



**NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
May 17, 2023**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by school Board President, Mr. Morlang. Those in attendance: Mr. Morlang, Mr. Harris, Mr. Fournery, Mrs. Bray, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Bittner, Mr. Ryan, and Mrs. Reams. Other citizens present: Michelle Blunt, Catherine Kolbet

- A.** The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all in attendance.
- B.** There was no request for additional items.

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Michelle Blunt was present to address the International Exchange Student Program and request support from the Board. She explained that she has been placing students for the past 14 years, she realizes that it is not always a good fit, but the majority have worked out well. Allowing the program at the Norwood School District brings additional funds to the school through the student count day, it also brings diversification to the school and students with students from other countries. She would like to see the board approve the program next month when it is on the agenda.

III. CELEBRATIONS

Baseball- The baseball team did great! They competed in the State Playoffs, losing their second game.

BEST Grant- Norwood School District ended up being the first alternate for full approval (at 18th out of 42 schools). Funding is based upon passing a bond in November. If we can pass a bond and the other 2 schools ahead of us are not able to, we can receive their funds as first alternate. If one does not pass, but one does we will be offered the money that would have gone to that school. Mr. Bittner would like to have a special board meeting to discuss some logistics and plan on how to move ahead. The restrictions of the timeline of the project makes it complicated. It does look like the District needs to move ahead with a \$10.2 million bond and see where we stand with getting the community support to move forward.

Upcoming Graduation- May 27, 2023 we will be graduating 10 Seniors.

Staff Appreciation Week- Sam, Teresa and Sarah F. created a survivor week for Staff. It went well and provided fun activities. It was busy and everyone seemed to have a good time.

IV. COMMUNITY REPORTS

None.

V. STAFF REPORTS

None.

VI. APPROVE CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Approval of April 18, 2022 Minutes
- B. Approval April/May General Fund Bills
- C. Approval of Second Reading of Policy IKF: Graduation Requirements and Vote
- D. Approval of Second Reading of Policy BE: School Board Meeting
- E. Approval of a 1% base increase in salary scales that were not previously altered with new wage factors as discussed at the last meeting.
- F. Approval of roof and masonry repair on High School and Tech Building
- G. Approval to change the June 20, 2023 meeting start time to 6 pm
- H. Approval of Final Subdivision to 18.11 Acres (see attachment on Subdivision)

Mr. Harris made a motion to approve Consent Items A, B, D, E, F, G and H. Mrs. Bray seconded the motion. Discussion: Mr. Fournery asked about Item F. the roof and masonry repair on the high school and tech buildings. Mr Bittner recognized that the intent is to pursue BEST funding to build a new school, but even that will take at least two years' time. There are issues that we are dealing with daily in high school and tech building. He stated that a civil engineer looked at the structure and the roofing of both buildings. Water is coming down, dripping between the masonry and the wall of the high school building. The roof needs to be extended and the masonry repaired correctly so the brick does not continue to pull from the wall. The roof of the Tech building needs to be repaired. There is no water barrier under the sheet metal so now overtime, the water is seeping under the sheet metal into the roof.

Mrs. Snyder asked about Item C. and the grade point averages on the graduation requirements. Does that have to be through the school or can it be through summer school courses? Mr. Bittner stated that we currently do not have limitations on summer courses. If there are students who are willing to take a summer class, we will find funding for it. Mr. Fournery and Mrs. Snyder both suggested that there be guidelines in the policy that lays out who will pay for the courses, and some of the questions that might arise with regard to GPA and students taking summer courses. Mrs. Snyder stated that she is OK with approving this Item as is, but it should be something that is taken into consideration in the future and implemented into policy. Roll call vote: "aye's" 5, "no's" 0. Motion carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion to Co-Op the High School Wrestling program with the West End School District for the 23-24 Season as requested by the West End and Norwood Head Coaches
There was a brief discussion about co-oping the high school wrestling program. This will be on the agenda next month. Mr. Fournery requested that Kyle be available in case there are any questions. Mrs. Snyder asked if costs, structure, etc. have been discussed. Mr. Bittner stated that both Kyle and Sam have been working on some of the framework.

- B. Carla Reams gave a brief overview of the draft budget, the appropriation and estimate of what the final budget will look like. CDE gave a report of final approval on the audit. There was one question that came back with regard to the funding level of the food service fund. A plan was submitted by Carla to lower that fund balance, where we then won't have the overage that we currently have.

Mr. Bittner stated that with all of the work and because of some areas where we saved money by not filling positions, we will be giving an end of the year bonus to all staff.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

IX. PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Ryan stated that we have filled the HS Science position, the Library/Media position and the Sped Teaching position. [As of the writing of these minutes, the HS Science position is once again vacant and has been posted].

He discussed the compartmentalizing of the elementary. Sixth grade will stay with the hybrid format, having Kolbet for Science, Grundhofer for ELA, and Strand for Math. Currently, the MS Social Studies teaching position is open, if not filled, we will be offering this class online through Enginuity. Strand will be teaching all Math. Third through Fifth will have Reading/Writing with Rasmussen and Wareham.

X. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Included in the packet.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XII. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

A Special Board meeting to discuss the Bond was scheduled for June 7th at 6 PM.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Snyder made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Harris.
Roll call vote: "aye's" 5, "no's" 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla Reams