

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
NORTHERN CASS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 97

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 – 4:30 PM

Present: Sean Jalbert, Penny Johnson, Travis Moser,
Chris Murch, Todd Olson, Lori Steffes
Jocelyn A. – Learner Member
Dr. Cory Steiner – Superintendent
Paige Carlson – Business Manager

Absent: Brad Bjerke

Meeting called to order by Vice-President Jalbert.

Also present: Crysta Schenck, Elementary Principal.

Mrs. Carlson provided board members with gifts and packets with Thank You letters from the Staff Party Planning Committee.

Dr. Steiner shared the 2022-23 Educators of the Year – D. Hollister, Teacher of the Year, D. Eller, Specialist of the Year, and P. Peterson, Non-Certified Staff of the Year, who will be celebrated at the March 2023 regular board meeting.

Bryce Laxdal, Activities Director, joined the meeting.

Board Norms were recited by Vice-President Jalbert.

Doug Margerum, Secondary Principal, joined the meeting.

Moser moved to approve agenda as amended. Steffes seconded the motion which passed on roll call vote.

Administrative reports presented by Dr. Steiner, Mrs. Schenck and Mr. Laxdal. Learner report presented by Jocelyn A. Reports are accessible on the Northern Cass School Board website.

Mr. Laxdal left the meeting.

Dr. Steiner provided an update on the items included on the consent agenda. Olson moved to approve the consent agenda for the following: minutes from January 11, 2023 regular meeting and January 25, 2023 special meeting; General Fund, Activity Fund, Hot Lunch financial reports for December; heating and electric reports for December; and General Fund bills for payment as presented. Murch seconded the motion which passed on roll call vote.

TEACHING, LEARNING, & LEARNER ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Steiner presented the updates on the Personalized Learning Institute and the KnowledgeWorks site visit. Update provided on instructional rounds and the Studio Expo from the Middle School update.

BOARD EDUCATION

Dr. Steiner led discussion on the legislative session update including the superintendent bill, special education bill, and state aid funding bills.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Moser moved to approve the second reading of new policies ABDA – Accessibility Policy, ADBA-BR1 – Website Accessibility, ADBA-BR2 - Website Accessibility Concerns, Complaints and Grievances, ABDA-E1 - Website Accessibility Complaint and Grievance Form, ADBA-E2 – Website Accessibility Statement, DGHA – Lactation/Breastfeeding, GAAE – Critical Race Theory, and HBCD – Financial Support for Learner Trips to National Events. Murch seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Olson, Steffes).

NEW BUSINESS

Building and Grounds committee report: update from Paul, Steve, Officer Nettestad and Mr. Laxdal, fire extinguisher report, fire alarm protocol, building fund update, safety mill discussion, update from negotiations, climate update and discussion, busing to be reviewed, FSCS update.

Teaching and Learning committee report: conflict of interest and employment outside of school discussion, fundraising for an individual learner discussion, middle school update, FSCS update, Return to Learn plan review, staff dress code policy review and recommendation, culture/climate discussion, existing polices to review next month.

Steffes moved to approve the ESSER Return to Learn Plan with adjustments as recommended by Teaching and Learning committee. Johnson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Budget and Human Resources committee report: non-certified salary discussion, complaint/inquiry update, budget update, update on culture commitment, FSCS update, long-term busing solution discussion.

Johnson moved to approve the revised 2022-23 school year School Board Norms and Goals as presented. Murch seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Moser moved to set the annual school board election for Tuesday, June 13, 2023 with the polls to be open from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Northern Cass School will be the only precinct location. Terms are up for: Area #4 Steffes, Area #5 Bjerke. Also will vote to determine whether or not to publish school board minutes in the local paper. Olson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Murch moved to appoint business manager to hire election workers for the 2023 annual school board election. Johnson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Superintendent summative evaluation will be shared to all board members via Google Document. They must be completed and provided to President Bjerke by March 3, 2023.

Murch moved to approve educator contract for M. Rice for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year. Olson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Moser moved to approve spring 2023. co-curricular contracts as presented. Murch seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Johnson moved to reduction-in-force non-renewal for 6th period prep contracts for L. Bush, T. Kinn, and L. Schmaltz. Murch seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Steffes moved to approve the first reading of the 2023-2024 school year calendar as presented. Johnson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Olson moved to table the motion for the final payment request for the 2021 building project with Kraus-Anderson. Moser seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Johnson moved to approve the petition from the Northern Cass Education Association as the negotiating unit and to post the Notice of Recognition. Moser seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Murch moved to table the motion to appoint an alternate negotiator for the 2023-2025 master agreement. Steffes seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Olson moved to approve the request to hire Creating Community Consulting to assist in the creation of a 501(c)3 status for the Northern Cass Health and Wellness Center. Johnson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Olson moved to set a special board meeting on February 28, 2023 at 5:00 PM to enter into executive session under NDCC Section 44-04-19.1(9) to discuss negotiation strategy. Moser seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Meeting feedback from January presented for information.

Moser moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM. Olson seconded the motion which passed (Yes: Jalbert, Johnson, Moser, Murch, Steffes).

Brad Bjerke, President

Paige Carlson, Business Manager