

March 20, 2023

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, March 20, 2023 in the Newaygo High School Library. Vince Grodus, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vince Grodus, Morgan Heinzman, Melissa Swinehart, Jami Schultz, Reid Sherwood and Sara Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Thomas Frisbie

Also Present: Jeff Wright, Superintendent

Kim Bidwell, Business Manager

Gena Dietz, Interim High School Principal

John Bull, Interim Assistant High School Principal

Dan Bauer, Interim Middle School Principal

Kyle McAlister, Assistant Middle School Principal

Visitors: 8

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the proposed agenda for the regular meeting of March 20, 2023.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Ms. Schultz, seconded by Ms. Swinehart, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Presentations from the Floor

TrueBlue Academy Presentation

Individuals from True North/True Mentors presented about TrueBlue Academy, a program to help connect Newaygo youth with other youth and adult volunteers in a safe and positive after-school environment. They work on things such as youth empowerment, communication and engagement, goal setting and leadership skills. Mitch Rood was very instrumental in keeping this program going. They are actively recruiting mentors for the program in order to serve more students.

Formal Board Communications:

None.

Public Comments – Items on the Agenda

None.

Superintendent Reports

Letters of resignation were received from:

1. Rachel DeBeau - JV Volleyball Coach
2. Tanya Atwood - School Bus Driver

Recommendations to Hire:

Motion by Mr. Heinzman, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to hire the following individuals as recommended by the Administration.

1. Dan Bauer - Interim Middle School Principal
2. Courtney Steers - Elementary Special Education Teacher
3. Brandy Thorington - Elementary School Aide
4. Elizabeth Smith - Elementary School Aide

5. Mike Borkowski - JV Baseball Coach
6. Dana DuChemin - Varsity Volleyball Coach
7. Mitch Rood - Assistant Middle School Track Coach
8. Dusty Linsley - Assistant Middle School Track Coach

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Informational Items

Subject: Finance and Budget Update

Ms. Kim Bidwell, Business Manager, gave the Board an update on the finances of the district, including the hot lunch program spend-down plan. Mr. Heinzman inquired whether any of the old food service equipment that may be replaced through the spend-down could be used for the concession stands. The administration will follow up on his question.

Administrative Matters

For Action:

A. Expulsion of Student 043A

Motion by Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Ms. Smith, to expel Student 043A from Newaygo Public Schools for 180 days, as recommended by the Administration.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Mr. Grodus - Aye; Mr. Heinzman - Aye; Ms. Swinehart - Aye; Ms. Schultz - Aye; Mr. Sherwood - Aye; Ms. Smith - Aye.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

B. Bus Security Camera Systems

Motion by Ms. Swinehart, seconded by Ms. Schultz, to approve the purchase of security cameras for three school busses, as presented at the February Regular Board Meeting.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

C. Two School Bus Purchases

Motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Heinzman, to approve the purchase of two additional school busses, as proposed at the February Regular Board Meeting.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

D. School Logos for Engineering Science Class

Motion by Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. Heinzman, to allow the High School Engineering Science class to use the official school logo for class projects to sell NPS-themed products in order to create additional financial stability for the class.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Mr. Sherwood thanked the Engineering Science program for seeking to use the approved logo(s) in the proper way, and indicated that all programs seeking to use the logo(s) should follow the same process.

New Business

A. Food Service Budget Spend Down Plan

Ms. Bidwell provided this detail earlier in her informational report.

B. Robotics Club Overnight Trip - March 25-27

The Robotics Club had their first competition last weekend, and performed well. It was not yet known at last month's meeting that the competition under New Business would be taking place, so although it was presented as New Business, the Board discussed approving it now.

Motion by Mr. Heinzman, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to approve the Robotics Club overnight trip scheduled for March 25-27.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

C. Meyer Music Proposal

There is a proposed allocation of approximately \$50,000 for musical instruments, etc.

Principals' Reports

Building principals who were present gave the Board an update on what is happening in their buildings. In addition, Mr. Bauer, Interim Middle School Principal, thanked the central office for making his onboarding very smooth, and he indicated how excited he is to work with the staff and students, and put his experience to work.

Public Comments - Items Not on the Agenda

NHS Career Fair will take place Friday, March 24 from 9-11 a.m. Nearly 60 jobs are slated to be represented, and this will give our students exposure to various careers.

Three NPS Art students earned State honors for their artwork.

A new flagpole will be in place at the track/football field in time for the first track meet.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Heinzman, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Time: 6:46 p.m.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Melissa Swinehart", is written over a solid horizontal line.

Melissa Swinehart, Board Secretary

Acting Secretary