

Port Allegany School District
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting
February 8, 2021

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. Mrs. Veilleux called the roll.

Board Present: Dr. Mark Carlson, Mr. Justin Fillhart (7:08pm), 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, Larry Myers (in person) and Kirby Slear (via zoom)

Public Comment

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

Minutes of Preceding Meetings

Approved the Minutes of the January 11, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting and the January 18, 2021 regular meeting. Motion: Stake; Second: Hawver. The motion was unanimously carried.

Treasurer's Report

Approved the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2021 as presented by Mr. Tanner. Motion: Hawver; Second: The motion was carried unanimously.

General Fund investments on January 31, 2021 were as follows: Juniata Valley Bank (JVB) Investment Savings - \$7,317,702.10 and JVB Now Account - \$28,882.80. Motion: Stake; Second: Hawver. The motion was carried unanimously.

January 31, 2021 balance for various accounts were reported as follows: Capital Reserve Fund - \$2,747,094.06; Student Activities Account - \$85,276.11; Student Athletics Account - \$76,313.69; and Cafeteria Account - \$21,343.60. Motion: Hawver; Second: Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Bill Listings and Payrolls

Approved the General Fund Bill List of February 8, 2021 - \$851,750.08 and payroll of January 28, 2021 - \$246,077.91. Motion: Stake; Second: Hawver. The motion was carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Larry Myers addressed the board comparing the Phase II energy project costs from last week to this week. Schneider did not have the music and choral classroom air conditioning included. They would add two units on the roof for the music and choral area and a separate unit above the art room on the roof taking the VRF system out and putting in the two independent units on the roof. They included the high school office and the cafeteria. No material credits were given for direct costs.

There will be a new system in the cafeteria and all the pneumatic controls will be replaced with direct digital controls. This includes two years of remote services and training from Schneider Electric. Mr. Stehle asked if there were any rebates. The question was asked why the cost of changing the pneumatic controls went up and not down when they updated those and when they took all of the other systems out and changed them. Mr. Myers responded by explaining that it adds to the cost of the labor which is needed to complete the change. Schneider eliminated the cost of the VRF system. The question was asked if it is going to be the same quality and Larry said that it will be a different system with the same ductwork. Dr. Carlson asked Mr. Budd if the stage area still needs to be cooled if we are cooling the music suite and Mr. Budd responded that it does because if there are more students they utilize that area more frequently. Mrs. Petruzzi states that the auditorium needs to be done if we are going to do it because it has been a big concern over the years for students on stage at concerts.

Mr. Buchsen presented the financial information from the Facilities Committee meeting held on February 3rd. The district will have paid off a previous renovation project in 2022. Phase I and Phase II would have a payment less than or equal to the high school building project payment that we will be done paying when this bill comes due. Using grant funding and a portion of the capital reserve, the payment will actually be lower than the payment we are coming out of. All of the current district debt is through bank loans. Dr. Carlson asked to check to see if we can refinance the loan that will be paid off in 2026. Mr. Hawver is good with budgeting an annual contribution into the capital reserve to build that account up over time.

Dr. Carlson wanted to make sure all patches, holes and insulation will be patched and covered up properly. Mr. Stehle asked if we should wait on making a decision to make sure that all things are correct. Mr. Myers stated that pushing it back would not allow all of the necessary work to be completed by the end of the summer. The board asked if we will be able to start the school year on time like we normally do, Mr. Myers says yes other than some cosmetic things like ceiling tiles and that we will have an operational system by the start of school. The question was asked how long the projected end date for completion of the project and Larry said that the contract is requesting 365 days for final completion but that is a buffer for Schneider Electric just in case. Phase 1 will be done before the kids leave for summer break.

Mr. Stehle asked about the building envelope. Kirby spoke about replacing windows and that would be the next potential phase that could be looked at.

Communications

None.

Personnel

Approved hiring Mr. Danny Evans as a temporary professional employee assigned as an elementary teacher at a prorated salary of \$46,319.00 (BS, Step 3) and fringe benefits set in accordance with the Professional Agreement and district policy. Motion: Hawver; Second: Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved hiring Tonya Buchsenschutz as a 4.5 hour life skills aide at the elementary school, at an hourly rate of \$16.75 and fringe benefits in accordance with the Support Staff Agreement and district policy. Motion: Petruzzi; Second: Tanner. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted for purposes of retirement, the letter from Mrs. Sally Claypool (Elementary Teacher) effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Motion: Johns; Second: Fillhart. The motion was carried unanimously.

Accepted for purposes of retirement, the letter from Mr. Mike Bodamer (High School Teacher) effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Motion: Tanner; Second: Stehle. The motion was carried unanimously.

Dr. Carlson would like to thank both Mrs. Claypool and Mr. Bodamar for all of their years of service.

Approved filling the Prom Advisor supplemental position with Mrs. Laura Strawderman at a rate of \$884 for the 2020-2021 school year with salaries set in accordance with Schedule B1 of the Professional Agreement. Motion: Johns; Second: Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Finance

Approved the Phase II Energy Savings Performance Contract with Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc. at a cost of \$5,085,650 and approved the direct purchase of materials by the school district in the amount of \$533,032 for equipment to support the Phase II project. Motion: Stake; Second: Petruzzi. Roll call vote. The motion passed 7-1 with Mr. Stehle opposed.

Authorized the superintendent to submit Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds I/II (ESSER) applications to offset costs for the phase I/II energy projects in the district. Motion: Tanner; Second: Johns. Roll call vote. The motion was carried unanimously.

Authorized the superintendent and business manager to work with Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc. to provide financing options for the phase II energy project for the district. Motion: Stake; Second: Hawver. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved meal and lodging funds to the high school wrestling team for use at the District IX Wrestling Tournament at a cost not to exceed \$1,250.00. Motion: Johns; Second: Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved meal and lodging funds to the high school wrestling team for use at subsequent tournaments this calendar year at a cost not to exceed \$1,250.00 per tournament. Motion: Petruzzi; Second: Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Curriculum

None

Transportation

None

Board

Approved the 2021-2022 school calendar as presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting in February. Motion: Stake; Second: Hawver. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved the Memorandum of Agreement with the Potter County Education Council to provide career mentor aide services to the district. Motion: Tanner; Second: Fillhart. The motion was unanimously carried.

Authorized the superintendent, in consultation with the high school principal and athletic director, to determine participation in playoff competition should the high school be in remote learning. Motion: Petruzzi; Second: Stake. The motion was unanimously carried.

The Board convened in executive session for a personnel matter at 8:32 p.m.

The regular meeting reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion: Stake; Second: Fillhart. The motion was unanimously carried. Doctor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MELISSA VEILLEUX
Secretary to the Board of School Directors