

Naselle-Grays River Valley School District No.155

Lisa Nelson, Superintendent
Rhiana Jacot, Executive Secretary

Board of Directors:
Chuck Hendrickson, Chairman, Dist. 3
Amy Hunt, District 2
Amy Chadwick, District 4
Lonnie Eaton, District 5
Tyson Vogeler, District 1

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the middle school commons and via zoom.

Present: Chuck Hendrickson, Amy Chadwick, Amy Hunt, Lonnie Eaton, Tyson Vogeler and Lisa Nelson.

Call to Order

Mr. Hendrickson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Hendrickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes or Additions to the Agenda

None

Consent Agenda – Approved as Presented

Ms. Hunt moved, seconded by Mr. Eaton to approve the consent agenda consisting of, payroll warrants 191639-191668 in the amount of \$444,341.39 general fund warrants 191577-191638 in the amount of \$177,889.83, ASB warrants 12880-12886 in the amount of \$8,195.03, Student Success warrant 784 in the amount of \$140.85 and Board minutes from February 15, 2022. Motion carried.

Personnel

Mr. Eaton moved, seconded by Mr. Vogeler to acknowledge the resignation of Russ Hickman, head girls' basketball coach. Motion carried.

Ms. Chadwick moved, seconded by Ms. Hunt to acknowledge the resignation of Kathryn Green, assistant high school track coach. Motion carried.

Mr. Eaton moved, seconded by Ms. Chadwick to acknowledge the resignation of Rich La Griede, middle school track coach. Motion carried.

Mr. Vogeler moved, seconded by Ms. Hunt to acknowledge the resignation of April Zimmerman, para-educator. Motion carried.

Ms. Hunt moved, seconded by Mr. Eaton to approve the hire of Casey Jack Osadchey, assistant high school track coach. Motion carried.

Mr. Vogeler moved, seconded by Mr. Eaton to approve the hire of Marie Green middle school track coach. Motion carried.

Ms. Chadwick moved, seconded by Mr. Vogeler to approve the hire of Tyler Ratkie, assistant baseball coach, pending background check. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Luke Gardner read a statement about the how burden of success or failure of a school falls on its leadership and its partnership with the community. He commented on poor results of previous years test scores. He also commented on protests in Naselle and surrounding school districts. Mr. Gardner said the superintendent handled the protests poorly especially in comparison to neighboring school districts. Mr. Gardner handed a signed petition to the Board.

Rudi Rudolph said the test scores Mr. Gardner was referring to included scores from the Naselle Youth Camp School. Mr. Rudolph said students at the NYCS tend to test lower than the public school.

Mitchell Wirkkala passed out documents to the school board.

Adam Rose asked why it is not okay for students to protest mask mandates, but it is okay to protest the closing of NYCS.

Ms. Chadwick responded that the position is not for no protests, but for peaceful protests.

Mr. Rose asked why Ms. Nelson discouraged the students to protest the masks. He said he asked his child if Ms. Nelson had gone into the classroom before and his child said she never had. Mr. Rose said Ms. Nelson congratulated the students who didn't protest. He said other school districts supported the protests. Mr. Rose read a letter to Superintendent Nelson and the Board regarding local schools and school boards losing control over their own districts. Mr. Rose asked the Board to read the documents that were handed to them as a support to local school districts in regaining local control. Mr. Rose requested the board to reach out to Representative Joel McEntire and support the bill that makes WSSDA membership optional. Mr. Rose said many local parents may be willing to remove their students from the school.

A community member passed out documents to the board.

Mr. Vogeler responded to Mr. Rose. He said that it is evident that parents are seeing some of the constraints that the board is under. In some of his previous roles he has suggested other options for membership and funding for schools.

Mr. Rose said that other schools have treated the masking situation completely different. He said there are many other community members in agreement, but they do not want to come and speak at board meetings.

Mr. Vogeler talked about some of the structure of WSSDA.

Mr. Rose talked about an event at a recent basketball game where people were not wearing masks and a follow-up conversation he had with the superintendent.

Brandi Tarabochia commented on the protests in front of the school. She said she was shocked by the letter sent out by the Superintendent. She asked the Board about the resolution the board signed and what was meant by it. She said the protest was done peacefully, but the letter sent out was made out to look as if the protest was against the school. She said it was a blessing that some of the teachers supported her students involvement.

Mr. Gardner asked about the resolution signed by the Board and if it was drafted with the intent to mislead or confuse the community. He said the community thought this resolution stated that the school will never require vaccinations, but the resolution really says the Board will be unhappy if the State mandates vaccinations. He said he put together a letter that actually opposes vaccinations and sent it to the Board. He asked the Board to reach out to other districts to oppose vaccinations for attendance. Mr. Gardner asked Mr. Hendrickson to put it on the agenda for the following month.

Mr. Rose said a teacher told his child that the school will be shut down the following year because the Youth Camp is closing. Mr. Rose said the Board is all elected and that the Board works for the community. He thanked Mr. Laine for everything he does and Mrs. See for everything she does. He said he and the community appreciates the staff and the teachers.

Neil Wirkkala said he has handed the Board something that will be a big pain in the neck. He said they tried to get the Board to see they have authority. He read a part of Article 1, Section 1 of the Washington State constitution. He said it is the Board's job to uphold the constitution. He read a statement from Washington State's Open Public Meeting Act. He said the board is being coerced by the State to do things that go against their beliefs. He said it is time to stand up against this. He stated that Board members can stand against this, or can do nothing and blame the State.

Rudi Rudolph stated he is president of the teachers union and has worked for 27 years as a teacher at the Naselle Youth Camp School. He said the Camp is set to lose 100 jobs. The budget is currently on the Governor's desk. He said there is a protest the day after the board meeting at the Camp. Mr. Rudolph passed out fliers.

Daniel Garcia explained that he pulled his kids out of school a few years ago because of his job and family. He wanted to spend more time with his kids. He has been deployed every other year and upon returning the last time did not recognize his community. He said what is happening in the State is wrong. Liberty is more important than what people think. He said the stage is set for tyranny and Marxism is the root. He asked the Board to please read the book he provided for them. He said a lot of what he hears from the Board sounds like rhetoric. He said he hopes the Board sees that the community is with them.

Ms. Chadwick responded by saying that she is not on the Board with a personal agenda. She said she values what has been said. She said she is nervous about what is in the packets.

Karma Garcia said she doesn't have kids or grandkids at the school, but she is begging the Board to not force parents to vaccinate their kids in order to go to school like the military did in forcing its members to be vaccinated.

Bob Torppa said he has been a part of the District for many years, though not currently. He said he saw chaos during the protests with kids running all over the highway. He said at other schools, like Raymond, the protesters were not on school property. He said he had to stay to make sure his grandson got into the school safely. Mr. Torppa said the Superintendent did what she thought was right. The Board did what they thought was right. They don't have an agenda, but the community has an agenda. He said everyone can disagree, but at the end of the day, it's all about the kids.

Morgan Shearn said she agreed with the community members who spoke and thanked them for being there for the people who couldn't be.

Community members passed out materials to the Board.

Josh Chadwick, senior high school student, presented the senior class trip proposal.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Mr. Vogeler moved, seconded by Mr. Eaton to approve the senior class trip as presented. Motion carried.

Ms. Chadwick moved, seconded by Ms. Hunt to approve the purchase of computers, welding equipment, safety gear, and machines for the Youth Camp School with grant funds NTE \$300,000. Motion carried.

Principals/Staff Reports

The previous Wednesday it was learned there is language in the budget to close NYC by June 2023. JRA staff will be at the Youth Camp the day after the board meeting to explain the next steps.

The District is purchasing welding equipment for NYCS through a grant. The intent was to purchase items that can be moved to the K-12 school if the Youth Camp is shut down.

Mr. Laine talked about State basketball outcomes for boys and girls and shared the awards some student athletes received. Track, baseball and fast pitch have begun.

Trivial Triviaries will travel to the Tri Cities on Saturday to compete in State Knowledge Bowl.

Students in the Hi Cap program have been staying after school for STEM activities. There have also been robotics classes with Mr. Bruce, led by volunteer Mr. Wright. There is currently a team preparing for an underwater robotics competition on April 15 at 9:00 a.m. in Cathlamet.

Superintendent's Report

The facilities committee has resumed monthly meetings. They hope to have a 5 year plan completed for the May board meeting.

The district is participating in a two year financial/accountability audit and a single audit of federal grants.

The previous Friday was the last day of mask mandates. DOH has updated their guidance.

K/12 FTE: 297, NYCS FTE: 29

Board Member Reports and Future Agenda Items

Mr. Vogeler said the small schools work group meets the following day via Zoom.

Mr. Eaton thanked Bob Torppa for the basketball camp he put on the previous month.

Superintendent Evaluation

Executive session (RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) Evaluate the performance of a public employee.

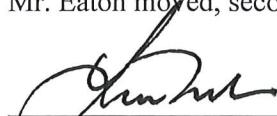
Mr. Hendrickson recessed the meeting at 8:13 p.m. to executive session to discuss the performance of a public employee.

Mr. Hendrickson expected to be adjourned for about 45 minutes.

Mr. Hendrickson called the meeting back to order at 9:05 p.m. Mr. Hendrickson stated that no decisions were made in executive session. Mr. Vogeler moved, seconded by Ms. Chadwick to extend the Superintendent's contract for one year. Motion carried.

Adjournment

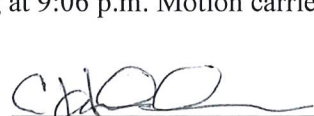
Mr. Eaton moved, seconded by Ms. Hunt to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. Motion carried.



Secretary to the Board

4-19-22

Date



Chairman of the Board

4-19-22

Date