

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their regular meeting held April 25, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Brian Baker. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORTS:

•**OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:** Brian Baker reported on several legislative items. The House Economic and Workforce Development Committee is holding a hearing on SB 1, which would reform the functions and responsibilities of the Ohio Department of Education, the State Board of Education, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The House Ways and Means Committee will be holding a hearing on HB 1, tax reform, and accepting proponent, opponent and interested party testimony during this hearing. The House Finance Committee accepted a substitute version on HB 33, the biennial budget for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The Senate Finance Committee held testimony on the executive budget proposal for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The House Primary and Secondary Education Committee held a fifth hearing on HB 12, which would rename the Department of Education as the Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) and create the position of Director of Education and Workforce. The bill also would reform the functions and responsibilities of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The committee held sponsor testimony on HB 117, which would eliminate retention under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee and expand the grades for which intensive reading intervention is provided. The bill also modifies the English language arts assessment to be administered once in the third grade and expands the inclusion of phonics in learning standards. The committee amended HB 8, which would enact the Parents Bill of Rights to require public schools to adopt a policy on parental notification regarding student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexually explicit content. The House Ways and Means Committee held a sixth hearing on HB 1, which would modify the law regarding property taxation and income tax rates. The committee passed HB 57, which would index the homestead exemption amounts to inflation and held a fourth hearing on HB 60, which would increase the amount of and expand the income qualifications for the homestead exemption. House Higher Education Committee held a third hearing on HB 6, which would enact the Save Women's Sports Act. The bill would require schools, state institutions of higher education and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex. The House Commerce and Labor Committee held a second hearing on SB 30, which would allow a person aged 14 or 15 to be employed between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. during the school year if the person has parental or legal guardian consent.

•**CFO/TREASURER:** Homer Hendricks discussed recent training coaching through AESA and OESC for pricing, experimentation, and innovation in service development. He reported on the recent OASBO Annual Workshop that included several updates on the state biennial budget working through the legislature. Mr. Hendricks reviewed the fiscal year 2024 program cost agreements with member districts along with staff contracts and salary notices for next school year.

•**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Jill Gilliland shared a thank you to Kris Ritter, Troy Merillat, Alissa Brown, Jessica Fredrick, and Emily Gerken for attending job fairs at BGSU, the University of Toledo, and the University of Findlay. In planning for the 2023-24 school year, the Special Education Department is busy with recruitment and interviewing; developing work calendars for all employees; and finalizing class rosters and staffing. Thank you to supervisors for all their work in these areas!

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Andy Hunter noted the changes to the resident educator program as it transitions from a four-year program to a two-year program for new educators. In an effort to continue to support these teachers he mentioned we would be offering additional professional development after school hours. Mr. Hunter also explained that Summer Honors Academy registration was underway. Within a few minutes 300 students had signed up for our camping related theme "Learning is S'more Fun at SHA 2023." The curriculum department is excited to partner to Archbold Schools to host this fun and exciting event this summer.

•DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS: Chad Rex reported that he and Corey Todd provided assistance to staff in the first phase of the password manager deployment process and scheduled individual meetings. They are also reviewing student laptop needs for the IEC and planning to replace outdated equipment to maintain the 1 to 1 strategy. In terms of operations, Mr. Rex submitted a grant for the Ohio Attorney General's School/Law Enforcement Technology Linking Safety Grant focusing on using panic buttons for the IEC, with potential awards of up to \$20,000 per school district. On April 20th, he received notice that the proposal was approved! Lastly, Mr. Rex and Mr. Davis collaborated with a small group of district transportation supervisors to plan a Driver In-Service event for van and bus drivers, which will be held on August 7th at Archbold High School and will fulfill annual training requirements. Registration for the event is currently open with 63 registrants representing 3 districts including the ESC, with more districts expected to register in May and June.

•Approved the following items under the consent agenda format:

•Minutes from the regular board meeting held March 28, 2023

•AGREEMENTS

-Julian & Grube to provide to NwOESC, Financial Compilation Services for the audit periods of 7/1/22-6/30/25.

-NwOESC to provide Defiance City Schools, Roots Analysis Services for the period of 3/15/23-4/30/23.

-NwOESC to provide to Swanton Local Schools, Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer Search Services for the period of 3/23/23-position is finalized or until agreed upon by both parties to terminate services.

-To approve Annual Service Agreements with the following districts for the 2023-24 school year per R.C. 3313.845:

- Evergreen Local Schools
- Montpelier Exempted Village Schools
- Napoleon Area City Schools
- Northeastern Local Schools
- Pettisville Local Schools
- Swanton Local Schools

•LEAVES

FMLA and Disability

•RETIREMENTS

Baker, Mary, Paraprofessional, effective 5/25/2023

Ritz, Angela, Paraprofessional, effective 5/31/2023

•RESIGNATIONS

Ciepiela, Kayleigh, Intervention Specialist, effective 7/31/2023

Dunham, Jody, Special Education Supervisor, effective 6/30/2023

Figgins, Tonya, Workforce Development Case Manager, effective 4/21/2023

Schmitz, Gretchen, Intervention Specialist, effective 7/31/2023

Sundbeck, Mindy, School Psychologist, effective 6/17/2023

Waidelich, Joilyn, Intervention Specialist, effective 7/31/2023

Whitman, Lauren, Paraprofessional, effective 4/3/2023

•EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

CONTRACTS

Certified Administrative

Name	Contract	Length
Altman, Michael	ADM-2 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2025

Gensler, Kallie	ADM-3 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2026
Gilliland, Jill	ADM-3 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2026
Hunter, Andrew	ADM-3 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2026
Kovar, Sally	ADM-3 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2026
Lambert, Dorothy	ADM-2 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2025
Luderman, Alison	ADM-3 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2026
Parrish, Stacey	ADM-3 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2026
Ritter, Kristine	ADM-3 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2026
Sunderman, Cristin	ADM-2 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2025

Classified Administrative

Name	Contract	Length
Hollstein, Michelle	CLASS-ADM-2 YR	7/1/2023-6/31/2025
Nafziger, Brandi	CLASS-ADM-2 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2025
Schlosser, Linda	CLASS-ADM-3 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2026
Sears, Melissa	CLASS-ADM-3 YR	7/1/2023-6/30/2026

Certified Limited

Name	Contract	Length
Bok, Alyssa	CERT-1 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Ellerbrock, Mindy	CERT-1 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Lind, Terry	CERT-1 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Meyer, Catherine	CERT-1 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Samlow, Alexis	CERT-1 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Waidelich, Abby	CERT-1 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2024

Classified Limited

Name	Contract	Length
Bowsher, Madison	CLASS-1 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Davis, Jaedyn	CLASS-1 YR	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Rohrs, Christine	CLASS-1 YR	6/5/2023-8/20/2023
Stein, Lucas	CLASS-1 YR	6/1/2023-7/31/2023
Wolftrum, Colin	CLASS-1 YR	6/1/2023-7/31/2023

SALARY NOTICES

Certified Notice

Name

Bell, Heidi
Brown, Alissa
Curry, Jestine
Downing, Mariah

Ensign, Ashely
Fredrick, Jessica
Kruse, Michelle
Merillat, Troy
Myers, Jane
Rex, Chad
Salinas, Jose
Saneholtz, Brent
Weir, Kerri

Classified Notice

Name

Gutierrez, Maria
Hendricks, Homer

ESC Long Term Substitute Paraprofessional

Jaedyn Davis

Substitute Paraprofessionals

James Brown, Brooke Waite

Substitute Teachers

Kristin Carrisalez, Alan Dupureur, Lisa Dutton, Jessica Hammond, Warren Hulbert, Lucy Jones, Ashley Kryder, Jaimie Mason, Dazi Psumny, Rebekah Reese, Brooke Waite

Summer Honors Academy Teachers

Kathleen Benson, Anne Frake, Jacob Palte, Ruth Wenzinger

•Approved the following certified contract:

•Certified Administrative

Gerken, Emily ADM-2 YR 7/1/2023-6/30/2025

•Approved a three (3) year contract with Andrew Hunter as Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & PD commencing August 1, 2023- July 31, 2026. All other terms are consistent with his previous contract or as approved by the governing board.

•Approved a three (3) year contract with Jill Gilliland as Director of Special Education commencing August 1, 2023- July 31, 2026. All other terms are consistent with her previous contract or as approved by the governing board.

•Approved motion to honor employees for Staff Appreciation Week May 1-5, 2023. The Superintendent, Administrative Team and Board of Education would like to publicly thank all NwOESC staff for "Stepping Forward" and their excellent work in providing quality services and building valued partnerships throughout the NwOESC service area.

•Approved the IEC/Opportunity School calendar for the 2023-24 school year as presented.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

• An overview of the 2023 November General Election process for multi-county ESCs was reviewed and Board Members were provided information on terms.

- The Board discussed implementation of agency issued emails as well streamlining board processes/paper reduction.
- Summer Operational Hours will be implemented June 5 – July 28, 2023 for the Main Office

•**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Kerri Weir reported the** Swanton CFO/Treasurer Search was rolled out April 6th and closes May 4th. She and Mr. Hendricks will be working with Chris Lake and the Board of Education as the search progresses. The Everside Health Clinics remain popular with staff who elect health/medical coverage for self and/or family members. Clinics are located in Archbold, Defiance, Bryan, Napoleon, Wauseon, and now Wapakoneta. The clinics provide a cost effective, convenient option for staff to get care, prescriptions, lab work, etc. The administrative team is working through the May Certified and Classified contract recommendations. As projections are reviewed and staffing plans developed, recommendations for contract renewals and salary notifications will be made. Our goal is to secure staff as part of our team who will work to enhance the services and supports provided to our member districts on behalf of students. Administrative Professionals Day will be celebrated April 26, with a lunch out for main office staff. The administrative professional staff at the ESC, IEC, LEC and OMEC Center are invaluable and enable us to carry out our mission and vision of service and partnerships in a friendly, helpful way. A staff picture day was held on April 5 at the ESC Main Office. To better serve and connect with our vast staff and stakeholders, we arranged for a photographer to take professional headshots of key departmental staff. These photos will be used on our website so others can put a name with a face when we do website updates for the coming year. NwOESC coordinated a Zoom on April 19th with Bill Phillis and Dennis Willard regarding the EdChoice voucher litigation currently underway by the Ohio Coalition for Equity & Adequacy of School Funding and over 200 districts in our state. The Zoom provided an opportunity for Superintendents and Treasurers to hear the most up to date information. The 2023 OESCA Spring Conference and Franklin B. Walter All-Scholastic Award luncheon was held on April 17 and 18 in Columbus. A focus of the conference was national trends in education and technology/AI. Two of our county winner students and their family members were able to attend the recognition luncheon. The OESCA Facebook page is full of photos of the events. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086318649418>. Informational handouts were provided on the total solar eclipse coming April 8, 2024 and the NwOESC service area map.

•As all the business of the evening was complete, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm. The next meeting will take place on May 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH.