

NORTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
EXECUTIVE SESSION & REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
NORWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017
4:30 & 5:30 P.M.

Executive Session

Public notice of the date, time, place and specific reference to the enumerated instance for which the executive session was held had been previously posted according to statute on December 7, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Scott Elzey called to order the executive session of the Board of School Trustees. Present at the meeting were Scott Elzey, President; Donna Spear, Vice-President; Angie Topp, Secretary; Gene Donaghy, Member; Peggy Eschenbacher, Member; and Superintendent Mills.

We hereby certify that the Board met in executive session for the following purpose in accordance with I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b):

The purchase or lease of real property by the governing body up to the time a contract or option to purchase or lease is executed by the parties.

For discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute.

To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process.

The meeting was adjourned and moved into regular session.

Public Comment

Scott Elzey asked if there was anyone present who wished to make a comment to the Board. No comments were made.

Call to Order

Public notice of the date, time and place of the Board meeting had been previously posted according to statute on Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Scott Elzey called to order the regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees. Present at the meeting were Scott Elzey, President; Donna Spear, Vice-President; Angie Topp, Secretary; Gene Donaghy, Member; Peggy Eschenbacher, Member; Superintendent Scott Mills; and guests.

NOTE: All actions of the Board were duly moved, seconded and adopted upon unanimous vote of the Board, and without dissenting vote or abstention, unless otherwise stated.

Pathways Presentation

Norwell High School Principal Mark Misch presented information about the newly adopted Indiana State Board of Education Graduation Pathways. Misch shared concerns about the new requirements and how they would affect graduates, starting with the class of 2023. Misch shared that if the graduating class of 2017 would have been effected under these new requirements only 57% of the class would have graduated. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board thanked Misch for the presentation. (See Attached)

Approval of the Minutes

Superintendent Mills recommended approval of the minutes of the executive session and regular meeting of November 21, 2017. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the minutes as presented.

Approval of Claims

Superintendent Mills asked if there were any questions concerning the claims. Following review by the Board and responses posed, the Board approved the claims as presented.

General Fund	133,121.31
2017-18 Prf. Development	843.32
Debt Service	932,500.00
Debt Service	146,819.83
Pension Debt	181,951.06
Referendum Fund-exempt CPF	495,000.00
Capital Projects Control	77,705.59
Transportation-Operating	36,385.82
Food Services Fund	30,690.31
School Lunch Donation	400.00
Schl Lunch/Brfst Donation-Yoder	373.60
CADA Grant-Drug Screening	1,211.06
Formative Assessment 2016/17	675.00
CTE Career/Tech Grant	62.31
Title I, 2017-18 School Year	4,865.00
Title II-FFY2016 Imprv Tchr Qual	2,500.00
Title II, Part A FFY17	321.00

Personnel

Superintendent Mills presented the following personnel items.

Resignations:

Brandon Steele – NHS Custodian

Leave:

Lindsey Burke

Recommendations:

Candas DeHoff– NMS Secretary/Treasurer (Superintendent Mills noted that he gave permission to allow DeHoff to start on December 11th and asked that the Board ratify his decision. The Board agreed to ratify Mills decision.)

Ben Miller – NHS Volunteer Assistant Diving Coach

Desmond Kessler – NHS Volunteer Assistant Basketball Coach

Alesia Hoffman – NHS Custodian

Erin Mason – OES Teaching Assistant

Donations:

Anonymous \$815 to NMS National Jr. Honor Society Veterans Projects.

First Bank of Berne \$250 donation to NMS National Jr. Honor Society Veterans Projects.

Fairview Church of God donation of \$1004.25 for school breakfast and lunch for those students in need.

Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the personnel items and donations as presented. (See Attached)

Employee Background Check Policies

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve on 2nd Reading the Employee Background Check Policies 1521, 3121, 4121, 8120, and 8121. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the Background Check Policies as presented. (See Attached)

Suicide Awareness and Prevention Policy

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve on 2nd Reading the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Policy 5350. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Policy 5350 as presented. (See Attached)

Transportation Administrative Guidelines

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board review the administrative guidelines draft for transportation. Mills shared that transportation paid by NWCS would include: school buses and drivers used for extra-curricular and co-curricular events when the trip leaves and returns on the same day on school corporation buses, one field trip per grade-level per building

or the equivalent when the trip can be conducted within regular school hours when corporation owned buses are used, and any special trip as approved by the superintendent. Mills noted that the following transportation expenses would be paid by the user: accommodations and meals for bus drivers on over-night trips, any transportation costs associated with travel by a vehicle that is not school owned, use of the school-owned van when used in addition to buses used on a trip, and additional field trips. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, Mills reported that he would bring a revised draft of transportation administrative guidelines to one of the January board meetings. (See Attached)

Policy 3120 – Employment of Professional Staff

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board review the Employment of Professional Staff Policy 3120 with updates and asked for feedback from the Board. Mills reported that the policy would be brought to the Board for 1st Reading at the next board meeting.

NMS Fall Sports Summary

NMS Vice-Principal, Holly Morgan presented to the Board the NMS Fall Sports Summary and shared that this is the first year that NMS was now a part of the NE8 conference and commended the 7th grade football team for a 7-0 record and becoming NE8MS Champs. Morgan reported the number of students who participate in each sport as well as their season record. Morgan asked the Board if there were any questions. There were no questions. The Board thanked Morgan for her report. (See Attached)

Soccer Dugouts

Soccer Boosters, Rob Hoover presented a proposal for installation of two dugout structures for the soccer field. Hoover stated that the structures will be shingled and painted with the cost covered by the Soccer Boosters. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the structures as presented. (See Attached)

Softball Concession Stand/Press Box

NHS Softball coach, Herb Bergman and Steve Garza, NHS Assistant Softball coach presented a proposal for construction of a softball/concession stand/press box. Bergman told the Board that he had been working on the project for several years, the boosters have saved for 3 years, the structure would be 480 square feet so they would not need a state permit, and would have a metal roof and vinyl siding. Bergman said currently there are no water, drains, or restrooms. Superintendent Mills recommended that the corporation provide the electric, water, drainage, and restrooms. Mills asked the Board to support moving forward with the project. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the project as presented. (See Attached)

Overnight/Out of State Trip

Superintendent Mills recommended approval of an overnight/out of state trip for NHS Government/US History Class to Washington D.C. from October 22nd-25th, 2018. Teacher

Kristen Ross shared with the Board information about the trip, the experience of last year's trip, the cost of \$999 per student that would decrease as the number of students increases, students have the option to fundraise for the trip during the second semester of this year, and that this is a wonderful learning experience. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the trip as presented. (See Attached)

End of Year Resolution

Superintendent Mills recommended to the Board approval of a resolution allowing payment of end-of-year bills and to make any necessary fund transfers. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the resolution as presented. (See Attached)

Effective Teacher Stipend

Superintendent Mills recommended approval of a stipend for teachers rated as effective in the 2016-17 school year. Mills noted that the gross amount of the stipend would be \$112.07 for teachers in the pre-1996 retirement group and \$104.96 for teachers not in the previous group, and the stipends will offset the negative impact to effective teachers by the current Teacher Appreciation Grant awarded by the state. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the stipend as presented. (See Attached)

Commercial Insurance Proposal for 2018

Superintendent Mills recommended the Board approve the renewal of the Liberty Mutual Insurance proposal for 2018. Two options were presented: Option 1, \$179,688 and Option 2, \$185,524. Mills noted that the amounts have remained at or lower for the last 5 years. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved renewal of the Liberty Mutual Insurance, Option 1 as presented. Donna Spear abstained from the vote. (See Attached)

Corporation Contribution Health Insurance for Support Staff

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Corporation contribution to health insurance beginning January 1, 2018 for Support staff be as follows:

Maintenance, Custodians, Secretaries, and Nurses

	Network	Plan A	Plan B	Plan C
Single	\$7465	\$7096	\$6190	\$5474
Family	\$13,623	\$13,569	\$13,437	\$13,076

Bus Drivers, ACA Variable hour employees

	Network	Plan A	Plan B	Plan C
Single	\$7465	\$7096	\$6190	\$5474
Family	\$11,523	\$11,469	\$11,337	\$11,179

Mills reported that the rates reflect the corporation and the school employee sharing the cost of the increase in medical insurance rates. Mills shared that the teachers have received their

raise in the last payroll, teachers will receive the Teacher Appreciation Grant this Thursday and that he will bring to the Board the pay rates for the support staff to one of the January Board meetings. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the corporation health insurance contribution as presented. Gene Donaghy abstained from the vote. (See Attached)

Superintendent's Report

Norwell Middle School Principal, Tim Wilson shared that Lisa Weybright NMS 6th grade teacher was presented the "Educator of the Year" award by the Wells County Chamber of Commerce. Wilson noted that the entire middle school and Weybright's family surprised Weybright with the announcement in the school gym and that this is an exceptional award. Weybright will be honored at the Chamber's banquet on January 29th. The Board stated congratulations to Weybright.

Mills noted that the next Board meeting would take place at the Central Office on January 2nd, 2018 and the dates for the following meetings would be approved at that time.

Mills asked those present at the meeting to check out the 5 NHS northwest parking lot light poles to give some feedback about which lights would work the best.

Mills wished everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Adjournment

There being no further business, the School Board meeting was adjourned.

Scott Elzey, President

Donna Spear, Vice-President

Angie Topp, Secretary

Gene Donaghy, Member

Peggy Eschenbacher, Member