

NORTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2020
5:30 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Call to Order

Public notice of the date, time and place of the Board meeting had been previously posted according to statute on Thursday, June 4, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Angie Topp called to order the regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees. Present at the meeting were Angie Topp, President; Scott Elzey (via Zoom), Vice-President; Gene Donaghy, Secretary; Karen Harris, Member; Corey Krug; Member, Superintendent Mills, IT Director Jeff Miller, Glen Werling News Banner, Jennifer Nes, Michael Springer and 2 guests. Also attending via Zoom, Athletic Director Kelby Weybright.

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.

Public Comment

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

Approval of the Minutes

Superintendent Mills recommended approval of the minutes of the executive session and regular board meeting conducted May 26, 2020. 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.

Education Fund	106,670.56
Operations Fund	87,765.92
COVID-19 Related Supplies	1,286.51
School Lunch	11,606.23
Drivers Ed Program (was 3900)	305.00
Senior Awards Video Donation	4,000.00
2019-20 Teacher of Year-Yonker	99.00
<u>Title I 2019-20 School Year</u>	<u>2,162.26</u>

Total of All Funds \$213,895.48

<u>Totals by Clearing</u>	
Group Insurance-Health	40,578.98
<u>Group Insurance-Retiree Health</u>	<u>7,464.00</u>
Total of all Clearing	48,042.98
 Grand Total	 \$261,938.46

Personnel

Superintendent Mills presented the following personnel items.

Retirements:

Sarah Baker – OES 1st Grade Teacher

Resignations:

Karrie Hamilton – NMS Spell Bowl Coach

Jeff Shelton – NMS 8th Grade Basketball Coach

Shannon Walters – NHS History Teacher

Recommendations:

Carmy McKean – NHS Food Service

NHS Fall Sports Coaches 2020-21 (existing, see attached)

New: Ethan Knaub - Boys Volunteer Assistant Soccer Coach

Jonathon Lee – Girls Volunteer Assistant Soccer Coach

Megan Evans – Girls Golf Assistant Coach

Rob Fuess – Girls Assistant Soccer Coach

Donations:

Anonymous \$21 to OES Field Trips

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

Discussion Concerning Opening School in August

Superintendent Mills discussed with the Board options for returning to school in August. Mills requested permission from the board at the previous board meeting to survey parents as to what they're thinking about in regards to re-starting school. Mills discussed the results of the survey and explained that they are available on the corporation's website. He said after seeing the results there's a strong opinion to get kids back to school. Mills shared that the most popular scenario for school for 2020-21 is returning to the school buildings and school as close to normal as possible and other suggestions are less popular. Mills recommended starting a task force consisting of Mills, incoming Superintendent Michael Springer, bus drivers, food service, maintenance & custodial staff, building administrators, two sets of parents from each of the schools, 2 teachers from each building chosen by the NCTA, school counselors, Norwell Classroom Teachers Association representative, Board Members, a Wells County Health office representative and any others the Board would recommend. Mills hoped to have a Zoom meeting

on Monday to get started and would like to have some kind of plan in place for the first board meeting in July, if it's not approved that night to come up with a recommendation for the Board no later than the 2nd meeting in July. in regards to the results of the survey and returning to school. Mills opened it up for discussion with the Board. Member Corey Krug suggested adding some local church representatives and businesses as part of the task force. President Angie Topp agreed that the corporation needed to do what we can to safely reopen.

NHS Hall of Fame

NHS Athletic Director Kelby Weybright shared that back in January he had presented the Board with information about starting the NHS Hall of Fame. Weybright explained that he had completed the Norwell High School Athletic Hall of Fame (By-Laws) with a few changes. Mills recommended that the Board approve the By-Laws as presented. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the NHS Hall of Fame as presented with 4 votes for and 1 abstained, Secretary Gene Donaghy abstained because he is a member of the hall of fame board of trustees. (See Attached)

Weybright also shared about a "soft opening" of athletics beginning July 6th the plans are now to reopen the high school for fall sports training and practices. Weybright explained that social distancing and certain cleaning protocols will be followed. He plans to meet with coaches to discuss it further and that it could change due to COVID -19. After questions from the Board the Board thanked Weybright for his work with the NHS Hall of Fame and athletics.

New Superintendent Contract & Interim Associate Superintendent Contract

President Angie Topp recommended that the Board approve the New Superintendent Contract & Interim Associate Superintendent Contract for Michael Springer. Topp shared that Springer was one of 22 qualified applicants, the board interviewed 10 and then down to 4 and Springer was their unanimous choice. Topp shared that that was by hope and prayer and that the Board was thankful and welcomed Springer to NWCS. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the New Superintendent Contract & Interim Associate Superintendent Contract as presented. (See Attached)

Springer jokingly shared that he had two goals, one to arrive before Mills and two to out dress him for every board meeting. Springer also shared that he was looking forward to getting to know those people in the organization, have conversations with them that makes it real, build relationships with them and make connections. He said it was strange to start in the midst of a pandemic but was heartened by how the community responded to the recent survey of the NWCS regarding the beginning of the next school year. He then thanked that Board.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mills said that he wanted to thank all the parents for their feedback with the survey and kudos to the Board for the choice of his successor. Mills said he was looking forward to working with Springer in the next six months and knowing that the direction of the school corporation is just going to be upward. He said it does his heart good. He thanked Springer for coming today and that he looks forward to the next six months.

Secretary Gene Donaghy said that the new asphalt looked great at the Central Office.

Superintendent Mills introduced Michael Springer to the Facebook viewers.

The next School Board meeting will be June 23th at the Central Office.

Adjournment

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

Angie Topp, President

Scott Elzey, Vice-President

Gene Donaghy, Secretary

Karen Harris, Member

Corey Krug, Member

NORTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
EXECUTIVE SESSION & REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
NORWELL HIGH SCHOOL
TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020
4:45 & 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 June 18, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Angie Topp called to order the executive session of the Board of School Trustees. Present at the meeting were Angie Topp, President; Scott Elzey, Vice-President; Gene Donaghy, Secretary; Karen Harris, Member; Corey Krug, 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):

For discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans, and systems.

We further certify that no subject matter other than the subject specified in the public notice was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned and moved into regular session.

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Call to Order

Public notice of the date, time and place of the Board meeting had been previously posted according to statute on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Angie Topp called to order the regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees. Present at the meeting were Angie Topp, President; Scott Elzey, Vice-President; Gene Donaghy, Secretary; Karen Harris, Member; Corey Krug, Member, Superintendent Mills, IT Director Jeff Miller, Devan Filchak News Banner, Jennifer Nes, Michael Springer Interim Associate Superintendent (electronically), NHS Principal David Parker, NHS Assistant Principal Alex Nafziger, NHS Athletic Director Kelby Weybright, NMS Assistant Principal Holly Morgan, NHS Band Director Cory Kelley and 1 guest.

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.

Public Comment

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

Approval of the Minutes

Superintendent Mills recommended approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting conducted June 9, 2020. 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.

Education Fund	48,307.15
Debt Service	1,415,798.10
Referendum Fund-exempt CPF	494,000.00
Operations Fund	140,332.72
COVID-19 Related Supplies	249.76
School Lunch	16,458.07
Drivers Ed Program (was 3900)	245.00
NESP 2019-20 grant	116.32
State Connectivity Grant	800.00
Title I 2019-20 School Year	432.09
<u>Title II</u>	<u>4,989.96</u>
Total of All Funds	\$2,121,729.17
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<u>Totals by Clearing</u>	
School Lunch Clearing Account	\$122.25
Total of all Clearing	122.25
Grand Total	\$2,121,851.42

Personnel

Superintendent Mills presented the following personnel items.

Retirements:

Patti Macias – Data Specialist

Resignations:

Bob Dahl – NHS Girls' Cross-Country Head Coach

Ashley Daub – OES Bear Care

Vic Reinhard – 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach

Bria Eversole – NMS Student Council Advisor
Amber Hackworth – OES 5th Grade Teacher

Recommendations:

Ashley Daub – OES Food Service
Kristina Bardsley – OES Food Service
Linda Lenwell – NHS Food Service
Kaiden Slater – NHS Boys Volunteer Assistant Cross Country Coach
Bob Dahl – NHS Girls Volunteer Assistant Cross Country Coach
Bruce Barger – NHS Girls Volunteer Assistant Tennis Coach
Kyra Zadyak – NHS Girls Volunteer Assistant Soccer Coach
NMS 2020 Fall Coaches (See Attached)

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

Reopening Plan Discussion

Superintendent Mills shared that there are over 53 people working on a task force, including the Wells County Health Department and with guidance from the Indiana Department of Education for the reopening plan for school. Mills said that we are trying to open up school as normally as possible, we will not have a plan in place till the 14th of July, the plan probably will be more guardrails than specific details because we know moving forward that things are subject to change. Mills shared that there is information on the website with a Padlet wall to see more details of the plan. Mills explained that the plan cannot be a perfect plan but we will do the best we can to accommodate as many people as we can, there may be students who may not come back to school because of health issues for themselves or a family member, we are working on that student being able participate remotely, if the spread of Covid-19 is at a lower level we could be a little more relaxed, and if more spread occurs we will need to be more regimented. He added that we do not want to be in a position where we have to shut down schools because we have a case of the virus and keeping that case in an isolated area, we have a greater opportunity of allowing our schools to remain open instead of shutting down totally. Mills said he envisions that at the July 14th board meeting we will provide a draft plan and then communicate to parents to understand which options will they choose, as we consider things like school bus transportation we can't socially distance as is recommended but we may ask parents if they are willing to transport their child to school we will encourage them to do so. We would also need to know who will be riding the bus. The task force is working and will start to publish those items on our website on the school board page and everyone is welcome to look at that. Mills welcomed questions or comments and also stated that we are going to try and stay in line as much as we possibly can with our neighboring schools in the process.

Food Service – Agreement, Region 8 Purchasing Cooperative for 2020-21

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve participation in the bread, milk, food and supplies agreement with Region 8 for the 2020-21 school year. Mills shared that this has been approved in the past. Following review by the Board and questions posed, the Board approved the agreement for the 2020-21 school year as presented. (See Attached)

Textbook & Technology Fees for 2020-21 School Year

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve the Technology & Textbook rental fees for the 2020-21 school year. Mills noted that in an effort to keep the fees as low as possible he recommended no increase:

Grades K-2	\$125
Grades 3-5	\$145
Grades 6-8	\$165
Grades 9-12	\$165*

These rental fees **include** the workbooks and iPads, which will be used in lieu of or in conjunction with textbooks. These rental fees **do include** the cost of a protective case and a keyboard for grades 6-12.

Rental fees also include AppleCare that will cover any warranty related issues with the iPad or its charger. Accidental damage will be repaired under AppleCare for a cost of \$49.

Parents and students, 18 years of age and older, will be required to maintain the iPad charger and charger cord over the life of the iPad.

*In addition to this rental cost, students attending shared CTE programs will be required to pay for the costs charged by the school hosting the program that are associated with that course. Also, dual credit courses and AP courses may require charges or fees above and beyond this technology & textbook fee.

Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the 2020-21 Textbook & Technology fees as recommended. (See Attached)

NHS Student-Parent Handbook Changes for 2020-21

NHS Assistant Principal, Alex Nafziger reviewed with the Board changes to the NHS Parent/Student Handbook for 2020-21. Nafziger noted that most of the changes were in reference to, dates, language related, added stance on CBD Products, and added language about sexual harassment based on new Title IX Guidelines. Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve the changes. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the changes to the handbook as presented. (See Attached)

NMS Student-Parent Handbook/ Changes for 2020-21

Assistant Principal Holly Morgan reviewed with the Board changes to the NMS Parent/Student Handbook. Morgan noted that most of the changes were in reference to dates, language related, added stance on CBD Products, added language about sexual harassment, and the adding of Tennis to the athletic spring sports. Superintendent Mills recommended that the

Board approve the changes. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the NMS Parent/Student Handbook changes as presented. (See Attached)

LES & OES Handbook Latchkey, Bear Care & Preschool Changes for 2020-21

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve changes to the Latchkey, Bear/Bobcat Care, & Parent/Student Handbooks for 2020-21. Elementary assistant principal, Adam McAfee was present (electronically) to answer any questions from the Board. McAfee noted that most of the changes were dates, updated staff, LES specific car rider procedures, updated wording to limit the use of electronic devices used during the school day to only school-issued devices, CBD medication guidance, updated immunization requirements, and Title IX Sexual Harassment. Secretary Gene Donaghy noted that under the “Tuition” paragraph that “\$60” in the first sentence should be removed. Mills recommended that the Board approve the changes and the removal of the “\$60” as noted by Donaghy. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the OES/LES, Latchkey, Bear/Bobcat Care & Preschool Parent/Student Handbooks with changes as presented. (See Attached)

Athletic Code of Conduct 2020-21 Revision

NHS Athletic Director Kelby Weybright shared that the Athletic Code of Conduct was originally included in the high school handbook and that when someone signed off with the handbook it included the code of conduct for athletics. Weybright shared the following: this year there will actually be an additional separate form for athletes/parents to sign, added Eligibility clarification, social media concerns, hazing, sexual harassment, general verbiage changes, electronic recordkeeping through Powerschool, award system and qualifications. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the Athletic Code of Conduct Revision as presented. (See Attached)

NWCS Covid-19 Extra-Curricular Re-entry Guidelines

NHS Athletic Director Kelby Weybright shared that we have the opportunity to reopen Extra-Curricular on July 6th. Weybright covered General Guidelines, Daily Screening Plan, Phase I (July 6th-19th) Acclimation Period, Phase II (July 20-August 14), and Phase III (August 15-) with the Board. Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve the Re-entry Guidelines. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the Re-entry Guidelines as presented (See Attached)

Restatement of 403(b) Plan

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve the restatement of the corporations 403(b) Plan. Mills shared that this has been approved in the past. Following review by the Board and questions posed, the Board approved the restatement of the 403 (b) Plan as presented. (See Attached)

Technology Department Staff Changes

IT Director Jeff Miller shared technology department staff changes with the Board explaining the retirement of Data Specialist, Patti Macias, the distributed tasks among the current staff on the team, changes in salary, and a Building Level Technician position that would be open. Following review by the Board and questions posed, the Board approved the Technology Department Staff Changes as presented. (See Attached)

NHS Pepsi Contract Proposal

NHS Principal David Parker recommended that the Board approve the new Pepsi contract. Parker explained that the proposed contract is for the same duration as the contract set to expire at the end of the month (5 years) and is slightly better in terms of the total value. Following review by the Board and questions posed, the Board approved the contract with Pepsi as presented. (See Attached)

NWCS Covid-19 Co-Curricular/Band Re-entry Guidelines

NHS Band Director Cory Kelley shared information as to Co-Curricular/Band Re-entry Guidelines with the Board and thanked Kelby Weybright for his help and input and that the Co-Curricular Re-entry Guidelines are similar to the Extra-Curricular Re-entry. Kelley shared that the band will practice in sections, such as the wind and brass sections and that they are also looking into devices that can be placed on the end of the instruments to lessen the spread of droplets that could contain the virus in their breath. Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve the Re-entry Guidelines. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the Co-Curricular Re-entry Guidelines as presented (See Attached)

Transfer of Dormant Pension Funds

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board Adopt the Resolution of the Transfer of Dormant Pension funds. Mills explained that there exists \$17,942.03 in the dormant pension fund and asked the Board to authorize the Treasurer to transfer this amount from the Pension Fund to the Operations Fund. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board adopted the Resolution for the Transfer of Dormant Pension Funds as presented. (See Attached)

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mills shared that included in the re-opening plan is to include the opening of the elementarys' latch-key, backpack sprayers and misters have been ordered to disinfect areas at a faster pace, we are looking at disinfecting the busses between routes, the state through Governor Holcomb is providing masks and that other options are being considered for ordering masks also. Mills added that we are looking forward to opening as close to normal as possible, we will have to have a plan B in case we have the spread of Covid-19 in the area, and we want our kids to be in school because that's the best possible learning environment for them.

Secretary Gene Donaghy want to recognize NHS Senior Veronica Vanhoy for being named as a Turnaround Award winner.

The next School Board meeting will be July 14th at the Central Office.

Adjournment

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

Angie Topp, President

Scott Elzey, Vice-President

Gene Donaghy, Secretary

Karen Harris, Member

Corey Krug, Member