

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their regular meeting held October 27, 2020 via face to face and remote meeting.

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

REPORTS:

•**OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:** Brian Baker shared several legislative updates. Education funding proposal Senators Lehner and Sykes are expected to introduce companion legislation for HB 305 in the coming weeks. The companion bill will be the substitute version of HB 305 that Reps. Patterson and Scherer will also release in the coming weeks. SB 358, which changes education law for the 2020-21 school year to provide school districts continued flexibility and relief during the COVID-19 pandemic, is still pending in the Senate Education Committee. The Ohio Controlling Board approved a request to use \$6 million from the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund for K-12 mental health assistance to support capacity development, connection to community resources and implementation. The Ohio Department of Education announced that it received approval to expand free breakfast and lunch to all students attending schools on the National School Lunch Program through the entire 2020-21 school year. Governor DeWine announced that he has authorized a study that will focus on K-12 students who are quarantined due to meeting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's definition of close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The study is in response to school district superintendents expressing concerns about the number of students being quarantined. OSBA announced a virtual meeting has been scheduled to continue discussion related to the pipeline public utility tangible personal property (PUTPP) valuation challenges filed by the pipeline companies.

•**OSBA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON:** Christine Smallman shared several items related to student achievement. Increasingly many students across the United States are taking a gap year because of the pandemic. A gap year is typically a year off between graduating high school and starting college or a career, where students travel or explore their interests. As virtual learning continues, some students are taking a year off, hoping the college experience will return to "normal". A culinary arts teacher at Oregon City's Clay High School is partnering with area food trucks to organize virtual field trips for students. Jeff McIntyre, who owns Manny's Munchies, is preparing a video to show culinary students some of the behind-the-scenes work it takes to operate the food truck. Teacher shortages are an impending threat facing education as more teachers choose to leave the profession, retire or are laid off because of the health and economic crises caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

•**CFO/TREASURER:** Homer Hendricks shared state auditors have started the annual audit. The auditors are working with a few new requirements, however, both sides expect the process to move along in its normal manner. He also presented the new insurance rates along with information on changes to the insurance plans. Mr. Hendricks also discussed the new GEER grant that is part of the CARES Act funding along with the Prevention Education grant, a multi-ESC grant program. He concluded with reminders about the virtual OSBA Capital Conference to be held November 7-10.

•**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Jill Gilliland provided information about Ohio's Parent Mentor Project. Mrs. Nichol Herold is available to work with families in our four county area. Her contact information is available on our website. Preschool staff attended PD on Oct. 12 on the topic of Emergent Literacy with Heather Gaskins, SSTR1. The PD was well received and there are 2 additional sessions scheduled in November and December. Mr. Josh Clark, Mrs. Kallie Gensler, and Mrs. Katie Jimenez provided an overview and Q&A on OTES 2.0 for our IEC teachers. Mr. Clark has also been meeting with groups of teachers on this topic as well. We appreciate their support! We continue to look for ways to fill

sub vacancies this school year, including hiring a full time teacher to fill vacancies. NwoESC team members are serving in different capacities this year, including subbing in different buildings, working from home, and providing remote instruction. Thank you to our team for this dedication and flexibility!

•**DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Josh Clark reported that, per the Fulton County Health Department, county events that were to be hosted at the NwoESC building have been cancelled through the calendar year with a reevaluation to follow at that time. Mr. Clark also reported that the Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development department is excited to announce an additional strand of professional development that they are calling Snack Size PD. Registrants can watch pre-recorded, nuanced, professional development offerings at their own convenience. In addition, Mr. Clark reported that Katie Jimenez, Kallie Gensler, and Josh Clark recently traveled to the Independence Education Center to facilitate professional development on OTES 2.0 and to discuss a curricular partnership with the staff. On November 4, a mentorship program for new administrators will kick off with a meeting of mentors and mentees. This endeavor will help new area administrators to grow in their new roles under the guidance and support of veteran principals from the area. Finally, Mr. Clark reported that on October 5, he and Mike Remer, Swanton Middle School Career Coach, hosted a roundtable for a few area high school principals. The roundtable's purpose was to discuss high school/business partnerships, and how to speak "the same language" when it comes to helping students progress through the graduation seals and onto the workforce/post-secondary education.

•**DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY:** Chad Rex reported that the Remind app, a communication platform that helps educators interact and inform students and parents, has been deployed to 150 staff members. Support to staff continues to be focused on remote communication and instruction tools. Operations have been active with the IEC heating project that has been concluded and is now fully operational. Additionally, the second wave of masks have been picked up and distribution to area schools.

Approved the following items under the consent agenda format:

•Minutes from the regular board meeting held September 22, 2020.

•**FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

•**AGREEMENTS**

-Fulton County Job & Family Services to provide to NwoESC, Career Counseling Services Funding for the period of 10/1/20-9/30/21.

-NwoESC to provide to Antwerp Local Schools District, Independence Education Center Services, for the period of 10/13/20-6/30/21.

-NwoESC to provide to Patrick Henry Local Schools District, Instructional Services at the Liberty Education Center for the 2020-21 academic year.

-Student Teaching and Field Experience Agreement between Spring Arbor University and NwoESC to place student teachers in the classrooms of NwoESC, for the period of 7/1/20-6/30/21.

•**LEAVES**

FMLA and Disability

•**RESIGNATIONS**

Campbell, Debra, Paraprofessional, effective 10/21/2020

•**EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

CONTRACTS

Certified Limited

Name	Contract	Length
Cole, Rachel	CERT-1 Yr	11/2/2020-7/31/2021
Woloszyn, Laura	CERT-1 Yr	10/6/2020-7/31/2021

Classified Limited

Name	Contract	Length
Hancock, Caroline	CLASS-1 Yr	10/5/2020-7/31/2021
Komisarek, Rebecca	CLASS-1 Yr	10/27/2020-7/31/2021
Schroeder, Heidi	CLASS-1 Yr	10/13/2020-7/31/2021

Classified Notice

Name
Altamirano, Gloria

21st Century Site Coordinators

Defiance Middle School - Emily Clark

21st Century Teachers

Defiance Middle School - Mackenzie Blue, Jennifer Long, Lindsay Long, Brier Stabler

Patrick Henry Elementary - Rylee Bower

Pike-Delta-York - Lisa Schmude, Amanda Seedorf, Mary Tresnan-Reighard

21st Century Program Assistant

Holgate High School - Anne Healy

Pike-Delta-York - Linda Piasecki

21st Century Drivers

Holgate High School - Thomas Muntz, Ken Muntz, Nancy Gerken

Wauseon Middle School - Lisa Rupp

Substitute Paraprofessionals

Kristine Dick, Amanda Dilbone, Carla Elliott, Rene Hadding, Laura Myers

Substitute Teachers

Chelsea Hageman, Jennifer Hanson, Lennox Mitchell, Janet Morr, Chelsey Smith

Substitute School Nurse

Ondrejko, Tracy

Student Teachers/Interns/Volunteers

Schlatter, Naomi, Clinical as a Rhodes State College Student, Spring Semester, 2021 Placed with Matthew Ferguson

Shaw, Lauren, Methods Placement as a BGSU Student, Fall Semester, 2020 Placed with Christi Ranzau

Shaw, Lauren, Student Teaching as a BGSU Student, Spring Semester, 2021 Placed with Christi Ranzau

•Commended Ron Crawford for receiving the OSBA Veteran Board Member Award for 25 Years of Service to Public Schools as a loyal Board Member.

•Commended Brian Baker for receiving the OSBA Veteran Board Member Award for 25 Years of Service to Public Schools as a loyal Board Member.

•Approved the following policy recommendations:

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

•Approved a lease extension with Lee H. Bowden and Sharon K. Bowden for office space at 426-428 ½ Croghan Street, Fremont for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024 for the use of the Ohio Migrant Education Center with a clause to nullify the lease should NWOESC no longer act as the fiscal agent for OMEC.

•Approved membership in Ohio Schools Council for 2020-21 school year.

•Approved the purchase of electronic data sharing and management, database web access and web site support, network support, and server support services from META Solutions for the Ohio Migrant Education Center with Title I-C Migrant funds for the period of 7/1/20-6/30/21.

•Approved increases in Board paid Health Savings Account (HSA) contributions for eligible employees. Eligible employees are only those enrolling in the High Deductible Healthcare Plan.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Summary of 2021 Benefit Increases for Health, Dental, Vision and Life - The Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP) recently made plan changes/adjustments and set the health, dental, vision, and life rate increases for 2021. Across the consortium, all healthcare plans (Access + and High Deductible Health Plan) will increase 9%; dental will increase 4%; and vision and life insurance will not increase. Staff will be receiving more detailed information as the open enrollment period approaches.
- FY21 Core Services and Departmental Priorities – Annual goals for the organization and respective departments were finalized for the 2020-21 school year.
- November BOE Meeting changed to 11/17/2020 at 6:30 PM (3rd Tuesday)
- 4CCC Appointees Carol Kleck and Ken Esterline will be ending terms 12/31/2020 – tentative recognition 12/17/2020 at 4CCC
- Distribution of Superintendent and Treasurer Evaluations (realignment to new calendar year cycle)

•SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Kerri Weir reported on several items. Michelle Smith was commended for her work in connecting with staff, districts and area health departments related to COVID-19 situations. Quarantines and isolations continue to impact some staff and students. ESC staff have displayed great flexibility in working through the challenges of the 2020-21 school year. NWOESC is assisting in the distribution of an additional 109,650 masks through the Ohio EMA/ODE project. This round included N95 masks (48,900), adult cloth (33,365) and pediatric masks (27,385) allotted to Public Schools, Four County Career Center and Non Public Schools in Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams Counties. A big thank you

to Chad Rex and Larry Davis for coordinating this effort! A summary of staff taking advantage of coursework tuition reimbursement was shared. Reimbursements made this fall were based on coursework taken during the 2019-20 school year and equated to \$12,495 with 11 staff eligible. NwoESC and NWOCA met recently to discuss safety measures for the main building. In process for this year are annual fire and tornado drills and tests; Emergency Management Test requirement - Tabletop Exercise; ALICE Training/Refreshers for ESC and NWOCA main building staff; enhanced video surveillance for the front foyer/entrance; testing/systems check of our PA system; and resource/procedure guide for front desk staff. Building custodial services and needs were discussed. NwoESC has been designated for the 5th year in a row as a High Performing ESC. All 51 ESCs in Ohio achieved this designation for FY21, further reinforcing the effective model of shared services for quality and efficiencies. In total, NwoESC's five selected primary services (Visual Impairment Services, Speech Therapy, Gifted Supervision, Occupational Therapy, and School Psychology) demonstrated a 20.09% total cost savings (\$880,739.06) to member districts. NwoESC provides many other services equally valuable and cost effective. As State FY22-23 Biennium Budget discussions progress, the High Performing ESC application and process may change as ESC funding is comprehensively addressed.

- As all of the business of the evening was complete the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH.