

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

September 6, 2022
High School Library
7:00 p.m.

Minutes

President Erica 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 (7:38pm), Mr. Justin Fillhart, Mr. Sean Lathrop, Mrs. Erica Petruzzi, Mr. Jason Stake, Mrs. Elizabeth Stauffer, Mr. Donald Tanner, Mrs. Ink Young, and Mr. Gary Buchsen.

Others Present: Business Manager Adam Moate, High School Principal Marc Budd, Elementary School Principal Tracy Kio, Assistant Principal Greg Oliver, Larry Myers, Brad Stewart, Elizabeth Valentine, Steve Woodruff, and Matt Lawton

Public Comment

There were no comments related to agenda items, no comments relating to Title I and Title II and no comments relating to the District Health and Safety Plan approved by the board on July 26, 2021 and amended January 10, 2022.

Committee Reports

Mr. Eric Button, Intermediate Unit Nine Board of Directors, was not present at this time in the meeting.

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

Mr. Justin Fillhart, PSBA Legislative Representative wanted to remind everyone about the annual training (virtual) on September 17, 2022.

Communication

Mr. Buchsen shared with the board a thank you card from Mrs. Cassie Howard for the book that was donated in her late husband's honor to the library.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Larry Myers from Schneider Electric and Mr. Andrew Henshaw, Vice President of Learn Design Apply Inc. reviewed potential grant opportunities to fund a high school building envelope project and solar energy opportunities.

Mr. Buchsen introduced Mrs. Elizabeth Valentine who currently works for us as a paraprofessional at the elementary school to propose a Photography I after school elementary program for students. Mrs.

Valentine reviewed the program and what she would like to accomplish with the students. This would be a six week program held once a week. We are planning to have twenty students in the initial class.

The IU9 is working with Knox Law to prepare a memorandum of understanding to potentially add a school resource officer who would serve the Port Allegany School District, the Seneca Highlands CTC, and the Achievement Center North. We are still looking at a start date of October 1st. Mr. Buchsen has a Superintendent meeting and will discuss the matter further with the executive director of the IU.

Mr. Buchsen gave an update on the Health & Safety Plan. The district will continue to have a Health and Safety plan in place to receive ESSERs funding. Plan changes were reviewed with the board for comment and amendment.

Mr. Budd informed the board that ten students successfully completed summer courses for credit recovery.

Curriculum

Mrs. Peine has recommended Clue (High school edition) as this year's fall play. This will be brought before the regular board meeting for approval next week.

Personnel

The board will be approving a list of professional mentors for first year teachers in the district at next week's meeting.

Approved the addition of Mrs. Danielle Lupton, Mrs. Georgia Wiles, Ms. Sunday Gledhill and Ms. Abrianna Dowell to the substitute list for paraprofessional staff. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted the resignation of Mrs. Melissa Causer as a life skills aide effective August 12, 2022. Motion: S. Lathrop; Second: E. Button. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the addition of Ms. Sierra Archer, BS in English, Ms. Keely Tarbox, BS in communication and Mrs. Evelyn Mealy to the teacher substitute list. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: J. Stake. The motion passed with Mr. Button abstaining.

Approved Ms. Hannah Lathrop and Mrs. Becca Schwab as junior high volleyball volunteers for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion: J. Stake; Second: E. Button. The motion passed with Mr. Lathrop abstaining.

Approved Mrs. Loren Ferguson as the National Honor Society advisor. Compensation per schedule B2 of the professional agreement is \$958. Motion: J. Stake; Second: D. Tanner. The motion was carried unanimously.

Reassigned Ms. Lacey Riale to a 5.5 hour life skills aide at the high school. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Hired Mrs. Abbey Johnson-Ernst as a 4.5 hour life skills aide effective August 23, 2022 at the high school, at an hourly rate of \$18.10 and fringe benefits in accordance with the support staff agreement and district policy. Motion: J. Stake; Second: N. Burgett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Finance

Schneider Invoice. This is the last remaining invoice for the district's phase II energy project.

Refunded real estate taxes in the amount of \$373.51 (2017-2021) to William & Jeanette M. Burlison, Jr for overpayment due to assessment error as recommended by the McKean County Assessment Office. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Transportation

Approved Mr. Gary Caulkins as a van driver and bus driver, as recommended by Joseph Muccio Transportation, LLC, pupil transportation contractor. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: E. Button. The motion was carried unanimously.

Buildings and Grounds

The district received a proposal from Johnson Controls for services relating to the fire alarm system at the elementary school, and the fire alarm system, sound/communications system at the high school at a cost of \$4,750 for the 2022-2023 school year. This would be for phone line monitoring to ensure constant communication, inspection of panels, sensors, pull stations and two inspections.

Johnson Controls has provided a quote of \$19,667 to install new fire alarm control panels in the high school. This equipment would replace the existing panels that have reached the end of their service life.

Board

Mrs. Diann Finn, elementary teacher has been employed by the Port Allegany School District for three years and has been rated satisfactory during the last four months of the third year; therefore, this sixth rating made to comply with Section 1108 of the Pennsylvania School Code results in professional employee status (tenure).

Accepted the enrollment of non-resident employee students in accordance with Policy 202 for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion: J. Stake; Second: N. Burgett. The motion was carried unanimously.

First reading for the following policy updates: Policy 236.1 Threat Assessment (Recommended for legal liability purposes.), Policy 805 Emergency Preparedness and Response (Recommended for legal liability purposes.), Policy 805.2 School Security Personnel (Recommended for legal liability purposes.) and Policy 808 Food Services (Required for auditing purposes.)

Executive Session

The board met in executive session at 8:15pm for personnel and legal matters

Adjournment

Motion: J. Stake; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was unanimously carried. Mrs. Petruzzi adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA VEILLEUX
Secretary to the Board of School Directors