

## Board of Education

The meeting of Northwest Education Services Board of Education was held on October 3, 2023. Board Treasurer Petrella called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### Roll call

#### Board Members Present:

Birgy  
Brown  
Lajko

Petrella  
Thomas

#### Board Members Absent:

Fisher  
Scherrer

Motion by Member Brown, supported by Member Birgy, to approve the October 3, 2023 agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

### Welcomed Visitors & Public Comment

There were none

### Student/Staff/Local District Highlights/Presentations/Recognitions:

#### SAIL(ORS) On Deck – Organizational Recognition System

Board of Education members recognized this month's SAIL(ORS) On Deck. This month's standout is Bailey Possert, Teacher Assistant at Creekside School, who has exemplified strengths in the organizational value of Service, presented in recognition of responding to the needs of our learning community.

#### Technology Services Update Presentation – Brandi Reynolds, Director of Technology

Brandi Reynolds presented an overview on the summary of services supported by the technology team who work directly with 10 local districts who we are contracted with providing technology support as well as hosting student information systems such as PowerSchool, project interconnect and firewall services in the region. The REMC 2 staff provide professional learning, and educator assistance in maker materials, 3D printers and book sets. REMC Save Purchasing program saved over \$856,512 this past year that offers discounts with paper, devices, and furniture. Monthly meetings are held with all technology staff throughout the region. Data team members also meet regularly to support our SAIL 2.0 work for state reporting including pupil accounting and newsletter and website resources. Our team members continuously monitor and implement software updates and conduct regular cybersecurity training for staff.

Motion by Board Member Birgy, supported by Board Member Brown, to approve consent grouping items 1-3 as presented.

1. Minutes of September 5, 2023 regular meeting
2. Monthly Accounts Payable Check Summary and Financial Report September 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023. Check Numbers: 194024-194315. Total for Month: \$4,469,399.94
3. Personnel:
  - A. New Employees:

- Alirea Junga, Paraprofessional, effective September 19, 2023
- Jason Porritt, Teacher Assistant, effective September 18, 2023
- Chelsie Platz, Teacher Assistant, effective September 20, 2023
- Thane Possert, Custodian, effective September 29, 2023
- Eric Bork, Technology Support Specialist, effective October 2, 2023
- Missy Smith, Family Liaison, effective October 4, 2024

B. Employee Resignations:

- Sandra Shearer, Secretary, effective December 31, 2023 (Retirement 15 years)
- Andrea Weiner, MiSTEM Regional Director, effective October 6, 2023
- Amy Larson, Pupil Accounting Auditor, effective December 1, 2023 (Retirement 24 years)
- Kristen Thomas, Speech Pathologist, effective September 25, 2023

Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Brown, supported by Board Member Thomas to approve Snow Bid Removal Contract for 2023 and 2024 for Gray's Excavating, Inc. Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Information Items: Dr. Ceglarek provided board members a summary of the Talent Together Consortium Agreement. Talent Together is the Grow your own program developed by 48 ISDs across the state and we are now up to 50 ISDs. We have 900 soon to be teachers in the pipeline with higher education partners for this cohort. We have another 900 interested for the next cohort. We have a great partnership with Grand Valley State University that Matt Olson has been working on with our own staff for signing up to be special education teachers. We hope to keep Talent Together a model for the state and it speaks volumes that the legislator has committed funding to support this consortium. We are asking for a full commitment from the remaining ISDs by January 1 to join the consortium. We currently have 19 regional employees selected for the first cohort.

Discussion Items:

There were none

Updates:

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Nick Ceglarek:

1. Thanked Career Tech staff for hosting a community member today to see the 22 programs on display and meeting with students to hear about their experiences. Enrollment is at 1200 students and we recognize how far some of them travel back and forth each day to attend our programs.
2. Recognized Shawn Biddle for serving a dual role as Chief Financial Officer and Business Manager, we are trying very hard to find a replacement in her previous position as Director of Finance.

Board Member Reports/Requests:

There were none.

Dates to Remember:

October 17, 2023 Board of Education Special Meeting 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room  
November 14, 2023 Board of Education Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

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Joseph Fisher, President

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Rachael Birgy, Secretary