

Port Allegany School District

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting

August 9, 2021
Seneca Highlands Career and Technical Center
8:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Board went on a tour of the Seneca Highlands Career and Technical Center with Director Jim Young from 7pm until 8pm.

President Carlson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. at the Seneca Highlands Career and Technical Center with a moment of silence and the flag salute. Mr. Moate called the roll.

Board Present: Dr. Mark Carlson, Mr. Justin Fillhart, Mr. Kerry Hawver, Mrs. Bonna Johns, Mrs. Erica Petruzzi, Mr. Jason Stake, Mr. Adam Moate and Mr. Gary Buchsen

Board Absent: Mr. Sean Lathrop, Mr. Jonathan Stehle and Mr. Donald Tanner

Others Present: High School Principal Mr. Marc Budd, Elementary School Principal Mr. Tracy Kio and Assistant Principal Greg Oliver, Heather Nance, Ink Young, Andrew Young, Eric Button and Beth Stauffer.

Executive Session

The board met in executive session at 8:03 pm for a personnel matter and reconvened at 8:10pm.

Public Comment

There were no comments relating to agenda items or federal programs.

District Health and Safety Plan approved by the board on July 26, 2021. Andrew Young spoke in regards to the great job that the board has done in the past year and is continuing to do in regards to following the Health and Safety Plan and looking out for our children.

Eric Button stated that he is also happy with the way that the board has handled things so far and his son is happy that he does not have to wear a mask at the start of the school year because it caused him some issues and hopefully he will have a better start to his 10th grade year than he did his 9th grade school year.

Heather Nance spoke on behalf of her children who are going to wear masks until they wait for them to get their second vaccination. They are very nervous about how they will be perceived because they will be masked. She does not want them to get negative feedback because of this and they have made the decision to get vaccinated along with wearing a mask until they are vaccinated. She would like

consideration for those who do choose to wear a mask and maybe some dialogue so that they don't have children feeling that way.

Minutes of Preceding Meetings

Approved the Minutes of the June 7, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting and the June 14, 2021 regular meeting. Motion: J. Stake; Second: E. Petruzzi. The motion was unanimously carried.

Treasurer's Report

Approved the Treasurer's Reports for the period ending June 30, 2021 and July 31, 2021 as presented by Mr. Tanner. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

General Fund investments on June 30, 2021 were as follows: Juniata Valley Bank (JVB) Investment Savings - \$8,163,156.15 and JVB Now Account - \$189,490.86. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

General Fund investments on July 31, 2021 were as follows: Juniata Valley Bank (JVB) Investment Savings - \$7,895,611.02 and JVB Now Account - \$12,096.83. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

June 30, 2021 balance for various accounts were reported as follows: Capital Reserve Fund - \$2,748,327.08; Student Activities Account - \$87,322.92; Student Athletics Account - \$75,492.61; and Cafeteria Account - \$57,609.39. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

July 31, 2021 balance for various accounts were reported as follows: Capital Reserve Fund - \$2,748,626.01; Student Activities Account - \$87,335.00; Student Athletics Account - \$75,502.25; and Cafeteria Account - \$57,662.83. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Bill Listings and Payrolls

Approved the General Fund Bill List of June 28, 2021 - \$18,157.09 and July 12, 2021 - 33,309.20 and payrolls of June 2, 2021 - \$301,540.42, June 16, 2021 \$294,479.31 and June 30, 2021 - \$194,973.82. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the General Fund Bill List of August 9, 2021 - \$831,591.97 and payrolls of July 14, 2021 - \$198,891.03 and July 28, 2021 - \$196,947.52. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

The board was given a tour of the Seneca Highlands Career and Technical Center by Mr. Jim Young before the start of the board meeting. A big thank you to Mr. Young and more people need to see the facility and the programs that are offered here.

Mr. Buchsen stated that with the start of the school year the elementary school is in better shape and teachers have been setting up their rooms and the bathroom renovation work continues there. We have been told starting on the 16th we will have full access to both buildings and ready to go on the 25th for

the kids. Mr. Kio stated that as far as the bathrooms go on each floor, they should be ready for the first day of school. Next week is kindergarten camp and there will be around 70 kids coming in and they will have it ready for them when they come to camp for three days. There are four teachers and four aides and the program has been run for the past 6 years. We could not have our regular K readiness program due to the renovations. We will have our back to school night to meet their teachers and activities. The main concern is getting back to some sort of normalcy. Mr. Budd stated that the high school is a little different from the elementary school. The main foyer is a full blown construction zone but they are getting things cleaned up wing by wing so maintenance can get in to get things cleaned and put back together. We will not be able to have a 7th grade orientation before the start of school as the school is a construction zone and not safe for students to be there. We will still have an orientation, it will just be the first day of school instead of before. Students will be greeted with their peer helper and the homerooms will be posted on the windows in the lobby so they know where they are going when they get here. Mrs. Petruzzi asked if there is anything that we can post online stating that there will be an orientation on the first day of school and information that is needed ahead of time for the parents. Mr. Fillhart asked about the roofing and how it is progressing. There is a lot of progress but it will not be done until after school starts. The work will continue after school hours after school starts.

Mr. Buchsen asked Mr. Budd data on summer credit recovery courses, 37 kids have taken advantage of 79 classes. Some students needed extra time to finish the modules. Mr. Oliver was asked about Warren County and enrollment at this point. Last year 35 students were enrolled in this online program and this year we have 8. He enrolled 6 today. He anticipates roughly 18 to 20 kids this year as compared to any other normal year. Mr. Hawver asked if we had any parents taking advantage of the grade repeating option offered by the state, Mr. Buchsen said no.

Mr. Buchsen shared a document of suggestions in regards to staffing, programming, and learning loss and he put them into a google doc to review throughout the year. We had roughly 50 people at the Hogan for a picnic organized by the board. It was a great opportunity for everyone to meet and greet.

The Nutrition Group provided a budget for board consideration to provide breakfast and lunch for staff during August in-service days.

Mr. Buchsen wanted to give an update on the request by Sheffield High School to borrow football helmets from the school district. Mr. Buchsen reached out to the solicitor to see if we would be liable if anyone gets hurt and he stated that as long as the financial interest of the district is secured and the district reimbursed for the cost of reconditioning then he would recommend.

We can revisit the lunch prices when the funding runs out for free breakfast and lunches.

Curriculum & Instruction

Approved the 3-day Title I Kindergarten Camp on August 17, 18, and 19 with four teachers and four aides. Teachers will receive \$31.65 per hour and instructional aides will receive \$16.75 per hour. Total program cost not to exceed \$3,750.00. (Title I funding.) Motion: B. Johns; Second: E. Petruzzi. The motion was carried unanimously.

Personnel

Hired Mrs. Elizabeth Valentine as a 4.5 hour instructional aide at the elementary school, at an hourly rate of \$16.75 and fringe benefits in accordance with the Support Staff Agreement and district policy. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: B. Johns. The motion was carried unanimously.

Hired Mrs. Martha Bova as a 5.5 hour one to one aide at the elementary school, at an hourly rate of \$16.75 and fringe benefits in accordance with the Support Staff Agreement and district policy. Motion: E. Petruzzi; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Hired Ms. Erin Stauffer as a 4.5 hour instructional aide at the elementary school, at an hourly rate of \$16.75 and fringe benefits in accordance with the Support Staff Agreement and district policy. Motion: E. Petruzzi; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Hiring Richard Bova as the assistant teacher in the PreK Counts classroom beginning the 2021-2022 school year at a salary of \$ 23,000 and fringe benefits set in accordance with the Professional Agreement and district policy. Motion: J. Stake; Second: K. Hawver. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted the resignation of Ms. Morgan Causer as a 4.5 hour paraprofessional effective August 9, 2021. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Hired Mrs. Danyelle Lupton as a 5.5 hour one to one aide at the elementary school, at an hourly rate of \$16.75 and fringe benefits in accordance with the Support Staff Agreement and district policy. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Added Ms. Morgan Causer to the teacher substitute list pending completion of paperwork. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted the resignation of Mr. Jeff Stuckey as an assistant boys' basketball coach effective August 9, 2021. Motion: J. Stake; Second: K. Hawver. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted the resignation of Mrs. Jill Stuckey as an assistant girls' basketball coach effective August 9, 2021. Motion: J. Fillhart; Second: B. Johns. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted the resignation of Mrs. Kim Ball as an elementary teacher effective August 9, 2021. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Finance

Approved the proposal received from Securanty to offer voluntary Chromebook insurance to families who will be participating in the 1:1 initiative at no cost to the district. Motion: J. Stake; Second: E. Petruzzi. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the renewal agreement with Pediatric Services of America. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Buildings and Grounds

Renewed the contract with Johnson Controls for services relating to the fire alarm system at the elementary school, and the fire alarm system, sound/communications system and master time system at the high school at a cost of \$9,190 for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion: B. Johns; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Transportation

Approved the 2021-2022 bus routes as developed by Joseph Muccio, LLC, pupil transportation contractor. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: E. Petruzzi. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the 2021-2022 bus/van driver's list as recommended by Joseph Muccio, LLC, pupil transportation contractor. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Board

Accepted the enrollment of non-resident employee students in accordance with Policy 202 for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion: J. Stake; Second: E. Petruzzi. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the Port Allegany Education Association. 2021-2022.001 (Distance Learning) Motion: J. Stake; Second: E. Petruzzi. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the Port Allegany Education Association. 2021-2022.002 (Tuition Reimbursement) Motion: B. Johns; Second: E. Petruzzi. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the request by Sheffield High School to borrow up to 25 unused Port Allegany football helmets for the 2021 football season provided that the district will be reimbursed for all repair and reconditioning costs. Motion: J. Stake; Second: B. Johns. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved payment to provide breakfast and a lunch for district employees during the August inservice at a cost not to exceed \$1,200. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the Port Allegany Education Association. 2021-2022.003 (Teacher Retirement) Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion: J. Stake; Second: B. Johns. The motion was unanimously carried. Doctor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA VEILLEUX
Secretary to the Board of School Directors