

January 15, 2024

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting on Monday, January 15, 2024 in the Newaygo High School Library. Vince Grodus, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vince Grodus, Morgan Heinzman, Jami Schultz, Sara Smith and Bruce Gracik

MEMBERS ABSENT: Thomas Frisbie, Reid Sherwood

Also Present: Ben Gilpin, Superintendent  
Kim Bidwell, Business Manager  
Christina Wetherell, Administrative Assistant  
Gena Dietz, High School Principal  
John Bull, High School Asst. Principal  
Jim Smith, Middle School Principal  
Kyle McAlister, Middle School Asst. Principal  
Brandon Smith, Elementary Asst. Principal

Visitors: 6

#### Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Gracik, seconded by Mr. Heinzman, to approve the proposed agenda for the regular meeting of January 15, 2024.

VOTE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

#### Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Minutes
  - 1. December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. Accounts Payable Listing
- C. Monthly Trial Balances

Motion by Mr. Heinzman, seconded by Mr. Gracik, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

#### Public Comments – Items on the Agenda

None

#### Presentations from the Floor

A. Shelly Horton – Elementary Music Teacher  
Shelly Horton gave a presentation on the elementary music program.

#### Superintendent Reports

##### *Resignations*

Letters of resignation were received from:

- 1. David Grodus – Technology Assistant

#### *Recommendations to Hire – For Action*

Motion by Mr. Heinzman, seconded by Ms. Schultz, to hire Ryan Brummel as a Middle School Math Teacher and Todd Mitchell as a High School Special Education Teacher, as recommended by the Administration:

VOTE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

#### *Informational Items*

1. Finance and Budget Update:

Ms. Bidwell, Business Manager, gave the Board an update on the finances of the district.

2. Bridge to Reading Program:

Ms. Melissa Hreha, Literacy Coach at Newaygo Elementary School, gave the Board information about the need for this program.

3. Re-Keying Project

It is the recommendation of the Administration to accept the estimate for re-keying the locks in the district by Architectural Hardware Company in the amount of \$75,000 to be paid out of 31aa Funds (security portion, pending the state's approval of our online application).

4. Middle School Update – Jim Smith & Kyle McAlister

Jim Smith, Middle School Principal and Kyle McAlister, Middle School Assistant Principal along with Shelley Hance, Behavior Specialist, gave an overview of the new Pathways Initiative at Newaygo Middle School.

#### Administrative Matters

For Action:

Subject: November, 2023 NEOLA Policy Updates – PERA Changes

Motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Schultz, to approve the November, 2023, NEOLA Policy updates, as presented and recommended by the administration.

VOTE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Subject: Bridge to Reading Program

Motion by Mr. Gracik, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the Heggerty quote for the Bridge to Learning program, as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Subject: Fiber Upgrade Project

Motion by Ms. Schultz, seconded by Mr. Heinzman, to approve the Fiber Upgrade project, as presented.

VOTE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Subject: Bond Resolution

Motion by Mr. Gracik, seconded by Ms. Schultz, to adopt the bond resolution calling the election on May 7, 2024, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Vince Grodus, Aye; Morgan Heinzman, Aye; Jami Schultz, Aye; Bruce Gracik, Aye; Sara Smith, Aye  
Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Motion: Carried

Public Comments - Items Not on the Agenda  
One member of the public addressed the Board.

Mr. Gilpin announced that January is Board Member Appreciation Month. Mr. Gilpin also gave an overview of the process of determining snow days.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Gracik, seconded by Mr. Heinzman, to adjourn the meeting.

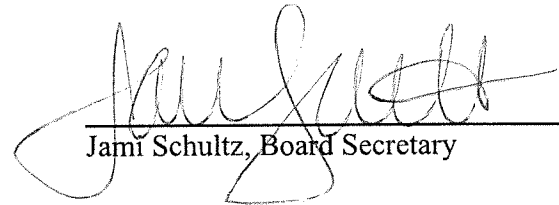
VOTE

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Motion: Carried

Time: 7:02 p.m.



---

Jami Schultz, Board Secretary