

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Norwalk City Board of Education

Regular Meeting

Minutes of

Held

March 10, 2015

The Norwalk City Board of Education met in REGULAR SESSION at the Norwalk High School, on March 10, 2015. Board President, John Lendrum, called the meeting to order at 7:57 p.m. with the following Board members answering roll call: Mr. John Lendrum, Mr. Steve Linder, Mr. Rob Ludwig, Mr. Ralph Ritzenthaler, and Mr. Kevin Cashen. The invocation was given by Joe Binkley, Youth/Student Minister with The Chapel. Mr. Lendrum led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Also in attendance: Dr. Will Folger, Interim Superintendent; Dr. Sue Goodsite, Asst. Supt./Curriculum & Grants Director; Mrs. Sue Lehmann Treasurer; Mr. Dustin Brown, Director of Support Services; Ms. Kelly Ross, Food Service Director/Asst. Director of Support Services; Building Principals; Cary Ashby of the *Norwalk Reflector*; Alissa Widman-Neese of the *Sandusky Register*, community members, parents.

Roll Call

Invocation

Pledge

ADOPTION OF THE BOARD AGENDA AND ADDENDUM

Mr. Ludwig moved, seconded by Mr. Ritzenthaler, for adoption of the Board Agenda and Addendum with item 2 under Superintendent Report to be voted separately. Voting yes: Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Ritzenthaler, Mr. Cashen, Mr. Linder, and Mr. Lendrum. MOTION PASSED, 5-0.

Agenda and Addendum

RECOGNITION

Ms. Kelly Ross, Food Service Director, recognized the following staff members for receiving an EXCELLENT rating on the Huron county Public Health Food Service Inspections at League Elementary:

Recognition

- LuAnn Pugh
- Tracey Timbs
- Rose Wise

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bob Germond, 116 Hasbrock Road, Norwalk, addressed the board on the matter of the salary awarded to the new superintendent. He acknowledged that no offense was meant toward Mr. Fisk; however, a salary of \$125,000 based on his estimate would equal about a \$27,000 increase to Mr. Fisk. He also pointed out that Mr. Fisk had two years remaining on his contract with East Palestine and questioned what the chances were that Mr. Fisk would stay in Norwalk. Mr. Germond's final comments related to his understanding that there would be community input once three finalists were selected and that did not happen and that Mr. Duane Moore was adamant that this was an important part of the hiring process.

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Lisa Wick, 83 Eastwood Drive, addressed the board on Common Core. Ms. Wick read a script pertaining the purpose of instruction. She and other opponents to testing believe that the time used to prepare for all these testing requirements draws away from quality classroom time. She recognized that the district must abide by state law and that the federal government holds the stick on this matter. Instead, she feels that parents should have more control over their local schools. She then handed out an example of how she learned math and how it must be taught now. Ms. Wick also questioned whether the use of rewards for testing was appropriate and what kind of message that sent to students. In closing she expressed her support rather than opposition to the Norwalk teaching staff and her hope that support would come from the board and state representatives to combat these testing requirements.

Chad Arnold, 793 W. Dublin Road, addressed the board regarding their high school daughter. At this point, Mr. Lendrum advised Mr. Arnold that if he was to discuss his daughter in public session, the board could not offer any privacy in regard to items disclosed. Mr. Arnold stated he understood and proceed. Mr. Arnold and his wife wanted to express to the board their desire for their daughter to be permitted to participate in commencement exercises and received a blank diploma.

Bob Germond, 116 Hasbrock, requested to address the board again and was permitted. He acknowledged that negotiations would be commencing soon with both unions. He felt that because the two groups have been on wage freezes and because the board had increased the superintendent's salary that both groups should receive respectable wage increases.

Laurie Bennett, 29 Oakwood, assumed the floor and referenced Mr. Rod Thimke, NTA president and his membership. Ms. Bennett acknowledges that there may be concern from some members about how the students opting out of state testing might impact their evaluations. She is of the opinion that the board should safe harbor teachers on this matter.

PUBLIC INPUT: 2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Dr. Folger shared an updated proposed calendar for the 2015-16 school year. He noted that he recommended retaining five calamity days and three blizzard bag days on the calendar because reduced time would detrimental to the education process. The public was granted an opportunity to provide input on the calendar, but no input was provided.

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TREASURER'S REPORTS

Upon the recommendation of Mrs. Sue Lehmann, Treasurer, Mr. Cashen moved, seconded by Mr. Ludwig for approval of the following:

Approved Items

1. February 2015 financial reports
2. Waive the reading and approve the **minutes** of the
 - February 5, 2015 Special Session Meeting
 - February 10, 2015 Regular Session Meeting
 - February 11, 2015 Special Session Meeting
 - February 12, 2015 Special Session Meeting
 - February 25, 2015 Special Session Meeting
 - February 26, 2015 Special Session Meeting
 - February 28, 2015 Special Session Meeting
3. Resolution accepting the rates and amounts as determined by the Huron County Budget Commission for FY2015.
4. Internet Service Agreement with NOECA for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017.
5. Accept the following donations
 - a. \$30 Anonymous for Musical
 - b. \$50 Anonymous for Musical
 - c. \$557.50 Anonymous for Choir (trip expenses)
 - d. \$50 from Gary and Mary Bauer for Robotics
 - e. \$1000 from Firelands Post 2743 VFW for Robotics
 - f. \$500 Anonymous for Robotics
 - g. \$100 from Wilde Pizza, Inc. for Robotics
 - h. \$500 from Theodor and Tamara May for Robotics
 - i. \$25 from Mapleview Animal Hospital, Inc. for Stomping Grounds
 - j. \$50 from Paulette Ewell for Stomping Grounds

Items for Discussion

1. General Fund and Revenue Update
2. Bond Refinance
3. OSFC Outreach Process

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On roll call, voting yes: Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Cashen, Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Linder, and Mr. Lendrum. MOTION PASSED, 5-0.

PERSONNEL

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Will Folger, Interim Superintendent, Mr. Cashen moved, seconded by Mr. Ludwig, to accept the following personnel recommendations:

Approved Items

1. Resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of **James L. Kline**, maintenance, effective May 1, 2015. Mr. Kline's last day of employment will be April 30, 2015. (1993-2015)
2. Resignation of Matt Sheldon, assistant wrestling coach at NHS, effective, February 13, 2015
3. The following 3-year **administrative contracts**:
 - Dustin Brown, Director of Support Service, 2015 - 2018
 - Pat Kania, NHS Assistant Principal, 2015 – 2018
4. Employ **Terry Snyder**, 12 Bennett Lane, Apt. D, Norwalk as a special needs educational assistant, 6.75 hours per day, 5 days a week, step 4 on the salary schedule, 95-day probationary period, effective March 11, 2015/
5. **Substitute teacher(s)**, as needed, for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year:
 - Samantha M. Gosche, 200 N. CR 7, Tiffin, 44883
 - Jacqueline McClune, 19 Liberty St., Norwalk
 - Elizabeth A. Pennell, 83 Center St., Berlin Hts., 44814
 - Alison Schaefer, 808 Taylor Ave., Huron 44839
 - Karly R. Dress, 9811 Berlin Hts., 44814
 - Jennifer E. Fialka, 502 Berkshire Court, Huron
 - Ashley Woods, 31 Ridgewood Dr., Norwalk
6. **Classified Substitutes**, for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year:
 - Karen Duncan, 19 s. Garden St., Norwalk
7. Employ **Tim Gry**s, Asst. Wrestling, code 6, step 0
8. Employ **Ken Moore** as a home instruction tutor
9. Employ **Margaret Bleile**, 10 N. Pleasant St., Norwalk, as a special needs

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educational assistant, 7.75 hours per day, 5 days per week, step 4 on the salary schedule, 95 day probationary period, effective march 16, 2015, contingent upon receipt of her Educational Aide Permit 9 approved (3-10-15) and result from her TB test (will be read on 3-11-15).

On roll call, voting yes: Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Cashen, Mr. Linder, Mr. Ritzenthaler, and Mr. Lendrum. MOTION PASSED 5-0

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Folger, Interim Superintendent, Mr. Ludwig moved, seconded by Mr. Cashen for the approval of the following items:

1. Board Policies: (1st reading date Jan. 2015/2nd reading: Feb. 2015)
 - IIA.....Instructional Materials
 - IIAA.....Textbook Selection and Adoption
 - IKF.....Graduation Requirements
 - JEFB.....Released Time for Religious Instruction
 - JHCD.....Administering Medicines to Students
(updated since 1st reading)
 - JHCD-R-1 .Administering Medicines to Students (Regs)
 - DFA..... Revenues from Investments
 - DN..... School Properties Disposal
 - GCBB..... Professional Staff Supplemental Contracts
 - GDBB.....Support Staff Pupil Activity Contracts
3. Memorandum of Understanding between the Norwalk City School District Board of Education and the Norwalk Teachers Association for the purpose establishing the high school coffee shop, "Stomping Grounds".
4. Trip for Norwalk High School Robotics Team to Louisville, KY, for the World competition, April 14 – 19, 2015.
5. Trip for 2 Norwalk High School students to attend the Richard Michael Summer Jazz Festival and receive private jazz instruction in piano and saxophone from July 1-15, 2015, in Glasgow, Scotland. The student will be accompanied by NHS choir teacher, Mrs. Carol Mason. (Geotrac Foundation is funding this trip).

On roll call, voting yes: Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Cashen, Mr. Linder, Mr. Ritzenthaler, Mr. Lendrum. MOTION PASSED 5-0

Mr. Cashen moved, seconded by Mr. Ritzenthaler for the approval of:

2. Norwalk High School Program of Studies

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On roll call, voting yes; Mr. Cashen, Mr. Ritzenthaler, Mr. Linder, Mr. Lendrum.
Voting no: Mr. Ludwig. MOTION PASSED 4-1

Items for Discussion

1. Board Policies: **2nd Reading** (1st reading date; Feb. 2015)

IFCurriculum Development

IFDCurriculum Adoption

IGBEA.....Ready Skills Assessments and Intervention
(3rd Gr. Reading Guarantee)

IGBEA-R ..Ready Skills Assessments and Intervention
(3rd Gr. Reading Guarantee - Regs)

JHCD-R-2 .Administering Medicine to Students
(use of asthma inhalers –Regs)

JHCD-R-3 .Administering Medicine to Students
(use of epinephrine auto injectors –Regs)

JKEmployment of Students

EF/EFB.....Food Services Management/Free and Reduced-Price
Food Services

EFFFood Sale Standards

EFG.....Student Wellness program

IGBA.....Programs for Students with Disabilities

IGBA-R....Programs for Students with Disabilities (Regs)

2. Board Policies: **1st Reading**

AFC-2.....Evaluation of Professional Staff

(Also GCN-2).....9Administrators: Professional and Support)

GCB-1-R...Professional Staff Contracts and Compensation Plans
(Teachers)

GNC-2.....Evaluation of Professional Staff

(Also AFC02)....(Administrators; Professional and Support)

IGAE.....Health Education

IGBE.....Remedial Instruction (Intervention Services)

IJA.....Career Advising

JEC.....School Admission

JEE.....Student Attendance Accounting (Missing and Absent Children)

JHCD.....Administering Medicines to Students

JP.....Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports
(Restraint & Seclusion)

KG.....Community Use of Premises

3. Athletic Board Representative – Mr. Ritzenthaler

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Items for Information:

1. Enrollment as of February 27, 2015: 2914

Last month: 2923

Last year: 2911

3. All-Sports complex Update – Dustin Brown
4. Alumni Reunion: Sunday, August 16, 2015, 2-5 p.m. at NHS
5. Testing Update – Dr. Goodsite
6. Textbook Update – Dr. Goodsite
7. Legislative Update – Mr. Ludwig
8. EHOVE news – Mr. Ritzenthaler

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Ludwig moved, seconded by Mr. Ritzenthaler to move into executive session for the purposes of:

- The appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of an employee, official or student or the investigation of charges or complaints against such individual, unless an employee, official or student requests a public hearing (the Board will not hold an executive session for the discipline of one of its members for conduct related to the performance of his/her official duties or for his/her removal from office); and
- Preparing for, conducting or reviewing negotiations with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment; and

On roll call, voting yes: Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Ritzenthaler, Mr. Linder, Mr. Mr. Cashen, and Mr. Lendrum. MOTION PASSED 5-0

The board moved into executive session at 8:39 p.m.

There being no other business, Mr. Lendrum declared the meeting adjourned. MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:42

John A. Lendrum, President

Sue Lehmann, Treasurer