

Board of Education

The meeting of Northwest Education Services Board of Education was held on August 1, 2023. Board President Fisher called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Roll call

Board Members Present:

Fisher Scherrer
Petrella Thomas

Board Members Absent:

Birgy
Brown
Lajko

Motion by Member Petrella, supported by Member Scherrer, to approve the August 1, 2023 agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Welcomed Visitors & Public Comment

There were none

Motion by Board Member Scherrer, supported by Board Member Petrella, to approve consent grouping items 1-4 as presented.

1. Minutes of July 11, 2023 regular meeting
2. Monthly Accounts Payable Check Summary and Financial Report July 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023. Check Numbers: 193629-193806. Total for Month: \$5,755,861.69
3. Personnel:
 - A. New Position:
 - Family Liaison, effective October, 2023
 - B. New Employees:
 - Brianna Balogh, Teacher Assistant, effective August 30, 2023
 - Meghan Arbury, Elementary Literacy Consultant, effective August 30, 2023
 - Benjamin Olson, Technology Support Specialist, effective July 24, 2023
 - George Shumar, Electrical Occupations Instructor, effective August 30, 2023
 - Gillian Lewis, CI Teacher, effective August 30, 2023
 - C. Employee Resignations:
 - Jaime Walton, Personnel Specialist, effective August 4, 2023
 - Karen Yowell, Teacher Assistant, effective August 10, 2023 (Retirement 25 years)
 - Erin Moug, Teacher Consultant, effective July 17, 2023
 - Emily Helman, Teacher Assistant, effective August 30, 2023
4. Approval of Out of State Travel
 1. Jim Corr, School Psychologist, to attend National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Fall Leadership Meeting, September 22-24, 2023, Tyson's Corner, Virginia (Travel and expenses covered by NASP and the Michigan Association of School Psychologists) also to attend NASP 2024 Annual Conference, February 14-17, 2024, New Orleans, Louisiana (North Ed would cover up to half the room cost and food expenses)

Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Petrella, supported by Board Member Thomas to approve Munson Home Health Care Contract for registered nursing services with Joy Davila in the amount of \$114,800. Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Scherrer, supported by Board Member Petrella to approve Contract with Deb Hale, Audiologist, in the amount of \$58,110. Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Petrella, supported by Board Member Thomas to approve Contract with Kat's Korner for music and movement therapy in the amount of \$38,850. Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Scherrer, supported by Board Member Petrella to approve Agriscience Program Greenhouse Control System Upgrade from Priva Systems, in the amount of \$48,868. Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Petrella, supported by Board Member Thomas to approve Early Childhood Specialist Great Start Readiness contract with Melissa Dyste in the amount of \$36,000. Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Scherrer, supported by Board Member Thomas to approve Adult Education Course List Amendment to include American Sign Language. Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Scherrer, supported by Board Member Petrella to change the November 7, 2023 Board Meeting to November 14, 2023. Roll call vote: Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Information Items:

First read Board Policies from Thrun Law were distributed to board members for consideration at the September Board of Education meeting.

Discussion Items: There were none

Updates:

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Nick Ceglarek:

1. Welcomed Samantha Tourre, Instructional Services Specialist in the audience as a new hire for the upcoming school year.
2. We have several important initiatives this summer on top of construction, annual audits and hiring staff. We continue to be engaged at the state level and the Grow Your Own program through Grand Valley State University and Talent Together which is a statewide program. We interviewed this morning an executive director for the School Research Finance Foundation which is the \$20 million-dollar allocation that was received to address school infrastructure throughout the state. We are partnering with Plante & Moran and with the hiring of an executive director we will start to work with contractors to get in every school building in the state to do a needs assessment and report to the state legislature our findings in hopes to finance equitable school construction.

3. Tomorrow Governor Whitmer will be here to conduct a small roundtable to lift up the state budget for every child in the state to have a free breakfast and lunch paid through the state aid funds which we are very grateful.

4. This is Linda Bielecki's last Board meeting and he thanked her for her dedication to local schools and the ISD. It has truly been an honor to work with Linda. As a lifelong learner, four years ago she finished her Education Specialist degree in her desire to continue to grow and improve. She will be missed and we hope the best for her in retirement. Board member Petrella also shared that Linda has been amazing to work with. Linda thanked the Board of Education, administration and colleagues in supporting her professional journey. It's been an honor to serve the region and appreciated being on statewide committees to be able to advocate for education policy and also making sure Northern Michigan has a voice on behalf of students.

Board Member Reports/Requests:

Board Member Petrella asked for Linda to stay.

Dates to Remember:

August 3, 2023 Legislative Dinner 5:15 p.m. at the Hagerty Center

August 30, 2023 Northwest Education Services Staff Opening Day at Thirlby Field 8:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 a.m.

Joseph Fisher, President

Rachael Birgy, Secretary