

Board of Education Meeting October 8, 2014

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.

Here are some highlights from the meeting held on October 8. The [next meeting](#) will be held Wednesday, September 12, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the Jeffers Media Center.

Public participation

- [Morgan Raether, English and German teacher at JHS](#), wants to take German students on a trip to Bemidji, MN to a German Village Campon May 7-10. It is a total immersion experience for the students. In past years the Spanish students went on similar trips. To offset the costs, she asked for permission to fundraise doing things such as can drives and German candy sales. Transportation will be shared with Calumet school students. After the trip, the students will make a presentation about the experience. The Board granted permission for fundraising.
- [Val Dobson, cheer coach](#), invited the Board and everyone to the cheerleaders first competition at L'Anse High School on Saturday, October 25 at 6:00. Sarah Gilreath, who is student teaching at JHS, has been a great help in teaching the squad many new things.
- On behalf of [Emily Raffaelli, Band Director](#), Mr. Keteri told the Board about two trips she wants band students to partake. One is a trip with all students to New York along with other schools. The other is a senior band trip to Cleveland for two nights. The students would need to fundraise for this. The Board asked for more information and concrete numbers first.
- Steve Nicholas thanked the school for the beautiful sign for the Brittany Nicholas Memorial Scholarship.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- The [Foundation](#) recently had their ground breaking ceremony for the [new trades center](#). Funding for it is coming along. Mr. Anttonen gave \$10,000 which he said will be yearly. Mr. Opie has generously donated and GE will be matching \$50,000.
- The district has received a \$12,000 CATCH grant for growing vegetables for their [Sustainable Food](#) program. They will have a hoop house and raised bed gardens. Both the high school and elementary schools will be participating.
- There is still disagreement between the District and county and township over who owns the drainage system and should be responsible for fixing the large hole. The

- school did pay to have it fixed due to the big safety hazard it presented, however, the issue of ownership and reimbursement is still being pursued.
- There was school signage put up along the road by Jeffers. Since the school is not in a village, it is their responsibility for signage. With the new parking and traffic flow, Mr. Keteri thought it was necessary for the signs.
 - The baseball field is coming along. The shop class is making the dugouts. The Little League has put in the field.
 - The District has received a certificate for having no accidents, which will cause the rates to go down.
 - The BHK Director has resigned and they are actively looking for a person to fill the position.
 - Mitch Helminen is stepping down from his lead position at RNA and they are actively interviewing to fill the position.
 - There are NEOLA updates the Board can choose to adopt for the district including having 2 epi-pens at each building, an emergency drill log and posting, granting diplomas for situations where a student has left to serve in wars, and having an appointed male and female for hearings.
 - There will be a legislative lunch on Friday, October 17th with Casperson and Dianda for anyone who would like to go.
 - Paul Karppinen donated \$4,000 for website redesign. The new site should be up and running by January 1st.
 - The [Athletic Raffle](#) and [5K](#) were discussed as the profits are at a low. Problems could be the timing or motivation of students. There will be a meeting about it for any ideas.

Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary School

- The school will be participating in a United Way Campaign on Friday, October 17. Students can wear a cap to school for any donation.
- Friday, October 10 will be an area-wide in-service.
- The Walk-to-School Day had to be cancelled due to cold rain. They will try again, perhaps in the spring.
- The first grade went on Forest Field Trips and had a good time.
- Deborah Frontiera, author of "Living on Sisu" visited the school. A set of books was bought for Mrs. Normand's class to be used for social studies.
- The school has two AmeriCorps workers this year, Christina Gardner and Ann Ruohonen, both of who are doing a great job.
- Amy Isaacson has been doing an amazing job in being an aide for a student and with the whole kindergarten.

Principal's Report-Mike Benda, Jeffers High School

- The [Lake Perrault](#) PBE BioBlitz went well. [Mrs. McCormick](#) did a great job putting it together. They had 12 presenters. [TV6 did a great story on it.](#)
- Michigan Nature also has a nice piece on the Lake Perrault Project in their fall magazine.
- There was a recent Coaches Meeting. The concessions this year will be covered by athletes and their parents.

Action Items

- There will be an Athletic Committee Meeting Monday, October 20th at 6:30 P.M. at the Jeffers Media Center. Parents and athletes and community members are encouraged to attend to discuss ideas for the 5K and 1/2 Marathon and Spring Raffle.
- Selected NEOLA policies were approved.
- Morgan Raether was approved as the play director.

-Valerie Dobson, SRES