

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their regular meeting held September 22, 2020 via face to face and remote meeting.

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

The Board and Administrative Team recognized Lindsey Eckley, Intervention Specialist, for being awarded State Board District 1 Ohio Teacher of the Year.

## **REPORTS:**

•**OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:** Mr. Brian Baker reported on legislative items of interest. Governor Mike DeWine recently signed HB 606, which prohibits bringing a civil action for damages for injury, death or loss to person or property against businesses, the state, local governments and schools, among others, if the cause is due to exposure to COVID-19. Additionally, the Governor signed HB 272, which expands court jurisdiction; prohibits a public official from changing the time, place or manner of conducting an election; and prohibits a public official from ordering the closure of all places of worship in a geographic area. U.S Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos issued a statement that states should not count on getting the same waivers from federal testing mandates for the 2020-21 school year that they received last spring as the pandemic shut down schools.

•**OSBA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON:** Dr. Christine Smallman shared the Ohio School Board Association's continued focus on student achievement despite COVID-19. Additionally, OSBA is promoting core skills that effective boards must exhibit to ensure that all students achieve at high levels: vision, accountability, policy, community engagement, public school advocacy and relationships. These skills align to national efforts and guide school board action by exploring, questioning, assessing and working with others to improve student outcomes and opportunities.

•**CFO/TREASURER:** Homer Hendricks shared information on OSBA Capital Conference which will be held virtually from November 7-10. He also discussed financing of the Dynamix Energy Services project along with the final scope of work. The scope of work includes work at the Archbold facility as well as the Independence Education Center. Mr. Hendricks also reviewed his participation in the OESCA Connect and Collaborate Fall Conference including legal updates from the state and federal level.

•**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Jill Gilliland shared that remote learning plans have been developed for all service areas. They will be monitored and changed as needed if we do implement the plans. We continue to monitor staffing needs. Staffing continues to be affected by movement of students to or from online learning. PD sessions for IEP training are offered online this year, and will be recorded for later viewing. Participants will receive a certificate for both live and recorded sessions. Michelle Kruse and Jessica Soltis are doing a fabulous job providing this PD!

•**DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Josh Clark, reported that the curriculum and professional development department has successfully kicked off professional development offerings. They have tailored many of their professional opportunities to fit the schedules of the educators and districts they serve, namely by launching their #PDGoesPM initiative. By selecting one hour time slots in the evening hours to deliver quality professional development, they have seen their PD numbers increase, and a diverse number of educators take part in the offerings. Mr. Clark also reported that the curriculum consultants are thinking outside the box in order to allow students the opportunity to participate in ESC facilitated county events, albeit virtually. As of now, multiple quiz matches and Math Counts will be held virtually during the 2020-2021 school year. In addition to county events, Mr. Clark also discussed the first Brunch and Learn opportunity for area administrators that was held on September 17. The morning was a networking collaborative that focused on districts' remote learning plans. Mr. Clark also indicated that the NwOESC will be partnering with EnvisionEdPlus to offer Operation Graduation 3.0, a virtual design lab that will be offered to area districts on October 20. This design lab will

help districts work through the Ohio graduation pathways, and allow for them to collaborate with other districts in the process. The curriculum department will facilitate “pop sessions” in the afternoon where educators can further collaborate on graduation pathway items. Lastly, Mr. Clark reported that the NwOESC is currently partnering with a few other ESCs in hopes of being selected to receive grant funds from the OCER grant. If the NwOESC is successfully awarded the funding, the NwOESC will participate in an initiative called Launchpad that will be based around the Reframing Education components. It is the hope that NwOESC districts would join the initiative with the final product being an action plan ready to put in place for the 2021-2022 school year. More information will be forthcoming.

•**DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS:** Chad Rex highlighted the deployment of the Remind application at IEC which is being used by staff to communicate with parents and students. The principal, Troy Slattman, is also using Remind for urgent messaging. The first NW Ohio+ Tech Leaders network meeting of the 2020/21 school year for September 25th. The network will continue meeting via Zoom until the group decides otherwise. The tech leader’s presence in the district has never been as critical as it is at this time. Mr. Rex also shared that the online enrollment project for the preschool program has restarted in preparation for the Spring enrollment process. Mr. Corey Todd helped with the installation of a new network switch at IEC. Mr. Rex also shared some highlights related to the Operations team. The doors of the ESC main office were opened to the public on September 1st. Visitors use a temperature kiosk and sign in at the front desk. Additional speakers have been installed to enhance the new PA system. Larry Davis, maintenance technician, picked up facial coverings from the ESC of Lake Erie West and prepared them for distribution to member districts. Angie Ritz’s first day back was Aug 26th. Angie is assisting in the areas of cleaning and general operations. Mr. Rex shared that protective barriers were installed at the main office and at IEC. Chuck Lero is leading the effort to address the heating concerns at the IEC’s main office area as well as the entire building.

Approved the following items under the consent agenda format:

•Minutes from the regular board meeting held August 25, 2020.

•**FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

•**AGREEMENTS**

-NwOESC to provide to Holy Cross Catholic School, Occupational Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to Holy Cross Catholic School, Speech Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to St. Augustine Catholic School, Occupational and Physical Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to St. Augustine Catholic School, Speech Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to St. John Lutheran School-Freedom Township, Occupational Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to St. John Lutheran School-Freedom Township, Psychologist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to St. John Lutheran School-Freedom Township, Speech Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to St. Mary Catholic School, Intervention Specialist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to St. Mary Catholic School, Occupational and Physical Therapist Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwOESC to provide to Sylvania City Schools, Hearing Impaired Classroom & Related Services for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

**•THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATE**

-Approved the payment of the following invoice requiring Board approval since a requisition was not submitted and encumbered prior to the incurrence of costs per board policy 6320 (then and now certification).

School Specialty – Defiance MS 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**•LEAVES**

FMLA and Disability

**•RESIGNATIONS**

Behrens, Gabrielle, Intervention Specialist, effective 10/2/2020

Chase, Jonathan, Adapted PE Teacher, effective 10/2/2020

Stewart, Colleen, paraprofessional, effective 9/4/2020

**•EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**CONTRACTS**

**Certified Limited**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Fraker, Christine	CERT-1 Yr	9/1/2020-7/31/2021
Lantz, Megan	CERT-1 Yr	9/28/2020-7/31/2021
Miller, Rachel	CERT-1 Yr	9/21/2020-7/31/2021

**Classified Limited**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Koppenhofer, Megan	CLASS-1 Yr	9/23/2020-7/31/2021

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Site Coordinators**

Patrick Henry Elementary – Kathy Sonnenberg

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Teachers**

Holgate High School – Catherine Buchholz, Daniel Buchhop, Julie Casillas, Timothy McGhee, Julie Schroeder

Patrick Henry Elementary – Kaylee Botjer, Taylor Gerken, Linda Hummer, Marie Myers, Cristin Sunderman, Shawn Sunderman

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Program Assistant**

Defiance Middle School – Stephanie Holbrook

**Substitute Paraprofessionals**

Brynn Ballmer, Zachary Brown, Jennifer Burghardt, Deborah Drewes, Adam Fox, Cameron Hewson, Kailee Mitchell, Jennifer Perry, Machedta Porter, Heidi Schroeder, Nicole VonDeylen

**Substitute Teachers**

Jennifer Bergman, Rechelle Bischoff, Kevin Boesger, Matthew Buendia, Katrina Burt, Rachel Burton, Ronald Cody, Johanna Costigan, Erica DeCola, Anita Eureste Kryder, Jennifer Hanson, Kevin Hayes, Jill Kovnesky, Char Lee, Susan Lee, Katelin Moquin, Wendell Nofziger, Rachel Orr, Rachel Paris, Machedta Porter, Marvin Retcher, Emma Schafer, Darian Schnitkey, Audrey Short, Sarah Stuckey Diaw, Karen Vollmer, Tracy Wachtman Ondrejko, Alec Wagner, Dawn Young

**Substitute School Psychology Support**

Bailey, Lisa

**Student Teachers/Interns/Volunteers**

Brannon, Katie, Methods Placement as a BGSU student, Fall Semester, 2020 placed with Christi Ranzau  
Brannon, Katie, Student Teaching as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2021 placed with Christi Ranzau  
Hoying, Taylor, Methods Placement as a BGSU student, Fall Semester, 2020 placed with Kaela Prigge  
Hoying, Taylor, Student Teaching as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2021 placed with Kaela Prigge  
Karp, Erin, Methods Placement as a BGSU student, Fall Semester, 2020 placed with Brooke Varble  
Karp, Erin, Student Teaching as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2021 placed with Brooke Varble  
King, Megan, Methods Placement as a BGSU student, Fall Semester, 2020 placed with Deb Wittenmyer  
King, Megan, Student Teaching as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2021 placed with Deb Wittenmyer  
Picciano, Nicole, Methods Placement as a BGSU student, Fall Semester, 2020 placed with Jody Mohring  
Picciano, Nicole, Student Teaching as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2021 placed with Jody Mohring  
Prunty, James, Methods Placement as a BGSU student, Fall Semester, 2020 placed with Jody Mohring  
Prunty, James, Student Teaching as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2021 placed with Jody Mohring  
Rager, Mallory, Methods Placement as a BGSU student, Fall Semester, 2020 placed with Brooke Varble  
Rager, Mallory, Student Teaching as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2021 placed with Brooke Varble  
Wysong, Bailey, Methods Placement as a BGSU student, Fall Semester, 2020 placed with Deb Wittenmyer  
Wysong, Bailey, Student Teaching as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2021 placed with Deb Wittenmyer

•Motion to appoint Nona Rupp as the delegate and Jim George as the alternate delegate to the Ohio School Board Association 2020 Capital Conference business meeting.

•Appointed Jill Gilliland and Josh Clark as Title IX Coordinators for the purpose of coordinating NwOESC's efforts to comply with applicable Federal regulations regarding nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities for 2020.

•Approved the agreement for Energy Saving Projects, Emergency Projects and a Solar Array with Dynamix Energy Solutions per the scope of work as presented:

Northwest Ohio ESC Nolan Parkway-digital temperate controls, LED lighting system, solar PV system

Independence Education Center-replace boiler heating system, replace heat pump system

•Approved Dinsmore & Shohl LLP to serve as legal counsel. They will represent NwOESC in the financing aspects of the energy project as Ennis Britton does not serve in that capacity.

•Approved a resolution authorizing a loan or lease purchase financing relating to the acquisition of energy conservation improvement to educational facilities in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, and matters relating thereto.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- Reviewed the following policy recommendations and updates:

Policy 1520	Employment of Administrators	revised
Policy 1530	Evaluation of Principals and Other Administrators	revised

Policy 2266	Title IX Regulations - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Center Programs or Activities	new
Policy 2270	Religion in the Curriculum	revised
Policy 3124	Employment Contract	revised
Policy 5200	Attendance	revised
Policy 6152	Student Fees, Fines, and Charges	revised
Policy 6152.01	Waiver of School Fees for Instructional Materials	revised
Policy 6325	Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds	revised
Policy 6424	Procurement Cards	replacement
Policy 8800	Religious/Patriotic Ceremonies and Observances	revised

- Vocational School Appointment Applications – update on process and timeline
- Core Services and Departmental Priorities – Draft for FY21

•SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Kerri Weir shared several updates with the board. NwoESC has implemented a website dashboard to report agency staff and IEC/Opportunity School staff and student positive COVID cases. Health department ordered quarantines and isolations have impacted some staff and students so far this school year. Rate setting will be taking place soon for 2021 health, dental, and vision benefits for those participating in the NBHP consortium. A preliminary planning meeting was held recently regarding safety and security efforts at the main building and IEC/Opportunity School. In addition to routine/required drills, the main office and IEC/Opportunity School will be conducting tabletop emergency tests for the ODE safety requirements this year. Other discussion items included exploring ALICE training refresher option and minor building and procedural enhancements. NwoESC has again been awarded a wellness grant to help promote staff health and wellbeing. The initiative for the 2020-21 school year is entitled, “Being Your Best You!” Now more than ever it is important to focus on staff physical and emotional health and wellness. Committee members include Kerri Weir, Jill Gilliland, Josh Clark, Linda Schlosser, Corey Todd, Troy Slattman, Ashleigh Repp, Bobbie Jo Repp and Michelle Smith. The High Performing ESC Application was compiled and submitted to ODE for review and approval recently. Kudos to Homer Hendricks for his work in researching comparables and calculating the cost savings spreadsheet required for the application. In total, NwoESC’s five selected services (Visual Impairment Services, Speech Therapy, Gifted Supervision, Occupational Therapy, and School Psychology) demonstrated a 20.09% total cost savings (\$880,739.06) through efficiencies gained via consortium staffing and shared services. The first monthly Superintendent Meeting/quarterly BAC Meeting of the year was held on Tuesday, September 8, connecting area administrators, networking on the start of school and collaborating through the NwoESC Business Advisory Council. NwoESC continues to bring awareness of student loan forgiveness opportunities to our teachers and all employees. Two main programs exist for this - a Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program and a Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program. More details available on at [www.nwoesc.org](http://www.nwoesc.org).

•As all of the business of the evening was complete the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH.