

Northern Rush County Schools

Regular Board Meeting

October 6, 2016

Present: Nansi Custer, President; Deanna Disney, VP; Shannon Dawson, Secretary; Marcia Schwering, at-large member; Greg Jarman, Treasurer (late arrival)

6:06pm, Board President Nansi Custer called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved, motion by Marcia, second by Shannon, passed.

Old Business: CPR training is completed. Vision testing is done; hearing tests are next week.

CEO Financial Report (information attached):

- The implementation grant for Year 2 is in. Ron Clark Academy trip is paid for/reimbursement requested.
- Principal New has submitted a robotics grant request.
- A new bus route has been added for Milroy.
- Income/expense report approved, motion by Marcia, second by Shannon, passed.

Principal report:

- Principal New would like to share a PowerPoint demonstration on the RCA trip at the November board meeting.
- Current enrollment is 186 students. There have been 19 withdrawals since the beginning of the school year. Six suspensions.
- NWEA testing is underway and will be complete by next Tuesday.
- Staff changes/additions: Amanda Jagoda is now in 3rd grade; Hollee Peggs has been hired as secretary.
- The clinic has been moved.

New Business:

Nansi requested to submit to Ball State an amendment to our charter (Resolution 100062016) to increase our enrollment allowance to the building capacity of 300 students. Deanna motioned, seconded by Marcia, passed.

Marcia noted parent requests to expand grades to include 7th and 8th, asked for a feasibility study. Motion by Marcia, second by Shannon. Approved by voice vote: Nansi, Marcia, Shannon; opposed: Deanna.

Implementation of drug policy for our CDL bus drivers, effective 10/6/16. Motion by Shannon, seconded by Marcia, passed.

Approval of out-of-state field trip to Wright-Patterson AFB/Museum in Dayton for 3rd grade on 10/14/16. Motion by Deanna, seconded by Marcia, passed.

Staff comments:

Scott Wildey expressed thanks for the trip to RCA and requested teachers be allowed to use what they learned.

Trish Mastin noted that "school feels so different and fun from last year," appreciates being a part of the MCA team. Says, from a staff perspective, it's a good place to be.

Nansi noted that the Board will pursue having our preschool take part in the state's expanded Pre-K pilot program, to be led by Trish.

Booster club report by Megan Davis: Club is doing well. Lots of parents are involved now. The hog roast was a success, as was the mum sale. Spirit wear will be available for pickup on Monday; Cain Signs was great to work with. The Veterans Breakfast is scheduled for 11/12/16.

Public comments:

Mindi Cochran loves the school for her children; expressed frustration surrounding communications. Nansi thanked her for her honesty.

Antonia Hinshaw said she filled out the background check to move forward with Girl Scouts; expressed frustration with parents "trolling" the MCA Facebook page. Nansi noted the conversations held regarding social media at the recent Ball State charters conference attended by some board & staff members. The MCA page is open and honest; currently comments are not edited, and commenters are not blocked. Krissi Williams will work on recommendations for civil behavior for the page. Principal New recommended that only she and Krissi be administrators of the page.

Lisi Campbell inquired as to additional special needs staff. She is concerned that some new staff members do not have much experienced teaching special needs students/students with IEPs and that the staff will be thinly stretched with an enrollment of 186 students. Principal New reminded attendees that MCA has two special ed teachers and two aides. She said meetings are underway to be more efficient and potentially add more minutes, and that she's working with LaDonna and Britney to determine if extra staff is needed. There have been requests by teachers to be trained in Orton-Gillingham methods.

Marcia spoke up with the support of the administration by the board with all the changes and additions underway, urged patience and thanked Principal New and Krissi for their hard work in keeping things on track.

The meeting then moved to a classroom for a research and marketing presentation by Nick LeRoy of Bright Minds.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19pm. The next meeting will be Nov 3, 2016 6:00pm at MCA.

Nansi Custer, President *Nansi Custer*

Shannon Dawson, Secretary *Shannon Dawson*

Deanna Disney, Vice President *Deanna Disney*

Greg Jarman, Treasurer *Greg Jarman*

Marcia Schwering, Member *Marcia Schwering*