

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their organizational and regular meeting held July 20, 2021.

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

## **REPORTS:**

•OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON: Mr. Brian Baker reported on several legislative items of interest. Governor DeWine signed into law HB 244, which will do the following: prohibit public schools from mandating a vaccine that is not fully approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration; prohibit public schools from discriminating against an individual who has not received such vaccine, including by requiring the individual to engage in or refrain from engaging in activities or precautions that differ from the activities or precautions of an individual who has received such a vaccine; modify quarantine procedures for individuals who come from a high-risk country as defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and require K-12 schools to allow military children who are relocating, but not yet residents of a district, to enroll electronically and participate in technology-based educational opportunities. Gov. DeWine also signed into law SB 52, which would permit a board of county commissioners to designate a restricted area that prohibits the construction of utility facilities in the county and establish a referendum for the approval or rejection of designating the restricted area. The State Board of Education established a promotion score of 683 for the third-grade English language arts assessment as part of the state's Third Grade Reading Guarantee. The board appointed Deputy Superintendent John Richard as interim state superintendent, effective Sept. 25, 2021. The board also passed a resolution requesting a formal opinion from Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost about the board's 2020 resolution condemning racism and advancing equity and opportunity. The Ohio Department of Education released information regarding the ability of a school district to operate an online learning school. HB 110, the biennial budget bill, authorized the creation of district-operated online learning schools. Superintendents must notify ODE by Aug. 1, 2021, of their intent to operate or continue operating an online learning school. Emergency federal dollars are still available to districts through the Emergency Connectivity Fund, which can be used to purchase computers, Wi-Fi hotspots and broadband connectivity services. The deadline to submit an application is Aug. 13, 2021. OSBA has scheduled a Budget Analysis and Discussion Seminar set for August 4. This session will provide insights on the final version of the legislation as well as opportunities to hear from school-funding experts and policymakers.

•OSBA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON: Dr. Christine Smallman shared items related to student achievement. Three district superintendents in Michigan, New Jersey and Wisconsin recommend several strategies to ease students and families back into in-person learning next school year. The strategies include: offering custom schedules for families who still have concerns about returning full time; forming a reopening task force; and communicating well in advance, giving families time to process the information. According to the Metropolitan Policy Institute, Playful Learning Landscapes (PLL), which weave activities such as puzzles and games into bus stops and other urban spots, encourage exploration, creativity, problem-solving and collaboration while enhancing students' spatial, reading and math skills. In a remote learning environment, one teacher reported indicated speech-to-text technology allowed students to more easily transfer their ideas onto the page, which was especially helpful for students with ADHD and processing-related disabilities, such as auditory processing disorder or working memory deficits. Another teacher uses video messages to provide remote and in-person feedback to students providing a personalized critique on students' work and building rapport with them. A new national study casts significant doubt on the idea that states are better positioned to run schools than locally elected officials. Overall, researchers found little evidence that districts see test scores rise as a result of being taken over. If anything, state control had slightly negative effects on students.

•CFO/TREASURER: Mr. Homer Hendricks reviewed the biennial budget included an increase in ESC funding from the state as part of the Fair School Funding Plan. He also updated the board on new grants including the EANS program and the RemotEDx PLCO grant. Mr. Hendricks reminded the board about registering for OSBA Capital Conference as well.

•**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Mrs. Jill Gilliland provided an update on staffing and services for the 2021-22 school year. We are looking forward to another productive year! We have some great people who will be joining our already amazing team! We are looking forward to expanding K-12 special education supervision services with the addition of Liberty Center and Ayersville. Supervisors continue to interview throughout the summer to fill vacancies. Our preschool psychologists will be using a new assessment, the DASH-3, this coming year that will better inform our assessments. This decision was made after attending an SST1 series of PD on the topic of play-based assessments.

•**DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Incoming Director of Curriculum, Andy Hunter, reported that PD Palooza is right around the corner. Wes Kieschnick, author of Bold School and Breaking Bold, will be the keynote speaker with breakout sessions put on by NwoESC consultants. Those sessions will focus on helping districts roll out their OTES 2.0 initiatives as well as RESA. Mr. Hunter also reported that the 2021-2022 professional development brochure is being finalized. Lastly, state test scores were released at the end of June. Mr. Hunter put together a document to allow schools to compare their test results with the other school districts of Northwest Ohio. This also allows the NwoESC the opportunity to evaluate those scores looking for trends and to identify potential needs districts might have moving forward.

•**DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS:** Mr. Chad Rex shared that the technology office has been working through the process of staff turning in technology, the needs of new hires and various new projects. Mr. Corey Todd has completed the technology clean up and set up process for the IEC in preparation for the new school year. A new system for technology requests is being developed along with maintenance and room requests. Mr. Rex also highlighted that the ESC will be utilizing the new federal Emergency Connectivity Fund opportunity to assist with funding laptop purchases where eligible and needed. Operations office updates shared by Mr. Rex focused on building HVAC projects in addition to general maintenance and custodial work. The solar panels have been delivered and installation will begin as soon as the final permit is approved. Mr. Rex and Mr. Larry Davis have had several meetings with FMX to design the schedule (room) request, technology and maintenance request workflows. The project is on schedule for implementation of the new system in early August. This will be used by staff to submit room requests along with helpdesk requests/tickets. Mr. Rex reported that the main office has experienced mechanical difficulties with one of the two chillers, but the contractor, Trigen Mechanical, has identified the issue and a resolution is in process. The team is developing a contingency plan and proposal for such emergencies related to chillers and boilers. Mr. Chuck Lero is diligently working on preparing the IEC building for the new school year. Mr. Davis is meeting with Dynamix as needed to refine the building HVAC settings. Lastly, the vans are being serviced and detailed in preparation for the school year.

•Approved the following items under the consent agenda format:

•Minutes from the regular board meeting held June 24, 2021.

## •**FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

### •**AGREEMENTS**

-Hicksville Exempted Village Schools to provide to NwoESC, Paraprofessional Services for the period of 8/15/21-6/15/22.

-NwoESC to provide to Archbold Area Local Schools, Extended School Year-Tutor Services, for the period of 6/14/21-8/21/21.

-NwoESC to provide to Bowling Green City Schools, Visual Impairment (VI) Services, for the period of 8/15/21-6/15/22.

-NwoESC to provide to Divine Mercy Catholic School, Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) Services for the period of 7/1/21-9/30/23.

-NwOESC to provide to Eastwood Local Schools, Visual Impairment (VI) Services, for the period of 8/15/21-6/15/22.

**•LEAVES**

FMLA and Disability

**•RESIGNATIONS**

- Elrod, Lisa, Paraprofessional, effective 7/31/2021
- Aeschliman, Kristy, ELL Teacher, effective 7/31/2021
- Fogt, Sara, Paraprofessional, effective 7/31/2021
- Moore, Hilary, Paraprofessional, effective 7/31/2021
- Overfield, Kelly, Paraprofessional, effective 7/31/2021
- Peters, Abbey, Intervention Specialist, effective 7/31/2021
- Slattman, Troy, Special Education Supervisor, effective 7/31/2021
- Waidelich, Lynae, Personnel Coordinator, effective 8/1/2021

**Bus Drivers**

Northeastern – Joe Aschemeier, Jerry Beckman, Jacob Bostleman, Jennifer Burbaker, William Burkhart, Joshua Burkholder, Angela Bussing, Melissa Coressel, Bryan Etzler, Judith Hancock, Joetta Henry, Thomas Henry, Kathleen Homier, Janelle Hoshak, Rhonda Lehman, Kenton McQuillin, Doreen Robertson, Julie Sanders, John Wagner, Jami Young

**Van Drivers**

Northeastern – Tammy Harr, Lisa Maxwell, Jennifer Saner, Nicholas Siewert, Eric Tipton

**EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**CONTRACTS**

**Certified Administrative**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Curry, Jestine	ADM-1 YR	7/19/2021-6/30/2022
Merillat, Troy	ADM-1 YR	8/1/2021-6/30/2022

**Classified Limited**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Bailey, Lisa	CLASS-1 Yr	7/13/2021-6/30/2022
Opdycke, Hilary	CLASS-1 Yr	8/1/2021-7/31/2022
Penrod, Sherry	CLASS-1 Yr	8/1/2021-7/31/2022
Ream, Amanda	CLASS-1 Yr	8/1/2021-7/31/2022
Wachtman-Ondrejko, Tracy	CLASS-1 Yr	8/1/2021-7/31/2022

**Classified Continuing**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Beginning</b>
Hesterman, Carol	CLASS-CONT	8/1/2021
Sterken, Cara	CLASS-CONT	8/1/2021

**Certified Limited Summer Enrichment**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Opdycke, Deb	CERT-1 Yr	6/1/2021-8/31/2021

### **Classified Limited Summer Enrichment**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Keller, Teresa	CLASS-1 Yr	6/1/2021-8/31/2021
Mann, Donna	CLASS-1 Yr	6/1/2021-8/31/2021

### **Substitute Paraprofessionals**

Jenny Ackerman, Rachel Davis, Deborah Drewes, Megan Imbrock, Laura Shultz

### **Substitute Teachers**

Leanne Anthony, John Bucklew, Charles Cary, Courtney Cobb, Alexandria Fitch, Andrea Freimuth, Deborah Guelde, James Harris, Kent Holsopple, Clay Keeley, Jennifer King, Wendy Otte, Lexie Poulson, Rhonda Samples, Richard Selgo, Dawn Sharpe, Laura Shultz, Susan Smith, Elizabeth Spangler, Peggy Sullivan, Renee Weaver, Jamie Wisda

### **Student Teachers/Interns/Volunteers**

Berner, Kylie, Methods Placement as a BGSU Student, Fall Semester, 2021 Placed with Alexa Brown  
Berner, Kylie, Student Teaching as a BGSU Student, Spring Semester, 2022 Placed with Alexa Brown  
Cornell, Autumn, Methods Placement as a BGSU Student, Fall Semester, 2021 Placed with Jody Mohring  
Cornell, Autumn, Student Teaching as a BGSU Student, Spring Semester, 2022 Placed with Jody Mohring

#### **•Adopted NWOESC Handbooks for the 2021-22 school year:**

- Certified Staff Handbook
- Classified Staff Handbook
- Preschool Parent Handbook
- IEC Parent/Student Handbook
- Northwest Ohio Opportunity School Parent Handbook/Student Handbook
- 21st Century Staff Handbook
- 21st Century Parent/Student Handbooks
- LPDC Handbook
- Bus/Van Driver Handbook

•Appointed Christine Smallman as the delegate and Ron Crawford as the alternate delegate to the Ohio School Board Association 2021 Capital Conference business meeting.

•Approved membership in the Ohio Educational Service Center Association (OESCA) for the period of 7/1/21-6/30/22.

•Approved resolution to re-employ Amy Bauerle as Speech Language Pathologist.

### **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- The 2020-21 Annual Report on Food and Beverages Sold on School Premises was shared.
- Information regarding the Ohio Teacher of the Year 2022 selection process and district winner was shared. Congratulations to Joseph Foster, High School Social Studies teacher at Hardin Northern for being selected as the District 1 winner.
- NWOESC Board Election Districts – a map of the current information on townships and districts was shared. After the release of US Census data, the redistricting process will take place in the Fall of 2022, with implications for the November 2023 General Elections.

•**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent Kerri Weir shared Ohio's Sales Tax Holiday will take place Friday, August 6 at 12:00 a.m. through Sunday, August 8 at 11:59 p.m. During the holiday, clothing priced at \$75 per item or less; school supplies priced at \$20 per item or less; and school instructional material priced at \$20 per item or less are exempt from sales and use tax. NWOESC has been awarded various grants for the coming school year, including a new Extended Learning and Recovery Planning Grant and renewals for an Early Childhood Education Grant for 120 slots for age and income eligible preschoolers; a Parent Mentor Grant to support families and schools in navigating the system of services

and resources available to students with disabilities; and a Primary Prevention Grant to support initiatives including PAX, PBIS and Trauma Informed practices. Planning is underway for various fall events and for the start of school in ESC specialized programs.

- As all of the business of the evening was complete, the meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm. The next meeting will take place on August 24, 2021 at 6:30 pm at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH.