr. King continued that the “Let’s Talk Session” will be held at NPHS in the Auditorium on Tuesday, January 14th, 2025 beginning at 6:00 pm. The first regular School Board Meeting will be Monday, January 27th to be held at the Central Office in the Board Room beginning at 6:00 pm.
- Mr. King wished the NPUSC staff, families and community a happy and safe Holiday Season!
- Mr. King expressed to Mr. Groves and message from Mr. Shail, who could not be present this evening due to illness, that Mr. Shail is honored to have gotten to serve for 12 year prior with Mr. Groves on the School Board. Mr. Shail stated that Mr. Groves has served the Board and community with exceptional service, wishing him the best of luck on his future plans.
- Mr. DeMeyer wished everyone Happy Holidays! Mr. DeMeyer then stated that it has been an honor working with Mr. Groves. Mr. DeMeyer said that Mr. Groves has been a mentor from the very beginning that he decided to run for the School Board. Mr. DeMeyer added that Mr. Groves has a level head that he respects greatly and that he appreciates Mr. Groves and his contributions concluding by thanking Mr. Groves.
- Mrs. Smith wished everyone a Happy Holiday. Mrs. Smith then thanked Mr. Groves for her past 4 years of learning from him stating that it has been great working with Mr. Groves.
- Mr. Gadacz thanked Mr. Groves for his mentorship for the last 2 years.
- Mr. Groves thanked everyone stating that he has never been much for speeches but feels the same about the Board members. Mr. Groves stated that he is also honored to have worked with the past and current members. Mr. Groves stated that serving hasn’t always been an easy job nor a fun job but is an extremely necessary and a very important job. Mr. Groves stated that he feels he did his best walking away from this job thinking that New Prairie is better off today than when he first took his seat on the Board and for that he is extremely thankful. Mr. Groves concluded that New Prairie is the place that it is because of the people that are here from the Superintendent on down. He stated that serving on the Board has truly been the greatest honor of his life.
- Mr. Groves wished everyone Happy Holidays and safe New Year!

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. King asked if the Board had any further business. The Board had no further business to discuss. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.