



Neil Wetherbee, Superintendent

Northport Public School
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Regular Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2023

NPS Board of Education

Board President, Ben Purdy, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

This meeting was held in Room 300.

Roll Call

Members Present: Ben Purdy, Tom Wetherbee, Ryan Blessing, Danielle Percy, Jake Zimmer, Dr. Barbara Conley

Members Absent: Dan Duffiney

A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Moved by Danielle Percy, supported by Dr. Barbara Conley, to approve the agenda at this May 15, 2023, regular board meeting.

All Ayes

Motion Carried 6-0

Student of the Month

- Elementary: Declan Draper, presented by Carrie Wadas
- Secondary: Elaine Raphael, presented by Carrie Wadas

Superintendent's Report

- Due to the numerous items on this agenda, some items will be discussed next month, including sex education curriculum, vape detectors, and a revised teacher handbook.
- July 1st begins the new fiscal year, so this is budgeting season. Business office and administration meet tomorrow for FY 2024 planning.
- Students just returned from the Close-Up trip to Washington, D.C. and will report to the Board about the trip next month. The National Art Honor Society is travelling to New York City next week.

Public Comments

Cathy Speer, mother of NPS students, noted her concerns with the lack of dress code. She believes that students, especially female students, are showing more skin than is appropriate at school. She is concerned that her young son is exposed to that type of dressing.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the April 10, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Bills Presented for Payment for \$145,653.34
- Accept the Resignations of Kyle Locke, Heather Nowland, and Andrea Burks
- Approval of the 2023-26 School of Choice Policy

Hearing no objections, these items were approved by consent.

Action Items

Approval of Parking Lot Agreement

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Barbara Conley, seconded by Tom Wetherbee, that the Northport Board of Education approve the Parking Lot Green Infrastructure Installation agreement between The Grand Traverse Bay Watershed Initiative, Inc, Elmer's Crane and Dozer, and Northport Public School, pending satisfactory conclusion of outstanding general conditions of the contract.

DISCUSSION: The Grand Traverse Watershed Initiative wrote a grant to update our parking lot in an effort to filter run-off before it reaches the Bay.

All Ayes

Motion Carried 6-0

Approval of 2023-2026 Master Agreement

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Barbara Conley, seconded by Jake Zimmer, that the Northport Board of Education approve the 2023-2026 Master Agreement between Northport Educational Association and Northport Board of Education.

DISCUSSION: NONE

All Ayes

Motion Carried 6-0

Approval of Northwest Ed General Fund Operating Budget

MOTION: Moved by Tom Wetherbee, seconded by Ryan Blessing, that the Northport Board of Education support the ISD General Fund Operating Budget for the 2023-2024 school year.

DISCUSSION: NONE

All Ayes

Motion Carried 6-0

Approval of the 2023 Indian Policy & Procedures

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Barbara Conley, seconded by Danielle Percy, that the Northport Board of Education approve the 2023 Indian Policy and Procedures, as presented.

DISCUSSION: Extremely minor changes to the Federal template. Our local tribe was invited to participate in tonight's meeting but declined to attend.

All Ayes

Motion Carried 6-0

Approval of the Graduating Class of 2023

MOTION: Moved by Jake Zimmer, seconded by Danielle Percy, that the Northport Board of Education approve the graduating class of 2023, as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Laura Christianson | Camden Clifford |
| Lyndsay Collins | Connor Coohon |
| Davin Glidden | Carlos Perez |
| Aydan Pino | Leila Robertson |
| Lydia Robertson | Luis Roman |
| Lyvia Roman | Nick Shiner |

DISCUSSION: NONE

All Ayes

Motion Carried 6-0

Designation of District Electoral Representatives & Candidates

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Barbara Conley, seconded by Tom Wetherbee, that the Northport Board of Education appoint Jake Zimmer as the designated representative and Danielle Percy as an alternate representative, which body will elect two (2) candidates to the vacancies on the ISD Board on Monday, June 5, 2023, ISD Board Biennial Election. The designated representative and alternate are further directed to cast a vote on at least the first ballot on behalf of this Board for Lisa Thomas (Traverse City) and Elizabeth Lajko (Kingsley).

DISCUSSION: There are two open positions and only 2 candidates.

All Ayes

Motion Carried 6-0

Discussion Items

Social Media Lawsuit

A class action lawsuit has been filed against social media companies by school districts across the country. Much like the vaping suit that NPS was recently a party to, this class action is based on the harm that these companies’ products have caused students and schools. It is up to the Board whether we participate in the new lawsuit. These lawsuits can create pressure on companies to make changes for the good of children. These changes would be more important than any cash settlement that might come from the suit.

SWAT Training

Leelanau County Sherriff, Mike Borkovich, has requested use of NPS facilities to host SWAT training next spring. The training would be held on non-school days and not involve any students or staff. Board members expressed support for this training and would like to hear from the Sherriff at the June meeting.

Proposed 2023-24 Calendar

The proposed 2023-24 school calendar follows all state regulations and is in line with the ISD’s master schedule. The only real change from our current calendar is additional half day

professional development days, as requested by staff, for teachers to have collaborative worktime. The teacher union still needs to approve this draft.

Old Business

NONE

New Business

Dr. Barbara Conley expressed her interest in a community mentorship program, similar to one at Glen Lake Schools.

Ryan Blessing noted that he had a parent contact him regarding Science Club. The parent appreciated the Club and was interested in other opportunities like that for students.

Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Wetherbee expressed understanding of the earlier parent's concern over dress code. He noted that dress codes are particularly difficult to enforce fairly and without an appearance of discrimination.

Public Comments

NONE

Board Member Comments

NONE

Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Dr. Barbara Conley, seconded by Danielle Percy, to adjourn.

Motion Passed 6-0

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Danielle Percy, Secretary

Elizabeth Schwind, Recording Secretary