



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Monday, January 22, 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: 4 Guests

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 (**Mark Gilbert**) 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 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

A) Student Achievement Liaison Report

5.1 Student Achievement Liaison Report by Board Representative

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

Colerain Middle School

- 55 students were recognized with a special breakfast at the CMS cardinal cafe. Students earned this opportunity through PBIS points.

Kennadi Roper	Ndeye Aida Diop	Raul Perez Aguilon
Mia Mattan	Zavion Keinath	Rylan Behrmann
Aayden Thomas	Elijah Phillips	Ky Ree Williams
Jonathan Lawson	Rhyli Bostick	Sayonna Rivera Williams
Braelyn Dunnom	London Greene	Christopher Lawson
Jayla Armstrong	Aryana Forte	Cali Clippard
Elyana Hines	Maci Trotter	Alejandra Cruz
Aliviah Jones	Ivana Amenuvor	Ka Mya Starks
Kirsten Moore	Rashad Robinson	Caleb Craig
Aaliyah Keith	Landyn Miller	Cathrine Udry
Kristopher Zieger	La Mya Williams Pugh	Rico Taylor
Ta Mela Ledford	Trinity Irvin	Dylan Maddock
Evan Young	Ezariyah Robinson White	Katie Gill

Liliana Linder	Ariana Dunlevy	Brooklyn Brown
Jessica Lehn	Kyle Jewell	Tyler Collins
Hayley Freel	Nicholas Sprecker	Dontae Williams
DeMylho Hendley	Alexandria Logan	Chloe Burkard
Lloyd Dixon	Ellie Lawson	Kylie Geers
Andrew Bishop		

Struble Elementary

- The following 5th Grade Art Club students submitted entries into the PTA reflection programs:

Catelyn Runck	Samantha Burkhart	Cameron Cox
Serenity Johnson	Timothy Lawson	

Timothy Lawson received an honorable mention for his artwork in the district level of the competition.

- Struble Elementary hosted a Multicultural Presentation Event on November 15th. The students' parents were invited to the building to see students share their work.. This event allowed students to showcase what they learned about their culture. Each student put together a powerpoint presentation. The powerpoint slides showed examples of cultural foods, dance, songs, environment, traditions, and languages. Some students added to their presentation by performing a cultural dance, song, and speaking in their native language. The Multicultural Club, led by Mrs. Diana Israel, consists of the following students:

Aiden Burke	Adriayana Nance	London Gardenhire
Chase Stoyko	Timothy Lawson	Hailie Swafford
Abraham Rojas	Amy Seck	LeeAni Lackey
McKenzie Sujka	Xavier Dawson	Aubriella Reisenberg
Ruby Praechter	Cameron Hunter	Santino Strader

Braytyn Stockhoff

Maryam Lutfieh

Dallas Inman

Asher Ranford

Montfort Heights Elementary

MHE hosted their annual Spelling Bee for 4th and 5th graders on Friday, January 5th. The contest went 17 rounds and they were able to name a first, second and third place winner. Kaitlyn Schoenberger was the winner and will go on to compete in the online regional competition in the next couple weeks.

B) Butler Tech Update

5.2 Butler Technology Update by Board Representative

Board Member Jim Detzel presented Butler Tech updates as follows:

It's time for students to sign up for the classes they're looking for. They have another week to go.

The Auto Collision Program was closed because there were no students interested in taking it. They will repurpose Auto Collision to Welding for another 50 students..

The Aviation expansion will open August 2026 in Hook Field Middletown.

C) Legislative Update

5.3 Legislative Update by Board Representative

Board Member Chris Heather presented legislative updates as follows:

A group of Ohio State lawmakers introduced Bill HB38, sponsored by Republican Bill Seitz, which will give students cash rewards for high attendance, good grades, and successful graduation. This would reward kindergarteners, ninth graders, and those who graduate high school. These awards include, for example, \$250 to every participating student who graduates high school; \$500 if they graduate with a 3.0 GPA. For kindergarteners and ninth graders, \$150 at the end of each quarter for those who have an attendance rate of 90% or higher. They're going to start with a pilot program in 2024. The cost from the Department of Education would be, this is only two schools, up to \$250,000 in 2024. In Ohio there's only 3,136 public schools, so if they're only doing a quarter of them, that's 784 times a quarter million, that comes out to \$98 million. Participating schools must have chronic absenteeism in the highest quarter in the state, so that's how you qualify to be in that top quarter. All schools must have a participating group, and then a control group, so they can compare to see

what the benefits are. The good news is that the bill has not passed the House. It's only in committee.

Discussion:

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** School districts need money, but vouchers and kindergarteners get this?

Mr. Heather: Ninth graders and kindergarteners.

6.0 PUBLIC PRESENTATION

A) Report from Any Employee Organization

6.1 Aspiring Leaders

The Aspiring Leaders Program was established to serve as a pipeline of development for future administrators. It is to network with teachers who have expressed interest in leadership roles and provide them with various opportunities. Susan Bunte, Director of Human Resources, introduced the Aspiring Leaders Program. She also read a statement from Kelsey Fredrick, a teacher at Colerain High School, about her experience in the program.

Amy Ludmann and Victoria Case, teachers at Colerain Middle School, were introduced and presented their experience as part of the program.

Discussion:

- **Mr. Yater:** Thank you for sharing your experiences and being part of the cohort. They actually sold themselves short because they applied and were accepted into it. There was leadership already seen in them before they actually got to that point. Kudos for taking the step.

- **Mr. Gilbert:** Are you assigned a mentor?

Ms. Ludmann: I think Susan is mentoring all of us. There's only six or seven of us; it's a very small group.

- **Mrs. Taulbee:** How long is the program that you guys are in?

Ms. Bunte: One year.

Mrs. Taulbee: On top of everything else you guys do.

Ms. Ludmann: It's been great.

B) Community Communications

6.2 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.

No one was present to speak.

7.0 APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT’S CONSENT ITEMS

7.1 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 (**Mark Gilbert**) 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

7.2 Personnel Items

Acceptance of Classified Resignations and Retirements

Bittner, Gayle – Transportation – Bus Driver
Effective: 3/1/2024 (Retirement)

Brooks (Rampello) Katheryn – SE – MD Assistant
Effective: 1/11/2024 (Personal)

Howard, Markita – Transportation – Bus Driver
Effective: 12/14/2023 (Personal)

Acceptance of Administrative Resignation and Retirement

Hall, Nadia – NWHS – Principal
Effective: 5/24/2024 (Personal)

Approval of Extra Duty Resignations

Bowling, Shannon – NWHS – Assistant Varsity Volleyball Coach, Step 4
Effective: 06/30/2024

Harrison, Jovonta – CHS – Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Step 5
Effective: 06/30/2024

McCurry, Kristi – CHS – Assistant Varsity Softball Coach, Step 6
Effective: 06/30/2023

Nelson, Brandon – WOMS – 7/8th Grade Track Coach, Step 2
Effective: 06/30/2023

Approval of Initial Classified Appointments

Douget, Brooke
Salary: MD Assistant, Step 2
Effective: 1/17/2024 (Replacement)

Hedges, Cheyanne
Salary: Cafe Assistant, Step 2
Effective: 1/23/2024 (Replacement)

Wynn, Brandon
Salary: Bus Driver, Step 1
Effective: 1/9/2024 (Replacement)

Approval of Casual Substitute Bus Driver at \$21.00 per hour

Schmidt, Gene

Approval of Classified Change in Status

Sharpe, Richard - from Bus Driver, Step 1, \$21.00 per hour to Bus Driver, Step 2,
\$21.42
Effective: 1/11/2024 (Verified Experience)

Approval of After School Tutoring at \$25.00 an hour Effective – 1/2/2024

Boner, Kristen	Jones, Angela
Brown, Ross	McMillian, Stephanie
Frey, Tamara	Muddiman, Anne
Hammersmith, Lauren	Ponting, Tanya
Haskin, Christie	Yelton, Jessica

Approval of Certified Leaves of Absence

Van Horn, Cara – CMS – Science
Effective: 1/9/2024 (Family & Medical Leave)

Williamson, Jason – Transitions – Math
Effective: 11/27/2023 (Family & Medical Leave)

Wooldridge, Sheri – CHS – Intervention Specialist
Effective: 1/4/2024 (Family & Medical Leave)

Approval of Classified Leave of Absence

Erhardt, Maria – CE – Office Personnel IV
Effective: 1/16/2024 (Family & Medical Leave)

Approval of Extra Duty Contracts for 2023-24 Effective 7/1/2023

Colerain High School

Assistant Varsity Softball Coach – Rachael May, Step 6

Assistant Varsity Softball Coach – Kelsey Warman, Step 3
Assistant Varsity Track Coach – Justin Beers, Step 6
Assistant Varsity Track Coach – Kimberly Shay, Step 3
Head Varsity Softball Coach – Emily Schwaeble, Step 6
Head Varsity Boys Tennis Coach – Whitney Lonnemann, Step 6
Head Varsity Boys Track Coach – Delano Allen Jr., Step 6

Colerain Middle School

7/8th Grade Track Coach – Tracy Adkins, Step 6
7/8th Grade Track Coach – Patrick Albrinck, Step 6
7/8th Grade Track Coach – Marc Knott, Step 6
7/8th Grade Track Coach – Nathan McKillip, Step 6

Resolution (#2406) to Hire for Non-Licensed Coaches Effective 7/1/2023

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the positions of:

Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach – CHS
Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach (½) – CHS
Assistant Varsity Track Coaches – CHS Head Varsity Girls Track 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 have 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,

Anderson, Zyair – CHS – Assistant Varsity Track Coach, Step 2
Bouldin, Andre – CHS – Assistant Varsity Track Coach, Step 4
Linnabary, Benjamin – CHS – Head Varsity Girls Track Coach, Step 6
Reeder, Donald “Alex” – CHS – Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach (½), Step 3
Stemann, Ryan – CHS – Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach, Step 6
Williams Jr., Lonnell – CHS – Assistant Varsity Track Coach, Step 6

who does not hold a license issued pursuant to Section 3319.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, has applied for the position, and the Board of Education has determined that he/she is qualified for the position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that he/she be employed in the positions for the 2023-2024 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.

Approval of Athletic Event Worker for 2023-24

Bennett, Rafeal

Approval of Volunteers for 2023-24

Allen Jr., Delano

Linnabary, Benjamin

B) General Business

7.3 Vendor Contracts

In compliance with ORC 3313.33; attached is a list of vendor contracts for Board approval.

<u>Vendor Contracts</u>			
<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
Cincinnati Center for Autism	1/8/24 - 6/30/24	\$23,237.50	1:1 assistant for student

Paid for Auxiliary or Federal Non-Public grant monies.

Addition cost to the current fiscal year's July 1st budget.

8.0 APPROVAL OF FISCAL CONSENT ITEMS

8.1 Adoption of Fiscal Consent Items

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

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Chris Heather)** Moved, Member **(Jim Detzel)** 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 Taulbee	Yes
Mark Gilbert	Yes
Jim Detzel	Yes
Chris Heather	Yes
Nancy Slattery	Yes

8.2 Minutes - Organizational Meeting - January 08, 2024

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

8.3 Minutes - Tax Budget Hearing - January 08, 2024

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

8.4 Minutes - Regular Meeting - January 08, 2024

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

8.5 Financial Reports of the Treasurer - December 2023

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 - December

All Funds Balance - \$77,728,406.91

General Fund Unreserved Balance - \$33,326,584

	FYTD Actual	Estimate	%
Revenues	\$51,936,919	\$108,736,254	47%
Expenditures	\$57,997,124	\$116,403,343	49%

Investment weighted average return – 3.94%

List of monthly bills - routine, as well as, bus and building cameras and radios, return of funds to Hamilton County due to an overpayment and auxiliary/grant fund payments.

8.6 Accept, Approve Fund, and/or Appropriate Fund

Accept, Approve Fund and/or Appropriate Fund.

FUND/SCC	FUND NAME AND AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION/PURPOSE OF THE FUND
019 9404	FY24 NWHS WORLD TEEN MENTAL HEALTH DAY \$500.00	We are planning to create a "Wellness Room" that students can go to on World Team Mental Wellness Day. The room will have a variety of self-care stations set up for students to experience and learn different self-care activities. We would like funding to purchase self-care activity items such as: journals, art supplies, stress balls, fidgets, affirmation cards, kinetic sand & trays, essential oils, etc. We would also like to purchase some give-away items to promote this day and for students to use on their own (some of the items listed above, in addition to things like stickers, pens or bracelets that promote the event). Because of this grant, we were able to host this event last year, and our students loved it!

Discussion:

- **Mr. Heather:** Amy (Wells), you said the interest rate is 3.9%. In the past it has been four. Are interest rates dropping or is there a reason for that?

Mrs. Wells: Slightly, but no. It's laddering and long-term investments are shorter. As things mature and things become available, those longer ones aren't as high as short-term.

9.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

9.1 Superintendent's Update

One of the things that has been on everybody's mind has been weather, especially with the forecast for tomorrow. I wanted to acknowledge that as inclement weather approaches we keep an eye on that. We obviously had a situation last week where we had to delay school because of the cold temperatures with aging buildings. There are additional concerns that come along with that, so that delay was due to the temperatures, as well as the fact that we had our boiler for Colerain Elementary and Colerain Middle that had gone out the night before. Our Maintenance crew were in early that morning trying to get it up and running. We had some blowers that still weren't working, so we took some extra time that morning to make sure all the rooms were adequately climate controlled, especially for Colerain Middle because it was having some issues the day before. We obviously had some weather predicted for tomorrow, so we're going to keep an eye on that. We typically try to make that call at/or before 5:00 AM, so that we can notify our families if it's something that we don't have confirmation of the night before because weather people have tended to be wrong in the past, so we wait until that morning to make that final call.

We also want to take a moment and thank our Custodian and Maintenance crews because on those mornings they are out early, double-checking the buildings. If there is snow or ice, they're checking the lots, they're plowing them, they're salting, they're getting everything up and running. Our Transportation Department is getting in early to start and warm up the buses, as well, sometimes driving the roads to see if it's safe for a bus. We have a large team that helps support that process and we appreciate all of them who do that work starting as early as 3:00 - 4:00 AM. We'll continue to watch the weather and make adjustments if we need to. As always, we will try to communicate as soon as possible. Like I said, we try to make that call by 5:00 AM at the latest.

10.0 OTHER BOARD ITEMS

10.1 Board Members' Comments

Mr. Heather: I appreciate what you guys have done to get the buildings warm. I have a patient who teaches at Northern Kentucky School District and their test for whether or not to close a school is, the superintendent goes into each building, and if they can see his breath, they close it. If they can't, they'll keep it open. I hope you're a little more scientific.

Mr. Detzel: No comments.

Ms. Slattery: I think the program that they talked about, the Aspiring Leaders, is really a great program, it sounds like. It's great to see that you take the time to develop the current talent that you have and help them move on to future positions.

Mr. Gilbert: What Nancy (Slattery) said, Amy (Ludmann), Victoria (Case); and Kelsey (Fredrick) for sending in your statement. Thank you Susan (Bunte) for mentoring those that are interested in advancing their careers and their vocation.

Mrs. Taulbee: I want to congratulate all the students that have had success with the spelling bee and the PBIS, and being recognized for their hard work. I want to thank the teachers and, again, Transportation and Maintenance. I just ask for parents to be patient as everyone tries to work together to make decisions around whether we have school or not.

11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

11.1 Executive Session

The Superintendent recommended the Board of Education approve the motion to move into executive session for matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations to state statuses (FERPA 20 USC 1232g et al. and ORC 3319.321).

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Chris Heather**) Moved, Member (**Jim Detzel**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the motion to move into executive session 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

The Board approved a motion to move into executive session at 6:51 PM.

11.2 Return from Executive Session

The Board returned from executive session at 10:02 PM.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

12.1 Board President Called for Adjournment

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

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

The meeting ended at 10:03 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