

NORTHWEST INDIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
2150 W. 97th PLACE
CROWN POINT, IN. 46307
April 10, 2019

Executive Session: The Board of Managers met in executive session at 5:30 p.m. and discussed items related to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1.

1. Mr. Larry R. Biggs called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Mrs. Luanne Jurczak took Roll Call. The following members were recorded as present: Mr. Larry R. Biggs for Lake Station, Mrs. Michelle Dumbsky for Tri-Creek, Ms. Judy Dunlap for Merrillville, Mr. Jonathan Evans for Lake Ridge, Mrs. Luanne Jurczak for Highland, Mrs. Michelle Martin for River Forest, Mr. Michael Rogers for Hobart, Mrs. Connie Sterkowitz for Hanover and Mr. Gary Sutton for Griffith.
3. Mr. Biggs asked for comments or questions on agenda items from the audience. There were none.
4. Mr. Biggs asked for any additions or deletions to the March 13, 2019 minutes. Mr. Evans moved for Board approval of the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sutton and passed unanimously.
5. Mrs. Krumwied recommended Board approval of the monthly financial reports dated March 31, 2019 as presented. Mrs. Jurczak moved for Board approval of the monthly financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
6. Mrs. Krumwied requested Board approval of Resolution #18-10 To Transfer Amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund as presented. Mrs. Dumbsky moved for Board approval of Resolution #18-10. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Martin and passed unanimously.
7. Mrs. Winkoff requested approval of the following NEOLA Bylaws and Policies for a second and final reading:

Deleted Policy: 6655 *New Policies:* 3220.02 | 3431

Revised Policies: 1430 | 1521 | 2260.07 | 2260.09 | 3120.07 | 3121 | 3139 | 3141 | 3430 | 4121 | 4430 | 5330 | 5517.01 | 5771 | 6111 | 6210 | 6620 | 6800 | 7440 | 8340 | 8462 | 8500 | 8600 | 9160

Mr. Evans moved for approval of the second and final reading of the NEOLA Bylaws and Policies. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dumbsky and passed unanimously.

8. Mrs. Winkoff recommended Board approval of the Revised Alternative and Residential Contracts as presented. Mrs. Jurczak moved for Board approval of the Alternative and Residential Contracts as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers and passed unanimously.
9. Mrs. Krumwied requested Board approval of the Workmen's Compensation Insurance for the 2019-2020 school year. The Board Members stated they were dissatisfied with the 50 percent increase in rates. Mrs. Krumwied stated that unfortunately the rates have increased by 50 percent but we have to have Workmen's Compensation Insurance. Mr. Evans moved for approval of the Workmen's Compensation Insurance as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers and passed unanimously. Mr. Evans asked that NISEC investigate less expensive Worker's Compensation Insurance.
12. **Director's Report:**
- ✓ Mrs. Winkoff shared on the upcoming Family Night Event sponsored by the Eagle Park Community School. The event will be held at the school on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. In order to promote interaction, communication and cooperation between the school and the families, NISEC and Eagle Park asks for your support in continuing this annual tradition. This event will also include activities and dancing.
 - ✓ Mrs. Winkoff shared information on the upcoming NISEC Staff Appreciation Dinner. The ticketed event will be held at the Halls of St. George on Thursday, April 25, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
13. **Personnel:**
Mrs. Winkoff recommended approval to the following personnel actions:
- A. Retirement**
None at this time.
- B. Resignations**
- Certified**
- Thomas Ghrist*, Mild Interventions Teacher at Highland High School, effective May 24, 2019.
- Jeanine Gonzalez*, Mild Interventions Teacher at Griffith High School, effective June 7, 2019.
- Rebecca Harkema*, IEP Facilitator, effective June 30, 2019.
- Alyeska Kochanek*, Teacher of Emotional Disabilities at Hamilton Elementary, effective June 6, 2019.
- Lindsey Hoover*, NISEC Teacher that took a leave of absence for the 2018-2019sy, effective March 7, 2019.
- Classified**
- Tammy Backe*, Paraprofessional at Hobart High School, effective May 30, 2019.
- Jacob Foddrill*, Paraprofessional at Eagle Park Community School, effective April 12, 2019.
- Lindsey Heiser*, Paraprofessional at Evans Elementary, effective April 19, 2019.
- Elizabeth Justice*, Paraprofessional at Calumet High School, effective March 27, 2019.
- Kylee Loudener*, Paraprofessional at Ready Elementary, effective April 1, 2019.
- Sierra Mueller*, Paraprofessional at Fieler Elementary, effective April 9, 2019.

Katherine Zawacki, Paraprofessional at Jane Ball Elementary, effective May 31, 2019.

Registered

Ester Lopez, Virtual Speech E-Helper, effective March 15, 2019.

C. Terminations

None at this time.

D. Appointments

Certified

Rebecca Harkema, Curriculum Specialist, effective July 1, 2019.

Classified

Stephanie Gordon, Paraprofessional at Joan Martin Elementary, effective March 14, 2019.

Tracie Keene, Paraprofessional at Jane Ball Elementary, effective April 1, 2019.

E. Leave of Absence

Susan Blickenstaff, Paraprofessional at Ready Elementary, effective March 19-22, 2019.

Mariah Scott, on medical leave pursuant to the memo from Mrs. Kathy Cain, dated March 28, 2019.

F. Conference Leave

Brittany Barnard, ADOS-2 Training, Indianapolis, IN., April 10-11, 2019.

Lori Brown-Runyon, Innovate Integrate Motive, Indianapolis, IN., April 23, 2019.

Kathy Cain, IDOE Safety Academy, Indianapolis, IN., May 13-14, 2019.

Marsha Horn, IDOE Safety Academy, Indianapolis, IN., May 13-14, 2019.

Misty Knestrict, ADOS-2 Training, Indianapolis, IN., April 10-11, 2019.

Rebecca Krumwied, DOE Spec Ed Roadshow, LaPorte, IN., April 17, 2019.

G. Independent Contracts

None at this time.

Mrs. Winkoff informed the Board of Managers that NISEC has hired Rebecca Harkema as the Curriculum Specialist for the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Winkoff will be inviting her to come to the Board Meeting on May 8, 2019 to do a presentation for the Board.

Mr. Evans moved for Board approval of the Personnel Report as presented. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Dumbsky and passed unanimously.

14. Mr. Biggs asked for comments or questions from the Board.

Mrs. Dumbsky stated that the State of Indiana needs to look at trends within the school districts. Prices for insurances are going up and I believe the state needs to look into this and fix a few of these issues.

Ms. Dunlap commented that she would like to see more special education teachers participating on committees so there can be a voice for special education.

15. Mr. Biggs asked for comments or questions from the Audience.

Mrs. Trish Foley, President of the Northwest Co-op Teachers Union, commented that in regards to the worker's compensation insurance increasing I know NISEC is very good with training staff members with CPI (Crisis Prevention Interventions) and other trainings. I believe that teachers are getting hurt because they are afraid to intervene based on the possibility of litigation.

Mrs. Jurczak said if she had a written letter from either NISEC or the teachers union stating current issues special education is having, she would then talk to her representatives about these issues.

Mrs Dumbsky commented that teachers should not have to be afraid of litigation; they should be able to do what they need in order to teach.

16. Mr. Evans moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sutton and passed unanimously.