
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 203, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, HELD AT District Administration Building, 203 West Hillside Road, Naperville, IL 60540
May 6, 2024, AT 7:00 pm. Closed Session at 6:00 pm

Call to order

President Kristine Gericke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Kristine Gericke, Charles Cush, Kristin Fitzgerald, Mellissa Kelley Black, Joe Kozminski, Amanda McMillen, and Donna Wandke.

Administrators present were:

Dan Bridges, Superintendent,

Bob Ross, Chief Human Resources Officer

Michael Frances, Chief Financial Officer

Closed Session

Donna Wandke moved, seconded by Charles Cush to go into Closed Session at 6:00 pm for consideration of:

1. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or legal counsel to determine its validity.
2. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the school board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Those voting yes: Cush, Gericke, Fitzgerald, Kelley Black, Kozminski, McMillen, and Wandke.

Those voting no: None.

The Board of Education entered closed session at 6:01 pm.

Meeting Opening

Charles Cush made a motion, seconded by Amanda McMillen to return to Open Session at 7:19 pm. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: McMillen, Gericke, Fitzgerald, Kelley Black, Wandke, Cush, and Kozminski. Those voting no: None. The motion carried.

Welcome and Mission

Kristine Gericke welcomed all and read Naperville Community Unit School District 203's Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Board members present: Kristine Gericke, Kristin Fitzgerald, Charles Cush, Joe Kozminski, Amanda McMillen, Melissa Kelley Black, and Donna Wandke.

Student Ambassadors present: None.

Administrators present: Dan Bridges, Superintendent, Allison Boutet, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, Roger Brunelle, Chief Information Officer, Michael Frances, Chief Financial Officer, Chuck Freundt, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, Chala Holland, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, Rakeda Leaks, Executive Director of Inclusion and Diversity, Patrick Nolten, Assistant Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability, Bob Ross, Chief

Human Resources Officer, Jayne Willard, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, and Lisa Xagas, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by the Board of Education

Good News:

Last Thursday, Naperville 203 eagerly welcomed attendees to the Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Workshop. This inclusive free community gathering offered enriching experiences, including the esteemed local author/illustrator and artist Rich Lo, insightful panels discussing Mental Wellness and the Spectrum of Asian American Identities, engaging activities for families like dance workshops and crafts for children.

Five Naperville Central students recently performed on ABC Channel 7, and will participate in what is considered the most prestigious high school jazz festival in North America, the 29th Annual Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival. Congratulations Evan Scamehorn, Jack Graham, Ethan Kurz, Adam Fleming, and Charlie Debski.

Bilingüepalooza was an unforgettable evening of celebration and cultural immersion, showcasing the incredible achievements of our students in the dual language program. From showcasing student work to a diverse array of bilingual literature at the book fair, attendees were treated to a feast for the senses.

NNHS Senior Krishna Pothapragada made the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) for the second year in a row. He will be representing the US this summer, and is one of six individuals who were selected for the US team after a long and rigorous try out over several months.

Hosted Members of the Board and Leadership Team of CASEL. Wanted to see an integration of SEL and Academic standards. We met at Elmwood. Huge thank you to the Elmwood Staff and students who made all feel welcome.

Public Comment

President Gericke gave parameters for Public Comment.
Noted the public comments attached to the agenda.

Claire Savage-NCHS-interested in learning a world language. Been learning on my own since first Grade. Been excited to learn with others in HS. Did a Capstone on offering world languages earlier, 7th grade. Not impossible to expand our World language curriculum. We have already started the Dual enrollment system with 50% Spanish and 50% English speaking students.

NCHS Students Lakshyaa Nathan, Oakley O'Brien, Will Lardner, Belle Reber, and Lauren Land spoke on composting-students 600 pounds of food waste each day. That is 100, 000 pounds of food waste that ends up in landfills. This negative impact needs to be addressed immediately. We do not have a current composting system at NCHS. A missed opportunity. Environmental implications. Blended Peace and Conflict Studies class is where they have worked on this idea. Composting can reduce our carbon footprint. Composting must be gradually introduced in our schools. One or two composting bins in the cafeteria. We would like to see teachers monitor these bins to help educate students on what can be composted and what cannot.

Hope this will reduce carbon emissions.

Today is the start of international composting week.

President Gericke reminded the Board and Community that because questions raised during Public Comment address District Operational matters the board has designated our Superintendent as the spokesperson for the District. As our designate to respond to Public Comment, he will apprise the Board accordingly.

Action by Consent:

President Gericke reminded the Board and Community of the board agreements. She noted that it is each Board member’s responsibility to prepare for each meeting and to effectively EXPRESS our concerns either to the Superintendent or the Board President in a timely manner. Board members have also agreed that avoiding surprises is paramount in displaying respect to all District Administration. The Board has tasked itself to send questions in advance of each meeting to the Superintendent to allow the provision of the best possible response for the community. It also allows for efficiency during the community’s meeting. Those same questions as well as new ones may be asked in Open Session. For transparency, please note if any questions were asked earlier. Mr. Bridges did you receive questions from Board members? Superintendent Bridges responded that he received questions from five Board members.

1. Adoption of Personnel Report

	Effective Date	Location	Position
APPOINTMENT-ADMINISTRATION			
Maribel Guerrero	7/1/2024	PSAC	Director of Language Acquisition
APPOINTMENT-CERTIFIED FULL-TIME			
Emily McGann	8/12/2024	Lincoln	Math & Science Teacher
Annika Lee	8/12/2024	NCHS	Social Studies Teacher
Delilies Rodriguez	8/12/2024	Elmwood/ Steeple Run	School Psychologist
Janet Williamson	8/12/2024	Mill Street	Certified School Nurse
Angela Brancato	8/12/2024	Mill Street	Learning Behavior Specialist
Jessica Gaydos	8/12/2024	Beebe	5th Grade Teacher
Terri Alexander	8/12/2024	Beebe	4th Grade Teacher
Laurie Walton	8/12/2024	Mill Street	Learning Behavior Specialist
Angela Klintworth	8/12/2024	Scott and Mill St	School Social Worker
APPOINTMENT-CERTIFIED PART-TIME			
Candace Williams	8/12/2024	NNHS	Comm Arts Teacher
RE-EMPLOYMENT-CERTIFIED FULL-TIME			
Daniel McLaughlin	8/12/2024	NNHS	Learning Behavior Specialist
LEAVE OF ABSENCE-CERTIFIED			
Olivia Jaime	SY 24/25 20%	NNHS	World Language - Spanish

Emily McKenzie	SY 24/25	Scott	4th Grade
Elizabeth Slevin	11/4/24 - 5/27/25	Kingsley	4th Grade
RESIGNATION-CLASSIFIED			
Janet Williamson	8/11/2024	PSAC	Classroom Nurse
Angela Brancato	8/11/2024	Maplebrook	Special Education Assistant

2. Life/Health Safety Projects
3. Bid: High School Class Rings and Caps, Gowns & Announcements for Graduates
4. Bid: Asbestos Abatement-Jefferson and Elmwood
5. Construction Management Services
6. Disposal of Assets

Board member Kelley Black asked that the Life/Safety Plans and Bid: Asbestos Abatement-Jefferson and Elmwood be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve the Consent items 6.01, 6.03, 6.05, and 6.06 as presented, seconded by Joe Kozminski. Those voting yes: Kozminski, Kelley Black, McMillen, Wandke, Gericke, Fitzgerald, and Cush. The motion carried.

Life Safety Plans

Have we already factored in the expenses for this work?

Mr. Frances responded that we do factor into the overall B&G budget. Some of the items are easy and to be done in the next year some are to be completed in the next five years.

I look at this like my house. I have made frequent requests to have an overall plan. Can we find out before we have to vote on it? Can we prioritize them?

Mr. Frances noted the prioritizing of these may supersede something else that we are planning to do.

I need the big picture.

The five-year building budget we approve one year at a time. Do we get them every year?

Mr. Frances stated they are in three groupings.

We would have taken care of these if we had known about these needs.

Mr. Frances stated that we would not include all these items in a board report.

Superintendent Bridge added that is why we only approve the Capital Improvement plan one year at a time.

There are some capital improvements we have approved in the fall were not included like the tennis courts at NNHS.

Superintendent Bridges stated those were in the budget.

The buses just came up today.

Superintendent Bridges stated the buses were discussed at the last meeting.

The changes needed at NNHS are due to the purchase of buses.

Superintendent Bridges stated that those changes have nothing to do with the purchase of buses. Your comments are suggesting that the purchase of electric buses and reconfiguration of Transportation is driving that decision and that is not true. It has been a long-term goal to make the improvements at NNHS.

These are current violations that we are required to correct, right?

Mr. Frances responded that is correct.

They will be addressed right away?

Mr. Frances stated not right away.

Superintendent Bridges repeated what Mr. Frances noted earlier about the timeline. These are from visits from the ROE.

Amanda McMillen made a motion to approve the Life/Safety Plans as presented, seconded by Charles Cush. Those voting yes: McMillen, Kozminski, Fitzgerald, Cush, Gericke, Kelley Black, and Wandke. The motion carried.

Bid: Asbestos Abatement-Jefferson and Elmwood

This goes back to planning. Has this been discussed and is it a part of the five-year Capital Project?

Mrs. Brown stated this is not part of the capital improvement plan. We try to note the larger bids so you know what is coming to the Board. We do hold some funds back for the regular business. This was planned for last summer but additional work was needed so we held off until now.

Amanda McMillen made a motion to approve the Asbestos Removal Bid as presented, seconded by Charles Cush. Those voting yes: Cush, Kelley Black, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kozminski, McMillen, and Gericke. The motion carried.

Policy Consent Agenda PRESS 114 Updates

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve the PRESS 114 Updates as presented, seconded by Amanda McMillen. Those voting yes: Gericke, Fitzgerald, Kozminski, Cush, Wandke, McMillen, and Kelley Black. The motion carried.

Superintendent/Staff/School Report Superintendent Bridges

President's Report

Will be in touch with IASB Representative for annual self-evaluation in the summer. Will be seeking dates in the summer.

Board of Education reports:

Board Member Kelley Black reported on attending the DEIB Committee. Discussed the upcoming political election. Creating harmony in the community. Would like Administration direction. Be creative and innovative in how we treat students and how they treat each other. Feel safe in schools. Enjoyed the AAPI event.

Vice President Fitzgerald reported on the Vision 2030 meeting in Bloomington. Pleasure to be a part of that group. Will be followup actions around Triple I. Should see some resolutions. Thrilled to get to represent the district.

Board Member Kozminski reported on the Policy discussions with students, staff, parents from NCHS and NNHS. Great to hear student voice. Appreciated the opportunity.

Discussion without Action

President Gericke reminded the Board and Community of the Board agreements.

2024-2025 Tentative Budget Presentation

Superintendent Bridges noted this is the initial meeting of reviewing the budget. We will not seek action until June 17, 2024. We anticipate questions over the next several weeks, we will share all questions in each of the upcoming agendas. Citizens' Finance Advisory council meeting tomorrow evening and will report back at the May 20 meeting. We have a lot of time to work through this.

- **Tonight, starts the process for Board review. There will be a series of opportunities for feedback and questions before final approval, which is scheduled for June 17th.**

- A school district budget serves a number of purposes and functions. Besides being a legal requirement to adopt an annual budget, the budget is a numerical reflection of the district's goals and objectives and is needed to authorize annual spending.
- Throughout the fiscal year, we use the budget in several ways. Each month we analyze actual revenue and expense to make sure we are on track with the budget plan and, if needed, make adjustments accordingly.
- It is also used as the basis for our 5-year financial projections that the Board uses to help make strategic long term financial decisions.
- Our auditors also use it for variance analysis against our end of year actual results.
- Finally, the budget is a plan for the receipt and expenditure of district resources. That plan is based on a number of things that are known on both the revenue and expense side of the budget, but also on many items that need to be estimated. We do not know for certain how much state or federal funding we will receive next year as those final numbers are not yet known. We use past practice, experience and reasonable assumptions, including input from the citizens finance advisors committee on those assumptions. The budget document is inclusive of all things known and estimated.
- The timeline displayed ensures the District adopts its budget in time for the start of the fiscal year which is well before the statutory deadline of September 30.
- The budget process takes place year-round. The District begins the planning in the fall by updating enrollment projections and the Five-Year Financial Forecast.
- In the Spring, administration projects staffing needs for the following year as well as develops individual department budgets that include any potential new initiatives.
- We then present the information in tentative form to the Board of Education for additional input and feedback before final approval.
- The largest budget item is personnel costs which make up over 3/4 of total expenditures.
- The Administration evaluated all aspects of staffing and recommended changes for the FY25 budget. This slide shows the. The Early Childhood through 12 grade and district special education staffing allocation plan that was presented to the Board of Education in March have been incorporated into the tentative budget.
- In addition to that, the staffing initiatives for Fiscal Year 25 are also included in the tentative budget.
- The Instruction Technology Coordinator will support the seamless integration of technology into the curriculum.
- The Technical Theater Directors are a part of a reworking of our theater positions. This change will result in 1 additional FTE.
- Also included are additional stipends at the Junior High level for Band, Orchestra, and Choir, as well as a few classifications increases for our NESPA staff.
- Besides staffing, there were a number of other requests to be added to this year's budget.
- Each High School will receive two carts of iPads with the appropriate tools and software to give students a hands-on experience used by art and design professionals.
- MagicSchool AI is a collection of AI powered tools for lesson planning, assessment and other classroom tasks.
- The Centegix Safety platform will provide a panic button device to every staff member that will integrate into our notification and first responders' systems.
- An additional school resource officer will help support additional needs at our elementary and Junior High Schools.
- To help keep up with inflationary pressures as well invest in our facilities, the capital increase will help align our vision for transformative learning environments.
- In addition to those, there is also an additional investment for play and musical productions for rights and scripts. And finally, we will also look to start a plan of replacing outdated elementary school furniture as Capital Project dollars are available.

- The largest piece is property taxes which makes up almost 85% of the District's annual revenue.
- District 203 receives less than 10% of our annual funding from a combination of State and Federal Sources.
- We recently received our tax calculations from our County Clerks. With the 5% CPI cap, property taxes are estimated to increase \$15.6 million over the current budget. Final values on the tax rate, new construction and EAV change are very close to the projected values we used for the adoption of the tax levy last December. The budget also accounts for the tax abatement that the Board of Education adopted again in March reducing taxes by \$1.2 million with fund balance covering the cost of next year's debt payments.
- Over the past three years we have seen larger than anticipated distributions from the Illinois Department of Revenue for Corporate Personal Property Replacement Taxes. They have not given us any indication if these will continue into next year, but we have made some adjustments to this area of the budget to reflect this higher level of funding.
- Finally, as short-term investment rates continue to remain at 17-year highs, we have increased our budget for estimated income from investments accordingly.
- State funding makes up about \$22 million, or a little less than 7% of the district's revenue budget. The majority of funding from the State comes from the Evidence Based Funding formula. We also receive categorical grants for preschool, special education and transportation. Overall, State funding is estimated to be very similar to FY24. Time will tell where we end up with this revenue source as the State has not yet adopted its own budget.
- The federal line item of the district's budget also shows flat funding for FY25. Our three major categories of Federal funding are IDEA, Title 1, and National School Lunch reimbursements.
- Through this comparison, we see a total overall revenue increase of almost \$18.2 million or 5.6%.
- When breaking down the revenue by major revenue source you can see that the vast majority of the revenue change is coming from local property taxes as well as an increase in investment income and corporate personal property taxes shown here in the other local line.
- Total Revenue is projected at \$344 million 250 thousand for the upcoming year.
- The largest expense by far, is employee salaries and benefits, that makes up more than 3/4 of all district expenditures.
- The overall total change is \$17.4 million or 5.15% increase over this year's amended budget.
- Please note the Capital Projects fund which we reestablished last year for the addition at Steeple Run. The FY25 tentative budget includes \$10 million of estimated spend down of our fund balance for the upcoming year on projects presented at the last Board meeting.
- When breaking down the expenditures by the major expenditure objects, salaries and benefits are planned to increase by 4.8% over the current budget.
- These figures incorporate all known and projected changes to staffing that have been included in this presentation as well as our employee collective bargaining agreements.
- Overall, this tentative budget shows expenses at \$356.3 million.
- Finally, as part of public act 102-0895, we are to disclose our fund balances. These are our balances through February, 2024.

Board Questions/Comments

Thank you. Technical Theater Directors, FTE is 1 due to some re allocating of staff.

Will send additional questions.

Multiple meetings on the budget.

2024-2025 Board Meeting Schedule

Superintendent Bridges noted we first shared this on April 1. Bringing it back for discussion and will seek action on May 20.

Need a July meeting before July 15 for hiring.

Board Questions/Comments:

Appreciate this. Three out of the four meetings at the beginning of the year will be on Tuesdays.

Superintendent Bridges noted it is Holiday driven and when we return to school.

January 7 is that enough time for Administration to prepare?

Superintendent Bridges stated that we will hope for a light agenda. Will keep it and address as necessary.

First Reading: Policy 7.180 Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Superintendent Bridges stated that Dr. Holland chairs the committees that look at these policies.

Dr. Holland noted that we are to convene meetings with students, staff, parents to discuss and recommend any changes to the Board of Education.

Clarifying the Superintendent responsibilities named in school code. Lively discussion on Bullying Intimidation and Harassment. We report on all allegations, not just the factual events.

Reviewed data from 22-23 school year. We had 167 incidents. Discussed the locations where these occurred. 29 in classroom, 24 athletic 16 online and 16 hallway and 7 busses. Saw an increase at the Middle School level and saw a decrease at the High School and Elementary levels.

Continue to discuss how we define bullying. Students say they see lots of incidents that they think is bullying but not all report for a variety of reasons. Would be helpful to develop language to help students be more than bystanders. Talked about processes.

Board Questions/Comments:

Appreciate the process of including students and integrating their ideas.

With regard to the Board's responsibilities if we had an attachment with all that you just reported. Would be helpful to see trends over time.

Thank you for the report, it was a nice summary of the meeting. Appreciated the feedback from students about how to educate students about bullying. First day back might not be the best time.

First Reading: Policy 7.190 Student Discipline

Dr. Holland state we looked at updates in School Code and Criminal Code. Reviewed all the changes and had discussion. Documentation about how to get students to stop engaging.

Discussion on possession of a laser. Students are able to get ahold of powerful lasers that can cause a lot of damage. Had discussion around AI. Language around staff communicating their expectations of the use of AI. Need to communicate these policies in a space where students are engaged.

Follow up meetings with Deans regarding this feedback.

Board Questions/Comments

Thank you. As this pertains to behavior, we have had reports on behavior. Are we looking at these through an equity lens? How will these be discussed with staff?

Dr. Holland noted the Student Behavior Policy boils down to their lived experiences. Students mentioned some of the shifts in supporting behaviors. Shared responsibility, taking the time to process with our students. More work to align with messaging with students moving in from Junior High.

This is not a new policy, but language to reflect our practice?

Dr. Holland responded, yes.

First Reading: Policy 7.240 Co-Curricular Code of Participation

Dr. Holland stated this the annual review of the Co-Curricular Code and the regulation. Facilitated by the Athletic Directors and the Activity Directors. She reviewed some of the changes. Introduced Caleb Lewis and CJ Getting students who served on the committee.

CJ Getting Junior NCHS- Generative AI-learning tool. Struck a balance to allow it to enhance learning. Restorative practices are effective. Lack of variation of consequences. They do exist in the student code of conduct.

Caleb Lewis Junior at NNHS in our discussion Principles of restorative practices. Necessary to highlight the principle of exposure of students who made a poor choice. They are better than what they have done and we don't want to have them labeled as the choice.

Students wanted to know the relationships between these policies and the student code of conduct.

Privilege to be a part of extracurricular activities.

Board Questions/Comments:

Students were eloquent and appreciate you coming to speak to us. Reminds us why we do this work.

Comments are very representative of what all the students said. The empathy and compassion they had for their fellow students was impressive.

Dr. Holland stated students gave feedback. Need to be sure that all students on a team and or activity need to have communication about these policies. Finding effective ways to communicate these.

Generative AI-do we have a well-defined policy on where it can and cannot be used?

Are all instructors providing where it can and cannot be used?

Superintendent Bridges noted that earlier this year, we shut down ChatGPT in order to create policy. The use of AI is covered in the academic integrity policy. We are pretty comfortable and secure with how we address it in policy. We have created some training for staff.

Do we need more easily understood language?

Superintendent Bridges noted we do need flexibility in the language with how rapidly it is changing. There will be differences from classroom to classroom due to Staff comforts.

I have questions on some of the consequences. Previously there was a stepped-up consequence due to actions dependent upon if you attended a function where someone else might be doing something illegal versus where some one actually consumes or possesses something. There has been a gradation with anything that was illegal. Students have lots of consequences due to their actions. Wonder about any dialogue about how these consequences go together?

Dr. Holland stated we have developed our own language in these policies over time. Are we naming some infractions as more egregious than others? PRESS focuses more on substance abuse and enhancements. The others have been added by the Board. We might want to think about scaling back to the PRESS policy.

Superintendent Bridges added that PRESS has talked to us about too much customization of the policies and how it makes it complicated to cross with other policies.

I would want to be sure we are motivating students positively.

I am not sure if there are legal consequences that I am not aware of.

This is not the PRESS policy. It might be better to pare these down.

Dr. Holland stated that the Co-Curricular code of conduct is 365 24/7. It will be up to the Board to determine what should be in here.

Superintendent Bridges went to the original question, was this discussed?

Dr. Holland remarked the inconsistencies were discussed.

CJ Getting- changes were made after the conversations. Committee wanted to make some more strict.

Dr. Holland stated the Committee is advisory and we have to look at other resources, legal, PRESS.
How do students view the consequence being the same if they drink or not drink?
Code of Conduct covers the school day. Athletes know about the drinking the most. Need to leave in here the things that are not in the Code of Conduct.

Appreciate the student comments. Appreciate the context. Can we have more time to review this policy. Can we see the PRESS policy as well to see the differences?

Superintendent Bridges and Dr. Holland will meet and get the copies of the PRESS policy.

We do sign off on it as parents but parents don't really know. Helpful to understand student's level of knowledge.

Dr. Holland noted that this is part of the reason why we have to discuss what is included and what is not included. We should make sure that all students are aware and that we should look at PRESS. Superintendent Bridges added the more we add into policy, the less it becomes governance and becomes operational.

How are parents chosen to be on these committees? How many are invited?

Dr. Holland noted will have to get back to you on a number. We have a blend of parents.

I want to be sure we have a blend of parents who want to be involved. A number would be great.

First Reading: Policy 2.270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited

Superintendent Bridges stated that Administration is comfortable with the PRESS version. Comfortable with it as is but will make sure it aligns with other policies. We have to have this policy because of the law.

Board Questions/Comments:

Does it have a legal consequence if we are in violation.

Superintendent Bridges noted that this is one that we will be looked at every four years for compliance.

Is this focusing on staff engagement with students?

Superintendent Bridges stated this is a Board policy on discrimination.

It doesn't seem very inclusive as it does not include disabilities, sexual orientation.

Superintendent Bridges remarked that it was written in response to a particular law.

Are there other policies that address those other classes?

Superintendent Bridges stated, yes.

It is ultimately about our values. Would make sense to include other classes in this policy.

Superintendent Bridges responded that he will get a legal opinion. This is in response to a racism law.

Want to clarify what the other policies are that cover other classes of people.

Superintendent Bridge noted we will bring back the other policies that protect other classes.

I want the legal opinion in writing.

First Reading: Policy 5.100 Staff Development Program

Superintendent Bridges wants to be sure we are appropriate in responding no.

Board Questions/Comments

Can those who are not required to have it take it if they want to.

Superintendent Bridges note we will get legal advice.

If we can offer training it would be good.

Superintendent Bridges stated it is not possible to require all staff to be trained.

Board Member Attendance at Conferences

Superintendent Brides stated that this is a first stab at creating some policy around this.

Would like to amend to annually appoint one delegate should say that an appointed delegate and an appointed alternate delegate would attend the Federal Conference. The alternate delegate would be the delegate next year to the Federal conference.

Board Questions/Comments

Board members may attend one National conference per term. What do we do if more than three want to attend the COSSBA National Conference?

Superintendent Bridges stated that would be at the direction of the Board.

Would propose that we prioritize those who have not attended or would not be able to attend.

Limiting the education of BOE members. Based on need and benefit to the community. Makes no sense that we would not send everyone.

Who paid for the CASEL visit today, they are a nonprofit?

Superintendent Bridges stated that he could not tell you. We provided lunch to be a good host.

Was it beneficial to the CASEL Board?

Superintendent Bridges stated that he would not speak for any of their Board.

President Gericke stated that Board Member's tone is disrespected.

We talk about a sense of belonging. It is hard to be on a board that limits education but has high expectations. It is worth it to have Board members be educated and thrive.

I like the limit because there will be some overlap if all of us attend. It would be better to have some attend each year. We are not limiting the bulk of what is provided to us. The only limit is the annual COSSBA conference that will require flights, hotel rooms. A once-a-year National conference will not prepare you to be a good board member. What IASB offers us is much more valuable. We can refine some of this language. The networking of administration and staff members is what is more important. Our region is who I feel we need to network.

Can we be more specific in travel expenses in the area where it is not a national conference?

Would be interested in it being two instead of three.

Superintendent Bridges noted the math doesn't work if you send only two.

Learning can continue and be shared with the group by a sharing of reports from those who did attend.

Thank you for the summary of our conversation. It is encouraging to have this listing of learning opportunities and resources.

Can we have a structure about a best practice on how to report back. Maybe a conversation as a Board as to what people may attend.

Superintendent Bridges stated he is writing this as a procedure not a policy.

COSSBA is relatively new. Isn't there still a national NASB conference?

Superintendent Bridges remarked that IASB is no longer a member of NSBA.

Board members are allowed to attend even if state association is not a member.

Can we add any other national conferences?

Perhaps we could broaden the language about the IASB events. They have events in Springfield that all Board members can attend.

State and local events are the target areas for the board. A national conference every four years is reasonable.

Will you come back with modifications?

Discussion with Action

Establish Date for Public Hearing Regarding FY24 Amended Budget

Superintendent Bridges noted this is a Procedural action of the Board to pass a resolution to set a public hearing date to consider an amended budget.

Board Questions/Comments:

None.

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve resolution to Establish Date for Public Hearing for FY24 Amended Budget as presented, seconded by Charles Cush. Those voting yes: Cush, McMillen, Kozminski, Kelley Black, Fitzgerald, Wandke, and Gericke. The motion carried.

Establish Date for Public Hearing and Direct Tentative Budget to be put on Public Display Superintendent Bridges this is the same as the previous one.

**Board Questions/Comments:
None.**

Charles Cush made a motion to approve resolution to Establish Date for Public Hearing and Direct Tentative Budget Put on Display as presented, seconded by Amanda McMillen. Those voting yes: McMillen, Fitzgerald, Gericke, Wandke, Kelley Black, Cush, and Kozminski. The motion carried.

Bus Purchases

Superintendent Bridges noted that on April 15 Administration presented a plan to purchase buses.

Board Questions/Comments:

Was told the changes to the fields at NNHS, were needed as there were bigger projects and the footprint of the parking lot for the parking of buses needed more space.

Superintendent Bridges remarked that we do need to make some changes in the parking lot to allow for charging stations. This is not related to the needed work at NNHS.

Footprint of the terminal is not changing?

Mr. Frances responded it doesn't need to increase, it is ideal that it increase because the current space is too tight for the buses. There is an opportunity to expand the parking area of buses and bring a turf field to NNHS.

Is it incorrect that we need to enlarge it in order to charge the buses?

Mr. Frances responded that we are already charging four electric buses with no changes to the yard.

Will we need more if we get more electrical buses?

Mr. Frances responded we are setting this up to allow us to charge more electric buses.

This is our first year with electric buses. We are still in the process of the viability and the experiences of them. This is our beginning phase and we are adding four more to add more data.

Superintendent Bridges noted we have applied repeatedly for grants at the State and Federal level and have not been successful mainly because they are going to districts with need.

Thank you for continuing this electric bus initiative. The two sides being available for charging will be helpful. This is a nice way to continue rolling out this initiative.

That we roll along, is there a critical reason we cannot wait until we have a global picture.

Superintendent Bridges stated that more than two years ago, the Board directed us to move forward with the purchase of electric buses.

That is why we have these discussions so I can express my opinion. The Board does not have to agree.

We have also talked about the sustainability report.

Is there a timeframe?

We approved that a couple of months ago.

Why would we not wait?

We are still collecting data that will be included in the sustainability report.

It is important to note that it is also about the health of our students. We need the data to understand how they work in our district.

Other districts do have them and we could get that information from them. I am asking that we collect the data them make the decisions.

How many buses in our fleet?

Mr. Frances stated 130.

Do we have the electrical stations for 8 buses?

Mr. Frances stated no but the infrastructure has already been added.

What is the rationale for buying buses now?

Mr. Frances noted that Board practice has been to replace about 1/8 of our fleet annually. We are planning for the following year. It has to do with purchase and delivery.

So, we are swapping out. How much more is an electric bus over a diesel bus?

Mr. Frances stated about \$200,000.00.

Will we get these up and running sooner?

Mr. Frances remarked we don't know what the timeline will be for delivery. Hopeful we will get them sooner than last year.

Are we one of the few school districts of our size that owns their own buses?

Mr. France stated there are a few.

Difficult to get data from other districts that are similar to us.

Did I hear you say that we have not factored in the building of charging stations?

Superintendent Bridges stated charging stations were not the issue.

Why don't we do both at the same time?

Superintendent Bridges stated we would not need board approval on the charging stations if the board does not approve the purchase of the electric buses.

Mr. Frances added that the Board does not need to approve the charging stations.

Didn't we approve it last time?

Mr. Frances stated yes because we had to add the infrastructure.

We can use data from other states.

Donna Wandke made a motion to approve Bus Purchases as presented, seconded by Charles Cush. Those voting yes: Cush, McMillen, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Kelley Black, Kozminski, and Gericke. The motion carried.

Capital Development Plan-Board Policy 4.20

Superintendent Bridges stated this was brought to the Board on April 15. Brought recommendations and recommend approval as presented.

Board Questions/Comments:

Excited to hear from the community about the excitement.

Good projects and the community enjoy them. All improvements need to be presented at one time.

Superintendent Bridges stated that was noted in the presentation last month.

The fall presentation is about annual projects. These are one-time expenditures.

We will be coming back in the fall after the results of the FY24 audit are known.

Charles Cush made a motion to approve Capital Development Plan- Board Policy 4.20 as presented, seconded by Amanda McMillen. Those voting yes: McMillen, Kozminski, Wandke, Cush, Gericke, and Fitzgerald. Those voting no: Kelley Black. The motion carried.

New Business

None.

Old Business

None

Upcoming Events

Superintendent Bridges noted:

- Commencement May 19
- May 20 BOE meeting will be held at KJHS

Close to the end of the school year on May 23, 2024.

Adjournment

Charles Cush moved, seconded by Joe Kozminski to adjourn the meeting at 10:20pm. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: McMillen, Fitzgerald, Wandke, Gericke, Cush, Kozminski, Kelley Black. Those voting no: None. The motion carried.

Approved: May 20, 2024

Kristine Gericke, President, Board of
Education

Susan Patton, Secretary, Board of
Education