

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, September 16, 2024

6:00 p.m. in the High School Library

Board Members Present: Richard White, Wendy Vincke, Adam Green, Jim Eustace, Joe Henige, Ashley Krupp and Tim Birchmeier

Absent: None

Others Present: Wayne Wright, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn and 30 visitors.

The meeting was called to order by President Richard White at 6:01 p.m. in the high school library. The pledge to the flag said.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report was read by Adam Green. Motion by Green, supported by Eustace to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting held on August 19, 2024.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Correspondence

None

Presentations/Updates

Kindness Squad (Elementary) – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar recognized Emerson Bishop, Raelynn Floyd and Joey Baird and the acts of kindness they displayed this past month.

September - Hornet of the Month students (High School) – Drew Severn

Mr. Severn recognized Caleb Graham, Mallory Heroux, Logan Frost, Cody Wolford, Thomas Wendling and Anderson Alguire as the High School Hornet students of the month.

DDA Basketball Courts – Wayne Wright

Mr. Wright stated that he spoke with local residents who are concerned about the area. The DDA put together a bid from a local contractor for the basketball courts. They pledge was up to \$50,000.00 and the bid they presented was for \$97,000.00. There are still concerns about where to put the courts, the maintenance. This project is still in the infancy stages.

Committee Reports

Finance – Jim Eustace reported minutes from September 4th

Facilities – Tim Birchmeier reported minutes from September 1st

Visitors

JR Birchmeier thanked the Facility committee for speaking to himself and John Wyrick and the alumni appreciates the support moving forward. Yes, the alumni association fully pledge that will be paid back what the district lends us and we are 100% in support to that. Just wanted to make sure that everyone understands. Thaks for your support and we look forward to continuing growing the program here at New Lothrop.

Jeri Birchmier stated that she is grateful for all of you. Academically what changes are we making for our students. This QR code coming home to scan is not acceptable. What are we not spending money on textbooks. Instead it's apps and google classroom. A few years back I was told my children couldn't start school in New Lothrop because he was special needs and he can still only ready 35 words and he

still attends private tutoring. I don't feel like this is efficient enough. He also needs speech, he gets maybe 20 minutes a week. Nothing is done in school.

Financial Reports

Jim Eustace read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$1,024,936.67; school service, \$38,381.77; for a total of \$1,063,318.44.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Vincke to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried, 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$2,673,793.40; receipts, \$863,305.94; expenditures: \$1,063,318.44; for an ending balance of \$2,473,780.90.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to accept the monthly financial report as submitted.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Eustace, supported by Birchmeier to approve the resignation of Nate Browning, Junior High Wrestling coach, effective August 15, 2024.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Green to approve the resignation of Heather Eickholt, elementary playground & office aide position effective September 6, 2024.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to accept the retirement of Ronda Birchmeier, food service worker, effective September 30, 2024.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Henige to approve Samantha Boggs, Junior High Softball coach as a contacted employee of PCMI for the 2024 season, contingent upon a successful background check.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to approve the Online, Dual Enrollment and Independent Study Roster for the first semester as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Krupp to approve the Edgenuity course list for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Eustace, supported by Birchmeier to approve the High School course catalog for the 2024-2025 school year as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Vincke to approve a 2.50% salary increase for the 2024-2025 school year for the salaried administrative and central office employees, retro July 1, 2024 as presented.

Green abstained.

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Birchmeier to adopt the following for the evaluation process of the Superintendent for the 2024-2025 school year: The Board shall use the MASB evaluation tool, the evaluation cycle shall be from July 1 through June 30, with the i-Ready tool used for 20% of the student growth portion and the goals as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green supported by Krupp to approve the FFA barn bid from Gross Construction Inc. in an amount of \$130,400.00 plus option 2 for \$6,000.00 for a grant total of \$136,400.00 funded through the Ag Education FFA grant and FFA alumni donations.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Birchmeier, supported by Henige to approve the FFA overnight trip to the Fall Leadership Conference in Lansing on October 9 – 10, 2024.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Krupp, supported by Vincke to approve the FFA overnight trip to the FFA National Convention – Indianapolis, Indiana on October 22 -24, 2024.

Motion carried, 7-0.

District Updates

Athletics – Marty Weese

Mr. Severn reported for Mr. Weese stating that Junior High Boys Cross Country team took 2nd place at the Marauder Invite. The Varsity football team competed in the Gridiron Classic at Grand Blanc High School a couple weeks ago and defeated Muskegon Catholic Central in a very exciting game. Upcoming events: Freshmen and JV Volleyball tournaments will take place this weekend in New Lothrop. Homecoming is Friday, September 27th vs. Mt. Morris. Varsity Volleyball tournament will take place on October 5th at New Lothrop with 12 teams participating. On October 17th New Lothrop will host the MS and HS Cross Country invite. Currently, our open position are JH Boys Basketball and JH Wrestling.

Elementary – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar reported that iReady/Acadience testing will be wrapping up this week. Her building started with grade level meetings this week. The elementary has one open position at this time. Ms. Kuchar has been meeting with teachers individually to discuss goals. Homecoming spirit week is next week, which will include an assembly on Friday and a book fair all that week. The elementary has did a lockdown drill during lunches. The Parent Group will be kicking off their fundraiser the “Hornet Hustle” with students walking around the track on October 1st.

High School – Drew Severn

Mr. Severn the 7th and 8th graders will be finalizing i-Ready assessment by the end of the week. Homecoming week will take place the week of September 23th and the dance on September 28th. Mr. Severn will begin meeting with teacher on their self-assessment/goals for the 2024-2025 school year. New Lothrop High School students honored 9/11 in several ways. The building held a moment of silence to remember the events and loves ones that were lost on 9/11. Ms. Blake Junior English class traveled to Maple Grove Fire Hall where students washed fire truck, swept and mopped floors in the fire hall and cleaned the outside of the building in order to help the firefighters prepare for a 9/11 ceremony they hosted that evening. The firefighters also talked to them about some of the events of 9/11 and shared their 9/11 experiences.

District – Wayne Wright

Mr. Wright stated that student count day is Wednesday, October 2nd and we are trending a bit below the projected 900. We will see where we are at in a couple week. We received four lease buses last week, the radios are installed and cameras will be installed inside and outside buses soon. We have recently had some issues with students in social media posts.

Closed Session

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the Board enters Closed Session, Section 8c for Negotiations.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Action Item

Motion by Eustace, supported by Vincke to approve the tentative agreement between the New Lothrop Board of Education and the Transportation Group for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school year as presented.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Krupp to adjourn.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Adjournment at 7:53 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, October 21, 2024 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary