

NORTHWEST INDIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
2150 W. 97th PLACE
CROWN POINT, IN. 46307
April 12, 2023

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 Biggs called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Mrs. Judy Dunlap took Roll Call. The following members were recorded as present:
Mr. Larry Biggs for Lake Station, Mrs. Judy Dunlap for Merrillville, Mrs. Louise Neese for Lake Ridge, Mrs. Erica Smith-Gomez for Highland, Ms. Sylvia Pedroza for River Forest, Mr. Frank Porras for Hobart, Mrs. Tara Beilke for Hanover and Dr. Nathan Kleefisch for Tri-Creek.
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 8, 2023 minutes. Mrs. Neese moved for Board approval of the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Porras and passed unanimously.
6. Ms. Rosinko recommended Board approval of the monthly financial reports dated March 31, 2023 as presented. Dr. Kleefisch thanked Ms. Rosinko for always putting a thorough financial packet together. Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of the monthly financial report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pedroza and passed unanimously.
7. Ms. Rosinko requested Board approval of Resolution #23-02 To Transfer Amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund as presented. Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of Resolution #23-02. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Beilke and passed unanimously.
8. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of an Alternative and Residential Contract for Hanover. Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of the Alternative and Residential Contract, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Porras and passed unanimously.
9. Mrs. Cain presented a memo outlining the Workmen's Compensation Insurance bids the NISEC received since last month's Board meeting. Mrs. Cain explained the NISEC received a 30-day notice from IPEP that our coverage was being dropped effective April 15, 2023. The Board of Managers selected Summit LLC after the presentation from Mrs. Cain. Mrs. Smith-Gomez moved for Board approval of Summit LLC as the NISEC's Workmen's Compensation Insurance. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kleefisch and passed unanimously.
10. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of the NISEC Cluster Program Chart for the 2023-2024 School Year. Mrs. Beilke moved for Board approval of the NISEC Cluster Program Chart, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kleefisch and passed unanimously.
11. **Director's Report:**
 - ✓ Mrs. Winkoff updated the Board of Manager in regards to the Conference Summary Form

project which was deployed in February.

- ✓ Mrs. Winkoff gave an update about hiring staff and the budget in light of current legislation. Ms. Rosinko stated she is meeting with the Business Managers on April 17th and will meet once more after the current legislation finishes up. Mrs. Winkoff informed the Board of Managers that the budget will hopefully be presented at the June 14th meeting for approval.
- ✓ Mrs. Winkoff provided the Board with a flyer for the Eagle Park Community School graduation ceremony. She extended an invite to each Board Member to the graduation ceremony event.
- ✓ Mrs. Winkoff shared information regarding the regretful passing of Robin Guiden, a Mild Interventions Teacher split between Warren Elementary and Merkley Elementary, who served Special Education students in Highland for 8 years after retiring from Lake Central with 32 years of teaching experience.

12. **Personnel:**

Mrs. Winkoff introduced Mrs. Marsha Horn, who was recommended by the Superintendents to be the new Executive Director of NISEC. Mrs. Horn gave a speech regarding her background as a School Psychologist and an Administrator and why she feels she is the right candidate for the position. She also shared her excitement regarding this opportunity to be the new Executive Director of the NISEC, should the Board so agree.

Mrs. Winkoff then recommended approval to the following personnel actions:

a. Retirement

Registered

Evelyn Sebastian, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, effective June 2, 2023.

b. Resignations

Administrative

Janice Anstead, IEP Facilitator in Merrillville, effective July 31, 2023.

Abigail Gonzalez, District Director for Merrillville, effective June 30, 2023.

Marsha Horn, District Director in Hobart and Diagnostic Staff Supervisor, effective June 30, 2023.

Certified

Jamie Gronkowski, Speech and Language Pathologist, effective April 7, 2023.

Jordan Mazzaro, Mild Interventions Teacher at Lowell MS, effective June 5, 2023.

Anna Pyke, Autism Teacher at Fieler Elementary, effective June 2, 2023.

Classified

Adeline Bemish, Paraprofessional at Merrillville High School, effective March 20, 2023.

Thea Camel, Paraprofessional at Highland MS, effective March 20, 2023.

Loray Cruz, Paraprofessional at Highland Middle School, effective April 14, 2023.

Lillian Hampton, Paraprofessional at River Forest HS, effective March 17, 2023.

Kim Kotarski, Paraprofessional at Longfellow Elementary, effective March 8, 2023.

Kimberly Krueger, Paraprofessional at Bailey Elementary, effective April 7, 2023.

Alec Meisberger, Paraprofessional at Fieler Elementary, effective March 28, 2023.

Joelle Niemzyk, Virtual Speech E-Helper at Merrillville Intermediate School, effective June 2, 2023.

Anna Vesely, Paraprofessional at Wood Elementary, effective March 16, 2023.

Krystal Williamson, Paraprofessional at Joan Martin Elementary, effective April 7, 2023.

Katherine Zawacki, Paraprofessional at Lowell Middle School, effective June 2, 2023.

Registered

Sara Erskine, Behavior Intervention Specialist at Eagle Park Community School, effective March 27, 2023.

Bailey Owen, Behavior Intervention Specialist at Eagle Park Community School, effective March 16, 2023.

c. Terminations

Cindy McClanahan, Paraprofessional at Jane Ball Elementary, effective March 10, 2023.

d. Appointments

Administrative

Marsha Horn, Executive Director, effective July 1, 2023.

Certified

Janice Anstead, Early Childhood Teacher at Lowell Middle School, effective August 1, 2023.

Classified

Judson Burton, Paraprofessional at Bailey Elementary, effective April 3, 2023.

Arshia Denson, Paraprofessional at Joan Martin Elementary, effective April 3, 2023.

Connie Huseman, Paraprofessional at Oak Hill Elementary, effective March 15, 2023.

Megan Miner, Paraprofessional at Joan Martin Elementary, effective April 3, 2023.

Dominique Ramon, Paraprofessional at Eagle Park Community School, effective March 27, 2023.

Natasha Scroggins, Paraprofessional at TELC at George Earle, effective April 3, 2023.

Aleksandra Serdar, Paraprofessional at Joan Martin Elementary, effective April 10, 2023.

Jessica Smith, Paraprofessional at River Forest Middle School, effective April 17, 2023.

Wendy Targgart, Paraprofessional at Fielier Elementary, effective April 11, 2023.

Bryan Vowell, Paraprofessional at Merrillville High School, effective March 27, 2023.

Non-Certified Custodial

Paulette Pavich, Custodian at Eagle Park Community School/NISEC, effective April 3, 2023.

Registered

Kristina Aimone, Occupational Therapist for NISEC, effective August 14, 2023.

e. Independent Contracts

None at this time.

f. Leave of Absence

None at this time.

g. Conference Leave

Lisa Rosinko, IASBO Conference, Fort Wayne, IN, May 10-13, 2023.

h. Other

Regretful passing of Robin Guiden, Mild Interventions Teacher split between Warren Elementary and Merkle Elementary in Highland for 8 years after retiring from Lake Central with 32 years.

Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of the Personnel Report, as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pedroza and passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Biggs welcomed Mrs. Marsha Horn as the new Executive Director of the NISEC. Mrs. Winkoff shared that Mrs. Horn is very innovative and the current administrative team is very supportive of Mrs. Horn moving into the role of Executive Director. Dr. Kleefisch commented that from Mrs. Horn's speech he can already tell that she has a lot of passion and is very student centered. Mrs. Cain shared that Mrs. Horn is a leader who leads with her heart and feels she is a great fit for the role.

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

There were none.

15. Dr. Kleefisch moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Porrás and passed unanimously.