



**NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Norwood Public School District Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by School Board President, Mr. Morlang.

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>President, Mr. Mike Morlang</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>		
<b>Vice President, Mrs. Nichol Bray</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>Treasurer, Mrs. Regan Snyder</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>Secretary, Mr. Walt Fourney</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>Mr. Randy Harris</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>Superintendent, Mr. Todd Bittner</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>Principal, Sam Ryan</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>Business Manager, Carla Reams</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>Amanda Pierce</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>

**Others:** Those in person (not listed above) were asked to sign in on the sign in sheet.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All those present cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snyder motioned to add Letter F – Approval of PERA and Roth IRA option for staff to the Consent Agenda.

- a. Mrs. Bray seconded.
- b. **Discussion:** None
- c. **Roll Call Vote:** 5 - “Ayes” and 0 - “Nays”. Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** Mr. Fourney motioned to move Policy BCB Conflict of Interest Policy as Item A to Action Items.

- a. Mrs. Snyder seconded.
- b. **Discussion:** None
- c. **Roll Call Vote:** 5 - “Ayes” and 0 - “Nays”. Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Bray motioned to change Letters C and E in the Consent Agenda to state “amended”.

- a. Mrs. Snyder seconded.
- b. **Discussion:** None
- c. **Roll Call Vote:** 5 - “Ayes” and 0 - “Nays”. Motion Carried.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

**Tracy Hill (Athletics)** – Tracy Hill asked that the board please overturn the COOP decision before it affects the student population and athletic programs. She felt that all the details were not presented as they should have been and there

was not enough time to get the information that was needed to decide. Mrs. Hill requested to please bring it up for discussion again with more information.

**Amanda Pierce (Town of Norwood Sidewalk Project near school)** – Presented the CDOT Safer Sidewalks to School grant that consists of new curb gutter and sidewalks down Summit Street as well as pavement and crosswalks to allow safer more visual access to that part of town. This in turn will help with the cost if the school moves locations.

**Mike Porta** – Introduction and wanting to hear about the community. He is interested as being a partner in the BEST process. He is working with Nucla school on their construction and building and would like to continue the partnership in Norwood.

### CELEBRATIONS

**Homecoming:** Mr. Ryan explained that it went well. The parade and activities were fun for all. He explained why it was earlier than normal and described that even though it was early in the season it resulted in the weather being great. This is the end of the two-year JV schedule which affected the earlier date, next year the football team will be a Varsity team resulting in a normal schedule.

**CBS News:** The article/video by CBS news resulted in a lot of people calling to see how they could help get money to Norwood for a new school. Overall, the article/video has had positive feedback, a lot of people didn't understand how bad the conditions of the building really were.

### COMMUNITY REPORTS

None

### STAFF REPORTS

None

### CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Approval of August 23, 2023, Minutes
- B. Approval August/September General Fund Bills
- C. **Amendment** of 1st Reading Policy GBI- Criminal History Record Information
- D. Approval of Modified Graduation Requirements for two students
- E. **Amendment** of 1st Reading Policy GCE/GCF- Professional Staff Recruiting/Hiring
- F. Approval of PERA and Roth IRA option for staff.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snyder made a motion to accept Items A, B, C, E, and F.

- a. Mr. Fournery seconded.

**Discussion:** Mrs. Bray made a correction to the meeting minutes that should reflect "Mr. Harris seconded the motion to accept Item P instead of Mr. Bray". Administration explained that the board would need to have the PERA Roth Program as an option for staff in addition to the current PERA options. Mrs. Snyder asked if this has been an option before and it was explained that it hadn't been an option before. Brief discussion about the amendment to the GBI Policy - "district must store media...." Also was discussed the amendment to the GCE/GCF Policy - "District will allow 14 days...."

**Roll Call Vote:** 5 - "Ayes" and 0 - "Nays". Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snyder made a motion to accept Item D.

- a. Mr. Fournery seconded.

**Discussion:** Mr. Ryan explained the modification of graduation requirements that are being requested from two students. Mrs. Snyder asked if there were any changes that would make it easier for administration if it was changed in policy, but Mr. Bittner felt decisions should be made on a case-by-case basis.

**Roll Call Vote:** 5 - "Ayes" and 0 - "Nays". Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Board Policy - BCB - School Board Member Conflict of Interest
  - Moved to Action Item

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Bond Fact Data and Information**

Mr. Bittner reminded the board that they cannot discuss going forward if they are for or against the bond. There is a Facebook Page put out by Friends of the Norwood School Bond and information will be put out there. There is a fact sheet that addresses the top 10 questions that have been asked and the. Mr. Fournery asked for more clarification about what the board is allowed to discuss about the bond in the community. Mr. Bittner explained that the board cannot discuss if they are for or against the bond, but they can talk about facts.

### **B. UPK**

There was extensive discussion about what monies are expected and what monies have already been received. Administration explained that there seems to be some confusion at the state level on funding. The school has updated the boiler in the Prime Time building, which was venting wrong since it was originally installed. Each room in the Prime Time building will now have their own hot water controls so they can adjust to their needs based on age groups and state requirements. Some new flooring and paint were installed in the school's Pre-K room at Prime Time and there are plans to have all new flooring, paint, and general maintenance on the building, but nothing major.

### **C. Board Elections**

Mr. Bittner announced the four people running for three positions on the school board.

1. Nichol Bray
2. Brandi Griffith
3. Jackie Hardman
4. Morgan Rummel

## **PRINCIPAL REPORT (WRITTEN REPORT IN PACKET)**

Mr. Harris asked who was working on the Draft COOP Agreement. Mr. Ryan explained that Superintendents, Athletic Directors, and Principals from both schools. Mr. Bittner stated that a more finalized draft will be presented at the November meeting but won't need to be approved until December. Additionally, Mr. Bittner said to make suggestions to Mr. Ryan if there was anything they feel needed adjusted.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT (WRITTEN REPORT IN PACKET)**

Mr. Lawrence (IT Director) Replacement – Two interviews and working through those potentials. Some of the work can be put out to an outside contractor and possibly part time in-house but those things will be dependent on the applicants and their abilities and qualifications. Hoping to decide in the next two weeks.

## **ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS**

**Conflict of Interest Policy Addendum** – Extensive discussion regarding pros and cons around the wording in the policy. The board discussed things such as unanimous voting. Also, abstaining from any discussion about COOP, athletics, coaching staff, budget lines on coaching and athletic programs. There were also concerns about limiting coaching staff by not allowing board members to coach. The board directed administration to discuss with the attorneys on wording after with the thoughts and concerns were raised.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snyder motioned to adjourn until the October meeting and to have administration work with the attorney on wording.

- a. Mr. Fournery seconded.

b. **Roll Call Vote:** 5 - "Ayes" and 0 - "Nays". Motion Carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Mr. Fourney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:04pm.

c. Mr. Harris seconded.

d. **Discussion:** None

e. **Roll Call Vote:** 5 - "Ayes" and 0 - "Nays". Motion Carried.

☐ APPROVED

☐ APPROVED AS CORRECTED

**DATE APPROVED:**

Minutes Taken by Amanda Pierce