

NILES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

At 6:00 PM, on April 23, 2020, the Niles City School District’s Board of Education met in Regular Virtual Session with the following members present upon roll call: Kimberly Barrell, Christopher Chieffo, Michele Lamb, and Mary Ann McMahon, with Tony Perrone presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Reflection

**Res. No. 20-47
Adopt the Agenda**

Mrs. McMahon moved to adopt the Agenda. (Minute File 20-47)

Seconded: Mr. Chieffo

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Barrell, Mrs. Lamb, and Mr. Perrone—Yes
Motion carried

**Res. No. 20-48
Approve the Minutes**

Mrs. Barrell moved to approve the Minutes for the following meetings: (Minute File 20-48)

- February 20, 2020 Regular Board of Education Meeting

Seconded: Mrs. Lamb

Roll call: Mrs. Barrell, Mrs. Lamb, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. McMahon, and Mr. Perrone—Yes
Motion carried

Board Recommendations

Res. No. 20-49

- Mrs. McMahon moved to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT BOARD MEETINGS VIA ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY DURING THE PERIOD OF EMERGENCY DECLARED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-01D

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 the Governor of the State of Ohio issued Executive Order 2020-01D (“Order”) declaring a state of emergency for the entire State to protect the well-being of the citizens of Ohio from the dangerous effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020 the Governor of the State of Ohio signed Emergency House Bill 197 to provide relief to Ohioans during the COVID-19 pandemic, which among other things, permits a local board of education to hold and attend meetings and

conduct and attend hearings by means of teleconference, video conference, or any other similar electronic technology during the during the period of emergency declared by the above-referenced Order, issued on March 9, 2020, but not beyond December 1, 2020, unless the period of emergency is extended beyond that date; and

WHEREAS, members of a local board of education who attend meetings or hearings by means of teleconference, video conference, or any similar electronic technology shall be considered present, shall be permitted to vote, and shall be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present at the meeting or hearing, and any formal action taken shall have the same effect as if it had occurred during an open meeting or hearing of the public body; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Ohio Department of Health Director's March 22, 2020 Stay at Home Order and amended Order issued on April 2, 2020, public preK-12 schools are designated an essential business for the purposes of facilitating distance learning and shall ensure continued operation, including performing essential government functions, provided that social distancing requirements and recommendations are maintained to the greatest extent possible; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to continue operation of the school district and to attend meetings by electronic means in order to carry out essential government functions pursuant to and in compliance with HB 197 and all other requirements set forth by Ohio's Open Meetings Act that are not in conflict with the provisions of HB 197.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to HB 197, the Board shall conduct its meetings either by a combination of in-person attendance, while maintaining social distancing, electronic or virtual attendance, or solely by electronic or virtual means for the duration of the declared emergency, but not beyond December 1, 2020, unless the period of emergency is extended beyond that date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends its policy 0169.1, Public Participation at Board Meetings, for any and all provisions regarding in-person public comment. This action does not prohibit public comment during Board meetings. Rather, public comment may be heard at the Board's discretion in accordance with the meeting notices provided by the Treasurer regarding public comment, and in accordance with the remaining portion of policy 0169.1 that is not in conflict with this resolution and/or such meeting notices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends relevant provisions of its policy 0100's definition of Voting, with regard to being physically present in order to have a member's vote officially recorded; policy 0162, Quorum, with regard to being present in person for purposes of quorum; policies 0166, Executive Session, and 0167, Voting, with regard to all in-person requirements; and relevant portions of its policy 0131, Legislative, with regard to being physically present; and any and all Board policies and procedures in conflict with the resolutions herein and/or HB 197 for purposes of

compliance with Ohio's Open Meetings Act for the duration of the declared emergency, unless the period of emergency is extended beyond that date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board President, Superintendent, and/or Treasurer are authorized and directed to take all other such actions as are necessary or appropriate to accomplish the objectives of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an electronic meeting of this Board in compliance with all legal requirements, including HB 197 and as permitted by Ohio law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Seconded: Mrs. Barrell

Roll call: Mrs. McMahan, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, and Mr. Perrone—Yes
Motion carried

Board Committee Reports—None

Res. No. 20-50

Board Discussion of Current School Issues

- Superintendent Report—Mrs. Thigpen discussed the following items: Instructional Packets, Online Lesson Delivery, Food Distribution, Class of 2020 Graduation and Planning for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Communications to the Niles City Board of Education

- a. Written Communications—Letter from Mercy Health; Thank you card (Minute File 20-50)
- b. Public Comments—None

Treasurer's Business Recommendations

Res. No. 20-51

1. Mrs. McMahan moved to approve the following Financial Reports for February 2020: (Minute File 20-51)
 - February Bank Reconciliation Report
 - Ohio Cash Position Report
 - Check Register by Fund
 - Encumbrance Status Report
 - Expenditure Status Report
 - Revenue Status Report
 - Annual Spending Report (SM-2)

Seconded: Mrs. Lamb

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, and Mr. Perrone—Yes
Motion carried

Res. No. 20-52

1. Mrs. McMahon moved to approve the following Financial Reports for March 2020:
(Minute File 20-52)

- March Bank Reconciliation Report
- Ohio Cash Position Report
- Check Register by Fund
- Encumbrance Status Report
- Expenditure Status Report
- Revenue Status Report
- Annual Spending Report (SM-2)

Seconded: Mrs. Barrell

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, and Mr. Perrone—Yes
Motion carried

Res. No. 20-53

3. Mrs. Lamb moved to approve the following Donations:

- From the City of Niles Police, Fire and City Workers Unions to the Dragon Food Pantry, personal hygiene items
- Anonymous donation of \$75.00 to the Dragon Food Pantry
- From Sons of Italy 2874 to the Dragon Food Pantry, \$500.00 (Second Harvest Food Bank)
- From the Frontliners to the Dragon Food Pantry, \$2,500.00 (Second Harvest Food Bank)
- From the Niles High School Girls Soccer Team to the Dragon Food Pantry, \$500.00 (Second Harvest Food Bank)
- From Joseph Rossi & Son's Funeral Home to the McKinley Senior Luncheon Fund, \$100.00
- Laurie Williams's 3rd Grade Classroom project "Word Lovers Unite" was recently funded by Donors Choose. They will receive library books in the amount \$167.00
- From Dr. David Hunkus to the Dragon Food Pantry, \$100.00
- From Mike Loychik to the Dragon Food Pantry, 3 cases of corn dogs & 2 cases of uncrustables
- From Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church to O18 accounts, \$700.00
- From the following companies/individuals who each contributed a bicycle to the A's Pays Reward Program at Niles Intermediate School: Connelly's Flowers, Nick Alwanni/Red Dragon Convenient, Troutman Drug Company, Jeff & Jenn Lanam, John & Jean Lanam, Mr. Staph, Niles Intermediate Staff, St. Edward Church

Seconded: Mrs. Barrell

Roll call: Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Res. No. 20-54

4. Mrs. McMahon moved to approve Tax rates and amounts for fiscal year 2021 as submitted by the Budget Commission of Trumbull County:

FUND	Amount Approved by Budget Commission Inside 10 M. Limitation	Amount to Be Derived From Levies Outside 10M. Limitation	County Estimate Rate to be	Auditor's of Tax Levied
			Inside 10 M. Limit	Outside 10M. Limit
	Column I	Column II	Column III	Column IV
General Fund	1,256,447	4,006,916	5.70	31.05
Bond Retirement Funds		473,923		2.15
Bond Retirement Funds		1,013,975		4.60
Bond Retirement Funds		132,258		0.60
Emergency Levy Fund		1,289,512		5.85
Emergency Levy Fund		1,289,512		5.85
Classroom Facilities Fund		216,132		1.00
Total	1,256,447	8,422,227	5.70	51.10

TOTAL MILLAGE

56.80

Seconded: Mrs. Lamb

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Res. No. 20-55

5. Mrs. Chieffo moved to approve the following purchase orders:

VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	FUND NAME & ACCT
Grove City Schools	Out of County Tuition for 2 students	\$30,000.00	General Fund 1124500
Adelphoi	Out of County Tuition for 1 student	\$13,700.00	General Fund 1124500

Seconded: Mrs. McMahon

Roll call: Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Barrell, Mrs. Lamb, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Res. No. 20-56

6. Mrs. Lamb moved to authorize the firm of Peters Kalail & Markakis Co., L.P.A. to

challenge and defend real estate valuation complaints on the behalf of the Niles City School Board.

Seconded: Mr. Chieffo

Roll call: Mrs. Lamb, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Barrell, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Res. No. 20-57

7. Mrs. McMahon moved to approve the agreement with Nutrition, Inc. for the 2020-2021 school year. (Minute File 20-57)

2020-2021	
Management (FSMC) Fee	15,996.16
Administrative Fees	19,195.51
	35,191.67
On-Site Manager Sal/Ben	78,756.12
Other Direct Costs	19,934.28
	133,882.07

Seconded: Mr. Chieffo

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon (yes), Mr. Chieffo (no), Mrs. Barrell (yes), Mrs. Lamb (yes), Mr. Perrone (yes)—Motion carried

Superintendent’s Personnel Recommendations

Res. No. 20-58

A. Resignations, Retirements, Non-Renewals

1. Mrs. McMahon moved to approve the non-renewal of all Home Instructor Contracts and Substitute School Nurse Contracts, effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. These individuals shall be given the required written notice by the Treasurer prior to April 30, 2020.

Seconded: Mr. Chieffo

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Barrell, Mrs. Lamb, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

2. Mrs. Barrell moved to approve the non-renewal of the following Substitute Contracts effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. These individuals shall be given the required written notice by the Treasurer prior to April 30, 2020:

- Substitute Bus Drivers
- Substitute Cafeteria Helpers
- Substitute Custodial Helpers
- Substitute Educational Assistants

- Substitute Secretaries

Seconded: Mr. Chieffo

Roll call: Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

3. Mrs. Lamb moved to approve Cynthia Gray's resignation, for retirement purposes, as a Title I (Math/Reading) Teacher at Niles Primary School, effective May 31, 2020. Position to be reduced for the 2020-2021 SY (Potential cost savings \$40,000.00).

Seconded: Mrs. McMahon

Roll call: Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

4. Mr. Chieffo moved to approve Nancy Beda's resignation, for retirement purposes, as a Second Grade Teacher at Niles Primary School, effective May 23, 2020. (Cost savings \$66,548.00)

Seconded: Mrs. Barrell

Roll call: Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Barrell, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

5. Mrs. Lamb moved to approve David Calderone's resignation, for retirement purposes, as a Bus Driver, effective May 1, 2020.

Seconded: Mrs. Barrell

Roll call: Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Res. No. 20-59

B. Employment of Personnel/Salary Adjustments

1. Mrs. McMahon moved to approve the employment of the following individuals as Classified Substitutes on an "as needed" basis for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year:
 - Bernadette Callihan, Substitute Cafeteria Helper
 - Justin Kuti, Substitute Bus Driver, Substitute Custodial Helper

Seconded: Mrs. Barrell

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

2. Mrs. Barrell moved to approve the contract renewal of Dori MacMillan as a district-wide School Psychologist. It is further recommended that she be granted a Three-Year Administrative Contract, effective August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2023.

Seconded: Mr. Chieffo

Roll call: Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

3. Mrs. McMahon moved to approve the contract renewal of Terri Ciminero, Student Services Supervisor. It is further recommended that she be granted a Three-Year Administrative Contract, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

Seconded: Mrs. Lamb

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon (yes), Mrs. Lamb (yes), Mrs. Barrell (yes), Mr. Chieffo (no), Mr. Perrone (yes)—Motion carried

Superintendent's Business Recommendations

Res. No. 20-60

- a. Mrs. Barrell moved to approve the following certificated Job Descriptions:
(Minute File 20-60)

- Dean of Students Elementary
- Dean of Students Secondary
- Department Head/Lead Teacher
- Guidance Counselor
- Guidance Counselor Elementary
- Intervention Specialist
- School Nurse
- Speech & Language Pathologist
- Teacher

Seconded: Mr. Chieffo

Roll call: Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Res. No. 20-61

- b. Mrs. McMahon moved to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE DISTANCE LEARNING FOR DAYS/HOURS SCHOOL BUILDINGS ARE CLOSED TO STUDENTS THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDER(S) OF THE OHIO DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020 the Director of the Ohio Department of Health's Order, "In Re: Order the Closure of All K-12 Schools in the State of Ohio" issued under section 3701.13 of the Revised Code, directed all school buildings that provide any kindergarten through grade twelve instruction to be closed to students beginning at 12:01 a.m. on March 17, 2020 and ending at 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020 to prevent the spread of COVID-19 into the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020 the Governor of the State of Ohio signed Emergency House Bill 197 to provide relief to Ohioans during the COVID-19 pandemic, which among other things, permits a local board of education to amend a plan adopted under section 3313.482 of the Revised Code to make up days or hours schools were closed in the 2019-2020 school year due to the Director of Health's March 14, 2020 Order; or any local board of health order; or an extension of any order, which includes the March 30, 2020 extension issued by the Director of Health directing all such school buildings to be closed to students through 11:59 p.m. on May 1, 2020 which was extended for the duration of the 2019-2020 school year by announcement of the Governor of the State of Ohio on April 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education desires that students be provided with learning opportunities during the time school buildings are closed to students in the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Emergency HB 197, the Board of Education is authorized to amend its plan adopted under section 3313.482 of the Revised Code and Board Resolution No. 19-150 to require students to access and complete classroom lessons posted on the District's or school's web site to provide for making up any number of hours schools were closed to students in the 2019-2020 school year in compliance with the Director's order, local board of health order, or an extension of an order; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that such a plan is in the best interest of District students and desires to continue to engage students in instruction kindergarten through grade twelve through facilitation of distance learning/online instruction to provide for making up any number of hours schools were closed in the 2019-2020 school year in compliance with the Director's order, local board of health order, or an extension of an order.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Niles City School District Board of Education hereby amends its plan to authorize the District's use of distance learning/online instruction to make up any number of hours schools were closed to students in the 2019-2020 school year pursuant to HB 197 and section 3313.482 of the Revised Code, and in compliance with the Director's order, local board of health order, or an extension of an order.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby directs the Superintendent to amend its distance learning plan pursuant to Ohio House Bill 197 and in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3313.482 and as otherwise directed by the Ohio Department of Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an electronic meeting of this Board in compliance with all legal requirements, including HB 197 and as permitted by Ohio law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Seconded: Mrs. Barrell

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Res. No. 20-62

- c. Mr. Chieffo moved to approve the Niles McKinley High School "Class of 2020" for graduation, pending completion of the necessary requirements set forth by the State of Ohio Department of Education and the Niles City Board of Education. (Minute File 20-62)

Seconded: Mrs. Lamb

Roll call: Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, Mrs. Barrell, Mrs. McMahon, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Res. No. 20-63

- d. Mrs. McMahon moved to set the time of the Regular Board of Education Meeting for May as follows:

Time: 6:00 PM
 Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020
 Place: TBD

Seconded: Mrs. Barrell

Roll call: Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. Lamb, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

Adjourn

At 7:11 PM, Mr. Chieffo moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: Mrs. McMahon

Roll call: Mr. Chieffo, Mrs. McMahon, Mrs. Barrell, Mrs. Lamb, Mr. Perrone—Yes

Motion carried

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Tony Perrone, President

Rhonda Amorganos, Treasurer