



Neil Wetherbee, Superintendent

Northport Public School
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Regular Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2022
NPS Board of Education

Board President, Ben Purdy, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

This meeting was held in Room 300.

Roll Call

Members Present: Tom Wetherbee, Ryan Blessing, Ben Purdy, Jeannette Reynolds, Dr. Barbara Conley, Nancy Peterson, and Dan Duffiney.

Student Representatives: Elsie Purdy-Teahen and Ada Wetherbee

Members Absent: NONE

A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Moved by Nancy Peterson, supported by Tom Wetherbee, to approve the agenda at this December 12, 2022, regular board meeting.

All Ayes

Motion Carried 7-0

Student of the Month

- Elementary Student of the Month: Arya Cavendish, presented by Jackie Tروف
- Secondary Student of the Month: Jack Scripps, presented by Jenny Evans

National Art Honor Society Trip to New York

National Art Honor Society (NAHS) members presented their plans for an educational trip to New York City in May. NAHS already raised \$7,500 for the trip and requested the Board to approve additional funding for educational experiences and travel to Grand Rapids airport. The students displayed a detailed itinerary and estimated costs.

Motion from the Floor: Moved by Jeannette Reynolds, supported by Dr. Barbara Conley, that the Northport Board of Education approve the National Art Honor Society trip to New York City in May 2023 and to approve funding for educational experiences and bus transportation, not to exceed \$3,600.

DISCUSSION: Jeannette Reynolds noted that this request is similar to many others that the Board has passed for school groups. Board members also commented that the presentation and amount of money already raised was impressive.

All Ayes

Motion Carried 7-0

Board Member Recognition

Board President, Ben Purdy, formally recognized Jeannette Reynolds and Nancy Peterson for their years of service as Board members. Jeannette Reynolds has served on the Board for six years, and Nancy Peterson has served for twelve. Superintendent Wetherbee thanked them for their service and guidance over the years.

Superintendent's Report

- Welcome to our Student Representatives, Ada Wetherbee and Elsie Purdy-Teahen. These students are members of the National Junior Honors Society and volunteered to serve. This is a new position and may be filled by a rotation of students throughout the year.
- NPS signed on to two class-action lawsuits against vaping companies. One has been settled and the school will be receiving an undetermined amount soon. The second case is still in litigation but appears close to a settlement.
- NPS contracts with Northwest Education Services for business office services. Nadia Hoover, who has been serving as our Business Manager, has taken a new position at Kingsley Schools. Northwest Ed is committed to fulfilling our contract obligations and filling the position as soon as possible. Our school saves approximately \$50,000 per year by contracting for our business services.
- Superintendent Wetherbee and teacher Andy Smith attended an EL conference in Chicago that was very informative. Future professional development days will include information gathered at the conference.
- The final meeting about landscape design is next week. The proposal for landscape and hardscape design will be presented at the regular January 2023 meeting.
- Draft Board minutes will be released to Board members in timely matter to ensure accuracy.

Public Comments

- Dan Stowe recognized the incredible service of Jeannette Reynolds and Nancy Peterson and thanked them for their service on the Board and for the school in general.
- Donna Wilson thanked Jeannette Reynolds and Nancy Peterson for their dedication to our school community as parents, volunteers, and Board members.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the November 14, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Bills Presented for Payment for \$134,123.09

Hearing no objections, these items were approved by consent.

Action Items

Superintendent Evaluation

MOTION: Moved by Jeannette Reynolds, seconded by Dan Duffiney, that the Northport Board of Education approve the Superintendent Evaluation for Neil Wetherbee with a rating of effective, as presented.

DISCUSSION: Superintendent Wetherbee presented his self-evaluation rating of 'effective,' at the November meeting. Superintendent Wetherbee recapped this data and evaluation proposed elements for 2023. The Board expressed appreciation for the new layout of Marzano evaluation information and the detail of evidence provided. The Board also expressed approval of the proposed evaluation elements for next year.

6 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstain (Tom Wetherbee)

Motion Carried 6-0-1

Policy Updates

MOTION: Moved by Tom Wetherbee, seconded by Dr. Barbara Conley that the Northport Board of Education approve the updated Board policy updates and additions, as discussed, to the following policies:

- po0144.1
- po6108
- po6460
- po6700
- po7440.03
- po9150

DISCUSSION: These updates are very minor and do not represent a substantive change in policy.

All Ayes

Motion Carried 7-0

Discussion Items

January Organizational Meeting & Officer Elections

Board members discussed officer positions and noted that we will need a new Secretary because Jeannette Reynolds is retiring from the Board. Dr. Barbara Conley asked about the possibility of changing the date or time of the meeting to better suit her schedule. The Board will vote on officers and determine meeting time and dates at the January organizational meeting.

Old Business

NONE

New Business

Dr. Barbara Conley noted that she had recently attended an informative presentation by Laurie Glass. Ms. Glass spent much of her career working at The New School with children who have severe emotional needs. Ms. Glass talked about having a 'respite room,' where students can go

when they are feeling elevated. Dr. Conley recommended inviting Ms. Glass to speak to the Board.

Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Wetherbee reminded the Board of the importance of completing the assigned cybersecurity training. This training is mandatory for all NPS employees and Board members and prevents us having a vastly increased insurance deductible.

Public Comments

NONE

Board Member Comments

Jeannette Reynolds thanked the Board members, administration, and staff for their efforts during her tenure. She stated that it has been a good experience and she was glad to have been involved.

Nancy Peterson noted that in her 12 years has been a wild ride with meetings that went on for hours and lots of emotion. She has appreciated the relative calm of the last few years.

Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Nancy Peterson, seconded by Dr. Barbara Conley to adjourn.

Motion Passed 7-0

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Jeannette Reynolds, Secretary

Elizabeth Schwind, Recording Secretary