

NORTHWEST INDIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE
2150 W. 97th PLACE
CROWN POINT, IN. 46307
October 11, 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 6:00 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, Ms. Sylvia Pedroza for River Forest, Mr. Frank Porras for Hobart, Mrs. Judy Dunlap for Merrillville, Dr. Nathan Kleefisch for Tri-Creek, Mrs. Louise Neese for Lake Ridge, Mrs. Tara Beilke for Hanover and Mrs. Erica Smith-Gomez for Highland.
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 September 13, 2023 minutes. Mr. Porras moved for Board approval of the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kleefisch and passed unanimously.
5. Ms. Gilmore recommended Board approval of the monthly financial reports dated September 30, 2023, as presented. Mrs. Smith-Gomez moved for Board approval of the monthly financial report. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dunlap and passed unanimously.
6. Ms. Gilmore requested Board approval of Resolution #23-13 To Transfer Amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund, as presented. Mrs. Beilke moved for Board approval of Resolution #23-13. The motion was seconded by Mr. Porras and passed unanimously.
7. Mrs. Horn requested Board approval of Resolution #23-14 Re:/ I.C. 20-28-9-1.5 (a), as presented. Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of Resolution #23-14. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pedroza and passed unanimously.
8. Mrs. Horn requested Board approval to change the November Board Meeting Date from Wednesday, November 8, 2023 to Thursday, November 9, 2023. Mrs. Dunlap moved for Board approval to change the November Board Meeting date to Thursday, November 9, 2023. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kleefisch and passed unanimously.
9. Mrs. Horn requested Board approval of the Midland Holiday Catalog fundraiser for Eagle Park Community School. Mrs. Horn shared the proceeds from the Midland Holiday Catalog fundraiser will be used for school activities such as the Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner and Camp Day. Mrs. Smith-Gomez moved for Board approval of the Eagle Park Community School fundraiser, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Neese and passed unanimously.
10. Mrs. Horn requested Board approval of the staff needs for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented. Dr. Kleefisch moved for Board approval of the staff needs for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Neese and passed unanimously.

11. **Director's Report:**

- ✓ Mrs. Horn updated the Board of Managers on Professional Development, including Karen Glasser-Sharp presenting at the October 4, 2023 Superintendent's Meeting on Article 7, discipline and removals.
- ✓ Mrs. Horn updated the Board of Managers regarding the ICASE workshop she and Kathy attended at the end of September.
- ✓ Mrs. Horn shared information about the Eagle Park Community School Walk-a-Thon that was held on Friday, October 6, 2023. She congratulated the Eagle Park staff and students on raising over \$3,500.
- ✓ Mrs. Horn updated the Board of Managers regarding current litigation.

12. **Personnel:**

Mrs. Horn recommended approval to the following personnel actions:

A. Retirement

None at this time.

B. Resignations

Certified

Kaitlin Alton, Mild Interventions Teacher at Lowell Middle School, effective October 20, 2023.

Sean Kavois, Mild Interventions Teacher at Merrillville High School, effective August 1, 2023.

Belinda Ortiz, Mild Interventions Teacher at Merrillville Intermediate School, effective October 8, 2023.

Classified

Kelly Butler, Paraprofessional at Hobart High School, effective October 6, 2023.

Matthew Demetrakis, Paraprofessional at Merrillville High School, effective September 10, 2023.

Resa Kiser, Paraprofessional at Fieler Elementary, effective October 6, 2023.

Damonte Lowery, Paraprofessional at Hobart High School, effective September 8, 2023.

Casey Morenz, Paraprofessional at Highland Middle School, effective October 9, 2023.

Bryan Vowell, Paraprofessional at Merrillville High School, effective October 13, 2023.

Madison Williams, Paraprofessional at Hanover Middle School, effective September 13, 2023.

Never Worked.

Registered

Lauren Hazlett, Behavior intervention Specialist at Eagle Park Community School, effective October 13, 2023.

Non-Certified Clerical

Beth Kinley, Administrative Assistant, effective September 25, 2023.

C. Terminations

None at this time.

D. Appointments

Administration

Belinda Ortiz, IEP Facilitator in Merrillville, effective October 9, 2023.

Certified

Elizabeth Ancich, Autism Teacher at Fieler Elementary, effective September 22, 2023. Rescinded Resignation.

Cheri Crenshaw, Life Skills Teacher at Longfellow Elementary, effective September 18, 2023.

Matthew Demetrakis, Life Skills Teacher at Merrillville High School, effective September 11, 2023.

Madeline Livinghouse, Autism Teacher at Fieler Elementary, effective October 30, 2023.

Jayne Sindewald, Mild Interventions Teacher at Lowell Middle School, effective October 16, 2023.

Classified

Kerri Britton, Paraprofessional at Lowell High School, effective October 3, 2023.

Lenester Cotton, Paraprofessional at Salk Elementary, effective October 25, 2023.

Deseray Davila, Part-time Paraprofessional at Southridge Elementary, effective October 2, 2023.

Kelly Dinkins, Paraprofessional at Longfellow Elementary, effective September 25, 2023.
Deja Fields, Paraprofessional at Joan Martin Elementary, effective October 2, 2023.
Linda Gonzalez, Paraprofessional at Salk Elementary, effective September 18, 2023.
Jordan Hayden, Paraprofessional at Johnston Elementary, effective October 9, 2023.
Nathan Heldt, Paraprofessional at Highland Middle School, effective September 27, 2023.
Chiong Martin, Paraprofessional at Hanover Middle School Elementary, effective October 16, 2023.
Monica Lane, Paraprofessional at Evans Elementary, effective October 11, 2023.
Alexandra Martinez, Paraprofessional at Joan Martin Elementary, effective September 28, 2023.
Alexia Reyes, Paraprofessional at Southridge Elementary, effective October 11, 2023.
Zoe Winters, Paraprofessional at Iddings Elementary, effective October 25, 2023.
Wendi York, Paraprofessional at River Forest High School, effective October 9, 2023.

Registered

Catherine Petrak, Behavior Intervention Specialist at Lowell Middle School, effective September 25, 2023.

Non-Certified Clerical

Beth Kinley, Financial Assistant, effective September 25, 2023.

E. Independent Contract

None at this time.

F. Leave of Absence

None at this time.

G. Conference Leave

None at this time.

H. Other

None at this time.

Dr. Kleefisch 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.

There were none.

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

There were none.

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