

NORTHWEST ACADEMY  
115 WEST HURLBUT STREET  
CHARLEVOIX, MI 49720 (231) 547-9000

**Minutes for December 12, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Education**

1. Call to Order 5:30 pm by President Seidel
2. Roll Call: Present: Joseph Seidel, Richard Hodgson, Kathy Hunter, Joni Olach, Micheal Randall and Claire Rasmussen. Apologies: Anora O'Conner
3. Approvals:
  - a) Agenda : Motion by Seidel to approve the Agenda with additions, supported by Rasmussen. 6 Ayes, 0 No. Approved.
  - b) Minutes of 14 November 2012 Regular meeting, 14 November Closed Session and 26 November Special meeting: Motion to approve by Hodgson, supported by Hunter. 6 Ayes, 0 No. Approved
  - c) Financial Report: Motion to accept by Rasmussen, supported by Olach. 6 Ayes, 0 No. Approved.
4. Correspondence:
  - a) Email from Dennis Cross (school counsel) addressing Nov 14 Special meeting NWA Board question.
  - b) MI Dept of Ed memo listing new transparency requirements
5. Public Comment: None.
6. Administrators/Development Report: Mr. Saunders
  - ◆ NWA staff met and drafted an action plan to implement components of the NWA Strategic Plan. The list of focus areas was reviewed. Board Member Rasmussen will met with Mr. Saunders and NWA staff Jan 9, 2012 to review the NWA mission and Strategic plan.
  - ◆ The candidate staff member to be released 12-31-12 due to budget cuts has been notified. A letter of appreciation will be sent from the Board.
  - ◆ A candidate has been selected for a long term substitute math teacher position starting January, 2013.
  - ◆ SVSU has established a *Middle College* 5 year program that encompasses dual enrollment starting in the 9th grade. The commute to Saginaw is a barrier for NWA students however Mr. Saunders plans to explore a similar program with local colleges.
7. Committee Report:
  - Community Liaison - nothing to report.
  - Finance – Building refinancing activity with 5th/3rd Bank will not continue. NWA administration will go back to Charlevoix State Bank and explore the feasibility study of merging school & building corporations to simplify ownership and mortgage status.
  - Fundraising: NWA is a registered school with Meijers and Gordon Foods.
8. Old Business:
  - a) The Nov 26 presentation to the NWA Board by HR service provider Edustaff was received favorably and considered an attractive solution. However, due to current budget limitations, administration concluded there are much greater fund needs in other areas. NWA will stay with the current lower cost provider.
  - b) NWA is awaiting bank records documentation regarding the former staff member loan to NWA.
9. New Business:
  - a) A new furnace has been installed in the rear section of the building.
  - b) NWA administration has installed a motion activated entrance/exit door alarm and the remote camera has been adjusted to be in full view of the door.
10. Public Comment: none
11. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 6:10 pm by Seidel, Support by Hunter. 6 ayes, 0 no. Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Claire R. Rasmussen (Secretary) Northwest Academy Board of Education