

NORTHEAST BRADFORD SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

February 13, 2017

The regular meeting of the board was held in room 87 of the Northeast Bradford Junior-Senior High School. President Keith Bonin called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Keith Bonin, Joseph Mihalek III, Devin Brown, Wendy Carr, Howard Rought, Annette Zern and Thomas Souto.

Absent: Teresa Edsell and Lisa Upham.

Others present included: William Clark, Mary Ann Boardman, Brian Wilcox, and Robert Moore, Administrators. Sharon Goble, Donna Miller, Brian Pifer, Melissa Brown, Michelle Haight, Kathryn Holmes, Matthew Holmes and Twyla Wickwire, staff. Andrew Boardman, Linda Carr, Amanda Eastman, Joe Dughi and Michael Parks, visitors. Lucy Parks and Kiah Russell, students. Nathan Brown, the Daily Review.

Recognition of Staff - None.

Presentations - None.

Recognition of Visitors

Students, Lucy Parks and Kiah Russell informed the board that the girls are planning on holding a Powder Puff basketball game, to be held on March 17, 2017, with proceeds to go towards the Bradford County Humane Society.

Board President, Keith Bonin announced that the board met in executive session to discuss personnel prior to tonight's meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Brown, seconded by Mihalek, to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2017 meeting as presented. All members voted in favor.

Operations Report

Expenditures /Bank Account Summary - Motion by Brown, seconded by Zern, to approve the expenditures and the bank account summary reports for the month of January. On a roll call vote, Souto and Carr abstained; all other members voted in favor.

Superintendent's Report

Principals Reports

The following principal reports were reviewed by the board:

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

TO: Board of School Directors

FROM: Robert Moore

DATE: 2/6/17

OVERVIEW

Boys Varsity Basketball won the league championship for the first time in 26 years.

Varsity Wrestling lost their quarter final team dual meet against Montoursville, they are preparing for sectionals.

Sr. High Scholarship Challenge placed 2nd in the semi-finals winning a monetary award of \$250. The team is preparing for "The High School Challenge" being held at TC3 in March.

ACADEMICS

Brittain Twigg is a State Qualifier for Entrepreneurship thru NTCC. She will be competing in Hershey, Pa April 19, 20 and 21.

OPERATIONS

None

HUMAN RESOURCES

Interviews were held for the position of long-term substitute aide for the high school. A candidate will be brought before the school board on 2/13/17.

NEWS/RECOGNITION

Our STEM Team won first place in the Governor's Challenge in Mansfield on 2/3/17. The next competition will take place on May 19, in Lancaster, PA.

18 Students took place in this year's Jr./Sr. County Band that was held in Canton, Pa.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Parent/Teacher Conferences	High School	2/9/17
Valentine's Dance	High School Cafe	2/10/17

SPECIAL THANKS

None

*Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Moore, High School Principal*

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS REPORT

TO: The Board of Education

FROM: Brian Wilcox

DATE: 2/7/16

OVERVIEW

The Northeast Bradford Elementary school continues to make progress in the area of academics. We are striving on following through on programs and best practices that have been implemented in the past. We are sharing information and making strides towards improving academic success. I personally was lucky enough to attend a principals meeting in Canton recently where we shared the idea of personalized learning. The concept is very similar to differentiated instruction. This train of thought allows students to accelerate at their own pace while scaffolding is given by the teacher. In return, each student determines their success. The amount of support depends on the student's needs. I will be sharing this information with others in my building and forming a PLC group to review data and research on this style of teaching. We will then decide if this is the direction we want to go as a faculty and staff. My colleagues are also aiding in the review process for a new reading program/curriculum. As we know these are expensive and critical items for any district to obtain. In return, I want to make sure we are getting the best fit for the right price. Other Items of interest that are in need of being reviewed and addressed by the board to aid in the guidance and direction of the principals are as following:

NEBOLA Policy

Differentiated Observation Policy

The Attendance Policy needs to be revised to reflect state law amendment. Unexcused absences will be filed after the sixth day next school year and not the third.

ACADEMICS

PSSA preparations are underway.

Amy Breon was here discussing DIBLES test scores with our K-3 teachers and will return to continue the conversation. We are looking to build off this and improve our Tier II interventions. Teachers will use the data to drive their remediation time. Dr. Osenbach and I have been discussing running a trial of new WIN groups during the fourth marking period to see if we want to use that format next year.

Dr. Osenbach and I are currently reviewing reading programs as our Journey's contract expires partially at the end of this month and the remainder in June.

We are also reviewing our online programming as we are looking to streamline our programs and cut cost. We are currently using multiple programs to evaluate and benchmark our students

Elementary teachers have developed and shared their SMART goals with me and are diligently working on achieving them. They are continuing to impress me on their constant improvement in working together during their PLC's.

NEBOLA /VLN- Report cards were sent out to these students.

We are attempting to develop our own Keystone classes on VLN. This is a slow process in cooperation with the company, but we continue to work toward our goal.

OPERATIONS

Two mouse traps were installed outside the building.

We have a small ant problem in the cafeteria, but it is being treated. Maintenance has been notified to fill the cracks in the floor and fix the drain.

We are having issues with some exterior doors sticking, but they are being addressed. Mr. Cook and Mr. Brown are in the middle of the installation process of installing hangers in the gym. The hangers are needed for the Kevlar tarp in the archery unit.

HUMAN RESOURCES

All of my teachers are now certified to give the PSSA exam.

NEWS/RECOGNITION

Congratulations to our 2nd marking period honor roll students on their classroom success.

UPCOMING EVENTS		
EVENT	LOCATION	DATE
Kindergarten Registration	Elementary School	March 29 &30, 2017

SPECIAL THANKS

None

*Respectfully Submitted,
Brian M. Wilcox*

SPECIAL EDUCATION BOARD REPORT- Tracy Wright, Special Education Director

February 8, 2017

Current numbers: High School - 74

Elementary - 64

Speech – 77

Updates: Project Max- attended training as a team on Jan 23. The team added Christine Bedford, current reading specialist, to the team. She will serve the role of internal coach. Tracy also attended administrators training on Jan. 26 at Pattan in Harrisburg. The team training continues to address and build skills around presuming competence of students with complex needs. The administrator training focused on the role of administrators in supporting the initiative. Todd Moyer is our IU supportive coach. He comes out to the district to observe and meet with our team 1x month. He will meet with Brian Wilcox to catch him up to speed on the role of the building principal.

NEB sent two teams... Elementary and HS to School Wide Positive Behavior Support training in Canton Jan 19. This training was free and is a statewide supported behavioral program that Canton and several other districts are participating in with us. We are excited to develop this to support all students! Our next training date is Feb. 21.

Special Education Director, Life Skills teacher, school social worker, speech therapist, and HS guidance counselor attended a Youth Mental Health training day in Towanda. They look forward to sharing what they've learned with staff through consults and PLC opportunities. Special Education office hosted EI transition meetings on Feb. 2. These meetings are held in February each year. Blast IU17 introduces the district to students who will be Kindergarten eligible and are identified as having exceptional needs. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet families and current service providers. The meeting focuses on the students exceptional needs so the district can plan accordingly for the fall. There were 11 students who were introduced and have signed letters of intent to enroll in Kindergarten at NEB Elementary.

Staffing: The school continues to advertise and seek a PA certified school psychologist. Anne Lewis has presented the board with a per diem, case by case, contract for her to complete evaluations as needed. This is at her discretion since she is now working full time elsewhere. She can only test on Saturdays so the district will have to work with families to arrange this service...if possible for some students/families. *See contract* The special education office appreciates her willingness to help us until we can hire another psychologist full-time. She knows the district well, families, students, and staff.

Good news!!

Last year at this time, NEB had 16 students being served in out of district placements due to behavioral exclusions or exceptional needs which could not be met within the district. We currently have 6 and 1 is slated to return at the end of this month. The intention is to bring another student back at the end of this marking period. The school social worker has been a huge asset and benefit to the students who returned from placement at the beginning of this year and throughout the year.

Projected Needs:

If a program can be funded, a Pre-K/ K4 program would help families and the district avoid sending students to school who may not be ready. Some of these children have exceptional developmental needs and are VERY young (July and August birthdays). If anyone has any ideas of funding sources, Tracy is willing to investigate and pursue funding sources (even if it's just info about those sources). Note- this pre-school program would not be a special education placement. All children would be eligible but it could offer special education supports within the program for students with exceptional needs. Towanda and Sayre have pre-K programs in their districts. They are funded by Title One.

Aides: The life skills classroom will need an additional aide next year if the projected students who came through EI transitions enroll. Also, another student who came through EI transition meeting may need a district assigned 1:1 aide. These are only projected needs as none of these students are officially enrolled yet. It is the district's discretion whether to hire for these positions or re-allocate current aides.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Wright, Special Education Director

Superintendents Report

Mr. Clark informed the board on the following:

Superintendents Report Board Meeting 2/13/17

State Budget:

Early indications point towards a \$100 million in increased revenues for Basic Education Funding. Northeast will see a slight increase of approximately \$38,000 in regular education funding as well as approximately \$10,000 in special education funding. The big question surrounding next year's budget is the \$50 million in transportation cuts. The State has not released any information as to how this will affect us. PDE is also considering a system of school performance measures that move beyond the point-in-time achievement measures and values schools efforts to help all students learn, grow, and succeed in the classroom and beyond.

Proposed Indicators:

Academic Achievement Measures:

- (Keystones) Alg. I, Bio, ELA Proficient/Advanced or Meeting Academic Growth (PVAAS)
- PSSA's English Language, Math, Science Proficient/Advanced Meeting Academic Growth (PVAAS)
- Students with Disabilities Meeting Academic Growth (PVAAS)
- English Language Arts/ Literature and Science/ Biology (PVAAS)

On Track Measures:

- Grade 3 Reading Indicators of Success
- Grade 7 Mathematics Indicators of Success
- English Language Proficiency
- Attendance
- Closing the Achievement Gap

College and Career Measures:

- Career Standards Benchmark
- Industry Standards Based Competency
- AP/ IB College Course Offerings / Career Pathways
- Graduation Rate
- Post Secondary Transition to School, Military, Work

LOGO/Web Page:

Currently under construction and you will soon begin to see some changes.

Our Technology Team met to discuss where we are, where need to be, and the why's and the how's?

Curriculum meetings are taking place and the first report will be in March's board meeting.

Committee Reports

Facility – No Report.

Intermediate Unit Board – Ms. Carr updated the board on the following:

- January 18, 2017, contract with teachers finalized.
- Bill Martins, Director of BLAST, announced his retirement in October.
- BLAST presented Ms. Wendy Carr the book titled "What Do You Do with an Idea?" by Kobi Yamada, as a gift for board appreciation month. It was given to Mr. Wilcox to add to the elementary library.

Northern Tier Career Center - Mr. Rought presented the following:

- March 21-April 12 - NOCTI Testing Window.
- February 24 - Local Advisory Council Meeting.
- April 27 - Demonstration Night.
- May 25 - Awards Ceremony (Towanda HS).

Financial – Mrs. Boardman announced that the Finance Committee met on February 9, 2017 and reviewed the 2017-18 budget revenues. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on February 15, 2017.

Curriculum – No Report.

Federal Project Programs Reports

Mr. Clark announced that there will be a Title I audit conducted on April 12, 2017.

Personnel Items

Retirements

Motion by Carr, seconded by Brown, to approve the following retirement. All members voted in favor.

- Robert Larsen – Elementary Custodian. Effective date of retirement: March 31, 2017.

Employments

Support Staff Employment- The following individual was recommended:

- Twyla Wickwire – High School Long Term Paraprofessional Substitute – Effective – February 14, 2017, thru the conclusion of the 16/17 school year, with a compensation rate of \$10.10 per hour.

Motion by Zern, seconded by Carr, to approve the support staff employment as presented. On a roll call vote, Brown voted against; all other members voted in favor.

Motion by Souto, seconded by Carr, to amend the substitute-professional staff section of the agenda.

Substitutes-Professional Staff – The following individuals were recommended:

- Dakota Bellinger [*as amended*] – Substitute–all areas. Effective – February 14, 2017, with a compensation rate of \$80.00 per day.
- Tanner Reyan – Substitute-all areas. Effective-February 14, 2017, with a compensation rate of \$80.00 per day.

Motion by Mihalek, seconded by Brown, to approve the professional staff substitutes as presented and amended. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor.

Volunteers – *Effective date on all volunteers listed below will be February 14, 2017.*

- Barbara Murray – Elementary Classroom Helper.
- Deidre Crayton – Band/Chorus Ensembles.
- Leon Powell – Pitching Coach-Baseball.
- Kevin Rubert – Assistant to Coach-Baseball.
- Martin Edsell – Boy's Basketball.

Motion by Mihalek, seconded by Brown, to approve the volunteers as presented. On a roll call vote, Carr voted against; all other members voted in favor.

Supplemental Contracts

Motion by Souto, seconded by Brown, to table the supplemental contract of Joshua Thoman – Girl's Varsity Soccer Head Coach for the 17/18 school year, pending the completion of employment application.

Contracts and Agreement

Mansfield University

The Mansfield University dual enrollment course agreement was presented to the board for approval. The agreement was approved with corrections made to the Northeast Bradford mailing address. Motion by Carr, seconded by Brown, to accept the dual enrollment course agreement with corrections. On a roll call vote, Souto voted against; all other members voted in favor.

Amica Mediations & Counseling Agreement

Motion by Brown, seconded by Mihalek, to approve the agreement as presented. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor. AMICA Mediation & Counseling will provide the district with drug and alcohol education and intervention services as needed at the rate of \$70.00 per hour.

BLaST IU 17 Operating Budget 2017-2018

Motion by Carr, seconded by Mihalek, to approved the IU 17 Operations Budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor.

Lesko Financial – 403(b) Agreement

Motion by Zern, seconded by Carr, to approved and amend the previously established 403(b) Plan document of the Northeast Bradford School District. Effective date of the amended Plan is February 14, 2017. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the following:

- **Financial Hardship Distributions:** Hardship Distributions *are* available under the Plan.
- **Loans:** Loans *are* available under the Plan subject to availability and any additional conditions that may apply under a Participant's 403(b) Individual Agreement(s).

School Psychologist Contract

Motion by Souto, seconded by Mihalek, to approve the school psychologist contract between Mrs. Anne Lewis and the Northeast Bradford School District. The district agrees to compensate Mrs. Anne Lewis at a per diem rate of \$75.00 per hour, not to exceed 20 hour per week. Mrs. Lewis will conduct evaluations and compose an Evaluation Report, Re-evaluation Report or Gifted Written Report by the identified deadline. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor.

Other

17-18 School Calendar

Motion by Mihalek, seconded by Brown, to approve the 2017-2018 school year district calendar as presented. On a roll call vote, Souto voted against; all other members voted in favor.

Motion by Mihalek, seconded by Brown, to amend the agenda to add Jr. High Baseball as an item of discussion. All members voted in favor.

Jr. High Baseball

Motion by Rought, seconded by Zern, to approve the Jr. High baseball proposal as follows:

- The program would be co-ed.
- There would be no cost to the district.
- They would have access to transport participants via the school van.
- The program will be for the current year only and it would be re-evaluated for financial viability going forward.

On a roll call vote, Carr voted against; all other members voted in favor.

No other business was brought before the board.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Mihalek, to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor
(8:48 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Ann Boardman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and last name "Boardman" clearly legible.

Mary Ann Boardman
Board Secretary

