

Port Allegany School District
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Committee of the Whole Meeting

February 7, 2022
High School Library
7:00 o'clock p.m.

Minutes

President Petruzzi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library with a moment of silence and the flag salute. Mrs. Veilleux called the roll.

Board Present: Mr. Nathan Burgett, Mr. Eric Button, Mrs. Bonna Johns, Mr. Sean Lathrop, Mrs. Erica Petruzzi, Mr. Jason Stake, Mrs. Elizabeth Stauffer, Mr. Donald Tanner, Mr. Adam Moate and Mr. Gary Buchsen.

Board Absent: Mr. Justin Fillhart

Others Present: High School Principal Marc Budd, Elementary School Principal Tracy Kio, Assistant Principal Greg Oliver, Joyce Stehle, Brad Stewart and Ink Young.

Committee Reports

Eric Button (Intermediate Unit Nine Board of Directors) reported that there will be a meeting on February 21st.

Mr. Burgett had nothing new to report on for the Seneca Highlands CTC General Advisory Board.

PSBA Legislative Representative - Mr. Fillhart was not in attendance to report.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Buchsen asked the board members to sign the PSBA Principles for Governance and Leadership poster received after the board's adoption of those principles in January. Upon completion it will be posted publicly in the high school library.

Head Start is again requesting an elementary classroom at the elementary school for the 2022-2023 school year. Head Start has been a part of the elementary school for the past seven years. The district will know if it will have available space after kindergarten registration is completed in March.

The district received four intent to retire letters from the professional staff. (Mrs. Hutton, Mrs. Delacour, Mrs. White, and Mrs. Lathrop) By contract, letters needed to be submitted by February 1st.

Elementary School / High School tutoring is being funded by ARP/ESSERs III 7% set aside funds. Mr. VanGorden has started an after school SAT prep program at the high school. The kindergarten team will rotate with kids for a half an hour after school. Mrs. Tabitha Dart and Mrs. Tammy Johnson will work with 1st and 2nd grade students. Letters will be sent home to inform parents these programs are available in the schools.

Mr. Buchsen updated the board on the new Unified Sports state championship bocce requirements. The district received an email stating that Special Olympics will require the participants to be masked and provide proof of full COVID-19 vaccination. A follow up conversation was held with Jennifer Tresp, PA Special Olympics. After concerns were levied by several school districts in the state, SOPA has decided to move to three one-day regional events and have eliminated the vaccination requirements for participants and staff.

Mr. Buchsen provided a financial overview of the Seneca Highlands Regional Insurance Trust (SHRIT). The district has received anticipated health care rate increases from the trust beginning July 1, 2022. The board will need to set district health care premiums next week. It is recommended by the administration to increase rates 5% during the upcoming fiscal year.

The district will need to submit the ARP/ESSERs III application by March 1.

A meeting was held with Schneider Electric last week to review the high school roof replacement project. Administration also reviewed some of the heating issues that are being dealt with in the high school. Mazza continues to work in the building working on these issues. The district has another building project meeting tomorrow.

Personnel

Accepted for purposes of retirement, the letter from Mrs. Meg Hutton (High School Teacher) effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted for purposes of retirement, the letter from Mrs. Barbara Delacour (Elementary Teacher) effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted for purposes of retirement, the letter from Mrs. Nichole White (Elementary Teacher) effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted for purposes of retirement, the letter from Mrs. Laurie Lathrop (High School Teacher) effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted the resignation of Mrs. Donna Shelander as a cafeteria worker effective March 1, 2022. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the following volunteer baseball coach for the 2021-2022 season: Hunter Freer. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the following volunteer track coaches for the 2021-2022 season: Dan Schott and Jamie Evens. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the addition of Ms. Jody Hilarzewski to the Substitute List for cafeteria staff. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted the resignation of Mr. Cole Ramsey as Musical Dramatics Director. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Finance

Authorized the superintendent to submit the ARP/ESSERs application as presented. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Curriculum

Approved a high school elective proposal by Mr. Palmer on film studies. Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Executive Session

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

Adjournment

Motion: S. Lathrop; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously. Mrs. Petruzzi adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA VEILLEUX
Secretary to the Board of School Director