

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their regular meeting held November 29, 2022.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Brian Baker. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **REPORTS:**

•**OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:** Brian Baker shared that new legislators are set to take office in January, so until then things in General Assembly will be relatively quiet. Merrin and Huffman were selected for leadership roles in the House and Senate. The House passed HB 403 which would require school district superintendents to file a report with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) regarding a teacher who retired under threat of disciplinary investigation in addition to those who resigned under threat of disciplinary investigation. The Senate Primary and Secondary Education Committee held sponsor testimony on HB 554, which would require the SBOE to issue two-year temporary educator licenses to applicants with expired professional teacher's certificates and professional educator licenses as long as certain requirements are met.

•**OSBA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON:** Dr. Christine Smallman reported on several items related to student achievement. Akron City Schools held a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new community learning center. The learning center is designed to help high school students learn career and technical skills to prepare them for the workforce. Students enrolled at Butler Tech and Career Development's auto collision and automotive technology programs built a race car from a 15-year-old Ford Thunderbird. Students plan to race the rebuilt car, which features a 500-horsepower engine, at a local dirt racetrack. Education experiences during the pandemic appear to have led to an approximate 10% decline in enrollment between spring 2021 and spring 2022. Contributing factors include increased dropout rates, downward demographic pressures and deferments.

•**CFO/TREASURER:** Homer Hendricks reviewed the results from the annual insurance open enrollment completed on November 11. NwOESC conducts active open enrollment annually that requires all eligible employees to elect or waive coverage. He also shared updates about the ARP Homeless Grant consortium and the Migrant Education Program ID and Recruitment Grant. Mr. Hendricks announced Brandi Nafziger will be the new Assistant Financial Officer/HR. She currently serves as the personnel coordinator.

•**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Jill Gilliland shared plans are in process for NwOESC K-1 teachers to complete the required ODE dyslexia training modules by the start of the 22-23 school year. Supervisors will work with our teachers to determine which option is the best fit. Filling speech therapy positions continues to be a focus. NwOESC will host an SLP student intern next semester and has hired a recent SLP graduate who will join the team in January. A Speech Therapy Development Program is being designed that will support the recruitment of SLPs and offer some tuition reimbursement upon hiring, contingent upon successful completion of an employment contract.

•**DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Andy Hunter reported the state has finally released the 18 hours of modules that all K-1 teachers will be required to complete prior to next school year. Dorothy Lambert, our literacy expert has been hard at work going through the modules herself creating outlines, notes, as well as study sheets for teachers to help them work through the process. There is a pre and post-test component to this legislation that must be passed with an 80% or better score to be given credit so the state really encourages the coaching and facilitation that we will be providing for these modules. We have worked to create a number of different opportunities for educators to receive this coaching including training here during the school day, office hours after school, as well as a weeklong session in the summer. This month we were fortunate enough to bring out Patricia Weinzapfel to speak to superintendents as well as a separate session for teachers and school administrators. A former reporter, Patricia is an expert in helping schools to engage families as they work to bridge the communication gap. Patricia gave some very simple, but powerful advice for communicating with families and communities in meaningful ways. She is the author of our current book study "Closing the Loop". She will be joining us virtually a few more times throughout the year as she engages with those that are working their way through the book. Last week we received some encouraging news that our Educator

Bootcamp would once again receive funding for the area educators wanting to receive college credit for going through a weeklong tour of area manufacturing plants and presenting their takeaways to business and education leaders. Last year was very successful and this news gives us the green light to once again start planning an exciting event for the summer of 2023!

**•DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS:** Chad Rex shared NwoESC will be modifying our content filtering process. Mr. Rex attended the Learn21 - Ohio CoSN (the State's tech leader association) Conference and the OSBA Conference this month. The networking and opportunities to learn from presenters and vendors is of great value. An Ohio School Plan's cybersecurity webinar was offered recently that is a part of our learning efforts as well as their available grant requirements. In addition, NWOCA is leading regular cybersecurity meetings. A Tech Leaders network meeting was held this month with strong attendance. Two additional Smartboard interactive panels have been ordered for preschool and IEC. Corey Todd completed the deployment of new workstations along with monitors in the business office and special education office. His focus continues to be on the Microsoft project where we are implementing their current and enhanced account and device management process. We are waiting on access to the phishing training platform. Upon receiving access, we will learn the system and develop a plan. Our plans with multi-factor authentication are waiting on further research. The landscape project at IEC is complete! Thank you to Larry Davis, Chuck Lero, Ashley Babcock, Sherryann Franks and some hard working IEC students for their contributions to a job well done. A bench will be added after Four County Career Center students complete their project. Arborvitaes were planted to the west of our solar field. We recently completed an emergency response drill focused on a suspicious package event. All went well. Current practices were effective. Our transportation team has been working diligently on revising our pre-trip protocol and forms. Larry Davis, transportation supervisor, and Pat Turpening developed new forms in alignment with OAC that we will be implementing in the near future along with appropriate training efforts. The chiller connection work at the main office has been underway this past week and should be completed soon. This allows us to be prepared for running the building on one chiller if one goes down.

•Approved the following items under the consent agenda format:

•Minutes from the regular board meeting held October 25, 2022

**•DONATIONS**

-Kenneth & Linda Esterline to the Franklin B. Walter Scholarships - \$100.00

**•AGREEMENTS**

-Above Pete's Garage to provide to NwoESC, 21st Century (Hicksville Elementary), Extended Learning Opportunities Services for the period of 11/2/22-6/30/23.

-Businessmap to provide to NwoESC, Erate Federal Program Services for the period of 7/1/23-6/30/25.

-PowerSchool to provide to NwoESC with Unified Talent (TalentEd) Records services for the period of 10/1/22-9/30/23.

-NwoESC to provide to Archbold Area Local Schools, Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer Search Services for the period of 11/1/22-position is finalized or until agreed upon by both parties to terminate services.

-NwoESC to provide to Williams County Board of Developmental Disabilities Monthly School Age Program Services for the period of 10/14/22-5/31/23.

**•LEAVES**

FMLA and Disability

**•RESIGNATIONS**

Beard, Brittney, Paraprofessional, effective 11/3/2022 (Position Abandonment)

Foster, Bridget, Paraprofessional, effective 11/14/2022 (Position Abandonment)

Richard, Annette, Paraprofessional, effective 11/4/2022 (Position Abandonment)

Squires, Shaunda, Paraprofessional, effective 10/26/2022 (Position Abandonment)  
Volkman, Michele, Job Trainer, effective 11/30/2022

**•EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**CONTRACTS**

**Classified Administrative**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Nafziger, Brandi	CLASS-ADM-1 Yr	12/19/2022-6/30/2023

**Certified Limited**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Rohr, Breece	CERT-1 Yr	1/3/2023-6/30/2023

**Classified Limited**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Copsey, Andrea	CLASS-1 Yr	11/21/2022-7/31/2023
Hedean, Christina	CLASS-1 Yr	11/28/2022-7/31/2023
Patten, Lauren	CLASS-1 Yr	11/14/2022-7/31/2023
Peck, Melissa	CLASS-1 Yr	11/9/2022-7/31/2023
Stutzman, Katrisha	CLASS-1 Yr	12/5/2022-7/31/2023
Wilhelm, Janice	CLASS-1 Yr	12/6/2022-7/31/2023

**Certified Limited School Year Enrichment**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Eidenier, Victoria	Cert-1 Yr	10/14/2022-5/31/2023

**Certified Limited School Year Enrichment**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contract</b>	<b>Length</b>
Alspaugh, Kerri Alexandra	CLASS- 1 Yr	10/14/2022-5/31/2023
Keller, Emiley	CLASS-1 Yr	10/14/2022-5/31/2023
Keller, Teresa	CLASS-1 Yr	10/14/2022-5/31/2023
Mann, Donna	CLASS-1 Yr	10/14/2022-5/31/2023

**Certified Supplemental**

Ritter, Kristine	CPI-Trainer	8/1/2022-7/31/2023
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**Approval of Teaching Assignment for Position Listed - First Semester 2022-23**

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Location</b>
Camp	Candice	Intervention Specialist	Pike Delta York

**Rescind the offer of employment for 2022-23 employment contract**

Stephanie Renollet, Paraprofessional, due to non-response.

**Additional Wage Payments**

Year 1 Mentor Service to Resident Educators to the following individuals:

- Kalli Hintz mentoring Kayleigh Ciepiela
- Cathy Gribler mentoring Hillary Moore
- Kris Ritter mentoring Skeat Hug & Hanna Jeffers

Year 2 Mentor Service to Resident Educators to the following individual:

- Michelle Winters mentoring Danielle Cramer & Hilary Opdycke

Year 3 Mentor Service to Resident Educators to the following individual:

- Christi Ranzau mentoring Kathryn Goodman
- Rhonda Wise mentoring Megan Lantz

Year 4 Mentor Service to Resident Educators to the following individuals:

- Michelle Winters mentoring Buffy Kelb
- Jana Lantz mentoring Melinda Jones & Nichole Tripp

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

Hicksville- Jamie Altman, Andrew Lawrence, Melissa Miles, Amanda Wyman

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

Hicksville- Elizabeth Yeaser

### **Substitute Speech Language Pathologist**

Kathleen Burnett

### **Substitute Itinerant PS Intervention Specialist**

Christine Fraker

### **Substitute Paraprofessionals**

Joyce Wachtman

### **Substitute Teachers**

Luann Bacon, Melinda Bell, Pamela Bernath, Clara Bills, Alyssa Bok, Mallery Cardarelli, Jenna Collins, Deborah Dominique, John Drexler, Ethan Grant, Armaan Grewal, Debora Herring, Jan Lauro, Lauren Langhals, Ryan Lothamer, Sam Medina, Trudy Partee, Kendal Pursel, Michelle Retcher, Joseph Robinson, Julia Rossow, Alexis Samlow, William Schneider, Kristine Shaffer, Ryan Stoller, Cody Stuckey, Sarah Stuckey- Diaw, Taurean Villolovos, Joyce Wachtman, Allison Wagner, Devine Weber, Nicholas Yates

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

Kitchen, Alexis, Clinicals as a Rhodes State College student, Fall Semester, 2022 Placed with Matthew Ferguson

Waidelich/Pennington, Abby, Field Experience as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2023 Placed with Brooke Amspoker & Hayley Strauss

Waidelich/Pennington, Abby, School SLP clinical practicum as a BGSU student, Spring Semester, 2023 Placed with Brooke Amspoker & Hayley Strauss

•Approved the following policy recommendations:

Policy 1617	Weapons	Revised
Policy 2220	Adoption of Courses of Study	Revised
Policy 2280	Preschool Program	Revised
Policy 2413	Career Advising	Revised
Policy 3217	Weapons	Revised
Policy 4217	Weapons	Revised
Policy 5335	Care of Students with Chronic Health Conditions	New

Policy 5336	Care of Students with Diabetes	Revised
Policy 6700	Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)	Revised
Policy 7217	Weapons	Revised
Policy 7440	Facility Security	Revised
Policy 7440.03	Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems	Revised
Policy 8210	School Calendar	Revised
Policy 8320	Personnel Files	Revised
Policy 8330	Student Records	Revised

•Approved motion to set the annual Tuition Reimbursement Budget for 2023-24 per board policy #3450.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- Superintendent and Treasurer Evaluations – In process for December
- Departmental Priorities/Goals – Reviewed and finalized

•**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Kerri Weir shared the Ohio Coalition for Equity & Adequacy of School Funding is working with Vouchers Hurt Ohio, a growing coalition of public school districts that have come together to sue the state over the unconstitutional and harmful private school voucher program. A list of participating districts was shared. The Archbold Area Chamber of Commerce recently recognized NwoESC for 25 years of service to the Archbold area. We are thankful to have excellent facilities centrally located in our service area in such a supportive community. Tuition reimbursements were recently made for coursework taken during the 2021-22 school. Five staff members took advantage of coursework reimbursement through our staff policy. Updated course reimbursement rates are now in effect for courses completed after 9/1/22 and will be reimbursed beginning in the Fall of 2023. NwoESC was again designated as a High Performing ESC. This is our 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row with this designation. All ESCs in Ohio achieved this for FY23 (based on FY22 data), further reinforcing the effective model of shared services for quality and efficiencies. In total, our five selected primary services demonstrated a 23.95% total cost savings (\$1,203,917.00) to member districts. Jessica Fredrick, Jill Gilliland, Homer Hendricks and I submitted an Early Childhood Innovation Grant, which would allow NwoESC to secure sensory items, updated classroom furnishings and services in the behavioral specialist area for NwoESC preschools. The awards will be announced in late December. Full-scale emergency management tests were conducted recently at the IEC and the ESC main office. Both drills involved a “suspicious package” scenario. Thanks to the Defiance County Sheriff Department and the Archbold Police Department for serving as our first responders. NwoESC continues to promote the use of “Shout Outs” with Northwest Ohio ESC staff as a way to recognize and share about the great things happening in our classrooms, programs, offices and districts. The link to read about or submit Shout Outs is found at <https://www.nwoesc.org/shoutouts.aspx>.

•Entered into Executive Session for the purpose of consideration of the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee, or official. No action was taken upon exiting the session.

•As all of the business of the evening was complete, the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m. The next meeting will take place on December 20, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH.