

**NORTHWEST INDIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE**  
**2150 WEST 97<sup>TH</sup> PLACE**  
**CROWN POINT, IN 46307**  
**February 8, 2017**

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 (b) (2) (B), (6) and (9).

1. Mr. Larry R. Biggs called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Mrs. Jurczak took roll call. The following members were recorded as present: Mr. Jonathan Evans, Mrs. Michelle Martin, Mrs. Michelle Dumbsky, Mr. Larry R. Biggs, Mr. Thomas Bainbridge, Mrs. Luanne Jurczak, Mrs. Lisa Megquier and Mr. Dave Bigler. There was no representation for Hanover.
3. Mr. Biggs asked for comments or questions on agenda items from the audience. There were none.
4. Annually, the Board of Managers must take the Indiana Oath of Members. Mrs. Dumbsky was not present at the January 11, 2017 meeting and was asked to recite and sign the Oath. Mrs. Jurasevich, NISEC notary, notarized the document and it will be kept in a file in the NISEC Office.
5. Mr. Biggs asked for any additions or deletions to the January 11, 2017 minutes. Mr. Evans moved for approval of minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bainbridge and passed unanimously.
6. Mrs. Naglich, recommended approval of the Monthly Financial Reports for January 31, 2017 as presented. Mr. Bainbridge moved for approval of the financial reports as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
7. Mrs. Naglich presented the Outstanding Checks to be Voided report as of January 31, 2017. Mrs. Jurczak moved for approval of the Outstanding Checks to be Voided as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
8. Mrs. Cain presented the Staff Needs for 2016-2017. Mrs. Cain requested the Board approve one full-time paraprofessional for Polk Elementary and one full-time Paraprofessional for Salk Elementary. Mr. Bainbridge moved for approval of the Staff Needs as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bigler and passed unanimously.
9. NEOLA Bylaws and Policies  
Mrs. Cain presented the following NEOLA Policies for approval for first reading:  
Revised Bylaws: 0100/0120  
New Policies:  
1619/1619.01/1619.02/3141/3419.03/4419.03/6152/6605/7300/8470/  
8531/8606

Revised Policies: 1411/1422/1520/1521/1543/1662/2260/2510/3120.06/3121/3122/  
3124/3140/3142/3211/3220/3362/3419/3419.01/3419.02/4121/4122/4211/4362/  
4419/4419.01/4419.02/5200/5517/5530/5540/5830/6111/6520/6700/7310/7510.01/  
8120/8121/8330/8340/8400/8420/8500/8510/8540/8600/9160/9700

Deleted Policies: 3420/4420/5130/5460

Technical Corrections: 8405

Mr. Evans moved for approval of the NEOLA Bylaws and Policies for first reading as presented. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Martin and passed unanimously.

10. Mrs. Winkoff asked for approval of one Alternative and Residential Contract for Tri-Creek. Mrs. Dumbsky moved for approval of the Alternative and Residential Contract as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.

11. Director's Report

- \* Mrs. Cain shared information on the Eagle Park Community School fundraiser. Butterbraids will be sold to staff and parents of students. The proceeds will be used for Eagle Park Community School activities such as Camp Day buses and field trips. Mr. Evans noted this fundraiser required approval by the Board of Managers. Mrs. Dumbsky moved for approval of adding the fundraiser to the Agenda and also approving the fundraiser as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
- ✓ Mrs. Cain shared one of the main focuses of NISEC Administration for the 2017-2018 School Year will be to provide more support to the students and staff regarding the increase of behavioral issues. Possibilities include contracting for additional staff from Youth Service Bureau to support teachers in the districts or additional therapeutic day services. Mrs. Cain also noted in the near future the Indiana Department of Education will be targeting Pre-School Programs.
- ✓ Mrs. Cain said a panel of IEP Facilitators and Certified Staff is being called together to share experiences regarding the implementation of the IEP Facilitator positions.

12. Personnel:

Mrs. Winkoff will recommend the following personnel actions:

a. Resignations:

Certified

**Stephanie Johnson**, Mild Interventions Teacher, Highland High School, effective January 27, 2017

Classified

**Pamela Anderson**, Paraprofessional, Lowell High School, effective January 27, 2017

**Brianna Davy**, Paraprofessional for Hanover Middle and Lincoln Elementary, effective February 6, 2017

b. Retirement:

Certified

**Katherine O'Connor**, Adaptive Physical Education and BLAST Teacher at Eagle Park Community School, retiring after 33 years of service with NISEC, effective May 31, 2017

c. Appointments:

Certified

**Megan Myers**, Intense Interventions Teacher at Salk Elementary, effective January 17, 2017

**Charissa Voorhis**, Intense Interventions Teacher at Johnston Elementary, effective January 9, 2017

Classified

**Derice Boyer**, Paraprofessional for Johnston Elementary, effective February 13, 2017

**Linda Haluska**, Paraprofessional for Southridge Elementary, effective January 17, 2017

**Anita Koncalovic**, Paraprofessional for Wadsworth Elementary, effective February 13, 2017

**Jennifer Manley**, Paraprofessional for Merrillville Intermediate, effective January 30, 2017

**Christina Navedo**, Paraprofessional for Eagle Park Community School, effective February 13, 2017

**Tabatha O'Connor**, Paraprofessional for Liberty Elementary, effective January 30, 2017

**Christina Santiago**, Paraprofessional for Evans Elementary, effective January 25, 2017

d. Leave of Absence:

**Katherine Hensley** on medical leave pursuant to the terms of the Family and Medical Leave Act

**Stephen Karpinski** requesting personal leave using two personal business days for February 9-10, 2017 and two unpaid days for February 13-14, 2017

**Chasity Pacheco** on intermittent family medical leave pursuant to the terms of the Family and Medical Leave Act

**Linda Slanina** on family medical leave pursuant to the terms of the Family and Medical Leave Act

e. Conference Leave:

**Susan Carey**, Neuroplasticity for Children, Tinley Park, Illinois, March 10, 2017

**Deanne Hilvert**, Neuroplasticity for Children, Tinley Park, Illinois, March 10, 2017

**Alicia Lasky**, IHSAA Unified Track and Field Clinic, Elkhart, Indiana, January 30, 2017

**Lisa Lesniak**, Neuroplasticity for Children, Tinley Park, Illinois, March 10, 2017

**Margaret Pachowicz**, Neuroplasticity for Children, Tinley Park, Illinois,  
March 10, 2017

**Evelyn Sebastian**, Neuroplasticity for Children, Tinley Park, Illinois,  
March 10, 2017

**Deborah Sheets**, RDS Training Session, Crown Point, Indiana,  
January 27, 2017

**Samantha Williams**, Autism and Sensory Processing Disorders, Crown Point,  
Indiana, March 14, 2017

f. Independent Contracts:

**Irene Schontube**, Educational Diagnostician

Mrs. Jurczak moved for approval of the Personnel Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Megquier and passed unanimously.

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

Mrs. Jurczak wished Mrs. Winkoff a speedy recovery and all of the Board members wished her well. Mrs. Jurczak said she had been approached by an individual from the Lake County Special Olympics who asked her to assist them in disseminating information for participation in the Special Olympics. There was some discussion about posting the information on the NISEC website. Mrs. Dumbsky commended the NISEC Administration for being proactive regarding current student issues, such as behavior. Mrs. Jurczak asked Mrs. Cain to expound on the Pre-School topic. Mrs. Cain said the focus of the Department of Education is going to be on early intervening services. Mrs. Cain had shared she had attended the recent ICASE convention. Mr. Biggs asked if there were any other pertinent issues discussed. Mrs. Cain noted the graduation rate for special education students has increased and the process of students transitioning from special education to the community has improved.

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

Ms. Trish Foley, President of the Northwest Co-op Teachers Union, opened a discussion on the current political climate and the repercussions for special education. Several suggestions were made regarding contacting State Representatives and Senators to voice your opinions.

15. Mr. Bainbridge motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously. The next Board of Managers meeting will be held on March 8, 2017.