

NORTHWEST INDIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
2150 W. 97th PLACE
CROWN POINT, IN. 46307
April 14, 2021

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 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Mr. Jonathan Evans took Roll Call. The following members were recorded as present: Mr. Larry Biggs for Lake Station, Mrs. Judy Dunlap for Merrillville, Mr. Jonathan Evans for Lake Ridge, Mrs. Luanne Jurczak for Highland, Mrs. Michelle Martin for River Forest, Mr. Frank Porras for Hobart and Mr. Douglas Ward for Tri-Creek. There was no representation for Hanover.
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 10, 2021 minutes. Mrs. Jurczak made a motion to correct item number 1 of the minutes to change Mr. Bainbridge to Mr. Biggs. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans. Mrs. Martin moved for Board approval of the minutes with the correction as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
5. Ms. Rosinko recommended Board approval of the monthly financial reports dated March 31, 2021 as presented. Mr. Evans moved for Board approval of the monthly financial report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dunlap and passed unanimously.
6. Ms. Rosinko requested Board approval of Resolution #20-22 To Transfer Amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund as presented. Mrs. Martin moved for Board approval of Resolution #20-22 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jurczak and passed unanimously.
7. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of the 2021-2022 NISEC/Eagle Park Community School calendar. Mr. Evans moved for board approval of the 2021-2022 NISEC/Eagle Park Community School calendar, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dunlap and passed unanimously.
8. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of the (2) Alternative and Residential Contracts, one for Merrillville and the other for Hobart, as presented. Mrs. Martin moved for Board approval of the Alternative and Residential Contracts. The motion was seconded by Mr. Porras and passed unanimously.

9. Mrs. Cain requested Board approval of the Workmen’s Compensation Insurance Rates for 2021-2022. Mrs. Cain informed the board that NISEC’s workmen’s compensation insurance premiums went down by \$35,909. The Board of Managers were pleased to hear about the lower insurance premium for workmen’s compensation. The Board thanked Mrs. Cain and the NISEC staff for all of their hard work to lower the premium costs. Mr. Evans moved for Board approval of the 2021-2022 Workmen’s Compensation Insurance Rates as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jurczak and passed unanimously.

10. **Director’s Report:**

- ✓ Mrs. Winkoff shared revised job descriptions with the Board of Managers for Financial Assistant/Payroll and Eagle Park Secretary. She informed the Board that more revised job descriptions will be brought to them once we have all positions in the administrative office filled. An organizational chart will also be shared with the Board of Managers once all positions in the administrative office are filled.
- ✓ Mrs. Winkoff shared information regarding the activities that have gone on during the Month of March for Disability Awareness by staff. Mrs. Winkoff shared a few of the activities that were held, they included: child friendly videos about disability awareness, t-shirt sales and water color bracelets with encouraging words. Mrs. Winkoff explained that our staff had to be very creative this year with spreading awareness due to the pandemic and I would say “They did a great job”.

11. **Personnel:**

Mrs. Winkoff recommended approval to the following personnel actions:

A. Retirement

Non-Certified Clerical

Alice Castro, District Administrative Assistant, effective July 2, 2021.

Classified

Carol Johnson, Paraprofessional at Hanover Middle School, effective June 3 , 2021.

B. Resignations

Certified

Jennifer Whitler, Teacher of Mild Interventions at Hanover Central High School, effective June 4, 2021

Classified

Cynthia Sobczak, Paraprofessional at Bailey Elementary in Lake Station, effective March 19, 2021.

Cassandra Sarcinelli, Paraprofessional at Southridge Elementary in Highland, effective April 7, 2021.

Sandy McKnight, Paraprofessional at Highland Middle School, effective April 27, 2021.

Non-Certified Clerical

Voskra Darnell, Administrative Assistant, effective March 19, 2021.

Megan Hamilton, Administrative Assistant, resigned before first day of work, April 12, 2021.

Nicole Padilla, Receptionist, effective April 16, 2021.

C. Terminations

None at this time.

D. Appointments

Certified

Emily Spencer, Teacher at TELC at George Earle, effective August 16, 2021.

Classified

Brandy Bunn, Paraprofessional at Longfellow Elementary, effective April 14, 2021.

Belinda Sczurko, Paraprofessional at Lowell High School, effective March 29, 2021.

Registered

Rebecca Butler, School Psychologist, location TBD, effective August 16, 2021.

Sara Palkon, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, effective April 5, 2021.

Non-Certified Clerical

Michelle Borowy, Payroll Assistant, effective March 24, 2021

Michael Erdelac, IT Support/Data Specialist, effective March 22, 2021.

Megan Hamilton, Administrative Assistant, effective April 12, 2021.

E. Leave of Absence

Sydney Hopp, Teacher of Autism at Eagle Park Community School pursuant to the memo by Kathy Cain dated April 8, 2021.

F. Conference Leave

None at this time.

G. Independent Contracts

None at this time.

H. Other

None at this time.

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

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

A discussion ensued about the 10-01 Budget Bill. Board members were encouraged to reach out to the state Senators in favor of the Bill.

Mrs. Jurczak asked Ms. Trish Foley, Teacher Union President, if she could to let all teachers know how much the Board appreciates all they do. She also asked administration to let all supporting staff know they are appreciated as well.

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

Ms. Trish Foley spoke about Bill 10-05 for voucher expansion to non-public schools and how this could hurt public education. We need to send a message "Stop taking money from public education" to our government. The Board of Managers agreed with Ms. Foley.

14. Mr. Evans moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Martin and passed unanimously.