

**MSD of NEW DURHAM TOWNSHIP**

**School Board Public Hearing**

**Minutes of September 8, 2021**

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**Executive Session: None**

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**Those in Attendance:**

**Board Members**

Wayne Hodge  
Karen Jedrysek  
Vicki Hannon  
Mark Parkman  
Lynn Wilson

**Staff**

Dr. Sandra Wood Superintendent

**Absent**

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**1) Call to Order**

Mrs. Hannon, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m

**2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**3) Roll Call**

**4) Blackhawk Pride/Good News Report**

The Blackhawk pride recipients spoke about why they are proud to be a Blackhawk. Those that attended the meeting are Nick Glanz 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Symphony Wert 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and Macey Wilk 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

Mrs. Schnick read the Good News Report for the secondary level. Starting this month administration and teachers met with each grade for an up close and personal meeting. These meetings allowed the students to ask questions. HAWKS program started up this week in the middle school. Next week ASAP (After School Assistance Program) begins. Mr. Shepard started a chess club last month.

**5) Community Input**

Melissa Bulger – Concerns with Band – Scheduled a private meeting with board after the board meeting to discuss concerns.

## 6) Superintendent's Report

### A. New School Officer

Introduction of our new Resource Officer Jake Pisowicz. We have a shared partnership with Tri-Township, similar to the partnership we had with South Central.

### B. Update on District Wide School Improvement Goals

A presentation by the Secondary Principals Mrs. Schnick and Mrs. Nygra focused on the Middle / High School improvement goals. Mr. Ton was unable to be at the meeting he will present at a later date for the Elementary.

The two main focuses for secondary level are Math and ELA. They set up a team to help the teachers incorporate math and ELA in the classrooms. Math goal is to show growth and / or improvement on state assessments. Problem Solving and Data Analysis across the curriculum because they are a life skill and make up majority of the state assessment. The principals provided examples on how each teacher in each subject can incorporate math in their classroom. ELA goal is to also growth and / or improvement on state assessments. How to better comprehend what is read. The principals provided examples on how to incorporated ELA with comprehension in all subject areas.

Mr. Parkman – Is there a way to determine if a student is getting it or not?

Mrs. Nygra – Replied the teachers can see on their devices the names of the students and their answers. It just not projected on the student devices.

After School Assistance Program- offering 2 sessions before and 2 sessions after school. Four hours of additional help. Mrs. Schnick sent information home to parents. If the student was below efficiency on the state assessments last spring, NWEA test, or have more than 4 missing assignments they will be required to attend ASAP. This will be reassessed every quarter.

HAWKS program for the middle school is to help with academic growth in the classwork and state assessments.

Mrs. Jedrysek – We just did a base assessment, correct?

Mrs. Schnick – Responded yes.

Mrs. Jedrysek – When will we get an update winter or spring?

Mrs. Schnick – Replied we can provide an update on NWEA scores.

Mrs. Jedrysek – Would like see updates to show long and short term. Would also like to see the data at the board meeting after the 9 weeks.

Mrs. Hannon – How can we make sure the students are going to ASAP?

Mrs. Schnick - Responded we are not providing transportation. We cannot require students to attend. We hope the parents will be on board.

Mrs. Jedrysek – Would like to add 1 more piece of data to the board meetings:  
Participation rate for the ASAP program.

Dr. Wood gave a Covid-19 update. Our county metric is in the orange category with a score of 2.5 for our county. Highest level in the orange category. That is due to high positive test rate. We currently have 8 elementary, 8 middle school, 4 high school and 1 not attributed to any specific category. Following the governor's guidelines for quarantine we were able to implement the new guidelines on Tuesday. We had 33 students return to school Tuesday, which is good since we had more than 10% of our student body out. We currently only have 9 out on quarantine.

## **7) Solar Update**

August bill hasn't arrived yet. As soon as we get the NIPSCO bill in Dr. Wood will add it to her spread sheet and send it out electronically. Still having a communication issue, unable to monitor all inverters. This has been an ongoing problem. Dr. Wood and Mr. Ott both have been submitting tickets to Performance Services Portal, which this is what they are asking us to do. Ask for support and service. We have 2 open tickets, one on August 17<sup>th</sup> and the other on August 30<sup>th</sup>. No response to either of those. Dr. Wood reached out to our sales rep and the head of solar division of Performance Services and ask them for help and an update. No response. Dr. Wood mentioned she can see they are doing something because a lot of our inverters have been renamed in the portal, but some of them are off line. Only able to see about half of our inverters. Communication piece still an issue. The issue started when they replaced inverter number 26.

## **8) Approval of August 11, 2021 Board Minutes**

Mrs. Hannon made a motion to approve the School Board Minutes as posted and Mrs. Jedrysek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **9) Personnel**

### **A. Resignations**

- **Amber Pickett – Instructional Assistant Elementary**
- **Natily Meyers – ELA Year Long Substitute Middle School**
- **Gale Weaver – Elementary School Secretary**
- **Haley Ross – Substitute Teacher**

- **Jane Bachman – High School Athletics/ECA Secretary**

#### **B. Recommendations**

- **Sheri Martinek – Substitute Bus Driver**
- **Hilary Koonce – Substitute Teacher**
- **Haley Ross – Substitute Teacher**
- **Gloria Kelsey – Substitute Teacher**
- **Haley Ross – Elementary Instructional Assistant**
- **Haley McPhearson – Substitute Teacher**

#### **C. Volunteers**

**None**

Mrs. Wilson made a motion to approve Personnel Resignations and Recommendations and Mrs. Jedrysek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **10) Professional Leave Requests**

- **Alissa Schnick – IASP Fall Conference**
- **Brian Ton – IASP Fall Conference**
- **Sarah Zaiko – Teacher Leadership Bootcamp**
- **Donna Bunch & Stephanie Irk – Too Good for Violence Training**
- **Amber Zdankiewicz, Sarah Zaiko, & Brian Ton – IPLI**
- **Jessica Nygra – IASP Fall Conference**
- **Andrew Eubank – IIAAA Conference**

Mr. Parkman made a motion to approve the Professional Leave Request as listed and Mrs. Hannon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **11) Donations**

##### **1. Athletic Donation to Golf Program**

Mr. Parkman made a motion to approve the Athletic donation to Gold Program and Mr. Hodge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **12) Approval of Updated Return to Learn Plan**

Mrs. Hannon made a motion to approve the Updated Return to Learn Plan and Mrs. Jedrysek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**13) Public Hearing on Teacher Compensation prior to Formal Bargaining**

None – no action required

**14) Budget Workshop**

No action Required

**15) Financials**

Mr. Parkman made a motion to approve the Financials and Mrs. Jedrysek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

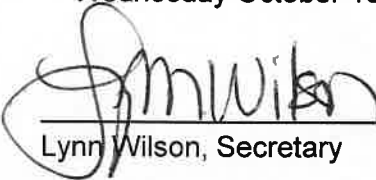
**16) Correspondence**

**17) Adjournment**

Mr. Parkman adjourned the meeting.

**Next Regular Meeting Date:**

Wednesday October 13, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center

  
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Lynn Wilson, Secretary

10/13/2021  
Date