

MSD of NEW DURHAM TOWNSHIP

School Board Public Hearing

Minutes of December 9, 2020

Executive Session: None

Those in Attendance:

Board Members

Karen Jedrysek
Vicki Hannon
Mark Parkman
Lynn Wilson
Wayne Hodge

Staff

Dr. Sandra Wood Superintendent

Absent

1) Call to Order

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

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Roll Call

4) Community Input
None

5) Superintendent's Report

The Elementary Good News Report was presented by Abigail Kneifel 5th grade teacher/ sponsor of Student Council and Molly O'Brien a 5th grade student and a member of Student Council. This presentation was prerecorded due to the Board Meeting being

The mission of MSD of New Durham Township is to ***Inspire, Challenge, and Educate!***

hybrid. Student Council and Make a Difference Club joined together for a Crayola ColorCycle project. Every classroom and resource room will have a red bin for old bottles, any brand of markers, dry erase markers, and highlighters to be recycled. The markers will be recycled into energy and other things.

5th and 6th grade basketball and cheerleading is coming to an end. All participants were happy to still be participating in their sports on both yellow and red programing.

Name That Book Club competed in virtual competitions with other schools in LaPorte County and won the Spirit Award.

October Blackhawk Pride recipients that were to present at Novembers meeting did a recording as well for this meeting. Makenzie and Owen presented why they are proud to be a Blackhawk.

Ambassadors and Student Council still meet once a week virtually.

The High School Good News Report was presented my Alissa Schnick Principal of Middle / High School. Teachers and staff nominated 29 students who show great character, make positive choices, and represent our school well. These 29 seniors will have a banner with their pictures on it and hung downtown Westville. This is a really big honor.

Received a grant for a program called Building Blackhawks which is a mentoring program. Currently in the process of looking for mentors and the program will be starting in January.

Counselors Chat is held with Mrs. Schnick and Mrs. Wilkinson where students grade 7-12 can check in and chat. Little mental health check in. This program is group or individual.

Alissa gave a shout out to Mr. Smith for bringing in Northwest Indiana Carpenters Apprenticeship program. They did a live zoom and learned about apprenticeships.

Alissa also gave a shout out to Toni Biancardi for the program she is in charge of. Toni visited Maddie Forrest who takes Health Science 1 at A.K Smith. Maddie takes her classes at A.K Smith in the morning then works goes to work at Brace and still takes her required school classes online on top of it all.

A few of Ms. Strudas 7th grade English students read about a room in their dream home. These students had to use prepositional phrases to describe their dream home.

Dr. Sandra Wood had 2 important issues to discuss with the Board.

1. Covid-19 update from the State
 - a. County metric 2.5 / Orange Category
 - b. 6 active cases – All virtual cases no exposure
 - i. 2 Elementary
 - ii. 4 High School
 - c. Virtual students under 25%
2. Solar
 - a. Didn't receive this month's bill before meeting. Compared number of 2018 & 2019. To show we are back to operational
 - b. Board would like us to make Solar Panels a standing item on our School Board Agenda

6) Approval of October 14, 2020 School Board Minutes

Mr. Hodge made a motion to approve the Approval of November 11, 2020 School Board Minutes and Mrs. Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7) Personnel

A. Resignations

- **Ken Pepper / 5th and 6th Grade Girls Basketball**
- **Anna Grismer / H.S. Science Teacher**
- **Erin Sharpe / Band Director effective at the end of 2020-2021 School Year**

B. Recommendations

- **Ken Pepper / MS Girls Basketball**
- **Alissa Schnick / Elementary Girls Basketball**

C. Leaves

- **Cynthia Toth / Maternity Leave**

Mr. Parkman made a motion approve the Personnel Resignations, Recommendations, and Leaves. Mrs. Hannon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8) Professional Leave Requests

None

9) Donations
None

10) Approval of 2% Salary Increase for Administrators and Non-Certified Staff

Mrs. Jedrysek made a motion to approve the Approval of 2% for Administrators and Non-Certified Staff and Mr. Parkman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

11) Approval of TAG Performance Stipends for Teachers

Mrs. Hannon made a motion to approve the Approval of TAG Performance Stipends for Teachers and Mrs. Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

12) Approval of Non-Certified Employee Benefit and Pay Guideline

Mr. Parkman made a motion to approve the Approval of Non-Certified Employee Benefit and Pay Guideline. Mrs. Jedrysek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

13) Approval of Non-Certified Starting Pay Scale

Mrs. Wilson made a motion to approve the Approval of Non-Certified Starting Pay Scale. Mr. Hodge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

14) Approval of 403(b) Contributions for Eligible Non-Certified Staff

No motion was made. Approval of 403(b) Contributions for Eligible Non-Certified Staff was tabled.

15) Approval of Resolution to Close 2020

Mrs. Jedrysek made a motion to approve the Approval of Resolution to Close 2020. Mrs. Hannon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

16) Financials

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

17) Correspondence
None

18) Adjournment


Mrs. Jedrysek adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting Date:

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. in the Upstairs Gym



Lynn Wilson, Secretary



Date

