

# NAH TAH WAHSH, PSA

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021

---

**Present:** Alicia DeCota, Vicki Dowd, Jackie Kang, Molly Meshigaud, Connee Sagataw, Marilyn Shawano, Geneva Wandahsega

**Absent:** None

**Guest(s):** Dr. Matt Johnson-Reeves, Lacey Kinnart, Betty LaPointe (Zoom), Shianne Uskilith, Henry Philemon Jr., Doug Leisenring (DSISD), Meg Hackett (Zoom, out at 10:25), Jessie McNamara (Zoom, out at 10:25), Melissa Ledford, Rebecca Spreitzer, Kasha Lea, Kelly Arnold, Dyan Engle, Michelle Carne, Barb Larson, Dan Kleikamp, Henry Williams, Jesse Viau (in at 10:26)

**Location:** School Cafeteria

Jackie Kang, Chairperson, called meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

- **Mission Statement recited by members**
- **Agenda**
  - See handout.
  - Motion to approve agenda with changes of deleting of 9b, and adding H.) Board Retreat and I.) Donation from Delta Alger Coop made by: Connee Sagataw
  - Seconded by: Vicki Dowd
  - Motion carried: 6-0-0
- **Board Meeting Minutes**
  - Motion to approve February 11, 2021 meeting minutes made by: Connee Sagataw
  - Seconded by: Molly Meshigaud
  - Motion carried: 6-0-0
- **Legal Counsel Representation**
  - Thrun Law Firm – Ms. Meg Hackett & Ms. Jessie McNamara
    - Joining by Zoom
    - See handout
    - Represent 80-85% of public schools in Michigan at some capacity.
      - Works with JKL Public School Academy as well.
    - Retainer of \$2,400 a year.
    - Offer monthly newsletters, e-Blasts flagging time-sensitive issues, webinars, spring seminars as part of the retainer agreement.
      - Will also assist with the handbooks, and NTW has a need to update our handbooks this summer.
    - Receive offers of discounted trainings on certain topics such as Title IX.
    - Do not charge for short telephone calls.
    - They did disclose that the Firm has a financial interest in this agreement with the school.
    - DSISD is a Thrun client.
      - Doug Leisenring explains his experience with Thrun especially with COVID-19 in this past year. He receives a constant feed of updated news.

- In current agreement with current Law Firm, we do not receive any updates.
  - More of an on-demand service.
- Thrun Law Firm and Hannahville Tribal Legal did have a webinar and met together.
  - Nah Tah Wahsh PSA is separate from HIC representation.
- Board would like an update at board meetings.
- Motion to accept Thrun Law Firm as the retainer for the Nah Tah Wahsh PSA made by: Alicia DeCota
- Seconded by: Vicki Dowd
- Motion carried: 6-0-0.
- **DSISD – Superintendent Mr. Doug Leisenring**
  - Early Middle College Program
    - If we become that, we receive funding for each year the student is in school in HS.
    - Offers a 5<sup>th</sup> year (13<sup>th</sup> year) to students.
      - At the end of that, they end up earning an Associate’s Degree.
      - Goal is to get 20-30 credits while in High School
      - Then 20-30 credits during the last year (5<sup>th</sup> year).
    - Student still participates in their normal graduation year’s ceremony, but considered part of the next year’s graduation class.
    - The funding that is received by the state is more than what it costs to attend Bay College.
    - Scott Brant attending the training session.
    - Application is in the first week of February 2022 and have the program in Fall of 2022.
      - Application is now 19 pages long. Includes best practices and resolutions.
    - Student has to commit to the Early Middle College Program by the Fall of their Junior Year, although they can sign up as a Freshman.
    - We have a student that will graduate this year, but will still attend the CTE program next year and we will provide those supports and resources.
    - Discussion and research needed into the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver.
    - Discussion about the ISD services and CTE classes they offer throughout the area.
- **Superintendent Update: COVID19**
  - See handout
  - See numbers provided of local hospitalizations.
  - Staff have been offered vaccinations, and clinics have been held here at the school each week.
  - No COVID-19 cases at the school since the last board meeting.
  - Students and staff have been given the NTW masks and the one that was designed by a student.
  - Proposed revision of the NTW COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan from August 13, 2020
    - Would like to start serving lunch in the cafeteria again, as opposed to the classrooms, which they have been doing since the start of the school year. Would like to start on Monday.
    - Would provide an opportunity to expand the menu better, with hot lunches.
    - Will shift the vaccination clinics to the Youth Center instead of the Cafeteria.
- **Old Business**
  - Board Self Evaluations
    - See handout
    - Need from: Vicki, Connee, Alicia, and Molly
    - Please return to Lacey as soon as possible.

- **New Business & Action Items**

- **Informational Items:**

- February 2021 Count – 213 Students.
      - Highest enrollment ever.
      - See page 22 for breakdown of grades. 20 in Kindergarten and 11 in Readiness.
    - Josephine Troxell – College Acceptances and Article
      - See handout – Was published by the Michigan Charter Schools Network.
      - Accepted as a Western Michigan University Medallion Scholar. Only 2 people in the UP have been awarded, with Josephine being the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pays everything for her and gives exceptional support and resources.
      - Was offered a Smith Scholarship with a complete ride at Michigan State University, too.
    - Graduation – Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – 9 Seniors
      - Student's last day is Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.
    - Enrollment Lottery Policy
      - See handout – page 22
      - In 7<sup>th</sup> grade there is 20 students and 8<sup>th</sup> grade is 23.
        - See Admission of Students policy. Our max enrollment is 20 per class.
      - Had a number of requests to transfer to NTW in the recent months.
        - Would like to ask why they want to transfer here.
        - Lacey explained how we do screen new enrollments.

- **Special Pay – Mrs. Amy Draz**

- Due to the passing of Mr. Williams, Mrs. Draz stepped up and fulfilled his duties.
    - Matt would like to offer a stipend in the amount of \$4,000 as a one-time payment.
      - Stepped up in November, December, January, and February.
    - Motion to approve a one-time stipend payment in the amount of \$4,000 made by: Geneva Wandahsega
    - Seconded by: Alicia DeCota
    - Motion carried: 6-0-0.

- **Northern Lights Tournament – Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

- Schedule is still up in the air.
    - Matt would like to entertain the idea making Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> a half-day for students.
      - In the past we have taken this day off.
    - Will have a concession stand for tournaments.
    - Motion to amend the calendar to take the full day off on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> made by: Geneva Wandahsega
    - Seconded by: Marilyn Shawano
    - Motion carried: 6-0-0.

- **Title I Teacher Hire: Mrs. Spring Irving**

- Filling the position that Melissa Ledford had vacated.
    - Has education from Northern Michigan University
    - Motion to accept Mrs. Spring Irving as the Title I Teacher made by: Vicki Dowd
    - Seconded by: Alicia DeCota

- Motion carried: 6-0-0.
  - Revision of COVID-19 Plan
    - Page 6 amended to allow lunch in the cafeteria.
    - Motion to allow lunch in the cafeteria made by: Geneva Wandahsega
    - Seconded by: Marilyn Shawano
    - Motion carried: 6-0-0.
- **Reconfirmation of Extended Learning Plan February 2020-21**
  - See handout
  - No changes from original plan in the month of February.
  - Public comment on the plan: none.
  - See two-way communication numbers in the report.
  - Motion to accept Extended Learning Plan for February 2021 made by: Vicki Dowd
  - Seconded by: Geneva Wandahsega
  - Motion carried: 6-0-0
- **NMU Board Retreat**
  - Thanks for the NTW masks that were sent to her – she wears them with pride.
  - Congratulations on all the publicity from the MAPSA with Josephine and Zach.
  - Congratulations to everyone involved at Josephine’s success and her awards from WMU and MSU.
  - Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
    - If attend on the 16<sup>th</sup> with a Quorum, NMU will send \$500 to use as wanted. If everyone attends, then will send \$1,000.
  - Suggests each member to zoom in individually.
  - School will provide Chromebooks if need be.
- **Donation from Alger-Delta Electric Coop**
  - \$400 to go toward COVID-19 expenses.
  - We used it for masks, and we sent them a bunch of masks and a letter thanking them.
- **Other**
  - Question about the percentage of staff that has received the COVID-19 Vaccine.
  - Matt will contact the health department to see if we can get a percentage.
- **Public Comment**
  - None.
- **Adjourn**
  - Motion to adjourn meeting: Connee Sagataw
  - Seconded by: Marilyn Shawano
  - Motion carried: 6-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Recorded & prepared by: Lacey Kinnart

Approved on: April 8, 2021

*Vicki Dowd*  
Signature

Board President

Board Secretary