

Port Allegany School District
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting
January 18, 2021

MINUTES

Call to Order

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. Mrs. Veilleux called the roll.

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

Others Present: High School Principal Mr. Marc Budd and Trisha Kallenborn

Public Comment

There were no comments relating to agenda items or Title I and Title II.

Minutes of Preceding Meetings

Approved the Minutes of the November 25, 2020 special meeting and the December 7, 2020 regular meeting. Motion: S. Lathrop; Second: D. Tanner. The motion was unanimously carried.

Treasurer's Report

Approved the Treasurer's Report for the periods ended November 30, 2020 and December 31, 2020 as presented by Mr. Tanner. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake.

General Fund investments on December 31, 2020 were as follows: Juniata Valley Bank (JVB) Investment Savings - \$7,813,272.89 and JVB Now Account - \$10,513.69.

December 31, 2020 balance for various accounts were reported as follows: Capital Reserve Fund - \$2,746,701.24; Student Activities Account - \$85,893.40; Student Athletics Account - \$76,063.98; and Cafeteria Account - \$23,849.86.

Bill Listings and Payrolls

Approved the General Fund Bill Lists of January 18, 2020 - \$1,237,184.32 and December 7, 2020 - \$1,732,043.31, and payrolls as follows: November 19, 2020 - \$244,270.01; December 3, 2020 - \$241,592.72; December 17, 2020 - \$233,500.08; December 31, 2020 - \$241,559.67; and January 14, 2020 - \$232,368.92. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Buchsen addressed athletic attendance at winter sports events – links to guidance to the state – comparing schools to capacity. The capacity of the high school gymnasium is 544 and stays the same regardless so it ends up holding 54 people which is 10% of full capacity. If a school doesn't comply with the state's attestation statement, the public school entity must utilize a full remote model and suspend all after school activities. Mr. Buchsen stated that those are the state's rules and the only option is to go to another venue with a larger capacity. The coaches of the three winter sports gave their team and staff numbers for the season and they have to go off of that in order to allow parents if there is enough room after the visiting teams give their numbers. Mr. Lathrop stated that we as a school board agreed upon allowing the sports to continue and parents don't understand it doesn't come from us. The governor makes the rules and that is what we follow. Mrs. Petruzzi brought up that the volunteer positions should be offered to senior parents before any other volunteer gets the opportunity. Mr. Buchsen asked Mr. Budd how the response of parents has been and he said it has been very positive. Mr. Hawver asked about ineligible students attending games. Mr. Budd stated that ineligible students attend the games and are counted in the numbers but cannot participate in a game.

Mrs. Petruzzi asked about changing the angle of the camera for wrestling matches because it is hard to see who is wrestling and have someone announce. Mrs. Johns brought up the fact that it is nice to have guidance as to letting them know that the rules are the rules and that is how it goes. The community and parents should call administration if they have questions.

Energy Project Phase I Construction Meeting Update – Mr. Buchsen stated that last Tuesday they met with Schneider Electric and gave an overview of the energy project Phase I. They will be working four 10 hour shifts to complete the lighting upgrades and Schneider stated that we won't even know where they were at, the day after they were working. The bank will be paying the contractor and we give them the invoice and the bank will then pay the bill. They will start working on changing the lighting in the next couple of weeks and there should be no interruption during the regular work/school day. Mr. Fillhart asked that the board be able to see the invoice of the bill for the project from the bank. Mr. Buchsen said that they are scheduled to have biweekly meetings to sit collectively and go over for scheduled work.

Mr. Moate reviewed the General Fund Budget Summary Quarterly Report, Student/Athlete Quarterly Report and Cafeteria Fund Quarterly Report and noted that the library budget was under budgeted by \$303.54 due to AR being under budgeted. So far this year, 44.9% of the budget was spent compared to 42% last year due to COVID supplies.

Communications

Mrs. Veilleux read a note of thanks from the family of the late Gary Fessenden, former school board member.

Personnel

Approved the following supplemental positions for the 2020-2021 school year with salaries set in accordance with Schedule B1 of the Professional Agreement: Head Baseball Coach – Mr. Joshua McNeil - \$2,839; Assistant Baseball Coach – Mr. Seth Lowery - \$1,833; and Assistant Softball Coach – Mr. Dorwin Knapp - \$2,264. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved Mrs. Laura Decker as a long term substitute for Mrs. Kera Hendershot at a per diem rate of \$235.87 anticipated to begin in February, 2021 through the end of the current school year. Motion: S. Lathrop; Second: D. Tanner. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved Ms. Lori Edgar as a long term substitute for Mr. Sam Kysor at a per diem rate of \$235.87 to begin January 25, 2021 through the end of the current school year. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: S. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved payment of 10 professional development days at a per diem rate of \$167.76 for Mrs. Cindy Lasher to be used for central office and PIMS staff training through 2021. Motion: J. Stake; Second: B. Johns. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the addition of Jenna Switzer, BS Communications and MS in Elementary Education to the Substitute List. Motion: S. Lathrop; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved hiring Bruce Skinner as a 4.5 hour one to one aide at the high 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.

Finance

Approved the changes and property assessment as recommended by the McKean County Assessment Office resulting in a decrease of \$1,793.17 in 2020 Real Estate Tax. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: D. Tanner. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the refund of 2020 real estate taxes in the amount of \$146.20 for DJOBS Hunting Club, Inc. due to an assessment appeal. Motion: K. Hawver; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the donation to the Port Allegany Moose Lodge in the amount of \$535.00 to offset property taxes for Moose Park where Port Allegany School District baseball and soccer games are played. Motion: B. Johns; Second: K. Hawver. The motion was carried unanimously.

Board

Adopted the following policies: 103 Discrimination / Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students. (This is a required policy.); 218.3 Discipline of Student Convicted / Adjudicated of Sexual Assault. (This is a required policy.); and 252 Dating Violence. (This is an optional policy.) Motion: S. Lathrop; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion: J. Fillhart; Second: K. Hawver. The motion was unanimously carried. Doctor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA VEILLEUX
Secretary to the Board of School Directors