

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

October 6, 2025
High School Library
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

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

Board Present: Mr. Nathan Burgett, Mr. Eric Button, Mr. Christopher Ernst, Mrs. Erica Petruzzi, Mr. Jason Stake, Mr. Donald Tanner, Mr. Nicholas Valentine, Mrs. Ink Young and Mrs. Paula Newell.

Board Absent: Mrs. Elizabeth Stauffer

Others Present: High School Principal Marc Budd, Elementary Principal Gregory Oliver, Assistant Principal Kathleen Bostjancic, Business Manager Adam Moate, Kari Stake, Laura Alfieri, Zachary Esch, Chelsea Caden, Crystal Drew, Toncha Barber, Carey Herndon, Kristi Freeman, Julia Postlewait, Nicole Postlewait, Alex Johnson, and Bethany Mealy.

Superintendent Remarks

Mrs. Newell opened the meeting by reminding everyone that this week is spirit week with the Jr. High dance being Friday night and Homecoming dance Saturday night. Mr. Budd spoke regarding the parade and all sporting events happening this weekend. He is hopeful after speaking with the local fire department we will still be able to have our annual bonfire Friday evening. Mr. Ernst briefly spoke about the upcoming construction happening on Clyde Lynch and East Mill Street that is to run through October 31st.

Public Comment

Mr. Alex Johnson took the stand to voice his concerns regarding the lack of consistency in his son's education since the beginning of the school year. He has also reached out to the Administration prior to tonight's board meeting regarding these matters. He is appreciative of those teachers working hard everyday and he is hopeful there will be a positive change in the near future.

Committee Reports

Mr. Christopher Ernst, Intermediate Unit Nine Board of Directors stated there was no meeting in the month of September so he had nothing to report.

Mrs. Ink Young, Seneca Highlands CTC General Advisory Board had nothing to report.

Mr. Nicholas Valentine, PSBA Legislative Representative had nothing to report.

Minutes of Proceeding Meetings

Approved the Minutes of the September 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting with the addition to adding the adjournment time. Motion: J. Stake; Second: E. Button. The motion was carried unanimously.

Communication

Mrs. Newell discussed the Core Project and stated that we have had a lot of positive feedback. She showed the board a picture of Greg Summers, the founder and the CEO of the core project, who spoke with the kids. She mentions how in the article it talks about teaching from the inside out, and building relationships with the kids in order to get them in a place to learn. Mrs. Newell thanked Mrs. Fischer for highlighting this for our community.

The discussion of Food Services and the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year report was moved under Board for discussion.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Newell invited Christine Shoen, Aflac Representative to take the stand to discuss what all Aflac can offer our district. She provided the board members with rates and coverage information. The board has agreed to review and vote on this topic at next week's regular board meeting.

Mrs. Newell presented to the board the LETRS/ACE Partnership \$7,800.00/per year. Total is 2 years for a total credit gain of 12 college credit hours over 2 years for 39 employees.

Mrs. Newell informed the board that she has received a response from Health Services and the inspection for the Healthy Kids program will take place on October 17, 2025. It is anticipated that we will get a greenlight that day and move forward with our after school program.

The next item for discussion was "The PIMS People" which would be a grant funded Contract Service. Mrs. Newell explained that PIMS is the Pennsylvania Information Management System where student and staff state reporting takes place. She explained just how much time goes into this reporting every year and how it would be significantly cheaper to outsource these services. The PIMS People have staff that work with both PowerSchool and CSIU, both of which our school uses for reporting. Mrs. Newell also explained that our staff would work alongside the PIMS People to help answer any questions they may have and if our staff is reporting something incorrectly, they would train us on how to enter in information correctly. Mrs. Newell also mentioned how outsourcing these services would allow our staff to focus on other things. The board discussed the current situation with the state budget and using the Ready to Learn Grant to cover the cost of these services. After discussion, the board made a

motion to approve the recommendation for PIMS contracted services annually at \$15,355.00. Motion J.Stake; Second: N.Burgett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr.Budd was asked to discuss the PCFCU, Credit Union as a possible benefit for employees. He states he worked there when he was in college, and decided to join. He mentions that they have very good rates and they are very compatible. Mr.Budd also mentioned that their board of directors would need to approve the school district. Once we know more, we will bring this item back for discussion.

Next on the Agenda was to discuss Wrestling Co-op with Austin Area School District. Mrs.Newell asked if this item could be changed to a recommendation because Mr.Budd has spoken with the PIAA and we are at the expiration date for this. The board voted to move the discussion to a recommendation for approval. Motion: J.Stake; Second: D.Tanner. The motion was passed with Mr.Button opposing. The recommendation was made and the board voted: Motion: D.Tanner; Second: E.Petruzzi. The motion was carried with 7 Ayes and 1 Nay from E.Button.

Next Mrs. Newell opened a discussion for the 2026-2027 PASD School calendar. She noted that the CTC calendar was a basis for forming our own district calendar and that had been received earlier this year. She requested feedback from the board on what information they would need to make a decision on the new calendar in the spring. These metrics include: stakeholder feedback on early releases, data in reference to early release absenteeism, and look at the sports calendar for the end of year dates. This data will be presented to the board in January.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel

Approved the Personnel Action Report (PAR). Motion: J.Stake; Second: N.Valentine. The motion was carried unanimously. Mrs.Young stated that Mrs.Judy Leschner will be missed and thanked her for her years of service.

Approved the Addendum Personnel Action Report (PAR). Motion: J.Stake; Second: N.Burgett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Moate shared the quote that was received from the same group doing the borough construction at the elementary drive was received for sidewalk repair costs. This amount exceeded the maximum amount for not needing to take the project to bid. If we were to do that at this time, the bid period would exceed the current construction timeline. The discussion was to table this project until summer.

Mrs. Newell shared that the PA System installation would occur on October 23 - 24, 2025 in both buildings. This would replace both systems and bring us up to date with security needs with our Centegix system.

Mrs. Newell shared a Schneider HVAC Update. Mazza has begun preparing rooms for the new finn tube installation. This should not interrupt daily use of classrooms.

Board

Mrs. Kari Stake with The Nutrition Group reported on cafeteria equipment needs at the high school. This included a pizza oven, ice machine, and a convection oven. She also presented updates from The Nutrition Group for this year and an overview of the summer feeding program. Ms. Laura Alfieri presented an overview of the lunch program so far this year with new menu items and information about events.

Mrs. Newell brought up the use of a board committee for policy review. She requested the board consider an ad hoc committee to continue with that work. Board members agreed to this approach and Mr. Ernst and Mr. Tanner offered to volunteer. Mrs. Newell then presented the first reading of the following policies to be considered: Model AUP (Technology Usage), Policy 810.4 - Eligibility to Operate District Vehicles/Personal Vehicle use and Student Employment and Work-Based Learning. Mrs. Newell mentions she has been in contact with Ms. Hauber at CTC regarding summer jobs, internships and hours going towards student capstone hours.

Executive Session

Mrs. Young announced that The Port Allegany School District Board of Directors will enter into executive session at 8:48 pm for the purpose of legal personnel discussions for employee 2025-2026-A and employee 2025-2026-1. Motion: J. Stake; Second: N. Button. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Port Allegany School Board of Directors ended the Executive Session at 10:07 pm. Motion: J. Stake; Second: N. Burgett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Personnel

The board approved Resolution 1: 2025-2026-A and Resolution 2: 2025-2026-1. Motion: J. Stake; Second: E. Button. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Tanner; Second: Mr. Ernst. The motion was carried unanimously. Mrs. Young adjourned the board meeting at 10:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Plumstead
Secretary to the Board of School Directors

Next Scheduled Meeting

October 13, 2025 - Regular Meeting