

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

November 1, 2021
High School Library
7:00 p.m.

Minutes

President Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library 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. Jonathan Stehle, Mr. Donald Tanner, Mr. Adam Moate and Mr. Gary Buchsen

Board Absent: Mr. Sean Lathrop

Others Present: High School Principal Mr. Marc Budd, Elementary School Principal Mr. Tracy Kio, Assistant Principal Greg Oliver, Matt Lawton and Ink Young

Public Comment

There were no comments relating to agenda items, Title I, Title II or the District Health and Safety Plan approved by the board on July 26, 2021.

Committee Reports

Mrs. Johns reported that the Intermediate Unit Nine Board of Directors met on October 18th and there were personnel updates and concerned voices about Guidance Counselors in our area and how there may be a shortage in the next couple of years.

Mr. Tanner reported that the Seneca Highlands CTC General Advisory Board met on the 21st of October. They will be holding an open house on November 10th for 9th graders. Also, the total number of enrollments as of the 1st of October is 328 which keeps climbing. They also have the option of taking Penn College credit. 135 college credits have been earned by 39 students. The committee is working on the comprehensive plan that is a requirement for schools to receive Perkins funds. Port Allegany has 83 students attending the CTC.

Justin Fillhart has nothing to report for the PSBA.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Buchsen stated that the state has taken the overall allotment of the American Recovery Plan/ESSER and 7% has been set aside for the schools. Schools must submit an application by the end of November. Set aside funding can be spent through 2024. The district is scheduled to receive \$253,681

in ARP/ESSER set aside funds. Funds can be spent on after school, summer school, and learning loss activities and related expenses.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library is a program which provides one book per month to every child from birth to age 5 living in the school district. Research shows one of the best things families can do for a child is to read them a book. Those kids that are read to before starting school, have a significantly larger vocabulary and are more ready to learn. The district cost will be roughly \$2,200. This would provide a book to every kid in the district ages 0-5 through the end of the school year.

Project Lead the Way. Ardagh has provided new PLTW grant funds for gateway programs. They have additional funding for grades 6-8. Funds will be used to provide additional activities in Mrs. Perry's classroom. PLTW has been great to work with and the funding will be here for the next couple of years.

Mr. Buchsen stated that they had a meeting last week and the punch list for the roof is now set to be completed by November 5. The things that needed finalized are not done as of now. We will do a final walkthrough sometime after that. The recommendation by Mr. Fillhart is that we do not pay Schneider until all of the issues are fixed. Dr. Carlson stated that we need to do a walk around again after they say that it is going to be done and address it at the meeting on the 8th of November. An update will be given to the board on Monday after it is completed.

Parent conferences are being scheduled for November 10, 11, and 12. Mr. Budd stated that the teachers are in the process of sending letters home and it will be the same process as past years. They have been encouraged to contact any parent with a student that is struggling academically. Mr. Kio stated that they make 100% contact with everyone whether it be face to face, Zoom, phone or email.

Personnel

The administration will have a recommended candidate for the open boys' assistant basketball coach position and volunteer wrestling and basketball coaches for consideration at next week's meeting. The names will be reviewed in executive session.

Board

The board will need to adopt a 2022 school board meeting calendar at the December 6 reorganization meeting. School boards set their own meeting calendars. Once approved, this calendar will be shared with the public.

Executive Session

The board moved to executive session for personnel and a student matter at 8:05 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion: J. Stake; Second: K. Hawver. The motion was carried unanimously. Doctor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA VEILLEUX
Secretary to the Board of School Director