



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Monday, July 29, 2024 (6:30 PM)

1.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Request all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 Roll Call

2.1 Call of the Roll

BOARD MEMBERS

Nicole Taulbee
Mark Gilbert
Jim Detzel
Chris Heather
Nancy Slattery

Number in Attendance: 12

3.0 MISSION STATEMENT

3.1 Mission Statement

The Board President read the Mission Statement:

The Northwest Local School District will create a responsive learning community where all students are valued, challenged, and guided along a pathway to success.

4.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

4.1 Motion to Adopt Agenda

The Board President recommended to adopt the agenda as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Jim Detzel**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Board President recommends to adopt the agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

5.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION

5.1 Introduction of New Administrators for the 2024-25 School Year

Superintendent Darrell Yater and Human Resources Director Susan Bunte introduced the new administrators to the Board of Education. The administrators represent a mix of leaders who have risen through the ranks of Northwest Local School District and fresh faces who will bring new ideas and an outside perspective to their roles.

- Jake Kuhnline - Director of Student Services
- Chevonne Neal - Director of Special Education
- Alex Shrewsberry - Principal, Northwest High School
- Cristen Casteel - Principal, Colerain Middle School
- Megan Alford - Principal, Houston Early Learning Center
- Christopher Crisp - Assistant Principal, Struble Elementary
- Andrew Renneker - Assistant Principal, Transitions Academy
- Brenda Stephens - Assistant Principal, Northwest High School
- Joe Newman - Assistant Principal, White Oak Middle School
- Cindy Herald - Special Education Supervisor
- Katie Fleming - Special Education Supervisor

5.2 High School Cell Phone Changes

High School principals Erin Davis (CHS) and Alex Shrewsberry (NWHS) presented proposed changes regarding student cell phones for the upcoming school year.

Ohio House Bill 250 requires all school districts to place an emphasis on limiting cell phone use and reducing cell phone related distractions in classrooms. There are exemptions for students who require a cell phone to monitor a health condition or for student learning as determined by school officials. All schools must adopt a policy by July 2025.

Studies have shown that social media use by adolescents results in poorer sleep quality, anxiety and depression. The mere presence of smartphones diminishes the attention

spans and the ability to concentrate. Defined periods of separation from the devices are recommended to reduce interruptions and to increase available cognitive capacity. A cell phone free school environment would help maximize instructional time, focus students on learning, reduce behavioral issues, improve academic outcomes and build community and school interaction.

YONDR is an industry leader in phone free spaces, including schools. The YONDR system includes magnetically locked pouches to remove access to personal electronic devices during the entire school day while allowing the students to maintain ownership of their own property. In emergency situations the school will provide unlocking devices as quickly as possible. School employees including office personnel, administrators and counselors will be able to unlock devices upon request. If a student is non-compliant with the locking YONDR pouch the student will be subject to the code of conduct regarding personal communication devices.

The next steps in the process are to communicate with district staff, families and students. Schools may need to host listening/feedback/question sessions with families and students. If approved by the Board, the system will be ready for use on the first day of school.

Discussion:

- **Mr. Detzel:** What about cell phone usage by the staff? If the student's phones are locked up, is the staff still permitted to use their personal cell phones during school hours?

Mrs. Davis: The expectation is that they are a role model in the classroom. The whole goal is to get kids learning and kids are not learning if the teacher is at the front of the classroom on their cell phone. So while we would not require staff to lock their phones in a bag, they are expected to be a role model and to do what we would expect of the students.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Darrell, at a past meeting you indicated that if this program proceeds, that the costs would be covered by a federal grant. What grant did we receive?

Mr. Yater: It's a current Title IV grant that we already have and we are able to use some of those funds for this initiative. In addition to that, there were some unallocated district funds used so that we could implement this at both high schools at the same time.

Mrs. Taulbee: Is that grant allocated annually?

Mr. Yater: It's an annual grant.

Mrs. Taulbee: On the vendor contracts it says we're paying \$78,000 that's shown as an additional cost outside of the current budget. So is that what we're spending outside of the grant?

Mr. Yater: No, that's reallocation of the funds. The money that had been allocated to the general fund is being reallocated to this project. When the high schools came to us and said that they wanted to do this, we felt it was important to support them in making sure that we could do that with the funds we had available.

Mrs. Taulbee: And even with buildings literally falling down, we think this is the best use of funds?

Mr. Yater: Yes. These funds couldn't be used for building projects or anything around brick and mortar. Around \$50,000 is from the federal grant and the remainder is funded through the reallocation of unspent human resources funds.

Mrs. Taulbee: So what cuts did we make for this?

Mr. Yater: The money we reallocated was from the human resources budget and had been focused around recruitment, retention and supporting some of our diversity efforts.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** You said you're still working through the process but do you know how many spare bags you will have for when they get broken or lost? How quickly can they be replaced?

Mr. Kuhnline: There will be a quantity of extra bags in the initial shipment. As they're needed, students will be charged for the cost of the replacements and the supply will be replenished using those replacement fees.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** How quickly will you be able to unlock all bags during a true emergency?

Mrs. Davis: There is one magnet per 60 bags and we're working to find the best way to deploy the magnets to have an efficient unlocking process. We're still working on the final plan.

Mr. Shrewsberry: As we do our drills at the beginning of the school year we can test our processes and the deployment of the magnets.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** What will you do if a parent disputes having to pay the replacement fee because a student broke their bag to access their phone thinking they were in an emergency situation?

Mrs. Davis: There's going to be a learning curve and it's going to be important that we educate both our staff and our students. If we're having a drill or go into instructional lockdown we need to have clear communication around what is happening.

Mr. Yater: In any potential emergency situation it's really important for the students to pay attention to the adult they're with. That's who's going to guide them to safety. That adult is still going to have their cell phone and they will be receiving information about what is going on and they will communicate with the students.

- **Mrs. Taulbee**: What’s the plan to allow students and parents to get messages to each other quickly during the school day?

Mr. Kuhnline: In speaking with administrators at other schools who have implemented this program, they all stated that they had to go above and beyond to earn the trust of families and assure them that they can still get in touch with their students. We’re going to work extra hard to reassure parents that when they call the front office to get in touch with their child, the answer is yes and the answer is quick. It’s something that we’re all going to have to work with our schools to implement. It’s going to feel different than when you could text your student and say “hey when does your practice end?” and you get an immediate response.

- **Mrs. Taulbee**: How has teacher support been so far? What has their feedback been?

Mr. Shrewsberry: Everyone is bought in and behind limiting cellphones in the classroom and this is a resource to try to achieve that. They have voiced some of the same concerns brought up tonight, but there’s been a lot of positive feedback about having this as a resource.

- **Mrs. Taulbee**: How do you plan to measure if this system is a success at the end of the school year?

Mrs. Davis: We’ll look at the use of those personal communication device codes in the code of conduct. We’ll evaluate engagement within the classroom and get teacher feedback.

- **Mrs. Taulbee**: Will Airpods (earbuds) be banned as well?

Mrs. Davis: The pouch itself does not block the signal. A smartwatch or earbuds will still be able to be connected to the device. While nothing has been finalized yet, if the accessory device is being used with your cell phone (for example: texting through a smartwatch or listening to music with earbuds) then that will fall under the personal communication device portion of the code of conduct.

- **Mr. Heather**: Congratulations on taking the first step in trying to restrict cell phone usage. I’d personally like to see them stay in the lockers. That way the students can get them when they need them and at the end of the school day. It’s incredible how the culture has changed. For decades parents would have to call the office to get ahold of their students and would rarely contact them during school. Now, many parents are like shadows and want to check up on their kids all the time. I’d like to see one of the pouches but I trust that they’re small and easy to operate.

- **Mrs. Taulbee**: Do the kids keep the bags overnight and continue to carry it and bring it to school each day like the Chromebooks?

Mrs. Davis: Yes, that’s correct.

- **Mrs. Taulbee**: We already passed a new cell phone policy earlier this summer? Why this change to YONDR bags now?

Mr. Yater: After we passed the initial policy, I spoke with other superintendents who've implemented the program and saw very positive results. Then when I spoke to Erin (Davis) she said that she was interested and had already been looking into the program. I wanted to make sure that we could support her, and when Alex (Shrewsbury) came onboard in July and said he wanted to be a part of it too, I wanted to make sure we could make it happen for both schools.

- **Mrs. Taulbee**: How will kids stay engaged in study hall? Isn't that the biggest period of cell phone usage?

Mrs. Davis: In general we try to limit study hall on a student's schedule. We want to put them in classes where they're going to be exposed to different opportunities. That said, we've talked about what this will look like and how we can encourage students to use their time wisely.

- **Mr. Gilbert**: I think you're asking for trouble by having kids take these home at night. What's to prevent a kid from having a dummy phone in the pouch and having their real phone in their back pocket and then having access to it all day?

Mrs. Davis: I was very skeptical when I first heard about this and the pilot program at Hughes High School. But after speaking with the company and people who've used it, I've come around. If the whole point is keeping cell phones away and out of students' hands during the day, then regardless of whether it's in the pouch or not, if it's working as a deterrent from them getting it out then I still think we're going to see a major decrease in usage. We need to drive home the message and help students understand that it's not that we're trying to keep them from communicating with friends and family, it's making sure that they're using their time wisely and taking ownership. Bringing their pouch to and from school is something they're going to have to be responsible for just like their Chromebook, every single day.

Mr. Gilbert: This is going to completely alter some of the kids' behaviors. There will definitely be kids going through phone withdrawal and that may bring additional issues. I think it's going to be a hard adjustment at the beginning of the year. I'm in favor of the pouches but I think, as you are aware, that it comes with some additional operational issues.

Mrs. Davis: It's going to be hard. I became an administrator when cell phones were banned but we didn't have pouches. It's vital to start communicating with staff, parents and students as soon as possible to give us as much time to hear these kinds of questions so that we can work through solutions. We want to answer these questions as clearly as possible so that everyone knows what the expectations are. It's going to be hard but our hope is that we'll see some real benefits in the end.

- **Mr. Gilbert:** I think the key to this is going to be teacher engagement and supervision. There needs to be consistent enforcement for this to be a success.

Mrs. Davis: We have to get our staff on board so that we're all saying the same thing all the time and we're supporting each other. It's hard to do at a place as big as Colerain High School but we all need to be on the same page.

- **Mr. Gilbert:** What if the students figure out how to unlock the bag? Can they buy a magnet off amazon to unlock it?

Mr. Shrewsberry: When we first started looking at this program I looked for all the ways to break into the bag. There are magnets on amazon that will open the bag and it can be slammed on the desk and sometimes it will pop open. Teachers will need to be on the lookout. If the bag is out on the desk that should be a red flag, there's no reason for them to have the bag on the desk or in their hand when it's locked. It's something we'll have to keep an eye on.

- **Mrs. Slattery:** Are the pouches big enough to put a phone and smartwatch into at the same time? Is that something we can require?

Mr. Shrewsberry: That's one of the points we're most hung up on right now. In gathering feedback from other schools there is a concern that if we were to take away the watches as well it could derail the program.

- **Mrs. Slattery:** Will you send out data to the families about the success other districts have had using the pouch so that they're more likely to buy-in to it?

Mr. Kuhnline: Yes, the drafts of the communication we're planning to send out does include some of that data so that's the first thing parents, families and staff are reading. Other schools have reported reductions in failure rates, reductions in physical altercations, reductions in office referrals and even saw an uptick in students reporting issues through school staff. We see what's happening with our kids and how they're struggling and we feel that it's worth it to try to be bolder in finding a solution.

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

A) Student Achievement Liaison Report

6.1 Student Achievement Liaison Report by Board Representative

Board Member Nancy Slattery presented the Student Achievement Liaison report as follows:

Northwest Local School District

- 20 students earned a writing score of 9 or 10 on Ohio’s End of Course Exam for English Language Arts. A score of 10 is the top score a student can earn and only a small percentage of Ohio students score at this level.

Sam Caudill	Aditi Wakchhalirai	Jessica Ernst
Kylie Geers	Austin Taulbee	Allison Gardineer
Ava Henschen	Job Wright	Samantha Able
Braylen Budke	Leia Meyer	Olivia Pegram
Brooke Schoenberger	Parker Sok Mercier	Cole Cooper
Estelle Armstrong	Reagan Lloyd	Michael Gilliland
Amora Higgins	Khanh Nhien Truong	

- 32 students earned a score of 5 on their AP exam. According to The College Board, approximately 12.5% of students across the world earn a score of 5, which is the highest score possible.

Abigail Abraham	Gracie Angelo	Grace Armstrong
Grace Armstrong	Steven Bidleman	Madison Bratfish
Jacob Byrne	Michael Casagrande	Ethan Cooper
Lily Diebold	Isabelle Frey	Natalie Greenwell
Kallab Hailu Abedbe	Ashley Heibel	Elliot Hoyes
Olivia Hoyes	Alayna Jones	Julian Kaufman
Layla Klotz	Shadrach Martini	Elise Maynus
Angelinna Moreno Fox	Lydia Maynus	Cade Ott
Raquel Rebelo Brito Aguiar	Ava Scherz	Yormann Rizal
Skylor Rezny-Tillmann	Nathan Senft	Adam Umanzor
Alexandra Zamora Gerdes	Ryan Wilson	

Houston Early Learning Center

- Teachers have been working to complete their Battelle Developmental Inventory (BDI) screenings this summer. Students are excited to show what they know and teachers are learning about their students in preparation for the school year.

Struble Elementary

- The 5th grade students were surprised with a “Glow Day” at the end of the school year to celebrate all of their hard work during the 4th quarter, especially during testing. Teachers Kate Triantos and Allison Lackner decked out their classrooms in neon and students worked to find text evidence with highlighters that glow under blacklight. Students also completed a glow-themed Math Escape Room and learned about bioluminescent animals in nature. They worked together in teams to complete a STEM challenge to see who could make the longest chain out of a single piece of neon paper.

Colerain Middle

- Student athlete Eli Bogan was the 2023-24 recipient of the Archie Griffin Award. The Griffin Award for Sportsmanship is given to one male athlete each year who displays integrity, leadership, a positive attitude, academic discipline, humility and volunteerism.

Pleasant Run Middle

- Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade had an opportunity to participate at Kings Island’s Festival of Music. This event gave select music ensembles the opportunity to perform at Kings Island. After their performance, each group received a participation plaque. The group received a Distinguished Rating from experienced adjudicators who listened, evaluated, and critiqued their performances.

B) Butler Tech Update

6.2 Butler Technology Update by Board Representative

Board Member Jim Detzel presented Butler Tech updates as follows:

We will look to schedule a future board meeting at one of the Butler Tech locations. Additional information to follow in the coming months.

C) Legislative Update

6.3 Legislative Update by Board Representative

Board Member Chris Heather presented legislative updates as follows:

The Ohio state legislature continues to be in summer recess.

Ohio's school voucher program continues to grow. In 2023 there were 68,000 students that took advantage of the program and that number increased to 124,000 students in 2024. That's the equivalent of 16 Northwest Local School Districts. The cost to the state has exceeded \$1 billion. The program is expected to continue growing.

7.0 PUBLIC PRESENTATION

A) Report from Any Employee Organization

7.1 Employee Comments

The Board President asked if there was a representative from any employee organization who wished to speak.

No employees were present to speak.

B) Community Communications

7.2 Community Comments

The Board President acknowledged audience members who completed a "Request to Address the Board" card and read the NWLSD Board Policy, Public Participation at Board Meetings (169.1), which can be viewed through the following link:

<http://go.boarddocs.com/oh/nwlsdhamiltonoh/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=CJML8T555E8f>

The Northwest Board of Education welcomes the opportunity to listen to Northwest Local School District resident's comments, suggestions, and concerns on educational issues. It is important to remember that the Board conducts the meetings in public, but the meetings are not public forums. The intent of the meetings is to allow the Board to complete needed business. Per Board Policy (169.1), each submission will be given three (3) minutes to speak on agenda items of any topic during "Community Comments." However, no more than fifteen (15) minutes will be devoted to public participation unless the Board votes unanimously to continue the discussion. No response to this submission will occur from any Board member or district

administration during this time. Once the fifteen (15) minutes' time frame is over, appropriate follow up by the district administration may occur at a later time if warranted.

Diana Herbe (Waycross Community Media): I was a teacher here in the seventies and early eighties, many years ago, but I'm here tonight as a representative for Waycross Community Media which provides public access to Greenhills, Forest Park, Springfield Township, Colerain Township, Northwest Schools, and Winton Woods Schools. I want to talk a little bit about some of our staff changeovers and also about some of the services Waycross provides. Earlier this year our former executive director Chip Bergquist retired and was replaced by government access coordinator Dana Gagnon. In March, longtime board President Joe Orndorff, who had served for 42 years, from the time that Waycross was created, decided to retire and the board graciously selected me as their new board president.

Waycross provides public access on four channels. One of them is the government channel which covers these meetings, as well as the meetings in the other jurisdictions and that's on Spectrum channel 43 and altafiber channel 85. The educational access channel covers all the sporting events and concerts in both this district and Winton Woods and can be found on Spectrum channel 4 and altafiber 854. The two public access channels can be found on Spectrum channels 8 and 15 and altafiber 850 and 851. These two channels cover a lot of the community events like Greenhills' Concerts on the Green and Forest Park's Party in the Park and Jazz in the Park which is coming up this Saturday at 6:00 pm at Central Park. It also includes programming that's created by students and citizens who attend workshops and create programs after receiving training from our professional staff and volunteers. What you may not know is that Waycross provides a lot of other services as well. In addition to the training, Waycross rents equipment to the public, hosts a summer camp workshop for students and maintains access to a huge programming archive dating back 40 years. We're here to provide access and help to you and your citizens. You can reach Waycross by calling (513) 825-2429 or by contacting us at info@waycross.org Much of our content is available to stream online at www.waycross.tv

8.0 APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT'S CONSENT ITEMS

8.1 Adoption of Superintendent's Consent Items

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education approve the adoption of the superintendent's consent items as listed.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Jim Detzel**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption of

Superintendent's consent items as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 5
Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

A) Personnel

8.2 Personnel Items

Acceptance of Classified Resignations and Retirements

Caldwell, Maria - CHS - MD Assistant
Effective: 7/31/2024 (Position Elsewhere)

Coyle, Joshua - PRMS - MD Assistant
Effective: 7/19/2024 (Personal)

Frankenstein, Holly - CHS - Cafe Assistant
Effective: 7/10/2024 (Declined Position)

Greene, Stephanie - HELC - Preschool MD Assistant
Effective: 8/1/2024 (Position Elsewhere)

Johnson, Koury - NWHS - ED Assistant
Effective: 07/12/2024 (Position in District)

Price, Barbara - Transportation - Van Driver
Effective: 6/6/2024 (Personal)

Schumacher, Elaine - NWHS - Office Personnel 4
Effective: 10/25/2024 (Retirement)

Tombragel, Gail - WOMS - Cafe Assistant
Effective: 07/16/2024 (Declined Position)

Wingerberg, Timothy - PRMS - Custodian II
Effective: 7/19/2024 (Deceased)

Acceptance of Certified Resignations and Retirements

Ferguson, Lindsey - CSO - Supervisor III
Effective: 7/19/2024 (Declined Position)

Miller, Kayla - NWHS - English
Effective: 7/15/2024 (Declined Position)

Page, Jacob - CHS - Band
Effective: 8/1/2024 (Personal)

Teague, Bobbie - PRE - Intervention Specialist
Effective: 8/1/2024 (Personal)

Approval of Extra Duty Resignations

Bowser, Maggie - NWHS - Yearbook Sponsor, Step 2
Effective: 6/30/2024

Page, Jacob - CHS - Band Director, Step 6
Effective: 6/30/2024

Page, Jacob - CHS - Spring Music Specialist
Effective: 6/30/2024

Page, Jacob - CHS - Winter Winds Instructor, Step 6
Effective: 6/30/2024

Approval of Classified Changes in Status

Miller, Nicholas - from Mechanic at Transportation, Step 14 to Head Mechanic at Transportation, Step 11
Effective: 7/11/2024

Rod, Daniel - from Study Hall Assistant at Colerain High School, Step 3 to ED Assistant at Transportation, Step 3
Effective: 8/12/2024

Wilson, Alexandra - from Cafeteria Assistant at Northwest High School, Step 4 to Preschool Assistant at Houston Early Learning Center, Step 3
Effective: 8/12/2024

Approval of Initial Classified Appointment

Brauer, Carly
Salary: Preschool MD Assistant, Step 5
Effective: 8/12/2024 (New Position)

Beske, Jamie
Salary: Non-Licensed Health Assistant, Step 4
Effective: 8/12/2024 (Replacement)

Busken, Rachel Salary: Cafe Assistant, Step 2 Effective: 8/14/2024	(Replacement)
Dassel, Darren Salary: MD Assistant, Step 5 Effective: 8/12/2024	(Replacement)
Davis, Tyeisha Salary: MD Assistant, Step 3 Effective: 8/12/2024	(Replacement)
Demu, Ganiat Salary: MD Assistant, Step 5 Effective: 8/12/2024	(New Position)
Fialko, Jill Salary: MD Assistant, Step 5 Effective: 8/12/2024	(Replacement)
Gilmore, Alexis Salary: Office Personnel 4, Step 4 Effective: 7/24/2024	(Replacement)
Glenn, Sarah Salary: MD Assistant, Step 3 Effective: 8/12/2024	(Replacement)
Hensler, Suzanne Salary: Cafe Assistant, Step 2 Effective: 8/12/2024	(Replacement)
Hernandez Mejia, Rita Salary: MD Assistant, Step 5 Effective: 8/12/2024	(Replacement)
Hill, Susan Salary: Intervention Assistant, Step 3 Effective: 8/12/2024	(Replacement)
Jouharizadeh, Joy Salary: MD Assistant, Step 5 Effective: 8/12/2024	(New Position)
Marra, Amanda Salary: Preschool MD Assistant, Step 5 Effective: 8/12/2024	(New Position)

Milligan, Rhiannon
Salary: MD Assistant, Step 5
Effective: 8/12/2024 (Replacement)

Neal, Lisa
Salary: Cafe Assistant, Step 2
Effective: 8/14/2024 (Replacement)

Riegsecker, Randy
Salary: Computer Technician, Step 5
Effective: 7/15/2024 (Replacement)

Rudd, Kathy
Salary: Cafe Assistant, Step 2
Effective: 8/14/2024 (Replacement)

Rust, Lynda
Salary: Cafe Assistant, Step 2
Effective: 8/14/2024 (Replacement)

Sheckles, Krystal
Salary: Cafe Assistant, Step 2
Effective: 8/14/2024 (Replacement)

Scott, Tierra
Salary: MD Assistant, Step 2
Effective: 8/12/2024 (New Position)

Tuggle, Gregory
Salary: Study Hall Assistant, Step 5
Effective: 8/12/2024 (Replacement)

Watson, Kamika
Salary: MD Assistant, Step 1
Effective: 8/12/2024 (Replacement)

Approval of Administrative Change in Status

Renneker, Andrew - from Assistant High School Principal, XC2-01, Step 6, (212 days) to Assistant High School Principal, XC2-01, Step 2, (212 days)
Effective: 8/1/2024 (Verification of Employment)

Approval of Administrative Extended Service Contract – Effective 7/15/2024

Renneker, Andrew - from 1 paid day in July at Administrative per diem, XC2-01, (212 days), Step 6 to 1 paid day in July at Administrative per diem, XC2-01, (212 days), Step 2

Approval of Certified Leaves of Absence

Kennedy, Chelsea - CHS - Intervention Specialist
Effective: 7/11/2024 (Continuous)

Moore, Amanda - TE - 1st Grade Teacher
Effective: 9/23/2024 (Continuous)

Approval of Initial Certified Appointments

Banasik, Stacey (Replacement)
Salary: Teacher, Master's + 45 with 10 years of experience, Step 11
Effective: 8/1/2024

Beall, Jennifer (Replacement)
Salary: Teacher, Master's with 6 years of experience, Step 7
Effective: 8/1/2024 Contingent upon issuance of a valid Ohio Teaching License

Casanova, Ciro (Replacement)
Salary: Teacher, Master's + 15 with 3 years of experience, Step 4
Effective: 8/1/2024 Contingent upon issuance of a valid Ohio Teaching License

Hicks, Liberty (Replacement)
Salary: Teacher, Bachelor's with 0 years of experience, Step 3
Effective: 8/1/2024

Larson, Elizabeth (Replacement)
Salary: Teacher, Bachelor's with 0 years of experience, Step 3
Effective: 8/1/2024

Moreland, Anne (Replacement)
Salary: Teacher, Master's with 10 years of experience, Step 11
Effective: 8/1/2024

Niangane, Binetou (Replacement)
Salary: Teacher, Bachelor's with 10 years of experience, Step 11
Effective: 8/1/2024 Contingent upon issuance of a valid Ohio Teaching License

O'Toole, Devan (Replacement)
Salary: Teacher, Master's with 5 years of experience, Step 6
Effective: 8/1/2024

Approval of Temporary Substitute Teachers

Johnson, Koury - WOMS - \$286.04 per day
Effective: 8/1/2024

Robson, Brandon - PRE - \$272.38 per day
Effective: 8/1/2024

Saunders, Corey - NWHS - \$286.04 per day
Effective: 8/1/2024

Approval of Non-Public Tutor 2024/2025

Kresyman, Lauren - Bachelor's, Step 10

Approval of Home Instructors

Braude, Cynthia
Woodward, Melinda

Approval of Extra Pay for Summer Evaluations at \$25.00 an hour – Effective 7/1/2024

Bibb, Lydia

Approval of Extra Duty Contracts for 2024-25 Effective 7/1/2024

Colerain High School

Band Director - Elizabeth Larson, Step 1
Yearbook Sponsor - Maggie Bowser, Step 3 (revised)
Assistant Varsity Football Coach (½) - Joey Newton, Step 1
Assistant Varsity Football Coach (½) - DeAnte Smith-Moore, Step 1

Colerain Middle School

Secondary Building Leadership Team Member - Timothy Hester, Step 1
Secondary Building Leadership Team Member - Lori Temple-Davis, Step 1
7th/8th Grade Boys Golf Coach - Madison Kelley, Step 1
7th/8th Grade Girls Golf Coach - Madison Kelley, Step 1

Northwest High School

Head Varsity Volleyball Coach - Danielle Mahaffey, Step 5

Approval of Summer Music Assistants for 2024-25

Terrell, Barbara - NWHS

Approval of Summer Music Leader for 2024-25

Landers, Rachel - CHS

Approval of Summer Music Specialists for 2024-25

Dodd, Hiram - CHS

Picchioni, Elyssa - CHS

Rohrig, Lindsey - NWHS

Smith, Madison - NWHS

Terrell, Barbara - CHS

Whittle, Brianna - NWHS

Approval of Fall Music Specialists for 2024-25

Dodd, Hiram - CHS

Smith, Madison - NWHS

Terrell, Barbara - CHS

Whittle, Brianna - NWHS

Resolution (#2437) to Hire for Non-Licensed Coaches Effective 7/1/2024

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the positions of:

Assistant Band Director - CHS

7/8th Grade Football Coach - PRMS

7/8th Grade Football Coach - WOMS

7/8th Grade Volleyball Coach - CMS

9th Grade Football Coach - CHS

Assistant Varsity Girls Tennis Coach - CHS

WHEREAS, the positions have been offered to the current employees of the Northwest Local School District who have a license issued under Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code and no such person whom the Board of Education considers to be qualified for the positions has applied for and accepted the positions; and

WHEREAS, the positions have been advertised as available to any individual not employed by the Northwest Local School District who has a license issued under Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, and no such person whom the Board of Education considers to be qualified for the positions has applied for and accepted the positions; and

WHEREAS,

Graef, Elizabeth - CHS - Assistant Varsity Girls Tennis Coach, Step 1
Perry, Jerome - PRMS - 7/8th Grade Football Coach, Step 6
Terrell, Barbara - CHS - Assistant Band Director, Step 2
Thomas Jr., Bartley - CHS - 9th Grade Football Coach, Step 1
Turner, Steven - WOMS - 7/8th Grade Football Coach, Step 1
White, Paul - CMS - 7/8th Grade Volleyball Coach, Step 2

who do not hold licenses issued pursuant to Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, have applied for the positions, and the Board of Education has determined that he/she is qualified for the positions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that they be employed in the positions for the 2024-2025 school year in accordance with the pupil activity contract attached hereto and incorporated herein.

IT IS FOUND AND DETERMINED that all formal action of this Board concerning or related to the adoption of this Resolution was adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were adopted in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all applicable requirements of the Ohio Revised Code.

Discussion

- **Mr. Gilbert:** I made a referral to somebody who was possibly interested in working here and she went through the interview process, but didn't get the job here in the district. She later got a call back offering her a special education job and she's not licensed to do that. Can you walk me through how somebody that's not licensed can do a job that, for all I know, requires a license?

Ms. Bunte: Yes, given the teacher shortage in the state and across the country right now, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has created what is considered alternate pathways. We have several teachers using these alternate pathways, one of which is a supplemental endorsement where you're licensed as a teacher in a given area and then you essentially tack on a license through additional coursework. The state allows you to teach in that area while taking the coursework. You have two years in which to complete the courses and that's considered a supplemental license; you're adding it to an existing license.

- **Mr. Heather:** There was a law that was passed where non-teachers/non-certified people with advanced degrees that knew the topic that they were going to be teaching could be qualified to teach. Have you had any applicants from that group?

Ms. Bunte: Not necessarily through that program, but we've had people come through on alternate pathways similar to the supplemental endorsement process. It's different however because these individuals are people who may have an undergrad degree in math or an undergrad degree in chemistry and they'll have three or four years to complete required

educational coursework. They're required to pass a certain number of tests, it's a seven-step process. At the conclusion of the seven steps they are able to achieve licensure. We have several people in that situation, who have worked in industry or have degrees not necessarily related to education, who have come into the workforce and we are incredibly thankful for them.

B) General Business

8.3 Resolution (#2433) to Accept Bus Stops

BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwest Local School District approves all bus stops assigned and maintained in the transportation office, as attached.

The attachment containing the full list of bus stops can be viewed as an online attachment in ESB.

8.4 Vendor Contracts

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
Best Point - Education & Behavioral Health	1 year	\$100,000	Support and strengthen mental health and wellness for children and families.
Beech Acres Parenting Center	1 year	\$60,000	Counseling services at Our Lady of Grace
Northwest LSD - we are paying Princeton CS	1 year	\$871.38	Title I services provided to NWLSD students attending St. Gabriel
Northwest LSD - we are paying Finneytown LSD	1 year	\$3,485.53	Title I services provided to NWLSD students attending St. Vivian School
Northwest LSD - we are paying CPS	1 year	\$34,855.28	Title I services provided to NWLSD students attending: Cinti Hills Otto-Armleder, Clifton Christian, Corryville Catholic, NewPath Elem, St. Boniface, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Francis de Sales, St. Mary, The Children's Home, Universal Muslim Academy

Winton Woods City Schools	1 year	\$980.00	Title I services provided to WWCS students attending St. John
Winton Woods City Schools	1 year	\$490.00	Title I services provided to WWCS students attending St. Ignatius
Winton Woods City Schools	1 year	\$1,470.00	Title I services provided to WWCS students attending Our Lady of Grace School
Navigate 360	1 year	\$3,500.00	Service and support for behavioral intervention for students
Waycross Community Media	3 years	\$21,000.00	Broadcast school board meeting.
St. Rita School for the Deaf	1 year	\$24,412.50	Tuition for 24-25 school year
Cincinnati Public Schools	1 year	\$87,811.49	Title I services provided to CPS students attending: St. Bernard, St. Ignatius, St. John & Our Lady of Grace Schools -- they pay us
Best Point	1 year	\$150/day - \$295/day	Tuition
Butler County ESC - Beckett Springs	1 year	\$70/day	Education for students at Beckett
Union Day/BCESC	1 year	\$47,500.00	Tuition
Yondr	1 year	\$77,869.90*	Cell phone pouches for high school students. (*funds from Title IV grant and re-allocated district funds)
Hear 2 Heal The Musical	1 week	\$0.00	Use of property for filming & recording

*Additional cost to the current fiscal year's July 1st budget.
Paid for Auxiliary or Federal Non-Public grant monies.*

8.5 Resolution (#2434) Authorizing Superintendent to Make Determination of Impracticability

WHEREAS, the Northwest Local School District Board of Education (the “Board”) is empowered by the Ohio Revised Code to declare student transportation impractical; and

WHEREAS, for the purpose of efficient and good management of the schools and pursuant to R.C. 3327.01, the Board wishes to assign to the Superintendent the ability to make determinations that student transportation is impractical, which will be formalized by the Board at a meeting following such determinations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE Northwest Local School District, as follows:

Section 1

After considering individual data relevant to each particular situation and analyzing the factors outlined in R.C. 3327.02, the Superintendent is authorized to determine that transporting a student(s) is/are impractical. Such determinations shall be subject to formalization at the next following meeting of the Board.

Section 2

IT IS FOUND AND DETERMINED that all formal actions of this Board concerning or related to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were adopted in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all applicable requirements of the Ohio Revised Code.

9.0 APPROVAL OF FISCAL CONSENT ITEMS

9.1 Adoption of Fiscal Consent Items

The Treasurer recommended the Board of Education approve the adoption of fiscal consent items as listed.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jim Detzel**) Moved, Member (**Chris Heather**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Treasurer recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption of fiscal consent items as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbeet	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

9.2 Minutes - Regular Board Meeting - June 12, 2024

The minutes may be viewed on the ESB online attachment with today’s date.

9.3 Minutes - Regular Board Meeting - June 24, 2024

The minutes may be viewed on the ESB online attachment with today’s date

9.4 Minutes - Special Board Meeting- July 10, 2024

The minutes may be viewed on the ESB online attachment with today’s date.

9.5 Financial Reports of the Treasurer

In accordance with Section 3313.29 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio, record needs to be made that the Treasurer submitted a financial statement of receipts, expenditures, balances and investments in the regular funds of the Board of Education for the period of the fiscal year 2024.

Monthly Finance and Investment Report - June 2024

All Funds Balance - \$89,317,116

General Fund Unreserved Balance - \$25,848.215

	FYTD Actual	Estimate	%
Revenues	\$112,972,189	\$110,683,477	102%
Expenditures	\$130,823,876	\$135,955,679	96%

Investment weighted average return – 4.62%

List of monthly bills - routine, as well as, textbooks, water/sewer line project, preschool playground, and auxiliary/grant fund payments.

9.6 Approval of Change Funds for FY25

The treasury department requested approval of the following athletic and food service change funds for the 2024-25 school year.

Location	Custodian	Amount
Colerain High School Athletics	Matt Stoinoff	\$1000.00
Northwest High School Athletics	Lee Johnson	\$500.00
Colerain Middle School Athletics	Tracy Adkins	\$300.00
Pleasant Run Middle School Athletics	Danny Hoard	\$200.00
White Oak Middle School Athletics	David Roy	\$200.00
Food Service	Lisa Robison	\$100.00

10.0 APPROVAL OF OTHER ITEMS

10.1 2024-25 Textbook Adoption - Grade 5 Science

The Curriculum Department, in collaboration with the fifth grade teachers, recommended the adoption of Ohio Interactive Science for the 2024-25 school year.

Ohio Interactive Science

Publisher: SAVVAS

ISBN #978-1-323-20813-7

(c) 2017

**Adoption includes digital access to Elevate Science, the newest product that aligns to Next Generation Science Standards.*

An opportunity for parents to preview the resource and provide feedback was provided on June 24th.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Jim Detzel**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends Board of Education approve the "Ohio Interactive Science" textbook adoption as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

10.2 2024-25 New MS Elective Courses for Transitions Academy

The instructional team and administrator at Transitions Academy requested that the following elective online courses be made available for middle school students beginning with the 2024-25 school year:

Online Learning and Digital Citizenship (Grades 6-8)

Computer Science (Grades 6-8)

Health Quest (Grades 6-7)

Course Abstracts are attached for each of these courses. All three of these courses already exist within our Online Learning platform (Edgenuity), which has previously been approved by the Board of Education, and with approval will be activated for use by teachers and students at Transitions Academy beginning with the 2024-25 school year.

An opportunity for parents to preview the resource and provide feedback was provided on June 24th.

Discussion:

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** How is the transition to online going for Transitions Academy?

Mr. Yater: Current Transitions Academy administrator, Andrew (Renneker), and former administrator, Cristen (Casteel), are having a lot of meetings about what the transition is going to look like. We'll be communicating the changes with families to try to make sure that everyone is informed about what's going on. With some of the adjustments of the CSO construction schedule, we'll still be able to have a blended model for next school year with some in-person learning. The 2024-25 school year will be more of a transition year to the fully online model, with this year will be a step down model.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** One concern I have is kids who are not expected to be able to be home by themselves all day (learning online).

Mr. Yater: Our middle school students are already front loaded so that even when we go online they will have more in-person than high school. This year, we'll be able to maintain mostly in-person learning for the majority of our middle school kids as well.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Have we thought about the ability for them to come and get food each week?

Mr. Yater: Yes, our food service department, through the pandemic and over the summer, run a summer food program so they can always connect with the food services program for meals.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jim Detzel**) Moved, Member (**Chris Heather**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The superintendent recommends the approval of the Transitions Academy online courses as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

10.3 2024-25 Fee Revision

The Curriculum Department requested approval of the revised 2024-25 Fee List. The revisions include an elementary school fee revision and the addition of a \$25.50 Yondr pouch replacement fee to the high school fee list.

The attachment containing the full list of fees can be viewed as an online attachment in ESB.

Discussion:

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Do those have to be sent off for repair like we do with the Chromebooks or is there someone on site who can fix them?

Mr. Yater: If they're being replaced because they're completely damaged then they'll be replaced. If it's able to be repaired with a minor adjustment we can do that internally, otherwise we just have to pay for a new bag.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jim Detzel**) Moved, Member (**Chris Heather**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption of 2024-25 free revision as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

10.4 2024-25 Handbook & Code of Conduct Revisions

The Student Services department requested approval of the Handbook and Code of Conduct revisions for the 2024-25 school year to update the language around the cell phones, as discussed.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jim Detzel**) Moved, Member (**Chris Heather**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption of 2024-25 handbook and code of conduct revisions as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

10.5 Golden Pass Discount Pricing SY24-25

The superintendent requested approval for the SY 24-25 event pricing for the Senior Golden Pass. High school sporting events (that require ticketing) will be \$5 and the price for middle school sporting events (that require ticketing) will be \$2.00. The Senior Golden Pass is for individuals who are 65 years of age or older.

Discussion:

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** The Board has talked about having some type of free lifetime pass for retired teachers, is something like that in the works?

Mr. Yater: Yes, we're working on that process but there are still details to work out like how to go back and get it to the folks who have already left.

Mr. Heather: Around 20 years ago there was a veterans pass, has there been any discussion about bringing that back?

Mr. Yater: There hasn't, but as we continue to have discussions about the senior pass and the retired teacher/staff pass we can talk about bringing back the veterans pass as well.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Nancy Slattery**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve the adoption of Golden Pass discount pricing SY 24-25 as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

11.0 APPROVAL OF FISCAL ITEMS

11.1 Accept the FY24 Final Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources

The Treasurer requested that the Board approve the acceptance of the FY24 Final Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources for \$250,678,493.16 as approved by the Hamilton County Budget Commission.

The attachment containing the full certificate can be viewed as an online attachment in ESB.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jim Detzel**) Moved, Member (**Nancy Slattery**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Treasurer recommends the Board of Education approve the acceptance of the FY24 final amended certificate of estimated resources as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbeet	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

11.2 Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for FY25

The Treasurer requested that the Board approve the acceptance of the Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for FY25 for \$223,548,709.61 as approved by the Hamilton County Budget Commission.

The attachment containing the full certificate can be viewed as an online attachment in ESB.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Jim Detzel)** Moved, Member **(Chris Heather)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Treasurer recommends the Board of Education approve the acceptance of the official certificate of estimated resources for FY25 as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbeet	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

11.3 Resolution (#2435) authorizing the Board of Education to transfer funds in order to finance, in part, a classroom facilities project and to enter into a project agreement with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 2435

Resolution authorizing the Board of Education of the Northwest Local School District to transfer funds in order to finance, in part, a classroom facilities project for the construction of a new elementary school in conjunction with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and to enter into a project agreement with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission

WHEREAS, on July 11, 2024, the Controlling Board of the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (“OFCC”) provided formal approval and acceptance of the School District into the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program – Segment 1 (“CFAP”), pursuant to Chapter 3318 of the Ohio Revised Code, whereby OFCC will contribute a portion of the cost of a co-funded CFAP Project (as defined herein) for the benefit of the School District;

WHEREAS, the co-funded Project consists of the following: construction of one new elementary school to house grades PK through 5; and an allowance to abate and demolish Colerain and Houston Elementary Schools, as further described in the OFCC approval (collectively, the “CFAP Project”);

WHEREAS, the prior expenditure of certain moneys on certain prior capital expenditures of the School District will be recognized by OFCC as a credit to the CFAP Project, which credit (approximately \$65,412,135) will be applied by OFCC to the cost of the CFAP Project in conjunction with additional funding from OFCC (approximately \$22,381,779) for the CFAP Project (collectively, the “OFCC Contribution”);

WHEREAS, in addition to the OFCC Contribution, the School District is required to contribute a “local share” of approximately \$13,941,445 (the “Local Contribution”) towards the CFAP Project;

WHEREAS, this Board of Education desires to provide the School District’s Local Contribution by transferring funds currently in the 004 Building Fund (the “Building Fund”) to 44835354 DS BNR/cab
2 a newly created 010 Project Construction Fund (the “Project Construction Fund”), which Project Construction Fund is required to be established for all projects in CFAP, such as the CFAP Project;

WHEREAS, in addition, this Board of Education desires to enter into an agreement with OFCC whereby the rights and responsibilities of the School District and OFCC, as such relate to the co-funded CFAP Project, are identified in such agreement (the “Project Agreement”), a form of which Project Agreement is utilized statewide and is on file with OFCC;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, COUNTIES OF HAMILTON AND BUTLER, OHIO, THAT:

SECTION 1. The School District is hereby authorized to create a Project Construction Fund for purposes of depositing the School District’s Local Contribution for purposes of financing the CFAP Project.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to Sections 5705.14(B), 3318.08(B) and (E), and 3318.084(A)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code, as applicable, this Board of Education hereby authorizes and approves the transfer of the School District’s Local Contribution from the Building Fund to the Project Construction Fund for purposes of financing the CFAP Project and satisfying one or more of the conditions within the Project Agreement.

SECTION 3. The President of this Board of Education and the Treasurer of this Board of Education, individually or collectively, are hereby authorized to execute the Project Agreement once it has been presented to the School District in final form.

SECTION 4. The President of this Board of Education, the Treasurer of this Board of

Education, and the Superintendent of the School District, individually or in any combination, are hereby authorized to undertake actions in furtherance of the transferring of funds and the execution of the Project Agreement, each as authorized herein.

SECTION 5. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of Education concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board of Education, and that all deliberations of this Board of Education and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including R.C. Section 121.22.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jim Detzel**) Moved, Member (**Nancy Slattery**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Treasurer recommends the Board of Education approve resolution authorizing the the Board of Education to transfer funds in order to finance, in part, a classroom facilities project and enter into a project agreement with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

11.4 Resolution (#2436) pledging and transferring one half of one mill from the permanent improvement fund to the half-mill maintenance tax fund

RESOLUTION NO. 2436

Resolution pledging and transferring one half of one mill of inside millage currently authorized for permanent improvement use from the school district’s permanent improvement fund to the district’s half mill maintenance tax fund

WHEREAS, on July 11, 2024, the Controlling Board of the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (“OFCC”) provided formal approval and acceptance of the School District into the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program – Segment 1 (“CFAP”), pursuant to Chapter 3318 of the Ohio Revised Code, whereby OFCC will contribute a portion of the cost of a co-funded CFAP project for the benefit of the School District; and

WHEREAS, in order for an Ohio school district to participate in CFAP with the OFCC, it is necessary to dedicate one half of one mill for 23 years for purposes of maintaining classroom facilities financed as part of CFAP in accordance with Chapter 3318 of the Ohio Revised Code (the “Half-Mill Maintenance Tax Requirement”); and

WHEREAS, this Board of Education of the School District previously transferred and dedicated a total of two-mills of inside millage for permanent improvement use for a continuing period of time, as permitted by Section 5705.314 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Education desires to utilize one half of one mill from the two mills of inside millage previously transferred in order to satisfy the Half-Mill Maintenance Requirement (the “Dedicated Half-Mill Revenues”) and to deposit the Dedicated Half-Mill Revenues into a maintenance tax fund (034 Fund) (the “Maintenance Tax Fund”) in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 3318 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, the School District desires to establish the Maintenance Tax Fund and to transfer, and thereafter pledge and deposit, the Dedicated Half-Mill Revenues from its permanent improvement fund to its Maintenance Tax Fund for purposes of complying with the Half-Mill Maintenance Requirement in accordance with Section 3318.051 of the Ohio Revised Code; 44837503 DS BNR/cab 2

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Northwest Local School District, Counties of Hamilton and Butler, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Board of Education is hereby authorized to establish a Maintenance Tax Fund for the aforesaid purposes.

SECTION 2. This Board of Education hereby authorizes, approves, and pledges the use of the Dedicated Half-Mill Revenues for purposes of satisfying the 23-year Half-Mill Maintenance Tax Requirement in conjunction with the CFAP project under Chapter 3318 of the Ohio Revised Code and the policies of the OFCC, relating to CFAP approval.

SECTION 3. This Board of Education hereby authorizes and directs the Treasurer of the Board of Education to transfer (or to provide for the transfer) of the Dedicated Half-Mill Revenues from the School District’s permanent improvement fund (the 003 Fund) to the School District’s Maintenance Tax Fund (the 034 Fund) for a minimum period of 23 years in order to comply with the requirements of CFAP, Chapter 3318 of the Ohio Revised Code, and the policies of the OFCC. Further, in order to satisfy the Half-Mill Maintenance Tax Requirement in connection with the CFAP project, the School District hereby authorizes the use of the Dedicated Half-Mill Revenues in connection with the CFAP project, and the School District hereby authorizes application of the Dedicated Half-Mill Revenues to the CFAP project in accordance with the terms of a project agreement to be entered into between the School District and OFCC.

SECTION 4. The President of this Board of Education, the Treasurer of the Board of Education, and the Superintendent of the School District, individually or in any combination, are hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary actions on behalf of this Board of Education to implement this resolution, including entering into a project agreement with the OFCC and certification of this resolution to the appropriate county auditors.

SECTION 5. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of Education concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board of Education, and that all deliberations of this Board of Education, and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, and the rules of this Board of Education adopted in accordance therewith.

SECTION 6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption..

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Jim Detzel**) Moved, Member (**Chris Heather**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education approve of the resolution pledging and transferring one half of one mill from the permanent improvement fund to the half-mill maintenance tax fund as listed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

12.0 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND OR DISCUSSION

A) Personnel

12.1 2024-25 Transportation Employee Handbook

The 2024-25 Transportation Employee Handbook was presented for information by the Human Resources Department.

The handbook can be viewed as an online attachment on ESB with today’s date. The handbooks will be presented for approval at the next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting.

13.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

13.1 Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent's Update was presented by Darrell Yater as follow:

I want to give a special thank you to our first responders. Last week we were able to do a critical incident training at one of our buildings. We had Colerain Township police and fire, and the Hamilton County communications center participate. It allowed us to really test systems, run protocols, and get feedback. We had over 50 staff who volunteered to be there so they could experience what they've been trained to do and give us feedback in specific situations on how that's working. It was an amazing day, our first responders are amazing and we can't thank them enough for bringing everyone together and running scenarios so we can make sure that in a real crisis situation everyone who needs to communicate is communicating and maintaining safety. As part of the process, after each critical incident scenario we put someone different in front of tv cameras as a mock press conference to give people that experience, with the adrenaline flowing, of talking through it in an appropriate way for the public. Waycross brought in some tv cameras so that staff members could really feel what it's like to be in front of cameras with lights and microphones. A lot of partners came together to make sure that we were able to test systems and that we're as prepared as possible if, God forbid, something were to happen in the future.

We're continuing to debrief, gather feedback and process everything that we've learned. We're going to have debriefing sessions with our first responders to make sure that we're cross referencing and throughout the year new learnings will be shared through our staff meetings so that everyone stays informed if we have to make changes to protocols. We want what we learned to continue to inform our safety protocols and procedures as we move forward. It was an amazing event and we've already talked about what we will do at next year's training so that we can continue to grow in our safety and security measures.

Some important dates are coming up. August 2nd there is a classified hiring fair here at the central office from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Bus drivers, classroom assistants and food service positions are all available. Walk-ins are welcome. On August 7th we have our Back to School Health and Safety Fair. In the past, we've always done it at the mall, but this year we're hosting the Health and Safety Fair at Northwest High School. We're going to be using various parts of the building to make sure that we can get all of our families in to do all the same things that we've always done: the dental checks, medical screenings, haircuts, and free backpacks and school supplies. The entire event will still go on as it always has just in a new location. It will be August 7th from 9:00 to noon at Northwest High School.

As we get closer to August, it is getting closer to the first day of school. We will welcome students back on the 19th and 20th for our phase-in days. More communication will be coming from the buildings about those phase-ins but we are excited to welcome kids back beginning August 19th to start another great year.

Discussion:

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** About a month ago I brought up an idea about using the bricks from Colerain Elementary School for a fundraising project. Somebody had presented it to me and I thought it was a good idea. Since then we've seen people on Facebook posting that they're taking bricks from the dumpsters. Is there any progress on possibly making that into a fundraiser?

Mr. Yater: Yes, we actually held a bunch of bricks back and locked them away. The bricks that were in the dumpsters were supposed to be hauled away but apparently they loaded them too full and they couldn't take them right away. They had to bring in another dumpster and off-load some to get them out of there. We're working with the boosters to see if it's something they'd be interested in doing as a fundraiser and also working through some other groups if they wanted to use them as a fundraiser.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** Talawanda School District has officially announced that they're leaving the SWOC (Southwest Ohio Conference). What is the plan for Northwest athletics?

Mr. Yater: Talawanda has said that they're leaving so as of now that leaves three districts in the SWOC. The SWOC executive committee is meeting this fall to continue to talk about what the next steps are in terms of growing the league or merging the league. Those conversations are happening right now but no decision has been made.

14.0 OTHER BOARD ITEMS

14.1 Board Members' Comments

Mr. Heather: I wanted to say how pleased I am with the work done at Colerain High School at the flagpole plaza. It looks so much better and I think that was money well spent. I encourage everybody to go over and take a look, it really creates a much better first impression for people walking up the steps into Colerain High School.

Mr. Detzel: I want to thank Diana (Herbe) from Waycross. Thank you for giving us that information. I also want to thank Erin (Davis), Alex (Shrewsberry), and Jake (Kuhnline). You guys did a good job explaining all that and I know there's going to be some push back and there'll be some hurdles that you're going to have to jump over but I think it's going to be something positive. It may take six months but I think it'll work out, so good job.

Ms. Slattery: I'm very excited about the Yondr program. Somewhere I read that the average teenager gets 150 notifications in an hour so I don't know how they focus on anything. I think this will really be a big step in the right direction. It was also a pleasure to get to see the new administrators and put a face with the name.

Mr. Gilbert: I'd like to welcome Jake and everyone else who was introduced tonight. There are a lot of new faces.

Mrs. Taulbee: I'm excited to start the school year and want to remind parents to go online and elect your transportation. You do have to go online and say if you need bus transportation or not. You also need to go online and update your student information. I'm excited to see everyone at the Back to School Fair at Northwest. I see kinks being worked out every day on the new website so hopefully it is going well and will continue to be a success.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

1.1 Board President Called for Adjournment

The Board President asked for a motion and second for adjournment.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Nancy Slattery**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Board President recommends to adopt the agenda as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried 5 - 0**

Nicole Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

The meeting ended at 7:59 PM.

Agenda item attachments are saved in PDF format and are viewable by the public. Waycross community media video tapes Board meetings. Taped meetings are available on-line at www.waycross.tv

President

Attest

Treasurer