

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their regular meeting held March 24, 2020.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Nona Rupp.

-The Treasurer administered the oath of office to Nona Rupp.

REPORTS:

- OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:** Brian Baker provided a legislative overview. Governor Mike DeWine issued an executive order declaring a state of emergency to address the spread of the coronavirus. Additionally, he released other executive orders restricting mass gatherings of over 100 people and the closure of all Ohio schools from the end of the school day on Monday, March 16, through Friday, April 3. This order includes all public, community and private K-12 schools in the state. Some testing, such as alternate assessments, English Language proficiency, and OGT testing, have been suspended. More information can be found at www.education.ohio.gov/coronavirus. The State Board of Education adopted the revised OTES framework by a vote of 15-0. The OTES framework is being revised due to legislative changes contained in Senate Bill 216, which required the State Board to revise the standards-based framework for the evaluation of teachers based on the recommendations of the Educator Standards Board.
- CFO/TREASURER:** Homer Hendricks discussed business office operations during the school shut down with a focus on providing essential functions such as payroll. He also reviewed service agreements set for approval or waiting to be returned by the districts. Mr. Hendricks shared Lynae Fry be hired as the new personnel coordinator replacing Kristan Hughes. He concluded with a reminder to all about completing their Ohio Ethics Commission filings.
- DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Jill Gilliland shared the department's efforts in staying current with guidance during school closings; investigating ways to support students via online learning formats and/or learning packets; and continuing to meet ETR and IEP deadlines in accordance with school district decisions in these areas. Essential department work continues in an effort to be ready for school when it resumes and/or to support districts and students via online learning. The NWOESC team continues to amaze me with their expertise, resourcefulness, and flexibility.
- DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Kris Dobbelaere shared recent events facilitated by NwoESC Consultants including Math Counts Competition; Williams County Honors Band and Choir, Data Dives and Quiz Bowls. Also shared were recent events hosted by the NwoESC including Franklin B. Walter Celebration, Teacher Talks and visits to schools to observe new initiatives being implemented in the districts. Kris also shared how the General Education Department is supporting districts during this unprecedented time in education.
- DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY:** Chad Rex highlighted this month's technology leader network meeting was hosted at Stryker Local Schools and they had another wonderful turnout of more than twenty tech leaders from our four county area and beyond. Their next meeting will be conducted via web-conferencing. Mr. Rex shared that he was able to attend an educational technology conference where he attended sessions on network administration, project-based learning, student privacy, remote instruction, and leadership. Other highlights shared by Mr. Rex were the installation of an interactive whiteboard and projector at IEC, continued work on the PRESIS database that is nearing completion, and statistics related to the three social media outlets that NWOESC holds accounts in (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn). The statistics show a high exposure, impression, and follower rate with Twitter. Facebook and LinkedIn is behind Twitter, but activity is there and valuable. Mr. Rex also shared that he has been actively monitoring and sharing resources that can be helpful to educators that are faced with new challenges during remote work and instruction. Mr. Rex has also been supporting educators as questions and challenges arise.

Approved the following items under the consent agenda format:

- Minutes from the regular board meeting held February 25, 2020.

•FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

•AGREEMENTS

-NwOESC to provide to Bryan City Schools, Superintendent Search Services for the period of 3/16/20- position is finalized or until agreed upon by both parties to terminate services.

-NwOESC to provide to St. John Lutheran School-Freedom Township, Occupational Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/19-6/15/20.

-NwOESC to provide to St. John Lutheran School-Freedom Township, Speech Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/19-6/15/20.

-To approve Annual Service Agreements with the following districts for the 2020-21 school year per R.C. 3313.845:

- Ayersville Local Schools
- Edon Northwest Local Schools
- Fayette Local Schools
- Montpelier Exempted Village Schools

•LEAVES

FMLA and Disability

•RETIREMENTS

Brenda Sonnenberg, Paraprofessional, effective 6/1/2020
Cynthia Suffel, Paraprofessional, effective 5/31/2020

•RESIGNATIONS

Joanna Harmon, School Nurse, effective 4/20/2020

•EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

CONTRACTS

Certified Limited

Name

Warner, Page CERT-1Yr 6/1/2020-8/31/2020

•EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

CONTRACTS

Classified Limited

Name

Chavez Arreola, Martha	CLASS- 1Yr	4/1/220-12/31/2020
Florez, Barbara	CLASS- 1Yr	4/1/2020-12/31/2020
Gongora, Mara	CLASS- 1Yr	4/1/2020-12/31/2020
Hernandez, Maria	CLASS- 1Yr	4/1/2020-12/31/2020
Pacheco, Betty	CLASS- 1Yr	4/1/2020-12/31/2020
Ramirez, Oscar	CLASS- 1Yr	4/1/2020-12/31/2020

Classified Notice

Name

Fry, Lynae
Hughes, Kristan

Substitute Paraprofessionals

Angela Harrison, Jeffrey Killian, Amanda Miller, Edith Samson, Kendra Tracz, Kelly Waldron

Substitute Teachers

Jeffrey Killian, Megan Lantz, Amanda Miller, Wendell Nofziger

•Set the NwoESC Salary Schedules to reflect a 2.2% increase for the 2020-21 contract year and a 2.0% increase for the 2021-22 contract year as presented.

•Approved the Annual Report/Joint Statement of the NwoESC Business Advisory Council submitted on March 1, 2020 as required by ODE.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- NwoESC Business Advisory Council Quarterly Update – December 10, 2019 Minutes were shared.
- Presentation, discussion, and acceptance of public comment on Independence Education Center/Northwest Ohio Opportunity School Calendar for the 2020-21 School Year
- Reminder that Financial Disclosure Statements are due to Ohio Ethics Commission by May 15, 2020
- 25 applications have been received for the main office Building Maintenance Technician position. Screening and interview processes will begin soon.

•**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Kerri Weir reported the Bryan City School Board of Education is contracting with NwoESC to conduct their Superintendent Search. The search is now underway, as materials and timelines have been developed and the vacancy advertised. It is anticipated that interviews will take place in late April/early May for the position, expected to be filled by August 1, 2020. The Public Water System at the Independence Education Center was recently sampled for PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances). This is part of a 2020 statewide initiative through the Ohio EPA to better understand the occurrence of PFAS in Ohio drinking water. Superintendent Weir was happy to share that PFAS were not detected in the samples collected from the IEC water system. Thanks to Chuck Lero for working to coordinate the sampling with the EPA. NwoESC received official word from enTrust Ltd. that solar projects for the Independence Education Center (IEC) and main building are not recommended as the return is too small per their assessment. NwoESC had reached out to another solar energy vendor (Telamon) to have a second opinion/comparison data and are waiting on their analysis. The ESC continues to look for ways to be as efficient with our building operations (including HVAC, lighting, and security) as possible. NwoESC is working on the process to look at a replacement of the boiler at the IEC, anticipated for this summer. The current boiler shows signs of cracking and some water damage and preliminary analysis indicates a replacement would be more cost effective than a repair. Employment processes for 2020-21 will be heavy over the next few board meetings. In April, Administrative and Classified contract recommendations will be addressed, and in May, Certified contract recommendations will be addressed for the upcoming year. If flexibility is needed due to the public health crisis with Covid-19, NwoESC is positioned to move all contract recommendations to the May meeting if necessary. Regarding the Coronavirus crisis – Superintendent Weir and the Administrative Team cannot express how impressed they have been with NwoESC staff during this time of school disruption. Everyone has so graciously stepped up to the plate to ensure students continue learning throughout this very difficult and unprecedented time! Staff are connecting and communicating with home districts, sharing resources and expertise, and making sure our essential functions keep moving forward. We all continue to learn and grow each day. Our main messages are health and safety of staff and student learning and progression. A thank you to the Board for supporting NwoESC efforts was shared.

•As all of the business of the evening was complete the meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 29, 2020 at 6:00 pm at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH.