



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

New Britain Board of Education

Regular Meeting

May 8, 2023 - 6:00 PM | New Britain
Educational Administration Center

Call to Order and Roll Call

Call to Order

Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly, President of the New Britain Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Board Members Present

Mr. Tony Cane, Mr. Mr. Merrill Gay, Mr. Anthony Kane, Mr. Joseph Listro, Ms. Annie Parker, Ms. Diana Reyes, Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly and Ms. Tina Santana.

Student Representatives Present:

Tomas Portillo

Public Participation

Ms. Cathy Cheney:

Ms. Cheney started by thanking each and every one of the education staff involved with the start and remarkable growth of the fundraiser started in light of the tragic passing of her son. In the beginning, she asked that donations be made to the NBHS marching band, but with such a surprising outpour of support from the community, they continued to pay tribute and raise funds with a goal of \$20,000.00. For 10 years, they continued to annually have fundraisers in her son's name, and have decided to conclude this chapter. In that time, they raised just short of \$100,000.00. Ms. Nelba, the mother of Anna Grace, and the founder of the Anna Grace Project gave a touching speech on the importance of lifting each other up in the community, and paying it forward. Ms. Melba donated a check in Ben's name bringing the final total of donation's for the NBHS marching band to \$100,000.00.

Ms. Sharon Bareto:

A resident and longtime neighbor of NBHS, Ms. Bareto brought to the attention of the Board the loitering of students after/during school hours. She has made many complaints to multiple sources and would like to create a community organization that can help reduce this problem. Students hang around the school, they vandalize property, they trash and have even broke into some houses in the neighborhood. She counted how

many times a day she hears motorcycles going up and down the streets and she is exhausted of it all. She asked that a solution is created for the safety of the neighbors and residents of the surrounding areas.

Reports

The Superintendent's report is attached.

Dr. Gasper introduced to the Board, the District's new Manager of Security, Russell Taylor who talked briefly about his background in security. Mr. Taylor discussed his plan to make this school district a safer place and discussed how he is open to speaking with anyone that has ideas and/or complaints for the district.

Curriculum:

The committee did not meet to discuss any new items.

Finance:

The committee accepted donations and had a presentation by Mark Spalding regarding Special Education costs. per student.

Policy:

The committee did not meet to discuss any new items.

Personnel:

Ms. Parker discussed the MOU which was signed, as well as two new approved reading teacher positions.

Board Reports:

Mr. Cane reiterated the thoughts of Ms. Bareto regarding the student issues in the neighborhood surrounding NBHS.

Ms. Sander-Connolly mentioned the positive outcome of the budget meeting with the city. Mr. Marino, recently appointed Chief of Police in New Britain has resigned as a member of the Board. She also relayed a message from Ms. Costa in lieu of it being Teacher Appreciation Week, wanted to show her support and appreciation to the staff of New Britain

Mr. Listro wished the staff a Happy Teacher's Appreciation Week and thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication to the students of New Britain.

Student Reports

Mr. Portillo shared a touching message regarding the neighborhood surrounding NBHS. His mother was almost the victim of what could have been a tragic ending. It was hard for him to discuss, as he choked up while speaking. He stated that he would do anything in his power to provide a student perspective and assist with ideas on how to make that area safer.

On a positive note, Mr. Portillo committed to CCSU and is torn between secondary education mathematics and research chemistry as his major. Back on the Broadway show was a success, he would like to see more males

interested in music. His senior presentation is next week, he looks forward to presenting and is happy this is provided to the seniors of NBHS as it helps them reflect on their journey and plan for their future.

New Business

Operations: Approve Minutes from the Regular Board of Education Meeting on April 3, 2023

Submitted by Ms. Aja Edwards | No Committee Review

Ms. Santana motioned to approve minutes from the Regular Board of Education Meeting on April 3, 2023, seconded by Ms. Reyes. Motion carried unanimously.

Operations: Accept Enrollment Report

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | No Committee Review

Mr. Listro motioned to accept enrollment report, seconded by Ms. Santana. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel: Accept Report of Personnel Transactions and Extracurricular Appointments

Submitted by Dr. Nicole Sanders | No Committee Review

Mr. Cane motioned to accept report of personnel transactions and extracurricular appointments, seconded by Mr. Listro. Motion carried unanimously.

Approve Purchase Order & Bid Waiver for the Purchase and Installation of The Dial Medical - Sim Rig Ambulance Trainer – Classroom Standard Package (\$63,346.00)

Submitted by Paul Ted Kerrigan | Funding Source: Perkins V 202896910001 – 57346

Ms. Parker motioned to approve purchase order and bid waiver for the purchase and installation of the Dial Medical - Sim Rig Ambulance Trainer – Classroom Standard Package, seconded by Ms. Santana. Motion carried unanimously.

Operations: Approve to Amend 2023-2024 Calendar for Pre-K Students in Order to Facilitate Professional Learning for Staff

Submitted by Ms. Donna Clark

Mr. Cane motioned to amend 2023-2024 Calendar for Pre-K Students in order to facilitate professional learning for staff, seconded by Ms. Parker. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

(There were no objections and/or requests from Board Members to pull the following items off the Consent Agenda. Therefore, these items were approved):

- A. Personnel: Approve Memorandum of Understanding Between CSDNB and Local 871, New Britain Federation of Teachers, Regarding Parent/Teacher Conferences
Submitted by Ms. Maryellen Manning
- B. Personnel: Approve New Position Request for 2.0 FTE Reading Teachers

Submitted by Ms. Ivelise Velasquez

- C. Partnerships: Accept Donation from Schaller Subaru for 6 Deserving Educators for the 2023-2024 School Year (\$3,000.00)
Submitted by Mr. Andrew Mazzei
- D. Partnerships: Accept Donation for “Dress with Success” Mock Interviews to Prepare Students for Jobs – Brookside School (\$1,500.00)
Submitted by Mr. Jason Miramant
- E. Partnerships: Accept Donation from Tomasso Brothers Inc. for Road to Recovery Homeless Program - Districtwide (\$500.00)
Submitted by Mr. Joe Vaverchak
- F. Partnerships: Accept Donation from First Tee Golf & Ryan Pinard, Daniel Salerno & Len Corto for Girls Golf Team Supplies (\$2,000.00)
Submitted by Ms. Lisa Kawecki
- G. Partnerships: Approve Bid Award Between Master Yousef and CSDNB for Summer Services to SEE & SAIL Program – Smalley Elementary School (\$16,200.00)
Submitted by Ms. Mayra Rodriguez | Funding Source: ARP Homeless Children and Youth Grant Professional and Technical Services
Mr. Listro motioned to approve bid award between Master Yousef and CSDNB for summer services to SEE & SAIL Program at Smalley Elementary School in the amount of \$16,200.00, seconded by Mr. Kane. Ms. Sanders- Connolly abstained from voting, motion carried.
- H. Partnerships: Approve Contract/MOU Between CSDNB and The City of New Britain Parks, Recreation, and Community Services to Provide Wraparound Services Needed for Homeless Students and Families in the District (\$80,000.00)
Submitted by Ms. Daisy Sanchez | Funding Source: ARP Homeless Grant 2058-969-10002-55050
- I. Operations: Approve Purchase Order and Bid Waiver of New Chromebooks Needed for Online Assessments, Classroom Tasks, Assignments, and Enrichments for our Students – Slade Middle School (\$49,950.00)
Submitted by Mr. Andrew Mazzei | Funding Source: Commissioner's Network 2348052100001-56110
- J. Operations: Approve contract between Huron Studer Education Services and CSDNB for Annual Parent and Employee Survey (\$18,000)
Submitted by Dr. Nicole Sanders | Funding Source: Alliance 23419691001-53500
- K. Operations: Approve Purchase Order of New Chromebooks Needed for Online Assessments, Classroom Tasks, Assignments, and Enrichments for our Students – Pulaski Middle School (49,950.00)
Submitted by Mr. Alejandro Ortiz | Funding Source: Commissioner's Network Grant 234705310001-57243
- L. Operations: Approve Purchase Order for Yearly Renewal of Destiny Library and Resource Manager Services – Districtwide (\$24,375.02)
Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: MIS Software Budget 101092110000-53510

- M. Partnerships: Approve Purchase Order Between Modern Classroom Project and CSDNB for Services Rendered Through Virtual Professional Development Training for 60 Teachers – Districtwide (\$43,750.00)
Submitted by Mr. Tyrone Richardson | Funding Source: 101096122004-53200
- N. Operations: Approve Purchase Order Between Amplify and CSDNB for K-3 Comprehensive Literacy Assessment – Districtwide (\$151,880.70)
Submitted by Ms. Ivelise Velasquez | Funding Source: ARPA - Priority School Districts and Faith Acts
- O. Operations: Approve Bid Award and Contract Between Mail and Media Courier Services and CSDNB for Courier Services – Districtwide (\$121,436.42)
Submitted by Ms. Ann Alfano | Funding Source: Local Budget 101091125900-53500
- P. Approve Purchase Order for Student Planners for All Students Grades 3-8 – Districtwide (\$21,194.28)
Submitted by Ms. Lara Bohlke | Funding Source: Title 1 - Other supplies 201196910001-56900
- Q. Approve Purchase Order and Bid Waiver Between HB Live and CSDNB for LED Screens and Broadcast Video Equipment – NBHS (\$34,139.00)
Submitted by Mr. Robert Smedley | Funding Source: NBHS Graduation Account 101006124001-58200
- R. Operations: Accept Financial Report – March 31, 2023
Submitted by Ms. Ann Alfano

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:47PM