



**Board of Education – Special Board Meeting
4041 E. Mannsiding Rd., Clare, MI 48617
August 19, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Via Zoom due to Governor’s Executive Order 2020-75 (COVID-19) –
Remote Participation in Public Meetings**

Join Zoom Meeting via Internet
<https://zoom.us/j/545158262?pwd=NFUvUXowSERISXhHNEdFTGZUdFFMz09>
Call in: (929) 205-6099
Meeting ID: 545 158 262
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RECORD OF MINUTES
BOARD of EDUCATION MEETING

- A. Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 pm by President Barbara Richards
- B. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- C. Members Present remotely via Zoom Barbara Richards, Sue Murawski, Lou Adams and Sarah Kile
- Members Absent Jason Pahl
- Jason Pahl joined the meeting at 6:24 pm via telephone.
- CG RESD Staff Present and via Zoom Sheryl Presler, Ken Chinavare, Deb Snyder, Lindsey Murphy, Mike Simon, Sandy Russell, Beth Wood, Rusty Govitz, Prisca Gamble, Katie Knapp-Wyman and Shay Anderson
- D. Consent Agenda
1. Approval of the Agenda
 2. Approval of the August 12, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes
 3. Approval of the Bills for July 2020 – \$1,916,384.72
- It was moved by Kile and supported by Adams that the Board approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.
- E. Communications/Expressions from the Public
- A thank you note from the family of James Myers, father of Josh Myers, CTE Construction Trades Instructor, was received for the donation made in James’ memory.

- A thank you note from Mike Simon, Special Education Director, and his father was received for the donation made in memory of Mike's mom.
- The Board received a Letter of Engagement from Weinlander Fitzhugh Public Accountants, for the financial audit of 2019-2020 which is scheduled to take place the week of August 31.

F. Action Item: New Business

1. Contracts for 2020-2021

- Clare Public Schools – Early Literacy Coach Educator on Loan (full time up to \$100,000.00)
- Midland Public Schools – Early Literacy Coach Educator on Loan (full time up to \$100,000.00)
- Clare County Transit – SPARKS Transportation for Clare, Farwell, and Harrison (\$30 per hour plus a fuel surcharge)
- Gratiot-Isabella RESD - Teacher Consultant for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (two days per week for \$43,860.96)
- Nicole Coleman, Teacher Consultant for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (up to six days per month at \$40.00 per hour)

It was moved by Kile and supported by Murawski that the Board approve the contracts as listed. The motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

2. Early Childhood Special Education Handbook

It was moved by Adams and supported by Murawski that the Board approve the handbook. The motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

3. Early Childhood Special Education Calendar for 2020-2021

It was moved by Kile and supported by Adams that the Board approve the ECSE Calendar. The motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

4. CTE Fiscal Agency Cooperative Agreement Certification Statement

It was moved by Murawski and supported by Adams that the Board approve the CTE Fiscal Agency Cooperative Agreement Certification Statement. The motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote

5. Resolution to Repeal NEOLA Bylaws and Policies in Conflict with Thrun Policies 4102, 4201, 4210, and 4215 and Adopt Thrun Series 1000 and Series 2000 Policies and Policies Necessary to Start the 2020-2021 School year

- 1101 General Policy Statement
- 1201 Mission Statement
- 1301 Creation, Amendment, and Posting of Policies
- 1401 Definitions

Series 2000: Bylaws

- 2101 Roles of the Board and Board Members
- 2102 School District's Legal Name and Status
- 2103 School District Boundaries
- 2201 Board Powers
- 2202 Authority to Enter into Contracts
- 2203 Authority to Establish Curriculum
- 2301 Conflict of Interest
- 2302 Board Code of Ethics
- 2303 Violation of Board Code of Ethics
- 2304 Gifting
- 2305 Board member Reimbursement and Travel Expenses

- p. 2306 Board Member Compensation
- q. 2401 Board Member Elections
- r. 2402 Acceptance of Office and Oath of Office
- s. 2403 Board Member Terms of Office
- t. 2404 Board member Vacancies and Appointments
- u. 2405 Board Officers
- v. 2406 Board Officers' Duties
- w. 2501 Meetings
- x. 2502 Board Meeting Agenda
- y. 2503 Voting Requirements
- z. 2504 Public Participation at Board Meetings
- aa. 2505 Board Committees
- bb. 2506 Organizational Meetings

Policies Needed for Start of School Year

- cc. 4102 Anti-Harassment, Including Sexual Harassment
- dd. 4201 Employee Ethics and Standards
- ee. 4210 Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace
- ff. 4215 District Technology and Acceptable Use Policy

Jason Pahl joined the meeting at 6:24 pm via telephone.

It was moved by Murawski and supported by Adams that the Board approve the Resolution Repeal NEOLA Bylaws and Policies in Conflict with Thrun Policies 4102, 4201, 4210, and 4215 and Adopt Thrun Series 1000 and Series 2000 Policies and Policies Necessary to Start the 2020-2021 School year, with the exception of Policy 2303. Superintendent Presler will contact Thrun for additional information and guidance to provide to the Board regarding that policy 2023, which will be on the September 19th Board agenda as Old Business. The motion carried 5-0 by roll call vote.

- 6. Hiring Recommendations – SPARKS Site Coordinators
 - a. Susanna Westlake, Harrison Elementary – 185 days at \$196.03 per day
 - b. Nick Winter, Coleman K-8 – 185 days at \$196.03 per day

It was moved by Kile and supported by Murawski that the Board approve the hiring recommendations as listed. The motion carried 5-0 by roll call vote.

G. Administrative Information Items: Superintendent's Administrative Report

Superintendent Presler recognized Prisca Gamble, School Psychologist assigned to Farwell, who was in the audience, participating via Zoom.

Superintendent Presler shared the following Good News with the Board:

- Eric Johnson, CTE Coordinator, and Tony Woods, CTE Agri-Science Instructor, combined efforts to secure a \$15,000 grant to equip the new greenhouse!
- The Area School Summer School program concluded the previous week! Similar to Early On home visits, Area School staff met with students and families outside either under the pavilion at the Area School or at students' homes. Social distancing was observed, and staff and students wore the appropriate PPE as well. A phone call home was made prior to home visits to conduct a screening of the student's health as well as the health of anyone else in the family who would be in attendance.
- Several CTE Automotive and Welding students returned in July to brush up on their skills and take certification tests they would have otherwise taken in the spring. All students passed at least one certification test! Thanks to Don Maurer, Automotive Instructor, and

Phil Schaefer, Welding Paraeducator, for providing students with this important opportunity.

- CGRESD General Education, Data, and Technology staff continue to create resources for local district staff to use with remote instruction and to train staff how to effectively use platforms like Google Classroom!
- Lisa May, Accounting Supervisor, earned Chief Financial Officer certification through the Michigan School Business Officials organization!
- Special Education Social Workers, School Psychologists, Mike Simon, and Katie Knapp-Wyman developed a mental health screening tool for our local districts to use!

Superintendent Presler shared the following informational items with the Board:

- At the time of the meeting, information about the Return to Learn legislation was beginning to trickle out, but Superintendent Presler was sure more guidance would be published in the coming days...and it was.
- Governor Whitmer announced the \$65M Governor's Education Emergency Relief Fund (GEERs funding) would be distributed to economically disadvantaged school districts to help address the digital divide. The distribution formula was based on a district's free/reduced lunch percentage, special education percentage, and number of English language learners. (At the time of the meeting, there was no funding allotted to ISD programs. Since then, we've learned the Area School will receive \$7,299 through GEER.)
- Communication and collaboration with the MEA Support Staff Union resulted in a Letter of Agreement to accept voluntary layoffs from 3 Paraeducators. The reduction in Paraeducators was necessary due to the number of students at the Area School whose parents have opted for fully remote learning through the end of December, the low enrollment in the Early Childhood Special Education program, and the suspension of student work sites in the community. There were four applications for the voluntary layoffs, and the three granted were determined by seniority. (A placement meeting to fill the vacancies left by the three voluntary layoffs was held the day after the Board meeting so everyone knew where to report to work on Monday, August 24.) Staffing levels will continue to be monitored after school starts with students, and again if we return to remote learning for all.
- We continue to have staff who are exposed to others who test positive for COVID. Test results are taking 3-5 days. In the meantime, staff are either working from home, if possible, or using the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act which allows for 10 paid sick days which must be tracked by the RESD.
- Superintendent Presler commented on the information overload being experienced by everyone at this time. Every Executive Order or new legislation results in at least a 10-page guidance memo from Thrun Law Firm and/or MDE. In addition, every potential exposure case is different and requires careful consideration of quarantine requirements, leave availability, etc. To complicate things further, sometimes the guidance we're receiving from the CDC, MDE, MIOSHA, and the Central Michigan District Health Department is conflicting. In the end, common sense must be used, along with best judgement when making decisions and get guidance from the CMDHD for individual circumstances as appropriate.
- Districts in other parts of the state have been pushing the start date of school back a week or more and some have opted for a fully remote return to school. Many of these decisions appear to follow decisions made by colleges and universities in the same area.
- Our local districts are all returning to school 5 days per week for full days with the exception of Farwell HS which will be returning on an alternate day schedule for the first two weeks only. All districts have offered parents the option of fully remote learning through the first semester or trimester as well. The percentages of students per district

who will be fully remote for the first trimester or semester ranges from 26% to 36%. Harrison's students return a week early this year to accommodate their school construction and renovation schedule for Summer 2021.

- Mary Foster, last surviving grandchild of Wilhelm Joseph Magnus, passed away on August 15. The family is requesting that donations in her memory be made to the CTE Agri-Science and Culinary Arts programs to reflect Mary's interest in gardening and cooking/canning.
- The "Opening Day" program will be on Wednesday, August 26 from 8:00-9:30 via Zoom.
- The current Executive Order regarding public meetings allows the Board to meet remotely through October 2. The Board decided to meet via Zoom for the September 19 meeting.

H. Board Comments:

- Sarah Kile stated that it's important to take care of the adults in the organization as well as the students.
- Lou commented that if the administrative team and Superintendent need to scale back on the monthly reports and other communications with the Board while additional time is devoted to starting the school year, that's fine with him. Other Board members concurred.

H. Adjournment was at 6:57 pm.

Minutes approved on 9-16-2020 during a Regular Board Meeting, which was held remotely due to Governor's Executive Orders for remote participation in meetings due to COVID-19

Lou Adams, Board of Education Secretary
Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District

Date

Lindsey Murphy, Recorder/Administrative Assistant to the
Superintendent and Board of Education/HR Specialist
Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District

Date