

**Northwest Area School District  
School Board Meeting  
April 23, 2024**

The Northwest Area Board of Education held a Regular Board Meeting on April 23, 2024 in the library of the Middle/High School. Mr. LeValley, School Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m..

The following members were present during the meeting: Mr. Lanza, Mr. LeValley, Mr. Benson, Mrs. Biller, Mr. Pierontoni, Mr. Beleski. Attorney Angela Evans, Mr. Long, Mr. Miner, Mr. Lukachinsky, Mrs. Kratz, Mrs. Straub, Mr. Shoemaker, and Ms. Hurst were also present.

Mr. LeValley reported that there was an Executive Session held from 5:30-6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel, litigation, and co-curricular.

1. Approve of Minutes

Mr. Lanza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Benson to accept the minutes of the following previous meeting:

a. Regular School Board Meeting/Executive Session -March 21, 2024

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

2. Comments: No comments.

3. Reports -

Mr. Lanza made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Biller for the following:

- a. Treasurer's Report - March 2024
- b. Cash Flow - March 2024
- c. Cafeteria Report - March 2024

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

4. Payment of Bills

Mr. Lanza made a motion, seconded by Mr. Beleski to approve the payment of the following bills:

- a. General Account list of bills for April 2024 -\$689,023.60
- b. Prepaids - March 2024 - \$332,279.68

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

5. Superintendent's Comments – Mr. Long noted that he will be at the Rural School Conference April 25-26, 2024 to discuss funding. Mr. Long will also be going to Harrisburg on Advocacy Day, April 30, 2024, to meet with legislatures. Mr. Long hopes to have more information for our district following the meetings.
  
6. Administrative Reports –Assistant Secondary Principal, Mr. Lukachinsky reported that he met with our newly elected Magistrate, Carol Davenport to help establish a connection with our school administration. The district will be moving some of the local hearings and truancy meetings to the Board Room so that Judge Davenport will have a presence in the district. Judge Davenport wants to be sure that she has a positive influence on our district. Special Education Director, Mrs. Kratz reported that we are continuing training at both the elementary and high school levels based on our cyclical monitoring, and we have received positive feedback from the IU staff. Secondary Principal, Mr. Miner announced the following upcoming events: School Play, The Addams Family - April 19-21, Prom - May 3, Class Night - May 29, and Graduation - June, 2024.
  
7. Policy/Procedures - No Report.
  
8. Personnel

Mr. Benson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Biller for the following:

- a. Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Joseph Young, full time Custodial Maintenance employee, effective March 31, 2024.
- b. Approved to post and advertise for a full time Custodial Maintenance employee.
- c. Approved to post and advertise for a Secondary Art Teacher.
- d. Approved to post and advertise for a Secondary English/Social Studies Dual Certification teacher.
- e. Approved to post for a Camp Ophelia Director.
- f. Approved to post for Camp Ophelia Student Mentors.
- g. Approved to post for Summer Grounds Keepers (2), not to exceed twenty five hours per week.
- h. Approved to post for 3 Summer Workers to assist with indoor Custodial/Maintenance work, not to exceed 20 hours per week.
- i. Approved for summer high school and elementary Guidance Counselor employment, for a total not to exceed 50 hours per counselor, at the contracted hourly rate, as per terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- j. Approved summer nursing services at the contracted hourly rate, as per terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, and not to exceed a total of fifty hours.
- k. Approved for summer School Psychologist services at the contracted hourly rate, as per

terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, and not to exceed fifty hours.

- l. Approved to appoint Hannah Stepanski for summer 2024 Speech services, not to exceed 15 hours per week for six weeks.
- m. Approved to appoint Lauren Malacari for summer 2024 Occupational Therapy services, not to exceed 15 hours per week for six weeks.
- n. Approved to accept, with regret, the resignation of Brianna Nichols, Paraprofessional, effective June 3, 2024.
- o. Approved to post and advertise for part time Paraprofessionals.
- p. Appointed Laura Weston as a part time Cafeteria Employee, effective with the receipt of required paperwork.
- q. Approved the MOU between the Northwest Area School District and the Northwest Area Educational Association pertaining to the position of Athletic Director.
- r. Approved the retirement of Lisa Cooke, effective June 5, 2024.

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

9. Finance – Mr. Beleski made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Biller for the following:
  - a. Approved the purchase of chromebooks through Dell in the amount of \$362,210. (ESSERS III)

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes

10. Buildings & Grounds/Safety  
Mr. Pierontoni made a motion, seconded by Mr. Benson for the following:
  - a. Approved the replacement and upgrade of the doors at the Athletic Director's entrance, not to exceed \$39,000, funded through the PCCD Safety Grant.
  - b. Approved the recommendation of administration to seek quotes for district trash removal for the 2024-25 school year.
  - c. Approved the recommendation of administration to seek supplier quotes for oil deliveries for the 2024-25 school year.
  - d. Approved the recommendation of administration to seek quotes for propane deliveries for the 2024-25 school year.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes

11. Education/Curriculum –  
Mr. Pierontoni made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Biller for the following:
  - a. Approved interim action for Scott Quinn and one student to attend the All State Orchestra Festival and Conference in Erie, PA April 17-20, 2024 at an estimated cost

of \$1,980.64.

- b. Approved the first draft of the 2024-25 school year calendar.

Upon roll call, all present voted yes, motion passes

12. Co-Curricular –

Mr. Benson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Beleski for the following:

- a. Approved to rescind the motion to hire Darian Twyman as an Assistant Varsity Football Coach, effective immediately.
- b. Appointed Megan Cragle as Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach for the 2024-25 school year/season, at a stipend of \$4,500.
- c. Appointed Jaxson Yaple as Head Varsity Girls Basketball Coach for the 2024-25 school year/season, at a stipend of \$6,400.
- d. Appointed Sean Miller as Head Varsity Boys Basketball Coach for the 2024-25 school year/season at a stipend of \$6,400.
- e. Approved to post for the following Varsity Assistant Coaches for the 2024-25 school year/season:
  1. Girls Basketball (1\*\$4,400)
  2. Boys Basketball (1\*\$4,400)
  3. Cheerleading (1\*\$2,800)
- f. Approved to post for the following Junior High Coaches for the 2024-25 school year/season:
  1. Girls Basketball (1\*\$4,400)
  2. Boys Basketball (1\*\$4,400)
  3. Cheerleading (1\*\$2,800)
- g. Approved the Cooperative Sports Agreement with the Benton Area School District for participation in Girls Wrestling, effective with the 2024-25 school year/season.
- h. Approved the Cooperative Sports Agreement with the Benton Area School District for participation in Junior High Football, effective with the 2024-25 school year/season.
- i. Appointed the following Volunteer Football Coaches for the 2024-25 school year/season at no cost to the district, pending the receipt of required paperwork:
  1. Greg Mullins
  2. Rich Boyton

- j. Appointed Cody Lamoreaux as an Assistant Varsity Football Coach for the 2024-25 school year/season, pending receipt of required paperwork. (\$3,750)

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

13. Transportation - No Report.

14. Additions to the Substitute List -

Mr. Benson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Biller for the following:

- a. Approved the interim action to appoint the following substitutes for the 2023-24 school year, pending the receipt of required paperwork:
  1. Richard Bonomo - IU Guest Teacher
  2. Robert Balliet - Custodial Maintenance

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

15. Tabled Items - No Tabled Items

16. Legislative – No Report.

17. West Side CTC - Mr. Benson reported that the budget was approved, and the Nutrition Inc. contract was extended for the 2024-25 school year. Also, an extra Act 80 Day was added for sensitivity training.

18. I.U. Update -Minutes are available upon request.

19. New Business – No new business.

20. Solicitor's Report – No Report.

21. Comments - No comments.

22. Adjourn – Mr. Benson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pierontoni, and unanimously by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 6:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Lanza, Board Secretary