

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their organizational and regular meeting held April 27, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice President Ron Crawford.

REPORTS:

•**OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:** Mr. Brian Baker provided legislative updates. The House passed HB 110, which makes operating appropriations for the fiscal years (FY) 2022 and 2023 biennium and includes the Fair School Funding Plan, HB 1, with some modifications. The House Primary and Secondary Education Committee held sponsor testimony on HB 73, which would reduce the number of end-of course exams required for graduation from five to four by requiring a new single American history and government exam beginning with the class of 2024; require school districts to form a working group to evaluate the amount of time students spend on testing; eliminate the requirement for 11th-grade students to take the ACT or SAT; and prohibit student retention under the third-grade reading guarantee. The House Ways and Means Committee held a fifth hearing on HB 157, which would sunset on Dec. 31, 2021, a provision of law that modifies municipal income tax employer withholding rules for COVID-19-related work-from-home employees, and prohibit a municipal corporation from assessing taxes, penalties or interest against an employer for the employer's failure to properly withhold tax from an employee's wages. The House State and Local Government Committee held sponsor testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 13, which urges Congress to enact The Sunshine Protection Act of 2021, which would permanently extend daylight saving time. The U.S. Department of Education recently approved Ohio's waiver for the Every Student Succeeds Act. The waiver limits the consequences of data generated during this school year in alignment with federal flexibility and recently passed state legislation. Mr. Baker recently attended a Board Leadership Institute through OSBA, and spoke highly of presenter Gerry Brooks. A state budget webinar will be held on April 30 at 1:00, and a webinar hosted by Senator Theresa Gavarone will be held on May 3 to address the Fair School Funding Act. Looking forward, OSBA's Capital Conference is slated to take place in person November 7 – 9, 2021.

•**OSBA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON:** Dr. Christine Smallman shared items of interest regarding student achievement. Concerned by the number of students in academic distress, East Cleveland City's Shaw High School allowed students to continue remote instruction only if they attended 80% of classes and were passing them. Roughly 85% of students did not meet the criteria and returned to some in-person learning at the beginning of 2021. Mason City School are utilizing a new technology to help identify students' potential for self-harm. Positive results are being recognized with this implementation. According to Dr. Todd Rose, former professor at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education and head of the nonprofit think tank Populace, the way students are assessed via standardized testing is flawed. Dr. Rose asserts that even though there is no average student, current assessments measure students against an average.

•**CFO/TREASURER:** CFO Homer Hendricks introduced Alison Garcia as the new payroll specialist. He reviewed the status of service agreements with area districts for the next school year. Mr. Hendricks discussed an alternative absence management/substitute system being evaluated called Red Rover. It has enhancements over the current system and would be at a lower cost. Demonstrations have been held with NWOESC business office staff and area districts.

•**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:** Director Jill Gilliland shared that 512 children have attended early childhood screenings at locations across our four county area this spring. Three remaining screening dates are scheduled. Screening appointments are scheduled by our special education office team under the direction of Beth Lewis, Preschool Coordinator. Laura Kamp, NWOESC School Climate Facilitator, is working with our PBIS team and the entire IEC staff to re-evaluate and improve our PBIS plan. Going through this process is a common practice with the purpose of continuous improvement.

•**DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Director Josh Clark reported OTES 2.0 trainings are about to be in full swing. For the first time all year, a room filled with

administrators will gather to get credentialed in OTES 2.0. In addition, the curriculum department is now in the deep planning stages for next year's professional development offerings. Discussed at the last meeting were expanding the hybrid model of professional development, and creating PD strands that align to district's immediate needs post-COVID. Mr. Clark also reported that Summer Honors Academy planning has amped up, and registration is about ready to open for area students. This year's SHA has been scaled down to one day (June 9) at Archbold Elementary School.

•**DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS:** Director Chad Rex reported that the technology leaders are meeting in person and via web conferencing with strong attendance and participation. The next monthly meeting will be on May 28th. Mr. Rex shared some additions and changes to the webpage. The "Parents" section of the navigation bar is now "Community" and there will be additions that include the Franklin B. Walter Celebration and a new governing board page that contains photos of board members along with meeting dates and recaps. Mr. Rex also shared operations work such as main office boilers being serviced and filtration systems installed, vans serviced and inspected, Covide test kit distribution to districts and the initiation of a landscaping project involving Four County Career Center. Larry Davis also worked with the building inspection process to receive updated occupancy numbers. At IEC, Chuck is coordinating the annual summer help program, researching duct cleaning contractors and continues to work with Dynamix to fine-tune the HVAC controls system that is being installed and implemented. Mr. Rex highlighted the recommendation of purchasing FMX scheduling and ticketing software that works in concert with the building automation system. Mr. Rex explained the direct and indirect cost efficiencies that this software will create, in addition to the benefit of enhanced service to staff and community groups that request the use of the facility.

•Approved the following items under the consent agenda format:

•Minutes from the regular board meeting held March 23, 2021.

•**FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

•**AGREEMENTS**

-National School Board Association to provide to NwoESC, National Connection-BOCES/Agency Membership, for the period of 7/1/21-6/30/22.

-Energy Harbor LLC to provide to NwoESC, Electricity Supply Services, for the period of 6/23/21-6/30/24 at a rate of \$0.04592/kWh.

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

-NwoESC to provide to Four County Career Center, Speech Therapist Services, for the period of 8/15/20-6/15/21.

-NwoESC to provide to Liberty Center Local Schools District, ESL Instructional Assistant Services, for the period of 3/1/21-6/15/21.

-To approve Annual Service Agreements with the following districts for the 2021-22 school year per R.C. 3313.845:

- Ayersville Local Schools
- Evergreen Local Schools
- Stryker Local Schools
- Wauseon Exempted Village Schools

•**LEAVES**

FMLA and Disability

•**RETIREMENTS**

Towell, Tamara, Paraprofessional, effective 5/31/2021

•**RESIGNATIONS**

Clapp, Jennifer, Paraprofessional, effective 7/31/2021
Hunter, Andrew, Educational Consultant, effective 6/30/2021
Wurster, Shannon, Paraprofessional, effective 7/31/2021

•**EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

CONTRACTS

Certified Administrative

Name	Contract	Length
Saneholtz, Brent	ADM-3 YR	7/1/2021-6/30/2024

Classified Administrative

Name	Contract	Length
Repp, Ashleigh	ADM-2 Yr	7/1/2021-6/30/2023
Soards, Kathryn	ADM-2 Yr	7/1/2021-6/30/2023

Classified Limited

Name	Contract	Length
Garcia, Alison	CLASS-1 Yr	4/12/2021-6/30/2021

**SALARY
NOTICES**

Certified Notice

Name

Dunham, Jody
Gensler, Kallie
Gilliland, Jill
Hastings, Steve
Jimenez, Kathryn
Knueven, Jamie
Kovar, Sally
Kruse, Michelle
Lewis, Elizabeth
Luderman, Alison
McCarthy, Chad
Parrish, Stacey
Rex, Chad
Ritter, Kristine
Salinas, Jose
Slattman, Troy
Soltis, Jessica

Classified Notice

Name

Gutierrez, Maria
 Schlosser, Linda
 Sears, Melissa

Substitute Paraprofessionals

Alicia Rutledge

Substitute Teachers

Lowynn Atkinson, Dawn Baldwin, Judy Freeman, Danae Myers, Tracy Papenhagen, Jackalyn Siebenaler, Jessica Stykemain, Madeline Sugg, Jalen Towers, Mikayla Tressler, Shirley Wagner, Grace Wenzinger, Ruth Wenzinger

•Approved the following policy recommendations:

Policy 1422	Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity	replacement
Policy 1520	Employment of Administrators	corrected
Policy 1623	Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment	replacement
Policy 1662	Anti-Harassment	replacement
Policy 2240	Controversial Issues	revised
Policy 2260	Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity	replacement
Policy 2260.01	Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability	revised
Policy 2266	Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Educational Service Center Programs or Activities	revised
Policy 3122	Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity	replacement
Policy 3123	Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment	replacement
Policy 3362	Anti-Harassment	replacement
Policy 4122	Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity	replacement
Policy 4123	Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment	replacement
Policy 4362	Anti-Harassment	replacement
Policy 5517	Anti-Harassment	replacement
Policy 5830	Student Fund Raising	new
Policy 6114	Cost Principles - Spending Federal Funds	revised
Policy 6325	Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds	revised
Policy 6600	Deposit of Public Funds: Cash Collection Points	revised
Policy 7440.01	Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring	revised
Policy 7450	Property Inventory	revised
Policy 7455	Accounting System for Capital Assets	revised
Policy 8510	Wellness	revised

•Approved motion to employ Andrew Hunter as Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development for a period of two years beginning July 1, 2021 through July 31, 2023.

•Approved a five (5) year contract with Homer B. Hendricks as Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer commencing August 1, 2021-July 31, 2026.

- Approved a five (5) year contract with Kerri A. Weir as Superintendent commencing August 1, 2021-July 31, 2026.
- 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 7/1/21-6/30/22.
- Approved motion to honor employees for Staff Appreciation Week May 3-7, 2021. The Superintendent, Administrative Team and Board of Education would like to publicly thank all NwoESC staff for their outstanding work in providing quality services to our area districts and students and building valued partnerships throughout the NwoESC service area.
- Approved the IEC/Opportunity School calendar for 2021-22
- Approved motion to commend the NwoESC 21st Century Learning Community Program at Swanton Middle School (ALPHA) for receiving an Ohio Middle Level Northwest Regional Award for outstanding work in afterschool programming. This success was made possible by Swanton District ALPHA leaders Julie LaPoint and Amanda Carrizales and NwoESC 21st Century Program Director and Manager, Annette Rosebrock and Pat Turpening.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- The Redistricting of ESC Territory and Governance, as indicated by ORC 3311.054, is being impacted by the delay of U.S. Census data. More information will be forthcoming on next steps for this process.
- Financial Disclosure Statements due to Ohio Ethics Commission May 17, 2021
- Main Office Summer Schedule Adjustment – a new schedule will be implemented June 7 – July 30 which will largely impact those on year round calendars.
- A retire/rehire request from Amy Bauerle, Speech Language Pathologist was shared with preliminary discussion including an update on staffing and projections in the speech area.
- Board Member Recognition - Mr. Ron Crawford was presented certificates and a plaque for his board service, as he achieved the Veteran's Service Award from OSBA. Ron has 25 years of board member experience and we thank him for his dedication in serving on the NwoESC Board.

•**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent Kerri Weir shared the nomination period has closed for the 2022 Ohio Teacher of the Year program. Statewide, 262 nominations were received - up from 233 nominations in 2021. Twenty nominations were received for District 1, the area in which NwoESC serves as Territory lead. Nominees are now invited to submit an application, with the selection processes taking place later this summer and fall. Thanks to Linda Schlosser for her work in helping to coordinate and roll out the program for our territory. Activate Healthcare has joined together with Paladina Health and Healthstat to create Everside Health. Everside Health is the second largest direct primary care provider in the U.S., operating 350 health clinics in 32 states. In the coming months, staff will begin to see communications from and about Everside Health, along with rebranding, a redesigned website and enhancements to its online member experience. The administrative team is working through the May Certified and Classified contract recommendations. As projections are reviewed and staffing plans developed, recommendations for contract renewals and salary notifications will be made. It is to be noted that staff non-renewals may be based on job performance or on job uncertainty. NwoESC's goal is to secure staff as part of our team who will work to enhance the services and supports provided to member districts on behalf of students. Administrative Professionals Day was celebrated on April 21 with a lunch out at The Barn Restaurant for our main office staff. As shared with them, they are the heart of our operations and we are so appreciative of the work they do as part of the ESC. The End of Year Celebration that was set for June 7th this year is being put on pause until 2022. Instead, efforts are being focused on the beginning of year – "Celebrating Opportunities!" Regarding planning for the 2021-22 School Year: Bus and Van Driver Training planning is underway for a virtual event to take place on Monday, August 2, 2021. New Staff Orientation modules are being developed to provide critical orientation material to new staff through the Public School Works platform and the development of customized courses. This is an improved solution for us as we bring on new staff throughout the school year, so they are able to access materials and information upon employment. The NwoESC 2021 Administrators' Conference is set for Friday,

August 6, 2021 with keynote speaker Jimmy Casas as well as other presenters including Ennis Britton, BASA, OAESA, OASSA, and OTESCA. We are looking forward to conducting this event in person and are currently taking registrations from member districts. The 2021 NwOESC Fall Staff Meeting, "Celebrating Opportunities" is set for the morning of Tuesday, August 10 for all NwOESC staff to attend. In addition to a dynamic keynote/message from Weston Kieschnick, we plan to have a large tent and a variety of food trucks on the premise for staff to enjoy lunch and fellowship in a celebratory atmosphere. PD Palooza is being planned for the afternoon of August 10 and will be open to educators from across the four county area. This event is sure to bring excitement and inspiration for the start of the 2021-22 school year. Watch for more to come from our Department of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development.

- As all of the business of the evening was complete, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm. The next meeting will take place on May 25, 2021 at 6:30 pm at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH.