

Board of Education

The meeting of Northwest Education Services Board of Education was held on November 5, 2024. President Fisher called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll call

Board Members Present:	Board Members Absent:	
Birgy	Scherrer	Lajko
Brown	Thomas	Petrella
Fisher		

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Board Member Brown, supported by Board Member Scherrer, to approve the November 5, 2024 agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Welcomed Visitors & Public Comment

There were none

Student/Staff/Local District Highlights/Presentations/Recognitions:

SAIL(ORS) On Deck – Organizational Recognition System

Board of Education members recognized this month's SAIL(ORS) On Deck. This month's standout is Barb Hoxsie, Interpreter, who has exemplified strengths in the organizational value of Students/Learners First, presented in recognition of prioritizing the needs of all learners.

Integrating Neuroscience and Trauma-Informed Practices at Creekside School –Creekside Teacher Carey Curran and Supervisor Lisa Klepper

Lisa introduced Carey Curran as a true leader in education and she embodies the essence of a lifelong learner, continuously to seeking growth both personally and professionally and as building leader instrumental for students and staff at Creekside. Carey provided information on the journey all the staff at Creekside work really hard each day to support students that may experience trauma and mental health issues. Staff are always working on strategies to make sure discipline and instruction are based on compassion while maintaining high expectations. We have strengthened our positive behavior support system and restorative practices along with mindfulness and culturally responsiveness. Social and emotional learning is the framework of our practice focusing in on the research and book from Dr. Lori Desautels and her views of self-awareness, self-control and interpersonal skills. This year all the staff at Creekside are doing a book study along with a learning kit for different age groups on Brain and Body Brilliance – Manual to cultivate awareness and practices for our nervous systems. We are using this alongside of our students for our learning. That involves being aware of our nervous systems so we can help our students to be calm and regulated to access learning.

Motion by Board Member Birgy, supported by Board Member Scherrer, to approve consent grouping items 1-4 as presented.

1. Minutes of October 8, 2024 regular meeting
2. Minutes of October 15, 2024 special meeting
3. Monthly Accounts Payable Check Summary and Financial Report October 1, 2024 to October 31, 2024. Check Numbers: 197585-197849. Total for Month: \$3,901,859.03
4. Personnel:
 - a. New Employees:

November 5, 2024

- Christina Heater, Secretary, effective October 28, 2024
 - Hannah Cort, Teacher Assistant, effective October 28, 2024
 - Angela Hartman, Teacher Assistant, effective October 28, 2024
 - Lisa Nedow, Elementary Literacy Coach, effective November, 2024
 - Kristen Romps, EI Teacher, effective November, 2024
 - Kimberlee Forsman, Teacher Assistant, effective November 14, 2024
- b. Employee Resignations:
- Amy Baker, Occupational Therapist, effective January 6, 2024 (Retirement 20 ½ years)
 - Anna Eckstein, Teacher Assistant, effective December 31, 2024 (retirement 23 ½ years)
 - Heather L’Esperance, Paraprofessional, effective October 30, 2024
 - Savhanna Valliere, Teacher Assistant, effective November 27, 2024
 - Mary McKee, Teacher Assistant, effective November 4, 2024

Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Brown, supported by Board Member Thomas to approve continuation of a 100% Summer Tax Collection in those districts that implement at 100% summer collection:

WHEREAS, this Board previously adopted a resolution to impose a summer tax levy to collect 100% of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the District and continuing from year-to-year until specifically revoked by the Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Pursuant to the Revised School Code, MCL 380.1 et seq., the Board invokes for 2025 its previously-adopted ongoing resolution imposing a summer tax levy of 100% of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the District and continuing from year-to-year until specifically revoked by the Board and requests that each city and/or township in which the District is located collect those summer taxes.
2. The Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to forward to the governing body of each city and/or township in which the District is located a copy of this Board’s resolution imposing a summer property tax levy on an ongoing basis and a copy of this resolution requesting that each such city and/or township agree to collect the summer tax levy for 2025 in the amount specified in this resolution. Such forwarding of the resolutions and the request to collect the summer tax levy shall be performed so that they are received by the governing bodies on or before December 31, 2024.
3. Pursuant to and in accordance with Revised School Code Section 1613(1), the Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to negotiate on behalf of the District with the governing body of each city and/or township in which the District is located for the reasonable expenses for collection of the District’s summer tax levy that the city and/or township may bill under Revised School Code Sections 1611 or 1612. Any such proposed agreement shall be brought before this Board for its approval or disapproval.
4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are rescinded.

Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Scherrer, supported by Board Member Thomas to approve extension of Lease Agreement for Adult Community Experience II Programs for three-year lease in the amount of \$185,673.60.

Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Birgy, supported by Board Member Scherrer to appoint Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Member Tina Lentz, from Benzie County Central Schools. Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Thomas, supported by Board Member Scherrer to accept Proposal of Superintendent Search Firm to the Michigan Leadership Institute (MLI). Roll call vote: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Information Items:

Peter Haines, Consultant with the Michigan Leadership Institute was introduced and he will be leading the superintendent search on behalf of MLI. He proposed a tentative timeline for the search process and building the candidate profile. Timeline proposed: Fall, 2025 MLI can facilitate a board goal work session with the new superintendent; July 1 new superintendent starting date; by the end of March or before spring recess final candidate decision and offer; mid-March second round interviews; second week of March first round interviews; first week of March board orientation to interview process; February 20-21 tentative candidate selections; February 7 – 14 screening and vetting of viable candidates; January 6 – February 6 posting is open; December board meeting superintendent profile is proposed; November 18-19 focus groups with staff, students, parents and community partners; November 13 deadline for board members to provide input for the profile and position posting.

Updates:

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Nick Ceglarek:

1. We had over 1,000 educators in multiple different locations attending Regional Staff Development Day. Thanked the work to coordinate this from Matt Olson and his whole team for presenting and their hard work being done to have a successful day.
2. We wish our local districts well today who have a variety of bond and non-homestead items on ballots for election day.

There were none.

Dates to Remember:

December 3, 2024 Board of Education Meeting 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Joseph Fisher, President

Lisa Thomas, Secretary