



**BOARD OF EDUCATION-REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020
PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER**

This Regular Board Meeting was conducted via a teleconference call and also an open meeting for 50 people or less. Present in the Media Center at Peotone High School were President Tara Robinson, Vice President, Richard Uthe, Secretary Jennifer Moe, Trustee Roger Bettenhausen and Trustee Paul Douglas. Mr. Steve Stein, Dr. Charles Vitton, Administrators, Mr. Don Swanson and Mrs. Cathy Cuculich. Trustee Jodi Becker and Trustee Jody Thatcher were absent for the regular board meeting of October 19, 2020.

CALL TO ORDER:

At 6:00 p.m., President Tara Robinson called the regular board meeting to order and requested all who are present to please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mr. Richard Uthe, Mr. Roger Bettenhausen, Mrs. Jennifer Moe, Mrs. Tara Robinson and Mr. Paul Douglas. Mrs. Jody Thatcher and Mrs. Jodi Becker were absent for the regular meeting of October 19, 2020.

CONSENT AGENDA:

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for the October 19, 2020 regular board meeting. Mr. Bettenhausen made a motion and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Becker were absent for the regular meeting of October 19, 2020.

OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO SPEAK:

Mrs. Dana Sippel, of Peotone, IL, addressed the Board to inquire if the Board has a plan or is working towards a plan for students to return to school full-time. Mr. Steve Stein responded "We are working towards a plan, to go five days a week at the high school and come off the hybrid A/B schedule. But a plan to come back to a full day of school for everyone is not on the table at this time, and I do not have a definite answer when it will be on the table, I just don't have an answer at this time."



Mrs. Paul Cadieux and Mrs. Jennifer Price, Girl Scout Leaders for Troop 70489, along with Girl Scouts (Cadets), Sarah Seibert, Gianna Sloan, Samantha Asbrand, Adalyn Zubaty and Megan Cadieux, addressed the Board for their permission of a project idea for the girl scouts to achieve a Bronze award. The Bronze award is the highest honor a junior girl scout can achieve! These girl scouts started the process last year as juniors and were scheduled to address the Board in March, but COVID-19 hit and everything was put on hold. The girl scouts have selected as their project to implement reduced speed zones at Peotone Intermediate Center at the corner of Manhattan-Monee Road and Center Road. The Troop will work closely with government officials who will help them facilitate implementing the reduced school speed zones at PIC. The Board was very impressed with the girl scouts and their presentation and gave the Troop the green light to proceed with their project for their Bronze award!

President Robinson asked the Troop to please come back and share with the Board the progress of their project, and thanked the girls and their leaders for coming out tonight to the board meeting to speak with the Board.

GOOD NEWS:

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL RECOGNITION OF THE RECIPIENT OF THE MARCH 2020 PBC EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Mr. Jason Spang, Principal of Peotone High School, introduced Ms. Chelsea McKay, General Music Teacher and Choir at Peotone High School, to the Board as the recipient of the **March 2020 PBC Excellence in Teaching Award!**

Mrs. Sheri Schubbe nominated Ms. Chelsea McKay for this award and wrote:

It is an appropriate month to honor Chelsea McKay as the Educator of the Month. March is Music in our Schools month, and Ms. McKay has built amazing choral music programs at both PJHS and PHS. She leads the Powerhouse Show Choir and directs plays and musicals at PHS each year, and has even occasionally helped out with non-musical extracurricular positions throughout her years in Peotone. Ms. McKay's passion and talent for music and theater is evident, and student participation is very high in the groups she leads. During show choir and play seasons, I'm quite certain that Ms. McKay spends more time here at school than at her home. She genuinely cares about her students as she works with them to encourage their appreciation for music and theater, and she teaches in a way that helps each student develop their skills and talent to their highest ability. In addition, she has creative ways to foster meaningful and respectful relationships within her groups. Students smile when they hear her name and often have a funny memory to share from working with her, and former students have told her that she has inspired them to pursue careers in music and be better people in general. Thanks for all you do for our students, or school, and our community, Ms. McKay.



Congratulations Chelsea McKay!

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2020 ACADEMIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent presented **Gabriel Barta** with a certificate honoring him as the October 2020 Board of Education Academic Student of the Month at Peotone High School! Gabe is a senior at Peotone High School with a grade point of 3.833 on a 4.0 grading scale.



Congratulations Gabriel Barta!

PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2020 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, presented a certificate to Lily Kreske honoring her as the September 2020 6th Grade student of the month at Peotone Junior High School. **7th Grade student, Kameron Abrams and 8th Grade student Liam Fogarty** were not present at the board meeting to receive their certificates.



Congratulations Lily Kreske!

FOR ACTION:

REPORT NO. 24:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property:**

2002 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD

Odometer: 145,293 miles VIN

#1GBHK24U72Z193160

Fuel: Gasoline

Color: White

Accessories: 7'6" Boss Super Duty Snow Plow, Snow-Ex Mini Pro 575 hitch mount salt spreader, Strobe Light

2007 Ford Freestar

Odometer: 148,673 miles

VIN # 2FMZA51627BA13437

Fuel: Gasoline

Color: Blue

2007 Ford Freestar

Odometer: 183,602 miles

VIN # 2FMZA51607BA13436

Fuel: Gasoline

Color: Blue

2007 Ford Freestar

Odometer: 161,532 miles

VIN # 2FMZA51697BA13435

Fuel: Gasoline

Color: Blue

2007 Ford Freestar

Odometer: 161,060 miles

VIN # 2FMZA51657BA13433

Fuel: Gasoline

Color: Blue

Notes: This vehicle has been used as a parts donor for other similar models.

Not currently in working order

1954 Clark Clipper Forklift

Model #2024

Serial #CEC-107-RE-20

Fuel: Propane

Color: Red (Not Original)

Lifting Capacity: 2,000#

Have original shipping document for the unit

Mrs. Moe made a motion and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Becker were absent for the regular board meeting of October 19, 2020.

REPORT NO. 25:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE HAZARDOUS STOP RESOLUTION.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Hazardous Stop Resolution**. President Robinson stated that this resolution is annual approval by the Board. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Becker were absent for the regular board meeting of October 19, 2020.

REPORT NO. 26:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF PEOTONE INTERMEDIATE CENTER'S VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB PROPOSAL FOR 2020-2021.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve **Peotone Intermediate Center's Virtual Book Club Proposal for 2020-2021 with a sponsor stipend amount of \$977.99**. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Becker were absent for the regular board meeting of October 19, 2020.

REPORT NO. 27:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL (*Contingent upon receipt and evaluation and employment documentation required by the District and the Illinois State Board of Education*)

CERTIFIED STAFF EMPLOYMENT:

- Keith Cuccio - PHS - Special Education Teacher (effective date of 10/05/2020).
- Mikinsey Prium - PHS - Special Education Teacher (effective date of 12/01/2020).
- Tracy Mrozek - PJHS - Long Term Substitute (Covid-19 Absences) (effective date of 10/13/2020).
- Corissa Campbell - PES -SI Maternity Leave Substitute (effective date of 10/02/2020).
- Terri Kauchak - PIC -Yearbook Sponsor (effective date of 09/25/2020).

CERTIFIED STAFF

EMPLOYMENT (continued):

- Kristine Septoski - PIC - Yearbook Sponsor (effective date of 09/25/2020).
- Brandon Owens - PHS - Boys' Basketball Asst. Coach/Freshman (effective date of 11/16/2020).

CLASSIFIED STAFF

EMPLOYMENT:

- Robert Hindelewicz - Transportation- Bus Driver - (effective date of 09/29/2020).
- Tyler Bolin - PJHS - 8th Boys' Basketball Coach - (effective date of 10/01/2020).

CHANGE IN STATUS:

- David M. Bunte - PHS Custodian (Sanitizer) to District Technical Support Specialist (effective date of 10/13/2020).

RESIGNATION:

- Jennifer Heneghan - PJHS - Cheerleading Coach (effective date of 10/01/2020).
- Brianne Wilson-Ruhbeck - PJHS - Cheerleading Coach (effective date of 10/01/2020).
- April Workman - PES - SI Maternity Leave Substitute (effective date of 10/06/2020).
- Timothy Jayson Workman - PJHS - 8th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach - (effective date of 09/25/2020).

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Certified and Classified Personnel** tonight. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Becker were absent for the regular board meeting of October 19, 2020.

FOR DISCUSSION:

First Reading of PRESS 105 Board Policies

President Robinson reported that this the first reading of **PRESS 105** board policies, and instructed the Board to review the policies and if anyone had any questions to please contact Mr. Stein or Mrs. Robinson.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, reported to the Board that he has no FOIAs to report for this month. Tomorrow, Peotone High School will be back in session, since being closed. Also, we did have a positive case of COVID-19 at Peotone Intermediate Center, and we immediately implemented procedures. As a District, going forward, we will be contacting parents first and will be asking parents for permission from them to identify that student only to that student's teacher so we may contact trace with staff more efficiently. Those staff members will also have to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to receiving the information of the student, and this cannot be done with that positive student's peers.

Dr. Charles Vitton, Assistant Superintendent, reported to the Board that I would like to thank the entire technology department for their efforts in unpacking, configuring, inventorying, labeling, and distributing 1150 Chromebooks in two weeks' time. (In particular, the extra efforts of Mr. Don Swanson!)

We were notified on September 25th that the Will County ROE has randomly selected Peotone CUSD 207U for an FY2020 Illinois school district audit of the professional development activities provided from July 2019 - June 2020. The audit process occurs over a fifteen month period - and I will be complying with the parameters set forth by ISBE and the ROE during this process.

Mrs. Wendy Bean, Assistant Principal of Peotone Junior High School, reported to the Board that:

- **Cross Country** - PJHS Cross Country had 10 runners compete in Sectionals last weekend. Our girls' team placed 2nd and three girls and one boy earned medals! It was a wonderful finish to the season as there is no State this year.
- **Red Ribbon Week** - This week is Red Ribbon Week to promote drug and alcohol prevention. We have dress up days and a poster contest to bring awareness.
- **PAWS** - Ms. Schlickman has arranged with PAWS for our staff to have some furry friends visit on Thursday for some stress management and relaxation time with a few of the dogs from the shelter.

Scott Wenzel, Principal of Peotone Junior High School, reported to the Board that my staff has been reaching out in a variety of ways to parents and students. Many emails have been sent, phone calls, remote office hours, and some individual times have been requested by teachers for Google Meet. Teachers are continually reaching out to students who seem to be struggling. The SST Team (Mr. Wenzel, Mrs. Bean, and Ms. Schlickman) meet each month with grade level teams to receive feedback from teachers on students. We will continue to reach out and make contact from the school to each student. We are keeping track of this through PowerSchool Log Entries. I have also been reaching out to each grade level remote learner group through Google Meet.

- The PJHS Speech team will be competing November 2nd. Of course, it will look a lot different this year. Mrs. DeGraaf has created a plan for our students to practice and compete. We are lucky to have Mrs. Schubbe who will be able to judge for us.
- The PJHS Student Council has met this year and they are making plans for activities for Red Ribbon Week to be held October 19th through October 23rd.
- Currently, we are getting prepared for Parent Teacher Conferences. Our teachers request to see parents of students which we will schedule the meeting. Any parent(s) who would like to see a teacher may make an appointment through the school office by calling and requesting.
- End of the 1st quarter is Wednesday, October 28th. Report cards will be distributed to the students on Friday, November 6th.
- Student picture retake will be Thursday, November 12th by Image Group Photography.

Mrs. Carole Zurales, Principal of Peotone Elementary, reported to the Board that it has been another busy month at PES. Like last month, a huge shout out to our District Nurses for all their work to keep students and staff safe by following the IDPH guidelines and protocol and their communication and decision making. I need to also recognize all the hard work of our teachers and staff to keep students engaged, teach the core curriculum, and making PES a school community that students love to be a part of, feel safe and loved, and have fun in both the in person and remote setting.

- Our October Monthly Focus is “Banish the Boo’s” where we have focused on identifying positive and negative thoughts and strategies to change negative thoughts. All in person and remote classrooms got to go on a Ghost scavenger hunt around the building where they decided if the ghost they spotted had a positive or negative thought, last week myself and Ms. Huizenga read books to all classrooms a book that went along with the monthly focus, and tomorrow students will be making ghost grams with positive affirmations that will be hung on every students’ lockers and cubbies tomorrow afternoon.

- We invited our full time remote learners to a special Remote Learner Recess last Thursday. We played different games as a group and students also got to interact and play with their peers during free play.
- We participated in Fire Safety Week last week. The fire department came to do fire safety talks to our in person learners on Friday and I went to the fire station to record a fire safety talk and record a special tour of the fire station for our remote learners.
- This week is Bullying Prevention Week. Each day we will be doing different activities to educate our students on recognizing bullying behaviors, speaking up for yourself and others, conflict resolution, and assertiveness.
- Today, we started our ALICE roll out with students. We did our evacuate- walk the grounds with kindergarten and third grade where I took them around the building and we discussed where we would go if we had to evacuate the building in an intruder event. Peotone Police was also present during the discussion, and we will do the same thing with first and second graders on Thursday.
- We modified the goal to get POPstar Status based on our school day, and the students have blown us away with their determination and positive behavior. We currently have 565 POPstars which was more than any quarter last year and we still have two more "Call Downs" In First Quarter. We are excited for our first quarter POPstar reward on November 2 for in person learners and my super top secret surprise for my remote learners next week!

Upcoming Events.

- Monday 10/26- Book or Treat with PHS.
- Wednesday 10/28- Halloween Festivities at PES, Halloween Parade for parents to come watch is at 10:30am outside of PES in the main drive and on PHS soccer field (weather pending).
- Thursday 10/29- Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences from 10-
- Wednesday 11/11- Virtual Veterans Day Assembly

Mrs. Joanne Obszanski, Principal of Peotone Intermediate Center, reported to the Board that it is SPIRIT WEEK at PIC - Each day of the week we have a theme for students to display their school spirit. PIC students are invited to wear their Halloween costume to school on Wednesday, October 28th. Teachers are planning for fun activities for students on that date in lieu of Halloween parties.

Parent-Teacher Conferences is on Thursday, October 29th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Visit PIC's website for teacher links to sign up for a Parent-Teacher Conferences. It has also been provided in the Weekly Updates.

PIC's Character Trait focus for the month of September was Respect and Responsibility.

Our Students of the Month are chosen with these two character traits in mind and they were:

4th grade: Thomas Zdzinski and Alexandra Baumann
5th grade: Michael Slaby and Macy Hennke

Remote:
4th grade: Payton Pape
5th grade: Faith Craft

October's Character Trait is Motivation. Colleen McIntyre, PIC's Social Worker and I are visiting all in-person classrooms with lessons/activities focused on Motivation throughout the month of October and we also meet two times per month with our Remote Learners in a Google Meet for a focused discussion on Motivation. All PIC staff are looking for students in both 4th & 5th grade and Remote Learners who exemplify MOTIVATION in their attention to their school work.

Thank you to Mrs. Schubbe for providing the opportunity for PIC's remote students to check a book out from our school libraries. Also, for providing recordings on the book, "The One & Only Bob". Links for both are provided on PIC's Weekly Update as well.

PIC's Virtual Yearbook Club is in full swing. PIC's Yearbook Club is asking our Remote Learning Students to keep a look out for picture requests for our Yearbook Club. We want to be sure that our Remote Students are represented in PIC's yearbook.

PTO is joining Mrs. Schubbe and hosting a Virtual Book fair beginning October 11 thru October 24. Flyers were sent home early October and there are links available on the Weekly Update.

On November 6th between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., the PTO has partnered with McDonalds for a "drive-thru" fundraiser. 20% of the money spent between 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. will be donated to Peotone PTO.

Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services, reported to the Board that that each building in the district will provide a Learning Lab. Learning labs in each building will be targeted for students that could benefit from extra assistance/supervision to work on classwork or interventions, or to use the district wifi, or assistance submitting assignments.

Mrs. Loy also complimented the hard work of the district's special education staff who serve as remote learning teachers, and in person teachers for all subjects/areas each day. The team is working hard to engage with students that notice they may be struggling with grades or to get assignments turned and Mrs Loy thanked them for their diligence and efforts.

Mr. Ruben Suarez, Director of Technology, reported to the Board that AT&T is ready to activate our increased bandwidth. We are working on setting up a cut over day and time that minimizes interruption. Entre Solutions will return on November 3rd to work on the microwave connection between PIC and PHS.

Mr. Jason Spang, Principal of Peotone High School, reported to the Board that I would like to give a HUGE THANK YOU to our District Nurses and the Technology Department on keeping us safe and also helping with our Chromebook Rollout. These are no easy tasks and without them our job would be nearly impossible!

- PHS is eager to return from our temporary school closure. All parameters set in place during the closure will now revert back to our A/B Day Schedule until further notice.
- PHS will host the ISBE SAT School Day for seniors on October 27. Pre-administration session begin this week for A-Day learners, B-Day learners, and full remote learners.
- Parent/Teacher Conference Signups have begun for PHS. We shared a link directly with parents through school messenger and also shared on our PHS Facebook page. Parents please sign up prior to Wednesday October 28 as our teachers will be inviting students and parents to a live google meet on that day as there will be no office hours for students.
- PHS will be hosting a Virtual Veterans Day assembly on November 11th. This will be shared on the PHS Facebook page. The ceremony will last about 29 minutes and will include updated banners, a PHS Band performance, a PHS Chorus performance, and a slideshow displaying photos of PHS alumni who have served our country in uniform. We have also reached out to our first responders in town and plan to record a two minute narrative of them discussing what Veterans Day means to them.
- PHS is closely analyzing and monitoring buildings within our district as we continue to work to bring all students back on a daily basis as soon, but most importantly as safely as possible. We aim to provide a recommendation as to our long-term direction by the end the week of 10/19/20.

Mr. Brandon Owens, Athletic Director/ Assistant Principal at Peotone High School, reported to the Board:

Current Athletic Update:

Cross Country and Golf are still currently taking place at Peotone High School. Last Wednesday (September 16th), we celebrated our six senior golfers on Senior Night as they competed in their last home match of the season vs. Reed-Custer. On Monday, September 21, the PHS golf team placed second in the Illinois Central 8 Conference Tournament. Peotone had one first place medalist and two second place medalists at the competition. The golf team has a few matches left before they compete in the IHSA culminating event. The boys will compete on October 6th, and the girls will compete on the following day, October 7th. Senior Night for Cross Country will take place on Tuesday evening (September 22nd) as we host Kankakee. The Cross Country team also has a few remaining invites before they finish up their season. Cross Country has scheduled a one-round event for the State Series that will take place on October 24th.

Contact Days/Upcoming Athletics:

We are currently in our third week of contact days. Each sports season was given a period of time during contact days so that there would be no overlap for boys' sports and no overlap for girls' sports. The reasoning was to avoid an individual attending multiple sports in one week (mainly if there were concerns with contact tracing). This is a similar practice utilized by most of our conference schools. Official Winter Athletic Seasons are set to begin for Girls'/Boys' Basketball, Cheer, Dance, Bowling and Wrestling on November 16th. IHSA has additionally removed the requirement that limited the number of games that can take place in a week during the winter season.

Three Weeks Down:

The first few weeks have definitely been an adjustment in the building for students and staff, but it appears that we are all starting to get settling in with the A/B Schedule and the new school year expectations. It's been great having the students in the building and being able to see them and interact. Temperature Checks in the morning are running smoothly, which has a lot to do with the teachers lending their assistance each morning.

Mrs. Terry Wuske, Director of Food Services, reported to the Board that we have EXCITING NEWS! The food service department has now transitioned over to the ALL FREE Lunch Program through the USDA stimulus incentives that were approved on October 9th.

All of our enrolled students are eligible for free lunch daily regarding their status. This will continue through the entire school year. This includes our in person daily grab-n-go lunch. And our remote learners will continue to pre order and pick up a five day pack on Monday evenings. We started last Friday and have already doubled our participation. I would like to thank the administration and principles for getting the information out to the parents.

I would also like to thank the staff for placing orders for our staff meals available on Wednesdays. Participation has been very good and they seem to really appreciate the lunch deliveries to their classrooms.

Mrs. Jennifer Haag, Director of Transportation, reported to the Board that October 19-23 is National School Bus Safety Week. Take a moment to go over safety rules with your students that ride the bus. For those students that drive their own vehicles take time to go over rules of the road with them also. A representative from Liberty Fire in Bourbonnais will be coming to the Transportation Department to go over some fire safety protocol and to have the drivers do a hands on demonstration with the fire extinguishers that we have on our buses. I will also be posting some things during the week on social media regarding bus safety.

Mr. Dave Osborne, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported to the Board that we are getting ready to start the boilers and hope to have those going by Monday. We're getting set-up to treat the water and are waiting to get all of the necessary equipment installed.

- We are getting snow plows ready and are going to try poly snow scrapers to try and save our asphalt.
- We're looking to get asphalt tile remediated in two classrooms and a bathroom at PES done over the Christmas break.

Mr. Trevor Moore, Chief School Business Official, provided the Board with an update on this month's debt service payments. He had told them in the spring that he would start reporting each October and April how much our debt payments are and how much of it is interest and fees. He reported a principal payment of \$3.6 million. Once the check makes its way to the bank, the high school will officially be paid off. This month, the District also paid \$145,052 in interest and \$500 in paying agent fees. The paying agent fee goes to the bank for processing the transactions and keeping records. For a short while between when these bonds are paid off and the new bond issue closes, the District will only have one outstanding bond issue, which is the working cash bonds from 2018.

About two weeks ago, the District completed a bond sale for more working cash bonds. The first step in this process is to establish a credit rating. This was done by compiling all kinds of financial and demographic data about the District and presenting it to Moody's. Mr. Stein asked Moody's to affirm the existing Aa3 rating and they did just that. Because the rating was maintained and the sale occurred before the Presidential election, a low interest rate was expected. Mr. Moore did ask Moody's how the District could improve its rating and they said an expansion of the tax base and a reduced risk due to state-supported cost-sharing pension plans were the best ways. Neither of these are in the District's control. If the District had declines in fund balance or liquidity or increased its debt significantly, there is a chance for a future downgrade. For this reason, Mr. Moore recommended the District continue to operate as efficiently as possible, as it had done for many years. The favorable conditions resulted in interest rates between 0.400% (year one) and 0.900% (year five). The overall rate is 0.855%.

The total interest related to the bond issue will be \$133,960. The issuance fees, which consists of underwriter's fees, bond and disclosure counsel fees, financial advisor fees, registrar's fee, and credit rating agency fee came to about \$94,233. Combined, this bond issue will consume about \$228,193 of taxpayer dollars that could otherwise be used in the classroom if the District was not forced to issue debt for operations. The only way to get away from this practice is to increase the limiting rate of the district and collect all taxes through normal operating funds.

The District received its Annual Financial Report and Mr. Moore provided a copy to each Board Member. The auditors normally present at the October meeting, but COVID has put them a bit behind schedule and they have to prioritize getting reports filed with the ROEs before presenting to Boards. The deficit came in a bit less than projected. The amended budget, which was finished before the COVID shutdowns, projected the deficit at \$1.8 million, but it came in closer to \$1.2 million. These savings were partially due to reduced expenses while shut down, but also a halt to non-essential spending to finish off the year while there were so many unknowns. The financial profile score was at 3.65 out of 4 which puts the District in the highest category of Recognition. The reason it was not better is because operationally, the District continues to spend more than normal operating revenues. It does not take into account the working cash funds that are used for operations. Until the District is in a position to get more revenue from traditional tax levy sources, this will remain the case. There was 1 finding on the report. This was a slight overspending in the 50 Fund. This is where IMRF and FICA are paid. This was a miscalculation when the amended budget was completed and it resulted in a 1.9% over budget figure.

Finally, the District has been named in the last will and testament of Alma L. Sylvester. She provided 1/4 of a trust to the District to provide a science film library at PHS. Since the will was written in 1974, it will be a challenge to spend the money in congruence with the spirit of the request. The PHS Principals and Science Department have already begun discussing how this gift might best be utilized. It is estimated the District will receive approximately \$45,000 from this trust.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

For the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel; collective negotiating matters; student disciplinary cases and other matters relating to individual students; pending, probable, or imminent litigation; security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonable potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property.
There May Be or May Not Be Action Following the Executive Session.

OTHER:

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:09 p.m. President Robinson asked the Board and Mr. Stein if they have anything for executive session. Mr. Stein and the Board both responded no. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following members answered aye (5), Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Moe and Mr. Douglas and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Becker were absent for the regular board meeting of October 19, 2020.



Tara Robinson, President



Cathy Cuculich, Reporter