

The following actions were taken by the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center Governing Board at their regular meeting held December 20, 2022.

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

•A moment of silence was observed in honor and memory of Mr. John Wilhelm, who passed away recently. Mr. Wilhelm was superintendent of the Henry County Schools and then of the Northwest Ohio ESC from 1997 – 2007. He was a highly respected educator and leader in northwest Ohio who truly made an impact on many.

REPORTS:

•**OSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:** Mr. Brian Baker reported on several legislative items of interest. The lame duck period ended with several education related bills going to the Governor for signature. HB 45 included the following: ESSER appropriations - Provides approximately \$1.7 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) appropriation authority to schools, as requested by the Ohio Department of Education. Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid (DPIA) phase-in - For fiscal year 2023, increases the phase-in percentage for DPIA from 14% to 33.33%. School Safety Grant Program - Provides \$112 million for additional grants under the School Safety Grant Program, which will be used to award competitive grants of up to \$100,000 per school building to eligible public school districts and chartered nonpublic schools for building security and safety enhancements. School raffles - Restores the ability of school districts to conduct a raffle, fixing the change included in budget bill (HB 110). School storm shelter requirement - Prohibits the Board of Building Standards from requiring the installation of storm shelters in school buildings operated by public or private schools or undergoing or about to undergo construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance. School district transportation payment - Adds new weights to calculate transportation payments for school districts using miles driven for school bus service. Mr. Baker also reported on HB 458, which includes the elimination of the August election, changes to Ohio's election laws and voter ID requirements; HB 123, which would modify community reinvestment areas processes and thresholds; HB 66, which requires the reporting of information on and legislative review of property tax exemptions, to include a number of additional provisions; and HB 554, which requires require the State Board of Education to issue temporary educator licenses to applicants with expired professional teacher's certificates and professional educator licenses. It was shared that SB 178, legislation that would reform the Ohio Department of Education was amended into HB 151, which would revise the teacher residency program. The House failed to concur with the Senate amendments meaning that all provisions included in HB 151, including the provisions of SB 178 did not pass. It is expected the restructuring of ODE will be a discussion in the next General Assembly, which will convene in early January.

•**OSBA STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT LIAISON:** Dr. Christine Smallman reported on several items related to student achievement. Ohio students are getting a head start on manufacturing careers. A new manufacturing center in Ohio is part factory, part museum and part classroom. Students who learn in the new Manufacturing Innovation, Technology and Job Center are getting a leg up on preparing for in demand careers in manufacturing fields. Test-optional admissions appears to have staying power. Test-optional and test-free college admissions, which took hold during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, will be made permanent at 1,450 colleges, according to data from FairTest. For fall 2023, the organization reports that 1,835 four-year colleges are not requiring students to submit SAT or ACT scores to be considered for admission. A recent article from "edutopia" suggests schools can implement simple strategies to bring positivity to their buildings and nurture student well-being. Ideas include setting up a communal puzzle for students to work on throughout the day and hanging large sheets of paper in the hallway for students to create an impromptu mural or graffiti wall. Results of the latest national analysis of how the pandemic affected math and reading achievement indicate that more factors than just remote learning are driving achievement losses. Further studies will be needed to determine how COVID-19 death rates, internet access and parent job losses, among other factors, may have contributed to score declines nationwide.

•**CFO/TREASURER:** Homer Hendricks discussed the mid-year program cost update process including their distribution to districts in January. He shared about his experience and learning at the AESA Annual Conference with his focus on human resources sessions. Mr. Hendricks also reviewed the timeline for

filling the vacant personnel coordinator position due to Brandi Nafziger's move to Assistant Financial Officer.

•DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION: Jill Gilliland shared about staff members moving into new assignments in the coming year, and we have new team members joining us. Sue Smith will be moving to a preschool itinerant teacher position. Max Reinhart has accepted a job trainer position. Breece Rohr and Danielle Lucas join our SLP team. We continue to welcome new paraprofessionals as we fill vacancies and learn of new positions needed throughout our districts.

•DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Andy Hunter commended the work that Julie Weber and Laura Kamp were doing in the social and emotional department. He showed the monthly newsletter that they have been putting out along with highlighting some of the training opportunities that they continually help districts with. Mr. Hunter also took time to point out the success of the "12 Days of Christmas" snack sized PD and thank all of the consultants for their help with putting this together. The last day it was announced that Kim Bearden, co-founder of the Ron Clark Academy, will be our PD Palooza speaker to kick off the 2023-24 school year.

•DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS: Chad Rex reported that the migration of the Ohio Migrant Education Center's website to the ESC's website system has been completed. OMEC staff have been trained, web address/URLs have been updated/redirected and the site is live at omecohio.org. Mr. Rex shared that he and Corey Todd continue to meet with Microsoft to properly set up the new device and account management system. Progress is consistently being made toward migrating from our current mobile device management system and setting up our device deployment policies. Mr. Rex informed that board that he is researching Microsoft's anti-virus/anti-ransomware product, Defender Endpoint Security, to identify potential cost and feature benefits vs. what we are currently using. The technology department also recently received access to the phishing awareness and training platform. This is another project that Mr. Rex will be scaling up with and developing a plan as a part of our overall cybersecurity efforts. Mr. Todd is working on the backend setup of the Classroom device monitoring software for IEC and Opportunity School to be able to implement. Mr. Rex also reported that the chiller integration project is nearing completion. This enables the ESC to utilize the building's two chillers so that we have the ability to handle the entire building if one chiller goes down and are awaiting a replacement. Mr. Rex and Mr. Larry Davis met with Archbold's transportation supervisor, who is a regional director of Ohio's pupil transportation association, to discuss collaboration efforts including meetings and training efforts. Mr. Rex and Mr. Davis have received quotes and submitted requisitions for the lobby door project. This will provide improved safety for the building by allowing us to schedule the locking of the doors while still receiving deliveries in the foyer on holidays as well as the doors locking upon activating the emergency alert system.

•Approved the following items under the consent agenda format:

•Minutes from the regular board meeting held November 29, 2022

•DONATIONS

-Farmers & Merchants State Bank to the Franklin B. Walter Celebration and Scholarships - \$1,000.00

•AGREEMENTS

-Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West to provide to NwoESC (EANS-Holy Trinity Catholic School), Personnel Cost for Remedial Specialist for the period of 9/1/22-6/30/23.

-Lutheran Special Education Ministries to provide to NwoESC (EANS-St. John Lutheran-Defiance), Partnership Services for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years.

-Institute for Multi-Sensory Education to provide NwoESC, IMSE Comprehensive Orton-Gillingham Plus Training in literacy for June 12-16, 2023.

•PURCHASES

-Folding Equipment Company to provide to NwoESC (Divine Mercy Catholic School, EANS), classroom lockers with EANS funds.

-Spyker Manufacturing to provide to NwoESC (Divine Mercy Catholic School, EANS), classroom cabinets with EANS funds.

-Dell Marketing to provide to NwoESC (St. John Lutheran School-Defiance, EANS), technology with EANS funds.

•LEAVES

FMLA and Disability

•RESIGNATIONS

Menz, Pamela, Paraprofessional, effective 12/9/2022

Nafziger, Brandi, Personnel Coordinator, effective 12/18/2022

Proxmire, Kara, Paraprofessional, effective 12/20/2022

•EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Certified Limited		
Name	Contract	Length
Kuhlman, Madelyn	CERT-1 Yr	1/11/2023-7/31/2023
Lucas, Danielle	CERT-1 Yr	1/9/2023-7/31/2023
Lucas, Danielle	CERT-1 Yr	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Rohr, Breece	CERT-1 Yr	1/3/2023-7/31/2023
Rohr, Breece	CERT-1 Yr	8/1/2023-7/31/2024
Classified Limited		
Name	Contract	Length
Norden, Madison	CLASS-1 Yr	12/13/2022-7/31/2023
Reinhart, Max	CLASS-1 Yr	12/15/2022-7/31/2023
Siler, Kylie	CLASS-1 Yr	1/17/2023-7/31/2023
Walters, Jasman	CLASS-1 Yr	1/3/2023-7/31/2023

Rescind the offer of employment for 2022-23 employment contract

Katrisha Stutzman, Paraprofessional, due to non-response.

Substitute Paraprofessionals

Kathleen Benson, Brandy Worthington

Substitute Teachers

Lilly Ahmed, Tiffini Aldrich, Kathleen Benson, Amaya Boyd, Kristen Brunton, Denise Decker, Carl Drees, Kathryn Dzyak, Caleb Frank, Riley Garretson, Makenzie Goris, Debra Kern, Rachel Krueger, Richard Krutsch, Kristen Leaders, Alea Lonabarger, Chloe Michaels, Kennedy Miller, Christina Norman, Crew Oberheim, Audrey Pirtle, Brooklynn Reineke, Angela Rosillo, Shelby Shaffer, Alex Sliter, Thomas Walker, Brandy Worthington, Rose Zeedyk

Student Teachers/Interns/Volunteers

Manz, Elyse, Field Experience as a Rhodes State College student, Spring Semester, 2023 Placed with Jenna Wessell

Bus Drivers

NwoESC – Jennifer Brubaker

Van Drivers

NwOESC – Max Reinhart

- Approved 2023 membership dues to Ohio School Board Association including subscriptions to OSBA Briefcase (hard copy) and School Management News (hard copy).
- Approved participation in the OSBA Legal Assistance Fund Consultant Service Contract pursuant to R.C. Section 3313.171 for the period of 1/1/23-12/31/23.
- Approved the temporary placement of Susan Smith as Preschool Itinerant Teacher assigned to the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center for 2022-23 school year. Employee will return to current position (paraprofessional) for the 2023-24 school year.
- Established the following for the 2023 Organizational meeting:
 - DATE: Tuesday, January 24, 2023
 - TIME: 6:00 p.m.
 - LOCATION: NwOESC Conference Room
 - PRESIDENT PRO TEM: Mr. Brian Baker
- Approved proclamation. The Superintendent and Administrative Team recognizes each board member for their dedicated service to the NwOESC Governing Board, as January is Board Member Appreciation Month in the State of Ohio. We want to thank our Educational Service Center's governing board as well as those serving on area city, village, local, and joint vocational boards of education for building the future of public education: Mr. Brian Baker, Mr. Jim George, Mrs. Deb Gerken, Mrs. Kelly Hug, Mrs. Mary Alice Nagel, Mrs. Nona Rupp, Dr. Christine Smallman, Mr. Ross Stambaugh, Mrs. Lori Weber

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- NwOESC Business Advisory Council - Review of Minutes from 09/13/2022 Quarterly Meeting
- SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Kerri Weir reported two area administrative searches are underway – Holgate Superintendent and Archbold Treasurer. The Administrative Team has completed district visits for the 2022-23 school year, obtaining feedback on NwOESC program, supports and services. Much appreciation goes to our staff for their excellent work and dedication. Holiday festivities at the Main Office and IEC/Opportunity School were held recently. Thanks to those directors, supervisors and consultants who delivered treat bags to all ESC staff members as well as the staff at the IEC/Opp School who made celebrating the holidays special for the students. Planning is underway for the use of GEER II funds intended to address the impact COVID-19 had and continues to have on educational entities. ODE approved our application, which includes an HVAC replacement among other uses.
- 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 7:58 pm. The next meeting (organizational followed by regular meeting) will take place on January 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.at the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, 205 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, OH.