

# NAH TAH WAHSH PSA

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### THURSDAY, JUNE 9TH, 2022

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**Present:** Victoria Dowd, Jackie Kang, Dustin Larson, Mary Meshigaud, Molly Meshigaud (10:05), Marilyn Shawano, Shianne Uskilith

**Absent:** Geneva (Magg) Wandahsega

**Guest(s):** Matt Johnson-Reeves, Seth Miller (10:14), Melissa Ledford, Betty LaPointe, Dustin Hardwick, Jeremy Brunette, Dustin Hardwick, Jesse Viau, Angela Wandahsega, Joe Hellberg, Cara Koster, Constance Lightfoot, Renee Watchorn

**Location:** School Conference Room

Jackie Kang, Chairperson, called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

- **Mission Statement recited by members**
- **Agenda**
  - See handout.
  - Motion to approve agenda as presented made by: Mary Meshigaud
  - Seconded by: Dustin Larson
  - Motion carried: 6-0-0
- **Board Meeting Minutes**
  - Motion to approve May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Meeting Minutes as presented made by: Dustin Larson
  - Seconded by: Victoria Dowd
  - Motion carried: 5-0-2 (Mary Meshigaud, Molly Meshigaud Abstain due to absence on 5/12/22)
- **Oath of Office (New Members)**
  - Recited by newly elected members: Victoria Dowd, Mary Meshigaud, Marilyn Shawano, Shianne Uskilith
    - Oath of Public office was signed by all new members and gathered by Angela Wandahsega, School Secretary, to Notarize with the Great Seal and forward to the Charter School Office.
- **Election of Officers**
  - Chairperson: Jackie Kang and Mary Meshigaud have been nominated and have accepted nomination.
    - Mary Meshigaud receives 4 votes, Jackie Kang receives 3 Votes out of a possible 7 votes. Mary Meshigaud has won the Chairperson seat with 4 eligible votes.
  - Vice Chairperson: Jackie Kang and Shianne Uskilith have been nominated and have accepted nomination.
    - Jackie Kang receives 2 votes, Shianne Uskilith receives 5 votes out of a possible 7 votes. Shianne Uskilith has won the Vice Chairperson seat with 5 eligible votes.
  - Secretary/Treasurer: Victoria Dowd and Jackie Kang have been nominated and have accepted nomination.
    - Victoria Dowd receives 3 votes, Jackie Kang receives 4 votes out of a possible 7 votes. Jackie Kang has won the Secretary/Treasurer seat with 4 eligible votes.

- **Old Business:**

- Meeting carried forward by newly elected Chairperson, Mary Meshigaud.
- HIV / STI & Sex Education Curriculum 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing – per Melissa, she has not been approached with any questions from the board or the public. Sex Education is being pushed back to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, due to moon time changes with female 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Any time a change is made to a sex ed curriculum, the public should be made aware. Melissa states we are meeting those necessary reporting and documenting requirements. Board member suggests that possibly we could find a writer to assist us in presenting this educational area in a cultural aspect.
  - Motion made to accept the changes to the elementary sex ed curriculum by: Marilyn Shawano
  - Supported by: Jackie Kang
  - Motion Carried: 7-0-0

- **New Business & Action Items**

- End of Year 2021-22 Academic Goal Reporting – Sec 98b Requirement Discussion begun by Matt Johnson-Reeves stating that school is dismissed for the summer and assessments are complete. We thank Betty LaPointe for assisting us in gathering this report information.
  - Discussion regarding the percentages of growth. Reading growth is at 49 – which falls in the average section. We were looking as a school to stay in the average area. We have fallen slightly below in the Math area. Per Betty, states that coming out of covid, the reading scores are hovering below, but reading is all exceeding that scoring point.
  - It's recommended that we work toward growing the Math scores. Per Matt – The ISD (overall) is low-scoring and is offering special reading and math instructional coaching (Mike Maki is working with our teachers)
  - Betty LaPointe notes: With NTW's very small class count – one student can make a huge difference in goals. Per Matt -this information gets posted on our website as part of our transparency requirements.
  - Question regarding which Math classes are offered: Algebra, Algebra II, Geometry, Financial Math, Trigonometry, etc... Per Jesse Viau –The numbers that youth are requesting for withdrawal from trust funds are not realistic – financial math and budgeting and personal finance for students is a good idea. Per Matt – working with Credit Unions, Banks and Financial Advisors possibly coming in to present to the students.
  - Per Jesse and Jackie Kang - Kid's obtaining Tribal Trust funds are given suggested information by the accounting department to set aside 10-15% in taxes from those trust funds. Matt states, in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, financial skills and concepts are being taught in within the school curriculum, while some financial information is also taught to youth in Youth Employment, also. We can look towards talking more about curriculum-wise information in September and October.
  - Curriculum Committee has been formed at the school, per Melissa Ledford, she invites members of the board to join for those meetings if they choose to. Board member asks, will some of our other curriculum be at a loss? Per Matt, there are some exceptions to trade one class for another. Melissa will bring a proposal to give us more flexibility with scheduling Math (at the July meeting). This information will be included on our website
- Budget Hearing 2022-2023 School Year – per Renee Watchorn – she states that she has spent the past 2 days working through the preliminary budget with Scott Herioux and Kelli Derouin. Matt adds that

aid has not yet passed through the State of Michigan on the federal side. Each of the 3 branches of state government are working through negotiations. We are hopeful (during an election year) they will pass these budgets before July 1. Possible monies have been extended for school safety and increased covid support funds are expected which includes Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum funding.

- We are hopeful to see an increase of revenue; potentially, the state will bring approximately \$8,900 per student (200).
  - Teacher Salaries – per Matt we have lost several staff due to salaries offered by other competing local school districts. Matt states we want to make sure we as a school are on a competitive salary scale and watching the turn-over is something we would like to address in keeping our staff onboard. Also, in comparing other small schools – it is showing huge discrepancies in our pay scale (Teacher Scale) this is the end of a 3-year teacher scale, board is on board with adjusting this pay scale. We have to do a study, more kids, more funding, more pay. We are seeing growth in enrollment and that helps our bottom line, which we are paid per pupil.
  - 31A Funds are tied to specific areas and that is where things can get challenging, especially with grants that are ear marked for special circumstances. Renee adding – this is the 1<sup>st</sup> year we are able to compare with other schools in regards to funding. In the area of funding, we are in a very positive situation. A detailed budget meeting will be held in the near future.
  - Discussion regarding our bus inventory and how they are fueled, whether it be by gasoline or diesel. Per Renee, Jeff Murray keeps track of fuel needs and usage in order to forecast gallons of fuel per year.
  - State code and standards requires us to pass a preliminary budget before July 1<sup>st</sup>. Preliminary budget effective July 1, 2023 total revenues \$4,233,865 and total expenditures are \$3,413,779. Net Change \$831,085. Est Fund Balance as of 7/1/22: \$1.3M, Est Fund Balance as of 6/30/23: \$2.1M
  - Dustin Hardwick inquires about the increase in staff wages – Is this wage change directed toward current staff or new employees to come? How will this effect new hires to current staff pay scale? Discussion regarding teacher pay scale steps. Each year wage is created a step – raises are approximately 3-4%. We are working towards parities, not just to exact the pay scale of other schools. Per Matt - We offer tangibles which are beneficial to having a smaller class size and school. Wages are based on qualification, education and other areas. Matt and Seth are very engaged with our staff in ensuring staff are meeting education and curriculum requirements.
- Public Comment: Per Joe Hellberg – starting the music program, he is looking at proposing a purchase of portable risers for school use. Currently, we borrow them from BR-H, and would like to instead purchase for our school something that lasts for many years.
- He would like to purchase instrument stands, looking to promote longevity with our instruments, along with music stands, instruments holders, and cubbies to store instruments.
  - He is looking at putting together a proposal to long-term safe and secure learning tools and materials for the music department. We have 8-9 instruments – looking towards purchasing used instruments.

- Adoption: 2022-2023 Preliminary Budget
  - Motion to adopt the 2022-2023 preliminary budget with amendments made by: Victoria Dowd
  - Seconded by: Dustin Larson
  - Motion carried: 7-0-0
- Adoption: 2022-2023 Board Meeting Schedule
  - Discussion regarding meeting schedule, will need to change the July 14<sup>th</sup> date due to Principals Conference in Albuquerque, NM during that week (Scott, Melissa, Seth, Renee, Matt) plan to attend.
    - Motion to accept the 2022-2023 Board Meeting Schedule with the date change of 7/14 to 7/21/22 made by: Dustin Larson
    - Seconded by: Jackie Kang
    - Motion carried: 7-0-0
- Adoption MHSAA Membership Resolution
  - Member Resolution reads in part: The board of Education/Governing Body delegates to the Superintendent or designee the responsibility for the supervision and control of said activities. It is agreed that schools which host or participate I the associations' meets and tournaments shall follow and enforce all tournament policies procedures and schedules.
    - Motion to accept the MHSAA Membership as presented by: Marilyn Shawano
    - Seconded by: Dustin Larson
    - Motion carried: 7-0-0
- **Informational Items**
  - Covid-19 – no school related infections at this time. We have not been made aware of any changes to covid school requirements at the state level. At this time, we will continue with current plan that is in place.
  - Discussion regarding upcoming school calendar items:
    - Playground Opening Dedication, 9:15 am on Monday, June 13, 2022. Youth Playground opening/dedication will happen with the start of Summer Kid Zone.
    - Summer Kid Zone & Junior Kid Zone Startup on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 – thank you to Cara and the team for putting together a newly formed Kindergarten program. Per Cara - there are 18 registered, room is full for Kindergarten program.
    - NMU Charter School Update: Per Betty – Thank you to the Board for serving as members and officers. At the work Shop – KC mentioned the annual conference in Oklahoma, anybody who would have questions – NIEAC, please call KC at the NMU Charter School for more information. Board member asks if we can possibly sponsor an event. Much of the board plans to attend in October.
      - Woodland Sky – presented for K-6 and 7-12<sup>th</sup> Grade shows at BRH. Board member discusses the cultural disparity in learning (education) at BRH.
      - October will provide another Board Admin leadership conference in Mount Pleasant. Per Matt, that it could be beneficial to have the tribal council and or the community heritage center set something up with the other school districts in promoting and encouraging cultural learning.

- **Adjourn**

- Next Meeting: Thursday, July 21st at 10am.
  - Motion to adjourn meeting at 11:35 a.m. made by: Dustin Larson
  - Seconded by: Victoria Dowd
  - Motion carried: 7-0-0

**Recorded & prepared by:** Angela Wandahsega, School Secretary

**Approved on:** 7-21-22

Jessie G  
Signature

Board President

Board Secretary