



Wednesday, September 11, 2024

Regular Meeting of the New Lebanon Central School Board of Education – JSHS Library

Attendance: (P=Present A=Absent)

Mike Brutsch __P__
Bill Buckenroth __P__
John Kalisz __P__
Kyle Kuffel __A__
Rob Long __P__
Sharon Powers __P__
Thom Rigg __A__

Also in attendance:

Chris Harper __P__
Matt Klafehn __P__
Josh Noble __P__
Danielle Brewster __P__
Corey Brown __P__

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Board President Brutsch at 7:00pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

- A. Special Education plan-reviewed
- B. Student Representative update- None
- C. WBH update-Josh Noble thanked Lisa Kreutziger for her 30+ years of service to the district, congratulated new teachers, updated the board on tiger jam, spirit day, clubs, picture day, PTA, open house and a local author visit.
- D. JSHS update- Matt Klafehn presented on homecoming, pep rally, soccer tournament, pd days, class of 1974 tour.
- E. Athletic update- Corey Brown presented on annual soccer tournament, new Berlin AD, winter needs, coaches, community education feeder program.
- F. Business Office update -Danielle Brewster presented on audit schedule, cafeteria grants, state food service review, chrome books.
- G. Superintendent update- Superintendent Harper spoke regarding Berlin lockdown issue with NL athletes, school year goals, conference days, Courtney Wheat and Brooke Dickson’s outstanding job presenting on opening days, riding the bus routes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Britt Buckenroth spoke regarding chrome book use.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Vice President Kalisz made the motion to approve item 4A. Board member Buckenroth seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve the August 7, 2024 Board of Education Meeting minutes

5. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Board Vice President Kalisz made the motion to approve item 5A-B. Board member Powers seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve the 2024-25 District Special Education Plan

B. Motion to approve Travel Club trips

6. FINANCIAL

Board member Buckenroth made the motion to approve item 6A-G. Board Powers Buckenroth seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve a resolution- Whereas, on the weekend of August 3-4, 2024, the cooling system at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School (the "School") gymnasium malfunctioned, resulting in the continuous intake of hot humid air over the weekend and the rapid growth of mold from ceiling to floor in the School gymnasium; and Whereas the District administration was required to obtain a mold inspection, analysis and remediation plan, and received a report detailing the same from Spectrum Environmental Associates, Inc, on August 13, 2024, before any mold removal and remediation work could take place; and Whereas the mold in the School gymnasium must be removed and remediated prior to the start of school on September 5, 2024, in order to preserve and protect the health and safety of students and employees; and Whereas the District administration has solicited alternative quotes from more than one contractor who is qualified and available to complete the mold removal and remediation work at the School gymnasium before September 5, 2024; and Whereas the Superintendent of Schools has advised the Board that the lowest quote for such work is from Quick Response, in the amount of \$79,893.94; and Whereas counsel for the District has advised the Board that the recent failure of the cooling system and resulting growth of mold at the School gymnasium constitutes an unforeseen public emergency and exempts the mold remediation and removal work from otherwise applicable public bidding requirements under N.Y. General Municipal Law section 103; Now, Therefore, it is: Resolved that the Board hereby finds and declares that an unforeseen public emergency exists and requires prompt removal and remediation of mold at the School gymnasium prior to the start of school, which cannot await public bidding; and it is further Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Quick Response to complete the mold removal and remediation work at a cost of \$79,893.94, without public bidding; and it is further Resolved that following completion of the mold remediation and removal work at the School Gymnasium, the Superintendent of Schools is directed to arrange for additional mold testing to confirm that the School gymnasium is safe and healthy for student and employee use.

B. Motion to approve the July 2024 Treasurer's report

C. Motion to approve the July 2024 extra-curricular report

D. Motion to accept donations

E. Motion to approve a contract with MAG for account services to cover a maternity leave.

F. Motion to approve a contract with Cintas for uniforms.

G. Motion to approve budget transfers

7. PERSONNEL

Board Vice President Kalisz made the motion to approve items 7B. Board member Buckenroth seconded. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstained (Buckenroth). Board Vice President Kalisz made the motion to approve items 7A, 7C-S. Board member Buckenroth seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained. Remove item M, it's a duplicate

A. Motion to appoint a Teacher Aide per IEP- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Danielle Kuffel as a Teacher Aide per student IEP, at a rate of \$15.89 per hour, effective September 1, 2024.

B. Motion to amend an appointment- To amend the stipend of the Community Education Coordinator to level 6, with a stipend of \$2100 (previously level 4, \$1500 stipend).

C. Motion to appoint a long term substitute

To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Colleen McCagg as a long term Teaching Assistant substitute to cover a maternity leave at a rate of \$19.33 per hour.

D. Motion to appoint a Teacher Aide per IEP- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Beth LaGrange as a Teacher Aide per student IEP, at a rate of \$15.89 per hour, effective September 1, 2024.

E. Motion to appoint a Teacher Aide per IEP- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Kelsey Face as a Teacher Aide per student IEP, at a rate of \$15.89 per hour, effective September 1, 2024.

F. Motion to appoint mentors- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, the following mentors for the 2024-25 school year: Kristine Guaciaro- Kara Sokolowski, Emily Kreutziger- Aaron Kanofsky, Nikayla Schlosser (6th) - Ashley Schaible, Alyssa Winckler (music) - Chris Bonacquisti, Brittany McKeown (4th) - Bridget Rank (continuation from last time), Matt Albrecht (SPED) - Laura Jubie, Deb Gallucci (5th) - Hillary Watts, Anita Reitano -Hillary Watts

G. Motion to appoint substitutes- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, the following substitutes effective September 1, 2024.

Cindy Hanger- Substitute TA/Teacher \$100 per day

Brigit Hargis- Substitute TA/Teacher \$120 per day (certified)

Colleen McCagg- Long Term Substitute TA \$100 per day- anticipated end date of 12/20/24

Robin Uhr- Long Term Substitute Teacher \$268.42 per day

Anita Reitano- Long Term Substitute Teacher (maternity leave) \$268.42

H. Motion to appoint a 1 hour cleaner- To appoint Dawn Felter as a 1 hour cleaner, 5 days per week to clean the bus garage, effective September 1, 2024 at a rate of \$15.72 per hour.

I. Motion to amend an appointment- To amend the appointment of Nikayla Schlosser as a long term substitute to cover a maternity leave at a rate of \$268.42/day to a full time teacher. To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Nikayla Schlosser to the Elementary Education tenure area, step 1, with a salary of \$53,684, effective September 1, 2024- September 1, 2028. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of 4 preceding years (and no I rating in final year) (8 NYCRR 30-1.3[d]).

J. Motion to appoint an elementary music teacher- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Alyssa Winckler to the music tenure area, (probationary), Step 2, with a

salary of \$54,658 per year, effective September 1, 2024 through September 1, 2028. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of 4 preceding years (and no I rating in final year) (8 NYCRR § 30-1.3[d]).

K. Motion to appoint a Special Education teacher- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Matthew Albrecht to the general special education tenure area (probationary), Step 1, with a salary of \$54,684 per year, effective September 1, 2014 through September 1, 2028. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of 4 preceding years (and no I rating in final year) (8 NYCRR § 30-1.3[d]).

L. Motion to appoint an Elementary Teacher- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Brittany McKeown to the Elementary Education tenure area, step 3, with a salary of \$55,654, effective September 1, 2024- September 1, 2028. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of 4 preceding years (and no I rating in final year) (8 NYCRR 30-1.3[d]).

M. Motion to appoint an Elementary Teacher- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Nikayla Schlosser to the Elementary Education tenure area, step 1, with a salary of \$53,684, effective September 1, 2024- September 1, 2028. Eligibility for tenure at the end of the probationary period is dependent on the employee receiving APPR ratings of H or E in 3 of 4 preceding years (and no I rating in final year) (8 NYCRR 30-1.3[d]).

N. Motion to accept a resignation- To accept a resignation from Tammy Metzler as a bus aide effective October 21, 2024.

O. Motion to appoint a bus aide- To appoint Sarah Forsyth as a bus aide, per student IEP, effective August 29th, 2024 at a rate of \$15.89

P. Motion to appoint Community Education employees

Please add the following people to be board approved for Community Ed positions:

Jessica Tuthill - pool deck monitor - \$20/hour

Jackie Howe - lifeguard - \$20/hour

Sam Pierce - substitute lifeguard - \$20/hour

Alexandra Pierce - Substitute lifeguard - \$20/hour

Paul Rix - soccer volunteer

Q. Motion to amend a resignation date:- To amend the resignation from Andrew Kourt to be effective August 31, 2024.

R. Motion to accept a resignation- To accept a resignation from Mindy Keegan as a clerk/typist in order to accept a position as a Secretary I effective September 16, 2024.

S. Motion to appoint a Secretary I- To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Kourt, Mindy Keegan as a Secretary I, effective September 16, 2024, step 5, at a rate of \$26.89 per hour.

8. POLICY

A. Required annual review of policies

9. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION

A. Next Board Meeting Date October 9, 2024

The board also discussed the superintendent hiring process, technology preparedness for opening day- checklist, priorities.

10. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board President Brutsch made the motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:10pm for the purpose of discussing personnel. Board member Buckenroth seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained. Board President Brutsch made the motion to appoint Superintendent Harper as Clerk Pro-Tem. Board member Buckenroth seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Brutsch made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm. Board member Vice President Kalisz seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly McGivern

Kelly McGivern, District Clerk