

NORTHWEST INDIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
2150 W. 97th PLACE
CROWN POINT, IN. 46307
July 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, Mr. Jonathan Evans for Lake Ridge, Mrs. Luanne Jurczak for Highland, Mrs. Judy Dunlap for Merrillville, Mrs. Michelle Martin for River Forest and Mr. Terry Butler, proxy for Frank Porras, for Hobart. There was no representation for Hanover or 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 May 12, 2021 minutes. This item was tabled at the June 9, 2021 Board Meeting. Mrs. Jurczak moved for Board approval of the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
5. Mr. Biggs asked for any additions or deletions to the June 9, 2021 minutes. Mr. Butler moved for Board approval of the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dunlap and passed with 4 ayes and 2 abstentions by River Forest and Merrillville.
6. Ms. Rosinko recommended Board approval of the monthly financial reports dated June 30, 2021, as presented. Mrs. Martin moved for Board approval of the monthly financial report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dunlap and passed unanimously.
7. Ms. Rosinko requested Board approval of Resolution #21-01 To Transfer Amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. Mr. Evans moved for Board approval of Resolution #21-01, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Butler and passed unanimously.
8. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of Resolution #21-02 For Purposes of Evaluation and Dismissal for NISEC Employees- Superintendent. Mrs Winkoff explained "This is a resolution that gives me the authority to act as Superintendent for purposes of dismissal and termination of employees". Mrs. Jurczak moved for Board approval of Resolution #21-02, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously. Mr. Butler asked if there was a policy on this item. Mrs. Winkoff said we do have a general policy on termination but this is more about Indiana Code. In Indiana Code, it

states that only a Superintendent has the authority to enter a notice of termination to the Board of Managers. Mr. Biggs and Mr. Butler recommended looking in to turning these resolutions into policies so they do not have to be approved every year. Mrs. Winkoff stated this is worth looking into.

9. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of Resolution #21-03 For Purposes of Evaluation and Dismissal for NISEC Employees- Principal. Mrs. Winkoff explained that this resolution is presented every year to allow Mrs. Kathy Cain to act as Principal to bring a termination recommendation to Mrs. Winkoff, acting Superintendent, who will then bring the notice of termination to the Board of Managers. Mr. Evans moved for Board approval of Resolution #21-03, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dunlap and passed unanimously.
10. Mrs. Rosinko requested Board approval of the Eagle Park Textbook Rental and Fees, Food Service Prices and Copying Fees for the 2021-2022 School Year, as presented. Mrs. Rosinko shared that there was no increase in costs this year. The USDA has approved free breakfast and lunch for all students for the 2021-2022 school year. If the students were to get any extra items, the costs for those are listed on the proposal. Mrs. Martin moved for Board approval of the Eagle Park Fees for the 2021-2022 School Year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
11. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of the Eagle Park Community School Handbook for the 2021-2022 School Year. Mrs. Winkoff walked through the changes made in the Handbook for this year. Mrs. Winkoff explained that she worked with Michelle Cooper, our attorney for language recommendations. Mr. Evans moved for Board approval of Eagle Park Community School Handbook, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jurczak and passed unanimously.
12. Mrs. Rosinko requested Board approval of the Credit Card Authorization for BMO Harris Bank, as presented. Mrs. Rosinko explained that there has been a change staff with Becky Krumwied leaving, and she needs to be an authorized user on the NISEC account. BMO Harris is requiring this BMO standard resolution to be passed to make the change on our account. Mrs. Dunlap moved for Board approval of the Credit Card Authorization. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jurczak and passed unanimously.
13. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of the NISEC Board of Managers Meeting Calendar Dates for the 2021-2022 School year. Mr. Evans moved for Board approval of the meeting dates, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Martin and passed unanimously. Mrs. Dunlap asked why there is a Board Meeting held in July if the Superintendent meeting in July is cancelled. Mrs. Winkoff explained that our bills and payroll (financials) for the prior month have to be approved at a Board meeting. Mrs. Martin asked if a copy of the Board agenda is sent to the Superintendents in July, when the Superintendent's meeting is cancelled. Mrs. Winkoff said that the Superintendents' discuss what occurred at the Board Meeting, the following month. Mrs. Winkoff explained that a typical July meeting does not have many items on it but this year happens to be different, with the topic of stipends being complex. She let the Board

members know that the Superintendents are aware of the items on this agenda even though they were not sent an agenda. Moving forward she will send the agenda for the Board Meeting to the Superintendents, if there was no Superintendent meeting held the week prior to the Board Meeting. The Board Members thanked Mrs. Winkoff for making the change.

14. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of the Alternative and Residential Contract for the Merrillville Community School Corporation, as presented. Mrs. Jurczak moved for Board approval of the Alternative and Residential Contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
15. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of a stipend for NISEC's Certificated Staff. Mrs. Dunlap moved for Board approval of a stipend for NISEC's Certificated Staff, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Butler and passed unanimously.
16. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of the MOU with NCTU Regarding Stipends for Certified Staff, as presented. Mrs. Winkoff explained that the Memorandum of Understanding is developed as a requirement by EERB so NISEC can give certified staff additional funds outside of the bargaining contract. Mr. Butler moved for Board approval of the Memorandum of Understanding. The motion was seconded by Mr. Evans and passed unanimously.
17. Mrs. Winkoff requested Board approval of a stipend for NISEC's Classified Staff. Mr. Butler moved for Board approval of a stipend for NISEC's Classified Staff, as presented. Mrs. Winkoff explained that for classified staff to be awarded this stipend they must have worked a minimum of 120 days in the 2020-2021 school year and be employed during the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Butler asked Mrs. Foley, Teacher Union Presidents and also a certified teacher with NISEC, to share how the membership feels about classified staff receiving the stipend. Mrs. Foley stated that they are in favor of the classified staff getting the stipend. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jurczak and passed with 5 ayes and 1 nay from River Forest. Mrs. Martin explained that River Forest is not giving a stipend to any staff members other than teachers so she cannot vote in favor of a stipend for classified staff for NISEC.
18. **Director's Report:**
 - ✓ Mrs. Winkoff shared that the Anderson Foundation awarded a grant to NISEC in the amount of \$10,000.00. This grant assists in supporting the services provided by Joe Power, the NISEC music/art teacher. Mrs. Winkoff shared that NISEC does send a letter to the Anderson Foundation thanking them for the grant.
 - ✓ Mrs. Winkoff shared the NISEC office organizational chart, as well as the administrative organizational charts for the 2021-2022 school year.

19. **Personnel:**

Mrs. Winkoff recommended approval to the following personnel actions:

A. Retirement

Certified

Jacqueline Dixon, Autism Teacher at Eagle Park Community School, effective June 4, 2021.

B. Resignations

Certified

Amber Balcerak, School Psychologist, effective June 9, 2021.

Shannon Davis, Teacher of Mild Interventions split between Evans Elementary in River Forest and Bailey Elementary in Lake Station, effective June 30, 2021. Resigned before first day of work.

Dana Ison, Teacher of Mild Interventions at Lowell High School, effective June 14, 2021.

Christina Musielak, Autism Teacher at Eagle Park Community School, effective June 4, 2021.

Classified

Kaylyn Morehouse, Paraprofessional at Eagle Park Community School, effective June 4, 2021.

C. Terminations

None at this time.

D. Appointments

Certified

Jacqueline Carpenter, Teacher of Emotional Disabilities at Bailey Elementary, effective August 12, 2021.

Anna Cochrane, Teacher of Autism at Eagle Park Community School, effective August 16, 2021.

Kimberly Drapac, Teacher of Autism at Fieler Elementary, effective August 16, 2021.

Sean Flynn, Teacher of Intense Interventions at Pierce Middle School, effective August 16, 2021.

Abigail Gonzalez, District Director for Merrillville, effective August 2, 2021.

Morgan McDonald, Teacher of Mild Interventions at Lowell Senior High School, effective August 9, 2021.

Amanda Newton, Teacher of a Mild Interventions split between Liberty Elementary and Veterans Elementary in Hobart, effective August 16, 2021.

Gabriella Ramirez, Speech and Language Pathologist, effective August 16, 2021.

Classified

Angelica Brzezinski, Paraprofessional at Evans Elementary, effective August 18, 2021.

Lucinda Jolliff, Paraprofessional at Eagle Park Community School, effective August 18, 2021.

Judith Kender, Paraprofessional at Eagle Park Community School, effective August 18, 2021.

Aracelli Martinez, Paraprofessional at Eagle Park Community School, effective July 12, 2021.

Courtney Oleck, Paraprofessional at Southridge Elementary, effective August 11, 2021.

Shemeatria Smith, Paraprofessional at Eagle Park Community School, effective August 18, 2021.

Irene Vogelpohl, Paraprofessional at Eagle Park Community School, effective August 18, 2021.

Non-Certified Clerical

Jessica Caldwell, Administrative Assistant, effective June 28, 2021.

Lesley Payne, Receptionist, effective July 7, 2021.

Registered

Kacey Amendola, Behavior Intervention Specialist at Eagle Park Community School, effective August 16, 2021.

E. Leave of Absence

None at this time.

F. Conference Leave

None at this time.

G. Independent Contracts

Kelly Ezbenko, Orientation and Mobility Specialist, effective August 11, 2021.

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.

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

Mr. Bigg thanked the Board members on all of their input for Mrs. Winkoff's evaluation.

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

There were none.

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