



Neil Wetherbee, Superintendent

Northport Public School  
104 S. Wing St. Northport, MI 49670  
p. (231) 386-5153 f. (231) 386-9838  
www.northportps.org

# Regular Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2024

NPS Board of Education

Board President, Ben Purdy, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

*This meeting was held at 104 S Wing St. Northport, MI in room 300.*

## **Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Ryan Blessing, Ben Purdy, Danielle Percy, Dr. Barbara Conley, and Dan Duffiney

**Members Absent:** Jake Zimmer and Tom Wetherbee

A quorum was present.

## **Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** Moved by Dr. Barbara Conley, supported by Ryan Blessing, to approve the agenda at this February 12, 2024, regular board meeting.

All Ayes

Motion Carried 5-0

## **Students of the Month**

- Elementary: Jewel Bressette, presented by Jackie Tropf
- Secondary: Valerie Glidden, presented by Neil Wetherbee

## **Superintendent's Report**

- Building & Grounds: The boiler replacement process is underway, and a timeline has been developed. The Board will receive another briefing prior to the release of Request for Proposal's. As discussed last month, the new furniture has been ordered and should arrive within two weeks.
- Personnel: Our newly hired maintenance person will not be kept on past their probationary period. We will post for this position again. We also hired a secondary special education teacher to focus on 'push-in,' services (the teacher goes into the regular ed classroom to support a student receiving special education services). Almost all our secondary students are in general ed classrooms and have services by this teacher. This also freed up our other special education teacher to have more time with her elementary students. By all accounts this is going very well.

### **Public Comments**

Laura Cavendish inquired about the tree dedication for Nancy Peterson. Superintendent Wetherbee explained that we have dedicated a tree for her and will be installing the plaque when the weather improves. Laura also noted that her daughter, Arya, loves having Mr. Jeffrey (the new special education teacher) in class.

### **Consent Agenda**

- Approval of January 8, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of January 8, 2024, Organizational Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Bills Presented for Payment for \$184,822.58

Hearing no objections, these items were approved by consent.

### **Action Items**

#### **Approval of the Agreement for Summer Tax Collection of School Property Taxes**

**MOTION:** Moved by Dan Duffiney, seconded by Ryan Blessing, that the Northport Board of Education approves the Agreement for Summer Collection of School Property Taxes for 2024.

DISCUSSION: None

All Ayes

Motion Carried 5-0

#### **Board Policy Updates**

**MOTION:** Moved by Dr. Barbara Conley, seconded by Dan Duffiney, that the Northport Board of Education approve the updates to the following Board policies:

- po0122 (Revised)
- po1420 (Revised)
- po3120 (Reissued)
- po3130 (Reviewed)
- po3131 (Revised)
- po3132 (Reviewed)
- po3139 (Reissued)
- po3140 (Reviewed)
- po3142 (Revised)
- po3220 (Revised)."

DISCUSSION: None

All Ayes

Motion Carried 5-0

### **Discussion Items**

#### **How Learning Works**

With respect to the conversation last month regarding student achievement and how to ensure our graduates are successful, Superintendent Wetherbee presented information regarding the book "How Learning Works (HLW)." This book was discussed at the Learning and the Brain conferences that six teachers and Principal Morio have attended (or will attend) this year. The

author of HLW reviewed data from thousands of studies and research projects regarding education to determine what schools can do to accelerate learning. Superintendent Wetherbee presented information from HLW and discussed the modules that are being incorporated into professional development for teachers.

**Old Business**

NONE

**New Business**

NONE

**Superintendent's Comments**

NONE

**Public Comments**

Laura Cavendish stated that she was extremely impressed by the school's efforts around HLW. She thinks it is amazing that this is being worked on and that we are fortunate to have this at a public school. She would like to see more advertisement about the opportunities we have at NPS.

**Board Member Comments**

Dr. Barbara Conley asked about how parents make decisions as to where to send their children to school (school fair, advertisements, etc.).

Ben Purdy noted that our budding PTO might be a place to start increasing awareness of the resources Northport offers.

Superintendent Wetherbee noted that we host a Back-to-School night each fall and a Kindergarten Round-Up every May. He stated that the biggest deterrents to families seem to be our size and lack of sports or other extracurricular activities.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Moved by Dr. Barbara Conley, seconded by Danielle Percy, to adjourn.

**Motion Passed 5-0**

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

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Danielle Percy, Secretary

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Elizabeth Schwind, Recording Secretary