

Proposed

July 21, 2025

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, July 21, 2025 in the Newaygo High School Library. Vince Grodus, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vince Grodus, Jami Schultz, Sara Smith, Thomas Frisbie, Reid Sherwood, Bruce Gracik and Mary Spicer

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Also Present: Ben Gilpin, Superintendent
Kim Bidwell, Business Manager
Christina Wetherell, Administrative Assistant

Visitors: 8

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Ms. Smith, to amend the proposed agenda for the regular meeting of July 21, 2025, to add the recommendation to hire Kyle McAlister as Middle School Principal (Item #6B-3) and the recommendation to hire Jim Smith as High School Assistant Principal (Item #6B-4) and approve the proposed agenda.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Consent Agenda Items

A. Approval of Minutes

1. June 16, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
2. June 16, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes
3. June 23, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes
4. July 9, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes

B. Monthly Trial Balances

C. Accounts Payable Listing

Motion by Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mrs. Spicer, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Public Comments – Items on the Agenda

One member of the public addressed the Board.

Superintendents Reports

Personnel – Resignations, Retirements and Terminations

The Board was notified of the following resignations, retirements and lay-offs:

1. Emily Krueger – Middle School Secretary
2. Dara Willhite – Kindergarten Teacher
3. Sondra Fuller – Bus Driver
4. Liz Smith – NES Aide

Personnel – Recommendations to Hire

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Ms. Smith, to hire the following individuals as recommended by the Administration:

1. Brycen Kacos – Technology Intern
2. Mitch Rood – Middle School Cross Country Coach
3. Kyle McAlister – Middle School Principal
4. Jim Smith – High School Assistant Principal

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Informational Items

1. Finance and Budget Update:

Kim Bidwell, Business Manager presented a finance update to the Board.

2. Board Work Session

The Board discussed possible dates for a board work session. A tentative date was determined for September 8th and will be finalized at the August regular board meeting.

Administrative Matters

For Action:

A. Spring NEOLA Policy Updates

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to approve the NEOLA Spring policy updates, as presented and recommended by the Administration.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

B. 2025-2026 Student & Athletic Handbooks

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to approve the 2025-2026 Student & Athletic Handbooks, as presented.

The Board had discussion on the current handbooks and the proposed changes.

Motion by Mr. Frisbie, seconded by Mr. Sherwood to rescind the previous motion.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Frisbie, to table the motion to approve the Student & Athletic Handbooks until the August regular board meeting.

VOTE:

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

C. NEA Contract Ratification

Motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to approve the ratification of the NEA contract, as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

D. High School Class Additions

The following high school courses were proposed at the June regular board meeting:

Environmental Science & Fisheries

Pop Culture & Society

Ink & Action

Sports & Stats

Unified Physical Education

Motion by Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the proposed high school classes, as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Superintendent Gilpin gave the Board a brief update on the bond construction projects.

Public Comments – Items Not on the Agenda

None

Adjournment

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

VOTE

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Time: 6:54p.m.

Jami Schultz, Board Secretary