

The Board of School Trustees of the Nettle Creek School Corporation met in regular session on February 14, 2024 at Hagerstown Elementary LGI Room.

The following board members were present: Sandi Schraub, Dan Davis, Shaun Lieberman, Julie Blaase, and David Moore. Guests present were: Josh Hallatt, Elizabeth Bryant, Tiffani Hokey, and Bob Hansen.

CALL TO ORDER OF BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order by Mr. Lieberman at 6:30 p.m. at Hagerstown Elementary LGI Room.

Mrs. Schaeffer certified compliance with the open meeting law.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Schraub/Davis moved to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes on January 10, 2024, The Board of Finance Meeting on January 10, 2024 and Executive Session minutes on January 23, 2024. Motion carried 5/0.

REID GRANT UPDATE

We received two grants last year from the Reid Foundation grant cycles. The first grant we received was for equipment for the elementary school's PE program. Rachel Klein shared that she would like to try a new unit on cardio drumming with classes. This would require new equipment for the unit. She also wanted to use finger pulse oximeters to teach students the impact exercise and activities have on the process of producing oxygen in our red blood cells. The grant cycle awarded Nettle Creek a little over \$1,000 for this project.

The second award was for the preschool. We shared how our preschool is a wonderful opportunity to prepare young learners for kindergarten, and it also positively impacts society by providing child care for parent so they can work. While our program has a low tuition, we still have families who have struggled to maintain their payments. This was especially concerning during the time before we were able to begin CCDF funding for families. In addition to supporting families, we also wanted to provide after-school care for 5-year-old students who are not able to attend the Boys and Girls Club. This required our program to hire more staff members to cover the daycare classrooms. Reid awarded Nettle Creek \$5,000 to sue to help families who are struggling to maintain their tuition payments, as well as hire two additional after-school staff members for the daycare classrooms.

FINANCIAL ITEMS

Davis/Blaase moved to approve payroll totaling \$558,205.24 and vendor claims totaling \$471,191.48. Motion carried 5/0.

SCHOOL NEWS

Mrs. Schaeffer shared District News:

- Mr. Joe Backmeyer, member of the board for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Wayne County, has provided each school board member with a copy of the 2023 Annual Report. Mrs. Schaeffer shared Mr. Backmeyer's contact information in case any board member has any questions.
- Mrs. Bryant and the PreSchool staff have worked really hard to achieve the On My Way PreK Level 3 Status. This means that we are now eligible for scholarships to help families pay tuition.
- The Nettle Creek Schools administrators and Special Education department have continued their monthly Special Education training. This is our second year investing the time and resources to grow our understanding in Special Education services and practices within our district. As a result of this work, we have started a professional development cycle with all teachers at both buildings to gain a better understanding of Special Education and develop a collaborative relationship between the SpEd teachers and the general education teachers. Our Master Teachers and building admin are leading the training for teachers.
- Mrs. Bryant and Mrs. Schaeffer lead the district Instructional Leadership Team through an in depth model of how to collect and analyze student performance data as a result of Tier 1 instruction. Tier 1 instruction is the initial instruction provided by teachers to all students. We paired a building administrator with a Mentor Teacher to field test this process. Mrs. Bryant and Mrs. Schaeffer have been able to meet individually to discuss curriculum needs, achievement gaps, and instructional outcomes as a result of this work. This aligns with our school goals and the intentional efforts we are making to improve Tier 1 instruction, student achievement, and moving the needle towards achieving our school goals.
- Mrs. Bryant has worked hard to pilot the new ILEARN. Mrs. Bryant briefly described this.
- Last week was National School Counselors Week. Lindsey Stuffel, Brad Catey, and Julie Arnold are integral assets in our students' success. We are very fortunate to have them as part of our team.

Mr. Hallatt congratulated Mrs. Arnold on a very successful FASFA night. IDOE is requiring the FASFA be completed. Mrs. Arnold organized an evening that seniors and their parents could come in and get the form completed. The HJSHS will begin NWEA testing next week. Juniors will also be taking the SAT coming up. Mr. Hallatt congratulated Beth Overfield on receiving a grant to help the costs of BPA members going to State. Mrs. Claywell and Mrs. Hart also put on a very nice, successful Junior High Sweetheart dance this past weekend.

Mrs. Hokey stated they are wrapping up NWEA testing at the Elementary. Teachers are looking through the data and are very encouraged by the numbers. The cut data is a good indicator on how students will score on the ILEARN test and it's very encouraging. For the past two to three weeks, Special Education has been the focus during cluster. The fourth grade Invention Convention is coming up at the end of the month along with the NIET Conference. Mrs. Hokey also gave a shout out to our wonderful SRO's with it being SRO appreciation day tomorrow.

Mr. Lieberman asked about the absences due to illness and if Mrs. Schaeffer believes we are over the hump. Mrs. Schaeffer said she has been monitoring this as we are close to the 20% threshold. However, when looking through the absences, not all are due to illness. Mrs. Schaeffer stated they have continued to talk with custodial staff to ensure they are cleaning and sanitizing the high touch areas. She also stated that we have been fortunate that it hasn't had a huge impact on staff. Mrs. Schaeffer stated this is something that will be continued to be monitored.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Schraub/Blaase moved to approve the following personnel items:

- Rachel Mull On-Call Sub Teacher \$80.00/day
 - Brandi Farmer HJSHS Instructional Assistant \$14.03/hr. up to 29 hrs./wk.
 - Tammy Andis HES Instructional Assistant \$14.03/hr. up to 29 hrs./wk.
 - Amy Dickerson IREAD-3 Tutor \$41.05/hr.
 - Brynden Alvey IREAD 3 Tutor \$33.52/hr.
 - Madilyn Coomes JH Girls Track \$1,416.66 stipend
- Accepted Chris Oliger's resignation as the Varsity Girls Basketball Coach
Accepted Allison Ullery's resignation as the HJSHS Instructional Assistant.

Motion carried 5/0.

APPROVAL OF THE FUNDRAISER FOR THE BPA STATE COMPETITION

Davis/Moore moved to approve the Fundraiser for the BPA State Competition. Motion carried 5/0.

APPROVAL TO PROCESS PAYMENT TO NETTLE CREEK HARDWARE

Blaase/Moore approved to process payment to Nettle Creek Hardware as invoices are received and processed in the Business Office. Motion carried 5/0.

APPROVAL OF THE 2024-2025 PRESCHOOL COST

Davis/Schraub moved to approve the 2024-2025 Preschool cost of \$100 per week. Motion carried 5/0.

OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION

The next meeting will be March 15, 2024 at Hagerstown Elementary School LGI Room at 6:30 pm.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Signed _____

