

The North Fork Board of Education met in **Regular** session on **Monday, November 20, 2023**, at Utica Elementary School, 367 Church Street, Utica, OH 43080.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Hartley at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Hartley.

The following members were present: Mrs. Barbara Bruce, Mrs. Farrah Cooperider (who arrived at 6:07 p.m.), Dr. Rob Krueger, and Mrs. Lori Stradley.

RECOGNITIONS

2023-11-0129

Mrs. Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Stradley to approve the following resolution:

**A Resolution Commending a
Utica High School Football Coach
Receiving Coach of the Year Honors**

WHEREAS, Utica High School Head Football Coach **Charlie Rowley** has distinguished himself and the school by finishing the 2023 season with an exemplary record of 7-4; and

WHEREAS, he has exhibited the concept of hard work, teamwork, dedication, and determination which are the essence of championship quality and performance both before the season, during the regular season schedule, and the playoff schedule; and

WHEREAS, he has further distinguished himself by receiving the honor of **Central District Division V Coach of the Year**; and

WHEREAS, the achievement of this coach has brought considerable pride to the North Fork Community by reason of his success; now

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Education of the North Fork Local School District that Utica High School Football Coach **Charlie Rowley** is commended for an excellent season; and further,

BE IT RESOLVED, that he is commended for his contribution to the pride and community spirit through his hard work, dedication, and success; and further,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Fork Local Board of Education is proud to provide a true copy of this resolution to the above coach.

Yea: Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Stradley, Dr. Krueger – 3

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

REPORTS:

1. **Superintendent** – Mr. Hartley – State report card, chronic absenteeism, district facilities timeline, public participation.
2. **Treasurer** – Mrs. Breehl – Five-Year Forecast

WORK SESSION

1. NEOLA Additions/Revisions

First Reading

5460 Graduation Requirements (Students)

2. Review of the annual report on the district’s compliance with the nutrition standards for FY23 and FY24 – Dawn Nelson
3. Absenteeism Issues
4. State Report Card
5. Discussion regarding Hearing of the Public

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Public comment was requested and the following responded:

- None

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

- Remove Item 6.13

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

2023-11-0130

Dr. Krueger moved, seconded by Mrs. Stradley, that the Board waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the October 16, 2023, Regular Meeting.

Yea: Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0131

Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, that the board approve the following personnel actions:

Certified

- 2.1 Approve the Licking Regional Educational Service Center Certificated Substitute List No. 6 for the 2023-2024 school year.

Extra Service/Supplemental

- 2.2 Approve hiring an additional wrestling assistant coach due to girls' wrestling now being an OHSAA-sponsored sport and the number of girls participating.
- 2.3 Approve the following supplemental positions for the 2023-2024 school year, pending proper certification and background check:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Step</u>
Mark Weber	Track Head Coach (Boys)	2	4
Jamie Taylor	Track Head Coach (Girls)	2	0

Classified

- 2.4 Accept a letter of resignation from Jennifer Jacobs, instructional aide, effective the end of the day on October 16, 2023.
- 2.5 Approve the employment of Janet McQuigg in the position of transportation driver, on a one-year limited contract effective October 30, 2023, pending proper certification; compensation to be at Step 6 of the T2 scale of the OAPSE Negotiated Agreement.
- 2.6 Approve the employment of Virginia Yarnelli in the position of instructional aide, on a one-year limited contract effective November 20, 2023, pending proper certification and background checks; compensation to be at Step 2 of the A1 scale of the OAPSE Negotiated Agreement.
- 2.7 Accept a letter of resignation from Debra Smitley, food service server, effective the end of the day on February 29, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.
- 2.8 Approve the following employees to be included on the Classified Substitute List for the 2023-2024 school year:
- David Piper

Non-Degree Substitutes

2.9 Approve the following as non-degree substitutes for the 2023-2024 school year pending proper certification and background checks:

Charles Brand Kristen Lewis

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0132

Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, that the Board approve the following financial actions:

4.1 Approve the financial and reconciliation reports for the Month of October 2023.

4.2 Approve bills as presented for October 2023 and payment of bills with “Then and Now” certificates.

4.3 Authorize the Treasurer and Superintendent to issue purchase orders in accordance with Board Policy 6400.

4.4 Approve the five-year forecast as submitted by the Treasurer.

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0133

6.1 Dr. Krueger moved, seconded by Mrs. Stradley that the Board approve a trip to Peru for Utica High School students in the spring of **2025**. This trip will be approximately nine days and is at no cost to the board.

Yea: Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0134

- 6.2 Mrs. Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Cooperider, that the Board approve scheduling the organizational meeting for **January 8, 2024**. The meeting will take place at Utica Senior High School at 6:00 p.m., followed by the regular January meeting.

Yea: Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Stradley – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0135

- 6.3 Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, to approve the two-year proposal from Franklin Covey for Leader in Me subscriptions and professional development for the district.

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0136

- 6.4 Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Dr. Krueger, that the board approve the following volunteers for the 2023-2024 school year:

Tiffany Stevens

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0137

- 6.5 Mrs. Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Stradley, that the board approve the following volunteer coaches for the 2023-2024 school year:

Rob Krueger Boys Basketball Volunteer Coach

Yea: Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Cooperider – 3

Abstain: Dr. Krueger

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0138

6.6 Dr. Krueger moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, that the board approve the quote from Holmes Rental & Sales Inc. to purchase a 2023 Ventrac 4520P with accessories.

Yea: Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Mrs. Stradley – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0139

6.7 Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, that the board approve the renewal agreement with New Directions for the Employee Assistance Program effective January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024.

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0140

6.8 Dr. Krueger moved, seconded by Mrs. Stradley, that the board approve the Utica High School athletic field improvements, Phase 1, lowest responsive bid to Law General Contracting at a cost of \$128,855.09.

Yea: Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0141

6.9 Mrs. Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Stradley, that the board approve Law General Contracting to complete the additional Alternate 1 trench drainage around the entire athletic field at a cost of \$70,598.06.

Yea: Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

6.10 Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, that the board approve the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING META SOLUTIONS, ACTING JOINTLY AS A MEMBER OF THE OHIO SCHOOL CONSORTIUM (“CONSORTIUM”)¹, TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SERVICE FROM THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER SUBMITTED TO CONSORTIUM AND AUTHORIZING THE BOARD TO PURCHASE COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SERVICE FROM SUCH BIDDER.

WHEREAS, the School District is a member of META Solutions, a body authorized by state statute to aggregate the purchasing needs of schools and of related nonprofit educational entities so as to take advantage of economies of scale when purchasing essential products and services;

WHEREAS, in prior years, META Solutions has joined with other school districts and educational purchasing councils, acting jointly as a member of the Consortium, to conduct a Request for Proposal (“RFP”) for competitive natural gas service commencing on or about mid-February 2024;

WHEREAS, through prior RFP processes, the Consortium has selected the lowest and best bids submitted in response to RFPs; and the School District has previously elected to enter into a Master Supply Agreement with the lowest and best bidder for competitive retail natural gas service for all of the School District's natural gas supply;

WHEREAS, the Consortium intends to issue a new RFP for competitive retail natural gas service commencing with the July, 2025 billing cycle and terminating no later than the end of the June, 2030 billing cycle for participating school districts and education purchasing councils;

WHEREAS, the School District wishes to participate in this upcoming RFP process and potentially execute a Master Service Agreement with the lowest and best RFP bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will review the lowest and best bid and corresponding terms when the RFP is concluded and determine whether the RFP resulted in the lowest and best bid for competitive retail natural gas service for all of the School District's natural gas supply.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY NORTH FORK LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, COUNTY OF LICKING, STATE OF OHIO, as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Education of the School District does hereby consent, as a member of META Solutions to the conducting of an RFP process by the Consortium for competitive retail natural gas service commencing with the July, 2025 billing cycle and

¹ The members of the Consortium are the META Solutions, the Ohio Mid-Eastern Regional Education Service Agency, the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, the Stark County Schools Council of Governments, Columbus City Schools, and South-Western City Schools.

terminating no later than the end of the June, 2030 billing cycle, with bids to be submitted for one, two, and three year periods on such terms and conditions as the Consortium deems appropriate.

Section 2. The Board of Education of the School District does hereby authorize the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee to execute a Master Supply Agreement between the School District and the lowest and best bidder in the RFP so long as the Superintendent or his appointee finds that the price reflects the results of a public and competitive RFP process.

Section 3. The Board of Education hereby directs the Treasurer to review the lowest and best bid once received and the Master Supply Agreement and determine if the School District has sufficient funds to certify this resolution and, if the Treasurer so finds, to certify this resolution.

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0143

6.11 Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, that the board approve the following resolution:

North Fork Board of Education Resolution for Declaring Transportation to be Impractical

This resolution to declare transportation impractical for certain identified students is presented pursuant to the requirements of Ohio Revised Code §3327 and the procedures set forth by the Ohio Department of Education. The resolution follows careful evaluation of all other available options prior to consideration of impracticality.

The Superintendent of Schools, Scott Hartley, recommends that the board of education adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS the student(s) identified on the attached document have been determined to be residents of this school district, and eligible for transportation services; and

WHEREAS after a careful evaluation of all available options, it has been determined that it is impractical to provide transportation for these student(s) to their selected school(s); and

WHEREAS the following factors as identified in Revised Code §3327.02 have been considered:

1. The time and distance required to provide the transportation
2. The number of pupils to be transported
3. The cost of providing transportation in terms of equipment, maintenance, personnel, and administration
4. Whether similar or equivalent service is provided to other pupils eligible for transportation
5. Whether and to what extent the additional service unavoidably disrupts current transportation schedules
6. Whether other reimbursable types of transportation are available; and

WHEREAS the option of offering payment-in-lieu of transportation is provided in Ohio Revised Code: Therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the North Fork Board of Education hereby approves the declaration that it is impractical to transport the students identified on the attached document and offers the parent(s)/guardian(s) of students named on the attachment, payment-in-lieu of transportation.

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0144

6.12 Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruce, that the board approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION DECLARING NECESSITY OF BOND ISSUE
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,000,000 AND TO SUBMIT THE
QUESTION OF SUCH BOND ISSUE TO THE ELECTORS

(Ohio Revised Code Section 133.18)

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is necessary to finance the construction and acquisition of certain permanent improvements to the School District's facilities through the issuance of general obligation bonds (the "Bonds," as further defined herein) for "one purpose" (as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 133.01(Z)(4)) as described hereinbelow, which Bonds the School District has the power and authority to issue; and

WHEREAS, a resolution declaring the necessity of levying a tax outside the ten-mill limitation to pay the debt charges on the Bonds (and any securities issued in anticipation thereof) must be passed and certified to the County Auditor of Licking County, Ohio (the "County Auditor") in order to permit the Board to consider the levy of such a tax, and must request that the County Auditor certify to the Board the current total taxable value of the School District and the estimated average annual property tax levy, expressed in mills for each \$1 of taxable value as well as in dollars for each \$100,000 of the "county auditor's appraised value" (as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.01(P)), that the County Auditor estimates will be required to pay the debt charges on the Bonds (and any securities issued in anticipation thereof) over the stated maximum maturity of the Bonds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the North Fork Local School District, Licking and Knox Counties, Ohio, a majority of all of the members thereof concurring, that:

Section 1. It is necessary for the purpose of constructing school facilities, including constructing a new middle school building, and renovating, improving and expanding existing school facilities; furnishing and equipping the same; improving the sites thereof; and acquiring land and interests in land as necessary in connection therewith, to issue and sell bonds of the School District in the amount of \$58,000,000 (the “Bonds”). It is further necessary that there shall be annually levied on all the taxable property in the entire territory of the School District a tax outside of the ten-mill limitation to pay the debt charges on the Bonds and any securities that the Board may determine to issue in anticipation thereof. The Bonds shall be dated approximately May 1, 2024; shall have an estimated net average rate of interest of 5.15% per annum; and shall have the principal be paid over a maximum period not to exceed 37 years, as calculated under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 133.

Section 2. As authorized by Ohio Revised Code Section 133.18, the question of issuing the Bonds shall be submitted to all of the electors in the entire territory of the School District at the election to be held on March 19, 2024. All of the territory of the School District is located in Licking and Knox Counties, Ohio.

Section 3. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 133.18(C), the Treasurer of this Board is directed to immediately certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor so that the County Auditor may promptly certify to the Board the current total taxable value of the School District and the estimated average annual property tax levy, expressed in mills for each \$1 of taxable value as well as in dollars for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value, that the County Auditor estimates will be required to pay the debt charges on the Bonds (and any securities issued in anticipation thereof) over the stated maximum maturity of the Bonds.

Section 4. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Cooperider, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

2023-11-0145

6.14 Mrs. Stradley moved, seconded by Mrs. Cooperider, that the Board go into Executive Session, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1), for the purpose of discussing the employment of an employee or official.

Yea: Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Cooperider, Mrs. Bruce, Dr. Krueger – 4

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

Time: 6:58 p.m.

Mrs. Bruce left at 9:28 p.m.

The Board returned to open session. Time: 9:33 p.m.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Public comment was requested and the following responded:

- None

Dr. Krueger moved, seconded by Mrs. Stradley, that the meeting be adjourned.

Yea: Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Stradley, Mrs. Cooperider – 3

Nay: - 0

The president ruled the motion carried.

Next Meeting: December 11, 2023

Location: Newton Elementary School
6645 Mount Vernon Road
Newark, Ohio 43055

Time: 6:00 p.m.



Farrah Cooperider, President



Kellie Breehl, Treasurer

