

MIO AUSABLE SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION
VIRTUAL
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2021

PRESENT: Holzwarth, Hunter, Irelan, La Vigne, Long, Szymanski
ABSENT: Whaley
ADMINISTRATION: Ciske, Shiffer
RECORDING SECRETARY: McVeigh

This meeting was held virtually as permitted according to MDHHS regulations related to the COVID-19 Pandemic and was streamed virtually through the district's website.

Superintendent Ciske called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. via Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Ceremonial Administration of Oath of Office was given to Mary Lou Hunter, Allison Long, Heidi Szymanski and Linda Whaley, who were previously sworn in by the Oscoda County Clerk's Office.

All organizational business, other than the Election of Officers, was previously conducted at the July board meeting. Due to election law changes, the Election of Officers is held in January of each year.

Mr. Ciske called for nominations for the office of President. Hunter nominated Irelan for President.

2020-2021-40

Hunter/Szymanski that nominations for President are closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for Irelan for President.

Roll call vote.

YES: Holzwarth, Hunter, Irelan, La Vigne, Long, Szymanski

NO: None

Motion approved.

- **President, Board of Education for 2021: PENNY J. IRELAN**

President Irelan conducted the balance of the Organizational Meeting business. Irelan called for nominations for the office of Vice President. Holzwarth nominated Hunter for Vice President.

2020-2021-41

La Vigne/Holzwarth that nominations for Vice President are closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for Hunter for Vice President.

Roll call vote.

YES: Holzwarth, Hunter, Irelan, La Vigne, Long, Szymanski

NO: None

Motion approved.

- **Vice President, Board of Education for 2021: MARY LOU HUNTER**

President Irelan call for nominations for the office of Secretary. Holzwarth nominated La Vigne for Secretary.

2020-2021-42

Hunter/Long

that nominations for Secretary are closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for La Vigne for Secretary.

Roll call vote.

YES: Holzwarth, Hunter, Irelan, La Vigne, Long, Szymanski

NO: None

Motion approved.

- **Secretary, Board of Education for 2021: CHERYL LA VIGNE**

President Irelan called for nominations for the office of Treasurer. La Vigne nominated Holzwarth for Treasurer.

2020-2021-43

Szymanski/Hunter

that nominations for Treasurer be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for Holzwarth for Treasurer.

Roll call vote.

YES: Holzwarth, Hunter, Irelan, La Vigne, Long, Szymanski

NO: None

Motion approved.

- **Treasurer, Board of Education for 2021: ELIZABETH (LIZZ) HOLZWARTH**

Board Member Recognition – Mr. Ciske announced that January is Board Recognition Month and thanked each board member for their service and dedication to the district. A certificate was presented to each board member. The board welcomed newly elected board member, Allison Long.

Consent Agenda**2020-2021-44**

La Vigne/Hunter

to approve consent agenda items:

a) Minutes of Regular meeting – December 14, 2020

b) Monthly Finance.

YES: 6

NO: 0

Motion approved.

Athletic Director's Report – Mrs. Beltz presented an Athletic Report. As of this point in time, basketball can begin practice and games. Wrestling will begin January 26. Covid-19 guidelines remain in place. In addition, game officials are now required to wear masks indoors. A program called Schoolcraft has been ordered. This will allow games to be livestreamed, for a small fee, to the community. Mrs. Beltz stated that she is still gathering details on this program and will continue to update as information is learned. Athletic masks have been ordered for the athletes which will have the school logo on them. The baseball coaching position has been posted.

Elementary Principals' Report – Mrs. Shiffer reported on elementary happenings. Distance learning for the week of January 4-8 went smoothly. NWEA testing will begin tomorrow and continue through February 11. At this time, we are only assessing face-to-face students. Spring NWEA will have all students assessed. Data meetings and music will resume in February. To date there are 226 total students enrolled in elementary, with 46 of those being virtual. The focus for the Spark Award for December was perseverance. Award winners were shared on Facebook in the January/February 2021 newsletter. Report cards will be completed at the end of the semester for virtual students. Mrs. Shiffer commended Matt Lewis for his work on a water situation that occurred in a classroom on Christmas Eve.

Buildings and Grounds Report – Mr. Ciske reported that the fire alarm installation is mostly complete. They are in the process of scheduling an inspection. Construction on the Health Center continues.

Middle School / High School Principals' Report – Face-to-face learning is scheduled to return on Monday, January 11. During the week before Christmas break, several students came in for 'tutoring'. This extra contact helped many students catch-up on work they were missing. The industrial arts program received a grant from the First Federal of Northern Michigan Legacy Foundation. The 2,000 grant will be used towards a 'Plasma Cam' which is a computer-controlled cutter. Mr. Ciske thanked board member, Allison Long, for heading up the application process for this grant. During the first semester, we were very lenient with allowing students to migrate back and forth between the online program and face-to-face learning. This will change for the second semester. Students will be notified that if they are virtual, they will not be allowed to transition back to face-to-face until the end of the marking period in March. We are anticipating that there will be a greater need for summer school this year. As the budget is being revised, Mr. Ciske will make certain that there is money allocated in the budget for this purpose.

Superintendents' Report – Mr. Ciske again commended, and thanked, board members for their time and dedication to the district as well as welcoming newly elected board member Allison Long. Mr. Ciske stated that Committee Assignments and Goals are usually reviewed, updated and approved at the January organizational meeting. However, due to the nature of the board meeting being virtual and in the absence of one board member, Mr. Ciske reminded the board that they could postpone this for discussion at a future board meeting. Mr. Ciske reviewed finance and budget issues and stated that he plans to bring the revised 2020-2021 budget to the board for approval at the February board meeting. On the agenda for approval this evening are the NEOLA policy updates. The first readings for policy update 34-2 and 35-1 were approved at the December meeting. The Extended Continuity of Learning plan needs reauthorized this evening. Mr. Ciske reported that school staff are considered 1b recipients for the COVID vaccine. The health department will distribute the vaccines at the school facility. Copy machines in the central and high school office have completed their lease agreements. We will need to consider what to do next regarding new leases or purchasing new updated machines.

Public Comment(s) on Extended Continuity of Learning Plan - None

Citizens' Comments – Mr. McFalda thanked Mrs. Allison Long for her work on the grant which the industrial arts program received.

Board Committee Assignments and Goals – Due to the virtual holding of this meeting and the absence of one board, the Board Committee Assignments and Goals will be tabled and discussed at the February 8, 2021 regular board meeting.

Action Items -

2020-2021-45

La Vigne/Szymanski

consider approval of the reauthorization of the Mio AuSable Extended COVID Learning Plan.

YES: 6
NO: 0
Motion approved.

2020-2021-46

Holzwarth/Hunter

consider approval of the second reading, and adoption, of NEOLA Policy updated 34-2 and 35-1.

YES: 6
NO: 0
Motion approved.

Board Members' Comments – President Irelan expressed the board's gratitude to DeForrest Warren and Matt Lewis for taking their positions with the school to heart and making it like it is theirs.

Correspondence - None

There was no other business.

2020-2021-47

Holzwarth/Szymanski

to adjourn at 7:07 p.m.

YES: 6
NO: 0
Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannette McVeigh, Recording Secretary

Cheryl La Vigne, Board Secretary