

# **Nottawa Community School**

## **Board Meeting**

December 9, 2024 ~ 7:00 P.M.

## **Minutes**

“Building Better Futures for Children and Communities”

### **I. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Rosenbaum.

Members Present: Brandon, Danberry, Hochstetler, Rosenbaum

A. Required Reading of PA213.

### **II. Introduction of guests:**

The board recognized Ian Reese of Gabridge and Associates. Ian is present virtually this evening to present the budget audit for the 2023 - 2024 fiscal year. In person this evening is Karen Bojanich, Fiscal Services Manager, to present the December budget revisions. .

### **III. Correspondence:**

- A. Mr. Wolff read a correspondence from Filter First informing the district that it was awarded a competitive grant in the amount of \$11,820 for the installation of additional drinking fountains for the main building and the new preschool/early elementary building.

### **IV. Presentations if any:**

- A. The annual budget audit for the 2023 - 2024 school year was presented by Mr. Ian Reese of Gabridge and Associates. The district received the highest rating of unqualified and no findings; meaning that everything was accounted for, and there were no errors or revisions needed to the budget.

Motion by Rosenbaum, support by Hochstetler to accept the audit as presented. Motion Carried 4-0.

### **Consent Agenda**

All items will be acted upon by one vote without being discussed separately unless there is a request from a board member to remove an individual agenda item (or items) from the Consent Agenda to be discussed and possibly voted upon separately. All agenda items pulled from the Consent Agenda will be placed under Action Items.

- B. Approval of Minutes for November 11, 2024 Board of Education Meetings
- C. Approval of Financial Report.
- D. Approval of Monthly Board Bills: in the amount of \$39,166.97 through November 21, 2024.

Motion by Rosenbaum, support by Hochstetler to approve the consent agenda. Motion Carried 4-0.

### **Action items**

#### **E. Bus Driver Wage Review Request**

Following much fact checking and review of the financial cost Treasurer Danberry and Mr. Wolff gave an explanation of the bus driver wage request to bring hourly wages even for all duties per the step paid to the bus driver while they are in service. During the discussion it was noted that the business offices identified a

need to align the timing for planning an approval of wages in order to avoid complications with the budget planning process. Further, Mr. Wolff advised that in addition to good financial stewardship, it is in the best interest of all parties to have all employee wages reviewed and set at the same time each year, and that the amount should be set for that year.

Motion by Rosenbaum support by Hochstetler to approve bus drivers pay across the board at the hourly wage rate \$20 per hour for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year with no difference in pay for non driving duties, with the understanding that there will be no future mid-school-year changes to be considered by the board. Motion Carried 4-0.

#### F. Bingaman Post Maternity Contract

Mrs. Bingaman is returning from maternity leave.

Motion by Hochstetler, support by Brandon to approve Bingaman's contract for the remainder of the 2024 - 2025 school year at \$19,179.

#### G. Budget Revisions

Mrs. Bojanich presented the December budget revisions including 15 points of interest. Within these points of interest two that stood out were the required addition of a Title 3 ESL Teacher, and the creation of a necessary set aside of \$100,000 to ensure future capital projects and human resource needs due to the expansion project.

Motion by Rosenbaum, support by Hochstetler to approve the December budget revision as presented. Motion Carried 4-0.

### V. Information items

#### A. Early Elementary Building (4 Year Old Preschool and Young 5's)

Mr. Wolff provided an update on the progress of the pier installation for the building.

#### B. GSRP Application Update

The school is moving forward with the GSRP application process with the intent of submitting an application to LARA as soon as possible.

#### C. Categorical Grant 12d

An application has been submitted for a competitive grant for the purpose of an internal consolidation of the Stone School with the intent of updating the building and bringing it into a more regular use by the district. Mr. Wolff estimates it will be 3-6 months before knowing if the proposal will be approved.

#### D. Progress on facility projects

##### a) Clean Drinking Water: Update

The district was awarded \$11,820 from the competitive Filter First Clean Drinking water grant. These monies will go toward the addition of more filtered drinking fountains and filtered drinking water for everyone on campus, including water fountains for the new building.

##### b) Internet Fiber Installation Project

Fiber has been installed. The IT department is hooking up the new equipment to expand internet coverage and connectivity across the campus.

E. Legal Update(s)

Mr. Wolff shared legal updates from THRUN Law.

**VI. Other**

**VII. Adjourn**

Motion by Rosenbum, support by Hochstetler to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Motion Carried 4-0.

**VISION**

*“Nottawa Community School will encourage the involvement of parents and community to embrace a shared purpose in the education of our students to become problem solving, responsible, and contributing members of society.”*