

NORTHERN WELLS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
EXECUTIVE SESSION & REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
NORWELL HIGH SCHOOL
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020
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 July 9, 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.

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

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, July 9, 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, Michael Springer Interim Associate Superintendent, IT Director Jeff Miller, Devan Filchak News Banner, Jennifer Nes, NHS Principal David Parker, NHS Athletic Director Kelby Weybright, and 5 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.

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 June 23, 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	90,969.24
Operations Fund	454,570.11
School Lunch	27,642.96
Curricular Materials Rental	115.25
Child Care Program	74.56
Title I 2019-20 School Year	302.10
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Total of All Funds	\$573,674.22
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<u>Totals by Clearing</u>	
School Lunch Clearing Account	\$185.10
Fringe Bene-Vehicle Deduction	472.61
Total of all Clearing	657.71
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Grand Total	\$574,331.93

Personnel

Superintendent Mills presented the following personnel items.

Resignations:

Jackie Murray – LES Preschool Teacher
Maddie Bates – LES 5th Grade Teacher

Leave:

Bonnie Dickey – NMS 7th Grade Language Arts

Recommendations:

Carey Smith – NMS 7th Grade Volleyball Coach
Greg Knuth – NHS Fall & Spring Drama Director
Vanessa Macias-Hannie – NHs Head Girls Cross Country Coach

Allison Smith – LES 5th Grade Teacher
Garrett Bucher – NHS Volunteer Assistant Football Coach
Drivers Education Instructors – Richard Burnau, Brian Milton,
Chris Oswalt & Ty Platt
Samantha Swain – NMS 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher
Kristen Bales – OES 5th Grade Teacher

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

Reopening Plan

Superintendent Mills shared that the consensus of parents is to go back to school, that there were 53 people working on a task force including the Wells County Health Department, Lynn Blevins and with guidance from the Indiana Department of Education for the reopening plan for school. Lynn Blevins was present to answer any questions. Mills said that our next superintendent Mike Springer helped to create the guidance document. Mills turned the discussion over to Springer. Springer went over the Guidance document for 2020-21 Reopening that included; Maintaining Best Practices for Teaching and Learning, Providing Educational Access to All Students, Reducing/Containing COVID-19 Spread and Avoiding Mass Quarantines/School Closures, Building-Specific implementation plans can be found on that buildings webpage, Screening Measures, Scenario Examples, Responding to Community Spread including low to No Spread, Minimal or Moderate Spread, Substantial Spread, Remote/Online Learning Structures & Expectations, Decision-Making Guidance Chart, Extra-Curricular, Student Transportation, Food Service, and Cleaning & Sanitizing. Lynn Blevins shared information about tracking cases, searching cases by zip code, HIPAA privacy, schools contacting the Wells County Health Department with a case, taking temperatures can be inaccurate depending on many variables. Mills asked Blevins from the Wells County Health Department if they could support the NWCS plan for opening our schools as safely as possible and Blevins confirmed with “Yes”. Mills shared as part of the plan we want to start school as normally as we can, addressed questions from the Padlet on line, the building level plans will come out this week, that he and Springer are creating a video in reference to the plan for online, and things are subject to change. Mills recommended on behalf of himself and Springer that the Board approve the Guidance Document and the online plan be approved as presented. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the Guidance Document and the online plan 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 the state gave some guidance as to where the money had to go and therefore it had to be revised. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board adopted the revised Resolution for the Transfer of Dormant Pension Funds as presented. (See Attached)

Designation of Interim Associate Superintendent to Sign Checks, Etc.

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board authorize Mike Springer, Interim Associate Superintendent to sign checks, contracts, agreements, and purchase orders on behalf of NWCS effective immediately and continuing through December 31, 2020. Mills said currently, the superintendent and treasurer are authorized by the board to do so. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the recommendation as presented. (See Attached)

Student iPad Setup Changes for 2020-21

IT Director Jeff Miller shared Student iPad Setup Recommendations for the 2020-21 school year. Miller discussed added restrictions to the basic iPad setup, browsing category restrictions for individual schools, and restricted email. Following review by the Board and questions posed, the Board approved the changes as presented. (See Attached)

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mills shared that he would officially like to welcome Mike Springer to the team, saying to the Board that they made a good choice as successor. Mills said that Springer is really taking on responsibility and he appreciates all the work that he has accomplished so far and has put a tremendous amount of work into helping with the guidance document for re-opening. Mills thanked all of those who helped to work on the guidance document. He shared that we are doing the best we can and that parents have said that they want their kids in school.

The next School Board meeting will be July 28th at Norwell High School.

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, JULY 28, 2020
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 July 24, 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 Superintendents Mills and Springer.

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 strategy with respect to Collective Bargaining.

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

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

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, July 24, 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, Michael Springer Interim Associate Superintendent, IT Director Jeff Miller, Devan Filchak News Banner, Jennifer Nes, NHS Principal David Parker, NMS Principal Tim Wilson, OES Principal Dee Dee Larkey, LES Principal Ginger Butcher, NMS Teacher Christina Allen 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 executive session and regular board meeting conducted July 14, 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	63,834.06
Operations Fund	140,915.71
COVID-19 Related Supplies	8,717.91
School Lunch	8,685.85
Curricular Materials Rental	67.50
Drivers Ed Program (was 3900)	3,240.00
<u>Formative Remediation-2019-20</u>	<u>16,181.56</u>
Total of All Funds	\$241,642.59
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<u>Totals by Clearing</u>	
IPAD Repair Reimbursements	201.00
<u>Fringe Bene-Vehicle Deduction</u>	<u>623.82</u>
Total of all Clearing	824.82
Grand Total	\$242,467.41

Personnel

Superintendent Mills presented the following personnel items.

Resignations:

Kristina Castator – NHS Teaching Assistant
 Heather Gerardot – NHS Food Service
 Erin Newcomb – NMS 8th Grade Volleyball Coach
 Amy Burns – NMS Spell Bowl Coach
 Ashlie Chambers – LES Teaching Assistant

Recommendations:

Cassidy MyGrant – OES Bear Care

Erin Newcomb – NHS JV Volleyball Coach

Samantha Swain – NHS Girls Freshman Basketball Coach

Alex Howard – NHS Volunteer Assistant Football Coach

LES ECA

Math Bowl: Dee Yonker

Spell Bowl: Sarah Jarrard

Student Council Co-coordinators: Erin Newcomb and Kylie Heckber

STEAM Club Co-coaches: Cara Gerber and Molly Jackemeyer

Vocal Music Sponsor: Lynne Niermeyer

Young Author Co-coordinators: Amanda Reynolds &

Jennifer Amstutz

Mentors: Dee Yonker & Sarah Jarrard

Madison Gephart – OES Teaching Assistant

Sheila Byler – OES Mentor to Kristen Bales

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

School Handbooks

NMS Principal Tim Wilson reviewed with the Board changes to the NMS Parent/Student Handbook. Wilson noted that the changes were revised to reflect COVID visitor restrictions and morning arrival or afternoon dismissal procedures altered to accommodate for safety and social distancing. 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)

Substitute Teacher Pay Increase

Superintendent Mills recommended that the Board approve a pay increase for all substitute teachers to a rate of \$100 per day effective at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the substitute teacher pay increase as recommended. (See Attached)

NHS Athletic Department Partnership with Midwest America Federal Credit Union

Superintendent Mills pulled this consideration from the agenda at this time.

Long-Term Remote Learning Teacher Job Description

Superintendent Springer recommended that the Board approve the Long-Term Remote Learning Teacher Job Description due to the need for this position. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the job description as presented. (See Attached)

Review of Reopening Guidance Document/Changes

Superintendent Springer reviewed changes to the Reopening Guidance Document due to the governor extending the 4.5 deadline. Springer noted that masks will be required on buses & during the instructional day when social distancing is not possible. He also shared information in reference to parents notifying the school. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the changes as presented. (See Attached)

NWCS Staffing Increase Proposal for 2020-21 Reopening

Superintendent Springer recommended that the Board approve a staffing increase proposal for the 2020-21 reopening. Springer explained the need for the increase in staff and that the increase would include four Health Clinic Assistants (one per building), eight General Building Assistants (two per building), two Certified Elementary Teaching Positions, and one or two Certified English, Social Studies, and/or Math Teaching Positions at NHS. Following review by the Board and responses to questions posed, the Board approved the staffing increase as presented. (See Attached)

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mills thanked Springer, administrators, and NCTA for doing the best we can to reopen schools as safely as we possibly can. Mills shared that we have a lot of parents that want their kids back in school and we want to try and do that, we also need parents to cooperate and keep their children home when they are sick. He also shared that after the regular board meeting there will be a Facebook Live with the four building principals, Springer and himself to address questions that people are posting to them. Mills said we need responses from parents in regards to their choice of sending their child to school or remote learning and whether they want school bus transportation for their child. Parents may respond by the link on the NWCS website and complete the response by this Thursday, July 30th.

New Teacher Orientation is July 29th-31st and Teacher's 1st day is August 5th.

Registration begins this week for Ossian and Lancaster and next week for the high school and middle school. The first student day is Monday, August 10th.

The next School Board meeting will be August 11th at Norwell High School.

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