

## NORTHWESTERN SCHOOL CORPORATION

December 14, 2017, 7:00 P.M.  
NORTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY  
3431 N 400 W, KOKOMO IN 46901

The Board of School Trustees met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. on December 14, 2017 at the Northwestern High School Library. All Board members were present except Ted Merrell, who joined the meeting via facetime. Also present were Ryan Snoddy, Blake Betzner, Jamie Shepherd and Michele Short, and 43 interested parties. Bryan Alexander called the meeting to order and Jonathan Underwood opened with prayer. The minutes of the November 28, 2017 meeting were presented and unanimously approved following a motion made by Janet Lovelace and seconded by Jonathan Underwood. The agenda was unanimously approved on a motion made by Steve Jones and seconded by Jonathan Underwood.

### STUDENT OF THE MONTH

The following students were recognized as December Students of the Month:

- Howard Elem School – **Michael Van Osdell**, son of Matthew and Diana Van Osdell. Michael is in Mrs. Dulmes' fifth-grade class.
- Northwestern Elementary - **Paxton Power**, son of Sean and Jennifer Power. Paxton is in Mrs. Dill's second-grade class.
- Northwestern Middle School- **Zachary Benson**, son of Joseph and Sara Benson. Zach is an eighth grader.
- Northwestern High School **Ellery Bennett** – daughter of Erin Bennett and Scott Bennett. Ellery is a senior at the high school.

### TOP TIGER

Sue Bour – secretary – Northwestern Elementary School

### I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. **Recognition of Student(s):** The Northwestern Theatre Troupe was recognized for their recent success at regional competition. Northwestern's Troupe placed first for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year and will advance to state competition in January. Mr. Jeremy Leazenby-Bruce and Mr. Jake Everetts were also recognized for their work with these students.
- B. **Treasurer's Report:** Mrs. Shepherd submitted the following reports for the board's review:
  - 1. Appropriations Report-Summary\_2017\_August
  - 2. Appropriations Report-Summary\_2017\_September
  - 3. Appropriations Report-Summary\_2017\_October
  - 4. Fund Report\_2017\_August
  - 5. Fund Report\_2017\_September
  - 6. Fund Report\_2017\_October
- C. **Insurance Agent RPF's:** Mr. Snoddy reported that requests for proposals for the special ed coop, and as proposals for Northwestern's facilities, and are due December 15, 2017.

### II. CLAIMS AND FINANCIAL

Jonathan Underwood made the motion to approve claim vouchers in the amount \$2,128,239.56 and 4 payroll claim listings totaling \$1,205,864.48. Steve Jones seconded; motion passed unanimously.

### **III. PERSONNEL**

The following personnel recommendations were unanimously approved following a motion from Steve Jones and second from Janet Lovelace:

- A.** Approve the employment of **Chloe Woodruff** as elementary teacher at Howard, beginning Jan 3, 2018, and per the Master Agreement, at a base salary of \$36,000.
- B.** Approve the employment of **Scott Walker** as a corporation bus driver, effective December 15, 2017 and per the current support staff salary and benefits schedule.
- C.** Approve the ECA assignment of **Robyn Pagington** as Math Bowl coach at Howard Elementary, per Appendix B.
- D.** Approve winter coach recommendations as submitted by Mr. Armstrong, and per Appendix B to include: Jeff Trueblood – Baseball Assistant, Mike Brazel – Boys basketball assist., Eli Dubbels and Jake Ridgeway – MS Boys Basketball Asst., Scott Rarick – MS Boys Basketball, Patrick Rosner – Wrestling assist @ \$500, China Antoine and Shawn Russell – MS Girls Basketball, Heather Racine and Amanda Russell – MS Girls Basketball assist., Teena Wallace – MS Volleyball Assist; and Dan Guffey – MS Swimming Volunteer assist. Also, accept the resignation of Jessica Guffey as MS Co-Ed Swim Assist Coach.
- E.** Grant requests for unpaid leave from the following employees: Tara Keller – 1 day personal on Feb 9, 2018; Linda Janota – 1 day personal on 11/29/17, Brooklyn Helmle – 1 day personal on 11/21/17 and ½ day medical on 12/6/17.
- F.** Approve the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2017-18 school year: Vicki Geheb, Ashley Eberwine, Kristina Woolf

### **IV. CONSIDER ACTION TO ACCEPT A DONATION(S)**

The high school received several donations designated to Robotics, including \$100 from The Wyman Group, \$1500 from Haynes International, \$1000 from Merrell Bros., \$250 from Community First, \$100 from Eriks Chevrolet, and \$100 from Gorman & Bunch Orthodontics. Also received is a donation of \$5000 from Melissa Sipes to the National Honor Society. Janet Lovelace expressed appreciation to the community for support of our programs, and made the motion to graciously accept all donations. Jonathan Underwood seconded and motion passed unanimously.

### **V. CONSIDER ACTION TO DECLARE OUT-DATED CHECKS VOID**

Mrs. Collins, High School ECA Treasurer, submitted a list of checks that are in excess of 2-years old and have not been presented for payment. Jonathan Underwood made the motion to declare these checks void and credit back to the appropriate ECA fund(s). The board unanimously approved the motion following a second from Steve Jones.

### **VI. CONSIDER ACTION TO ESTABLISH 2018 GRADUATION DATE**

Mrs. Bilkey recommended 2018 Graduation date be set for June 2, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. Steve Jones made the motion, Jonathan Underwood seconded and the Board unanimously approved the recommendation.

### **VII. CONSIDER ACTION WITH REGARD TO AN OUT-OF-STATE AND/OR OVERNIGHT TRIP REQUEST(S)**

Mrs. Bilkey requested permission for the Thespian Troupe to compete at the State Conference on January 26-28, 2018. Janet Lovelace made a motion to approve the trip as requested. Steve Jones seconded; motion unanimously passed.

### **VIII. CONSIDER ACTION TO ADOPT NEOLA UPDATES ON SECOND READING**

Steve Jones made the motion to adopt Vol 29 No 2 and Tech Phase II and III updates on second reading. The board unanimously approved following a second from Jonathan Underwood.

### **IX. CONSIDER ACTION TO APPROVE NEOLA UPDATES ON FIRST READING**

Vol 30 No 1 updates were presented for the Board's review and approval on first reading. Following an overview from Mr. Snoddy, Jonathan Underwood made a motion to approve on first reading. Janet Lovelace seconded, and motion passed unanimously. These updates will be presented for adoption on second reading at the January meeting.

**X. CONSIDER ACTION TO APPOINT A PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER**

Bryan Alexander appointed Stephanie Carrell as representative for Northwestern, Western, and Taylor School Corporations to the Board of Directors of the Kokomo Howard County Public Library. Mrs. Carrell will serve a four-year term ending December 31, 2021. Mr. Alexander thanked Mrs. Carrell for her willingness to represent Northwestern and serve our community through this appointment.

**XI. CONSIDER ACTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS TO AUTHORIZE YEAR-END FUND TRANSFERS**

Mrs. Shepherd submitted two resolutions for adoption. Both routine processes to balance funds at year-end, as required by State Board of Accounts.

1. Res. No. 1712-1 - Resolution to Transfer Appropriation at Year-End
2. Res. No. 1712-2 - Temporary/Emergency Transfer to Depleted Funds Resolution

Janet Lovelace made the motion to adopt both resolutions as presented. Jonathan Underwood seconded; motion passed unanimously.

**XII. CONSIDER ACTION TO GRANT PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR 2018 SUMMER ROOFING PROJECT**

Mr. Betzner addressed the Board and reported areas of roofing that needed to be addressed. The board granted permission to advertise and receive bids for the needed improvements on a motion made by Steve Jones and seconded by Jonathan Underwood.

**XIII. CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING WITH REGARD TO A POTENTIAL FACILITY PROJECT**

The Board held a public hearing to discuss and hear objections and support regarding the proposed renovation of and improvements to Northwestern High School, Northwestern Middle School and Northwestern Elementary School. 8 interested parties were in attendance, including Jim Elizondo of City Securities.

Mr. Snoddy opened the hearing with a description of the proposed project with improvements at the high school/middle school and Northwestern Elementary totaling approximately \$6,000,000. The committee's consensus recommends the project include improvements to baseball/softball fields, gymnasium ceiling, soccer bleacher relocation, roofing, fencing, renovation to current athletic building, parking, press box relocation, and science lab renovation. It was also recommended that the improvements be completed as 2 projects.

Jamie Shepherd and Jim Elizondo presented information with regard to financing of the proposed project, bond sales, repayment schedules and financing rates. Also speaking were Steve Jones, Ryan Snoddy, Ted Merrell, Bryan Alexander and Jonathan Underwood. Discussion and questions addressed the bond process, the Design Build process, local financing, Chrysler abatement, and the timeline of receiving bids. Jonathan Underwood commented that he preferred a 7 year repayment schedule. Mr. Snoddy agreed the shorter repayment schedule is preferred.

All board members were in agreement that the repayment schedule for the proposed project should not exceed 7 years. This will save \$200,000 in interest. Mr. Snoddy will communicate to Erick Long at Ice Miller to include this change to the resolution to be presented at the lease hearing in January. Mr. Alexander commented that the board's responsibility is to provide the best facilities for students, while keeping the tax burden as low as possible for constituents.

Following the board's discussion, the hearing was opened to the public for comments and/or questions. There being no comments or questions, Mr. Alexander closed the public hearing at 9:02 p.m.

Following the public hearing, the Board was presented with several Resolutions to adopt in order to proceed with the Project:

- Exhibit A – High School Project Resolution
- Exhibit B – Elementary Project Resolution
- Exhibit C – Resolution Determining Need for Project
- Exhibit D – Resolution Approving Form of Amendment to Lease

Exhibit E – Resolution Reapproving Building Corporation  
Exhibit F – Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Expenditures

Steve Jones made the motion to adopt all resolutions as presented. Janet Lovelace seconded, and the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

The Board appointed a technical review committee to oversee the project including Steve Jones, Jonathan Underwood, Blake Betzner and Phillip Howard-Engineer, and Dan Rawlins-Architect from InterDesign.

**XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bob Gillette, 6234 W 100 N, Kokomo, IN 46901 commented with regard to notification of meetings. Mr. Snoddy responded that meeting notifications have all been in compliance with Open Door law.

**XV. BOARD COMMENTS**

Bryan Alexander acknowledged Mr. Gillette's concern about meeting notifications. Janet Lovelace thanked them for their dedication to our schools.

Steve Jones thanked the entire corporation for finishing fiscal year 2017 under budget.

Bryan Alexander thanked Mr. Snoddy, Mrs. Shepherd and Mr. Betzner for all their work in developing the proposed project.

There being no further business, Steve Jones made a motion to adjourn to executive session. Janet Lovelace seconded and the board adjourned 8:00 p.m.

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President

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Vice President

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Secretary

Next Meeting – Jan. 11, 2018 – Northwestern High School Library – 7:00 P.M.