

BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting December 13, 2023

The Board of Education encourages the public to attend the meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month. There is an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting for input from the public. After that the Board conducts the School District's business, including the Superintendent's and Principals' Reports, position appointments, and issues to act upon.

Public Participation

- There were no public comments.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- Contract negotiations will be soon. It was recommended that the Board goes in with some of their own proposals.
- There are candidates for the School Resource Officer position. He can't justify a full-time position and would like one for 4 hours a day in the district. They will be conducting interviews.
- There will be a District Christmas Party.
- Some NEOLA policy updates include language about blended learning opportunities, weapon definition, and management of risk assessment.
- They will be getting plans drawn up for proposed changes. Some of these are renovating the old study hall/stage room into a more defined performance space including the library. The current library would be changed into a weight room. Additions at JHS would include a volleyball gym and new classrooms. SRE would have their parking area changed for better traffic flow.

Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- SRE classes have been utilizing the JHS pool, thanks to Ms. Lehto, upper el math teacher. She is life guard certified and has brought the 5th & 6th grade. Mrs. Andress, JHS english teacher instructed the 4th grade. Mrs. Irizarry, 1st grade teacher, is planning on getting certified in January.
- Congratulations to Mrs. Raffaelli, music director, and K-3 students on a job well done for our elementary Christmas musical and the concert at JHS
- Classes continue to utilize STEM activities through Michigan Tech. MTU Ambassadors have visited the 5th & 6th grade classrooms. 6th grade was at MTU for Mind Trekkers. 4th grade is visiting the Mineral Museum tomorrow.

- Mrs. Dobson received a \$500 grant from the Portage Health Auxiliary that was for focusing on the health and well-being of children.
- The MTSS Team is working on writing initiatives to align our K-6 writing curriculum. They are also addressing early math interventions.
- Congratulations to Mrs. Lewandowski, K-12 art teacher, who was honored as one of the most recent Superior Educators. Mrs. Harris has the privilege of serving on that committee this year in selecting Copper Country educators. It's easy to nominate. coppershores.org/superioreducators
- Upcoming Events include an Art Make n Take Night with Mrs. Lewandowski and the last day singalong with Mrs. Raffaelli.

Principal's Report-John Sanregret, Jeffers High School

- It has been a busy month. Concerts were great. The High School Bowl team beat Marquette. The National Honor Society has their induction ceremony tonight.
- He has been focusing on academic performance data and attendance. He is proposing a new attendance policy that can be decided on in January. He would like there to be a limit of 5 absences a marking period before students are docked or can make up time. Unexcused absences would have an automatic grade deduction. Three tardies would equal an unexcused absence. The exam exemption policy would be broadened to include attendance. He would like to add in a policy about prearranged vacations where students make a plan with teachers ahead of time. The Board asked questions and had some reservations about cases of illness. It will be thought about.

Business and Athletic Report-Steve Nordstrom

- On the business side, he has been dealign with open enrollment for insurance.
- In athletics, he reported that JHS will be in the WestPAC in the 2025/26 season.
- His written report was submitted to end the meeting for the NHS induction ceremony.

Action Items

The Board discussed several action items before going into closed session.

Submitted by Valerie Dobson, South Range Elementary