

NEILLSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

April 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Education, School District of Neillsville, was called to order on April 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room by President Sue Voigt. Present at roll call were Sue Voigt, Peggy Grap, Deanna Heiman, Dewey Poeschel, and Paul Opelt. Also present were Administrator John Gaier, High School Principal Jennifer Aspenson, Middle School Principal Jesse Bernhagen, and Elementary Principal Marcy Kunze.

Notification of the meeting was sent on April 9, 2025, to the Clark County Press, Central Wisconsin Broadcasting, Neillsville City Hall, and Neillsville Public Library. A revised notification was sent on April 16, 2025, to the Clark County Press, Central Wisconsin Broadcasting, Neillsville City Hall, and Neillsville Public Library.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Paul Opelt to approve the Consent Agenda as presented below:

- A. Minutes of the March, 17, 2025, regular meeting
- B. Treasurer's report and payment of general account checks numbered 90799 through 91374, 202400290 through 202400316, 242500056 through 242500075, voiding checks #90799 for \$50.00, #91210 for \$35.00, #91228 for \$7.20, #91243 for \$27.45, #91323 for \$2,375.50, for a total of \$641,595.91, and approval of the April payrolls.
- C. Final Adoption of Policy Section 5000 and policies 1100, 1130, 1241, 2210, 2270, 2271.01, 2340, 2416, 2440.01, 2264, 3120.04, 3214, 3230, and 3281

Roll call: Paul Opelt – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Sue Voigt – yes.
Motion carried.

A building project update was presented by Building and Grounds Director Mark Spencer.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Peggy Grap to approve offering vision insurance to employees through Delta Dental as presented. Roll call: Peggy Grap – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Peggy Grap seconded by Paul Opelt to approve the 2025-2026 Project Search contract as presented. Roll call: Dewey Poeschel – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Mark Spencer reviewed the transportation proposal from district bus drivers. John Gaier reviewed the bids from bus companies for potential contracted bussing.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the 2025-2026 boys' baseball co-op renewal with Granton School District as presented. Roll call: Paul Opelt – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the 2025-2026 girls' softball co-op renewal with Granton School District as presented. Roll call: Peggy Grap – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Paul Opelt to approve the FCCLA field trip to nationals in Florida on July 5th-9th, 2025, as presented. Roll call: Deanna Heiman – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Peggy Grap – yes,

Paul Opelt – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the donation of books to the 4K early education students from the Clark County Home and Community Education Group as presented. Roll call: Peggy Grap – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Peggy Grap seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve the following donations from Unity Bank: \$500 monetary donation, ten new pairs of shoes and seven packages of underwear as presented. Roll call: Paul Opelt – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the following donations from Marshfield Clinic Health System: \$95 monetary donation and large box of hygiene products as presented. Roll call: Dewey Poeschel – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve the monetary donation in the amount of \$23,599 from the Neillsville Booster Club for multiple sports purchases. Roll call: Peggy Grap – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Marcy Kunze reported on attendance; Hunter Safety Course; Summer School scheduling; 4K enrollment and graduation; Fastbridge screening; Aimsweb Plus testing; spring concerts; and other upcoming events.

Jesse Bernhagen reported on attendance; climate/culture activities; internet safety discussion; field trips; state testing; classroom observations; and the eighth grade promotion ceremony.

Jennifer Aspenson reported on enrollment; state testing; college visits; mock interviews; CVTC Race Day STEM event; Agribusiness class; and a BLAST prom speaker.

John Gaier reported on thank you cards; high school students utilizing AI in the classroom; article on new superintendent Corey Peterson; district recognized by DPI as example for academic and career planning; an update on U.S. Department of Education compliance; district social media report card; Clark County Fair Special Drive mentor program; Neillsville Dairy Breakfast; the presentation of an 18-year service plaque to outgoing board member Peggy Grap.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Paul Opelt to go into closed session as per WI Statutes 19.85(1)(C) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. The purpose of the closed session is to discuss contractual matters and take action, as appropriate, related to preliminary consideration of nonrenewal of a contract for a certified staff member. Roll call: Dewey Poeschel – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Peggy Grap to return to open session. Roll call: Paul Opelt – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Peggy Grap seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve the retirement of Todd Schmidt from his technology assistant and bus driving positions as presented. Roll call: Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the resignation of Sam Warden from his health office assistant position as presented. Roll call: Deanna Heiman – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the resignation of Brooke Mavis from her teaching assistant position as presented. Roll call: Dewey Poeschel – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve the hiring of Angela McNytte for the interim health office assistant position as presented. Roll call: Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Peggy Grap seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve the 2025-2026 support staff wage scale as presented. Roll call: Deanna Heiman – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Paul Opelt to approve the resignation of Debra Bray from her middle school teaching position as presented. Roll call: Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Peggy Grap seconded by Paul Opelt to approve the retirement of Jodi Rueth from her middle and high school teaching position as presented. Roll call: Deanna Heiman – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve the resignation of Michelle Hirsch from her special education teaching position as presented. Roll call: Dewey Poeschel – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Paul Opelt to approve the teaching contract for Bella Opelt for the kindergarten teaching position as presented. Roll call: Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the teaching contract for Taylor Townsend for the special education teaching position as presented. Roll call: Deanna Heiman – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Peggy Grap seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve the 2025-2026 Certified Staff wage scale as presented. Roll call: Deanna Heiman – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the resignation of Melissa Strangfeld from her prom advisor position as presented. Roll call: Paul Opelt – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Peggy Grap to approve the hiring of Kevin Dittner for the assistant golf coaching position as presented. Roll call: Deanna Heiman – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paul Opelt seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve the hiring of John Schuller for the weight room supervisor position as presented. Roll call: Dewey Poeschel – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Paul Opelt – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Peggy Grap seconded by Dewey Poeschel to approve Policy Section 6000 as presented. Roll call: Paul Opelt – yes, Deanna Heiman – yes, Peggy Grap – yes, Dewey Poeschel – yes, Sue Voigt – yes. Motion carried.

WASB report was given by John Gaier.

Motion by Dewey Poeschel seconded by Deanna Heiman to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Roll call: all yes. Motion carried.