

**Northwest Area School District
School Board Meeting
November 18, 2020**

The Northwest Area Board of Education held its regular meeting in the Library of the Northwest Area High School. Mr. Clement Benson, School Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:07PM.

The following members were present at the meeting: Mr. Benson, Mr. LeValley, Mr. Kreidler, Mrs. Biller, Mr. Sutliff. Mr. Conger was present via telephone, and Mr. Beleski was present via Zoom. Mr. Long was also present. Attorney Angela Evans, Mrs. Straub, Ms. Kratz, Mr. Miner, Mr. Mills, Mr. Shults, Mr. Sorber, and Ms. Hurst were also present via Zoom. The meeting was live via YouTube.

Mr. Benson reported that there was an Executive Session prior to the meeting from 6:00-6:55 to discuss legal, personnel, and safety items.

1. Approve of Minutes
Mr. Kreidler made a motion, seconded by Mr. LeValley to accept the minutes of the following previous meeting:
 - a. Regular School Board Meeting/Executive Session –September, 2020
 - b. Special School Board Meeting/Executive Session - November, 2020

Upon voice vote, all present voted yes, motion passes.

2. Comments: No Comments
3. Reports
Mr. Kreidler made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Biller to approve the reports.

Upon voice vote, all present voted yes, motion passes.

4. Payment of Bills
Mr. Kreidler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sutliff, to approve the payment of the following bills:
 - a. General Account list of pre-paid for September 2020 - \$255,999.67
 - b. General Account list of bills for October 2020 - \$638,022.39
 - c. General Account list of bills for pre-paid October 2020 -\$573,465.93
 - d. General Account list of bills for November 2020 - \$271,233.92

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes.

5. Superintendent's Comments – Mr. Long announced that the district continues to serve students in three modes of education – synchronous, asynchronous, and face to face. Mr. Long noted that if a student chooses to switch to a different mode of education, please contact your building administrator. Mr. Long ensured families that the district will continued to update the community when new COVID-19 cases are identified. Mr. Long has met with PDE and IU 18 regarding the installation of antennas throughout the district for improved internet service. The last day of school before Thanksgiving break will be on Wednesday, November 25, and it will be a half day. Mr. Long wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.
6. Administrative Reports – Mr. Miner thanked Proctor and Gamble and the Moses Taylor Foundation for their recent donations of PPE. Mr. Miner also recognized Ms. Good for her hard work with the Agriculture Audit in which she received positive comments from individuals at the state level. Mr. Mills noted that he will be working with the maintenance staff to be certain all safety measures are taken to keep athletes as safe as possible. Ms. Kratz reported that the special education staff worked well during the first marking period to communicate with identified students via virtual meetings, phone calls, and emails.

7. Policy/Procedures – No Report.

8. Personnel

Mrs. Biller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sutliff to approve the following:

- a. Appointed Jessica Hulslander as Drama Director 2020-21 school year, effective January 6, 2021.
- b. Reappointed Dorinda McHenry as Grant Writer for the 2020-21 school year.
- c. Approved the interim approval to post and advertise for a part time Cafeteria Worker.
- d. Approved to appoint Raina Long as a part time Cleaner, effective November 12, 2020.
- e. Approved to appoint Janel Blaskiewicz as a part time Cleaner, effective November 9, 2020.
- f. Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Janel Blaskiewicz, cleaner, effective immediately.
- g. Approved to post for a SAP Coordinator.
- h. Appointed Deanna Thomas as a Contracted Speech Pathologist, pending required paperwork.
- i. Appointed Mary Herbert as Mentor to Lauren Malacari for the 2020-21 school year.
- j. Approved to accept, with regret, the retirement of Virginia Hildebrand, Personal Care Assistant, effective January 8, 2021.
- k. Approved the interim action to post and advertise for a full time Personal Care Assistant.
- l. Approved the interim action to post and advertise for a part time Paraprofessional.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes

9. Finance

Mr. Sutliff made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kreidler to approve the following:

- a. Approved the agreement between the Northwest Area School District and Rural Health for dental services for the 2020-21 school year, at a rate of \$6.75 per exam. (no increase from 2019-20)
- b. Approved the agreement between the Northwest Area School District and Wyoming Valley Alcohol and Drug Service, Inc. for prevention/education services, effective January 2021 through the end of the 2020-21 school year at a cost of \$2,000. (no increase from 2019-20)
- c. Approved the agreement with Wyoming Valley Alcohol and Drug Service, Inc. to attend, at minimum, two Core SAP meetings per month, and provide SAP onsite initial assessments to referred students in the Northwest Area School District.
- d. Approved the attached agreement between the Northwest Area School District and Mary Agnes Kratz for consulting services with regard to special education procedures, policies and programs.
- e. Approved the special education settlement on behalf of student # 919659.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes

10. Buildings & Grounds/Safety

Mr. Kreidler made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Biller to approve the following:

- a. Approved to progress with Phase 3 design and permitting of the Primary School water system with PaDEP Professional Engineering Services (PES) at no cost to the district.

Informational Item: The design plan will be for continuous chlorination options at an estimated cost of \$18,500 for the installation and startup of new tanks, new well pump, new pressure tanks, piping and controls.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes.

11. Education/Curriculum –

Mrs. Biller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kreidler to approve the following:

- a. Approved the attached Occupational Advisory Committee Members.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes

12. Co-Curricular – No Report

13. Transportation-

Mrs. Biller made a motion, seconded by Mr. LeValley to approve the following:

- a. Approved the following van drivers for the 2020-21 school year, pending receipt of all mandatory paperwork.

- Samuel Jones
- Dennis Kline
- Walter Titus

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes

14. Additions to the Substitute List –

Mr. Sutliff made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kreidler to approve the following:

- a. Appointed the following substitutes for the 2020-21 school year, pending required clearances:

- Jennifer Bartoletti - Secretary

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes.

15. Tabled Items: None

16. Legislative –No Report

17. West Side CTC – Mr. Benson reported that West Side CTC is continuing in hybrid education, however, the education is virtual.

18. LIU Update –No update

19. Old Business – No Old Business

20. New Business – No New Business

21. Solicitor's Report – No Report

22. Comments –No Comments

23. Adjourn – Mr. Kreidler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sutliff and unanimously by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Pete Lanza, Board Secretary