



**PEOTONE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2019  
PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER**

**ROLL CALL:**

At 6:00 p.m. President 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 (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

**VISITOR'S LOG:**

No one signed the Visitor's Log.

**SPEAKER'S LOG:**

**Mrs. Peggy Marchionda, of Peotone, IL**, addressed the Board regarding the shortage of SI aides and nurses.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of Monday, November 18, 2019. Mr. Uthe made a motion, and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, and Mrs. Moe. Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO SPEAK:**

**Mr. James Nealon, PHS Industrial Arts Teacher**, addressed the Board with an idea of building sheds with his classes. This project would be curriculum based and a not-for-profit project. The customer would only pay for the materials needed and also be responsible for the pick-up of their shed when it was completed. The Board all agreed that this a fantastic idea and ask that Mr. Nealon to come back and update the Board on the progress and completion of the shed projects.

**Mr. Trevor Moore**, Chief School Business Official for the District, presented to the Board, the Administration, the 2019 Tax Levy presentation. The 2019 Tax Levy presentation will be available on the District's website.

**GOOD NEWS:**  
**PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL**  
**NOVEMBER 2019 ACADEMIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH**

Mr. Stein presented a certificate to Dominick Esquivel, son of Lorena and Gustavo Esquivel of Monee. Dominick is a sophomore at Peotone High School with a grade point average of 4.07 on a 4.0 grading scale. Congratulations!



**PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL**  
**RECOGNITION OF THE**  
**OCTOBER 2019 PBC EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD**

Mr. Jason Spang, Peotone High School Principal, introduced to the Board and the Administration, Mrs. Belinda Schirmer, the recipient of the October 2019 PBC Excellence in Teaching Award. Mr. Eric Englert, nominated Mrs. Schirmer for the award.

*Mr. Eric Englert wrote: as my co-teacher for English IIA, Belinda works tirelessly for her students and is a kind, yet demanding role model as they begin to navigate the challenges of literature or the complexities of a new grammatical concept. To this end, Belinda just produced a laminated grammar guide sheet for my classes—a very helpful instructional aide. Belinda's affable manner, combined with her felicity in explaining concepts in an easy-to-understand way showcase her talent as an educator. In addition, I have grown professionally by listening to the many life lessons she relays to the students.*



Congratulations, Mrs. Schirmer!

## **PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - BEST BUDDIES NOVEMBER 2019 - RESOLUTION**

Mrs. Robinson introduced Mrs. Colleen Crabbe, a Special Education Teacher, and Sponsor of the Best Buddies Club at Peotone High School. Mrs. Crabbe reported to the Board and Administration that her Best Buddies' students attended and were awarded the Sportsman's Trophy at the Fall Games at BBCHS on October 10, 2019. Mrs. Crabbe stated that is so proud of the students! Mrs. Crabbe also reported that she received compliments on how well behaved our students were from other schools who also attended the fall games! Mr. Stein presented certificates to Micheal Flanagan, Bethany Gass and Molly Marchionda. Mrs. Crabbe will distribute the remaining certificates to the students who were not present at the board meeting. Congratulations!



## **PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL OCTOBER 2019 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH**

Mr. Stein presented certificates to the October students of the month of Peotone Junior High School. These students have demonstrated outstanding behavior, good work ethic, and have "gone above and beyond the call of duty" at Peotone Junior High School.



There is a student from each grade, **6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Sophie Klawitter, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Nick Bostjancic** and **8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Jolynn Murray**. Congratulations!

## **FOR ACTION:**

### **REPORT NO. 35:** **FOR ACTION:**

**APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE 2019 TAX LEVY &  
CERTIFICATE OF TAX LEVY ADOPTION DATE OF  
DECEMBER 16, 2019.**

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Tentative 2019 Tax Levy and Certificate of the Tax Levy Adoption Date of December 16, 2019. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

### **REPORT NO. 36:** **FOR ACTION:**

**APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AND  
REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF A PUBLIC QUESTION  
REGARDING A LIMITING RATE INCREASE TO THE  
VOTERS OF THE DISTRICT ON THE PRIMARY BALLOT.**

Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve a Resolution providing for and requiring the Submission of a Public Question regarding a Limiting Rate Increase to the Voters of the District on the Primary Ballot. Mr. Uthe and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

### **REPORT NO. 37:** **FOR ACTION:**

**APPROVAL OF A RELEASE OF A PHS DIPLOMA.**

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve Approval of a Release of a PHS Diploma for Justin Ryba (D.O.B. 10/17/1997) who has completed the Peotone High School graduation requirements as of October 15, 2019. Mrs. Moe and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

### **REPORT NO. 38:** **FOR ACTION:**

**APPROVAL OF THE EARLY GRADUATES  
(DECEMBER 2019) OF PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL.**

Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve the Early Graduates of (December 2019) of Peotone High School. The early graduates are: *Randy Scott Alder, Amanda Jacqueline Brewer, Alexis Ann Doud, Kailey Marie Fohran, Maxwell Ralph Gesswein, Nathaniel Scott Holman, Dakota Dale Long, Collin Joseph McCarthy, Jenna Ann McDonald, Jazlynn Yvette Mendoz, Genevieve Marie Rentschler, Lorraine Elizabeth Selucky, Jakob James Christian Wheeler, Erin Dee Zielinski* Mr. Uthe and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

**REPORT NO. 39:****FOR ACTION:****APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED CUSTODIAN JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE DISTRICT.**

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Updated Custodian Job Description for the District. Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

**REPORT NO. 40: ADDENDUM - ADDITIONS IN BOLD AND UNDERLINE\*****FOR ACTION: PERSONNEL:**

**(\*Contingent upon receipt and evaluation of Employment documentation required by the District and the Illinois State Board of Education\*)**

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Addendum to Certified and Classified Personnel. Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

**CERTIFIED STAFF****EMPLOYMENT:**

- Shelly Ryan - PHS - Long term substitute for Nichole Schultz, Guidance Counselor - (effective date of 01/06/2019).
- Tracy Mrozek - PJHS - Long term substitute for Michelle Dandurand, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher (effective date of 12/16/2019).
- Steve Strough - PHS - Assistant Softball Coach (effective date of 11/18/2019).
- Kate Herder - PHS - Assistant Softball Coach (effective date of 11/18/2019).

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

- Michelle Dandurand- PJHS - Math Teacher - (effective date of 12/16/2019).

**CLASSIFIED STAFF****EMPLOYMENT:**

- Heather Boer - Transportation - School Bus Driver in Training to School Bus Driver (effective date of 11/15/2019).
- Rebecca Michel - Cafeteria - Substitute (effective date of 11/19/2019).
- Tanner Paeth - PHS - Assistant Football coach (effective date of 08/12/2019).
- **Melanie Hoving - PES - Custodian (night) (effective date of 11/25/2019).**

### **CHANGE OF LOCATION:**

- **Lucas Rumisek - PES Custodian (night) to PJHS custodian effective date of 11/25/2019).**

### **RESIGNATION:**

- Elisa Carrillo - PHS - Paraprofessional (effective date of 11/15/2019).

### **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:**

**Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent**, stated that he wanted to recognize the following board members who were awarded their Master Board Member award pins from the Illinois Association of School Boards. They are, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe and Mr. Douglas. Congratulations!

Mr. Stein also reported to the Board that I have received several FOIAs' this month; two (2) FOIAs from Mr. James Bowden, which took 26 work hours to complete his requests. Six(6) requests from Mr. John Maxedon and one (1) request from Mrs. Nancy Holstein.

**Mr. Ruben Suarez, Director of Technology**, reported to the Board that everything that Dave Weissbohn has in place is good and everything is running very smoothly.

**Mrs. Carole Zurales, Principal of Peotone Elementary**, reported to the Board that Halloween was a lot of fun at PES. While the weather was not good and we couldn't do the parade outside, parents still got to view the Halloween parade live on Facebook. Also, at the last board meeting I couldn't announce the costume winner from the "**CHANGE STARTS WITH US**" fundraiser but as most of you already know, the winning costume was an inflatable dinosaur. During the afternoon of Halloween, teachers got to choose two professional development sessions to attend. Sessions were presented by myself and other staff members. The sessions included Writer's Workshop, Calm Classroom, Google 101, Google 201, Word Study and Student Engagement Strategies. Parent Teacher Conferences were held on November 1st. We had a 93% attendance rate.

We are halfway through second quarter and already have over 200 POP stars! Our goal is to beat last Quarter's total of 349.

Our monthly focus for November is "**An Attitude of Gratitude.**" Each morning I share something I am thankful for on the announcements and then the students come up with something each day they are thankful for. The students also made cards for our Veterans and active military thanking them for their service. I read to Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade classrooms last week - a book about gratitude! Our school counselor, Mrs. Siniawski, is doing a Gratitude Jar activity with our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders this week. We have a few more activities to wrap up the month of gratitude.



Mr. Deweese did a great job preparing students for our Veterans' Day assembly. Each grade level sang a patriotic song and then the whole school sang several songs together. Two WIN classrooms performed Veterans' Day poems. Mrs. Susan Wackerlin from Peotone Adopt a Soldier came to accept the check from our "**CHANGE STARTS WITH US**" fundraiser. Half the proceeds went to Adopt a Soldier of Peotone and the other half was donated to the Helping Hands Pantry.

Mrs. Deutsche organized our Poppy Wall where students and staff members could honor someone they know that has served or is currently serving in our military.

#### **Upcoming Events at PES:**

Our Kindergarten and Third Grade Winter Concert is Monday, December 9th at Peotone High School. Kindergarten is at 6:00 pm followed by Third Grade and the bell choir at 7:00 p.m. Our Winter AIMS web testing will be the week of December 9th. The PTO Pancake Breakfast is Saturday, December 14th from 8:00 am -11:00 a.m.

Airplane and Drones Club will be starting in January for our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders.

**Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services**, reported to the Board that I have reviewed the screening process that has been completed for all new students to the district identified as English Language Learners. We have identified the children in each building that will take the ACCESS test of English proficiency in the fall. The highest concentration of EL learners should be noted as 20 students at PES, and 17 at PIC.

Community Based Learning and Vocational Programming have been a focus of improvement for the department this fall for our Specialized Instruction programs and it's going well. Also all the Specialized Instruction classes in the district will hold a Thanksgiving celebration this week together at PHS.

Additionally, I want to thank the school board for all the support this year as we have introduced a Board Certified Behavior Analyst to the Special Services Team (BCBA). Our BCBA works contractually for us a few days a month and her support and expertise has been well received by our team!

**Mr. Jason Spang, Principal of Peotone High School**, reported to the Board that PHS is bringing back Saturday School Detentions. They will run from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. This will broaden our disciplinary options in terms of offering more for SB100. As it stands now, if a student skips out on a detention then we assign two. After that it jumps to a full day of ISS. That is a pretty significant jump in terms of clock hours of discipline served. Hopefully we can work together with the parent and encourage Saturdays since there will be no loss of instructional time for the student and it also cuts into their weekend. PHS would like to thank everyone who came out in attendance to see the musical "**Into The Woods**" this past weekend. Ms. Chelsea McKay mentioned that she feels grateful and

blessed to work in a school where everybody is so supportive of the arts and each other. Our PHS Crisis Committee is meeting this week to approve our ALICE Rollout for Remainder of Year. Our first ever public Veterans Day Assembly was a huge hit as we unveiled banners of the five branches of the US military. Each branch had PHS alumni listed if they served. We will update the banners annually for years to come. Our PHS Band played the National Anthem and our PHS Chorus sang Salute to the Armed Forces as the student body gave a round of applause to all veterans upon the playing of their branch's theme song. The October PBC Excellence in Teaching Honor was awarded to Mrs. Belinda Schirmer!

**Mrs. Wendy Bean, Assistant Principal of Peotone High School**, reported to the Board that we have completed our annual curriculum meetings with all teams and individuals to start discussions of changes for next year. The next step is to prepare the course description book which will go to the printer over winter break. Nicole Majca and I took eight students to the ICE Leadership Conference on November 4th at Reed Custer High School. These students were able to hear from national speaker Ted Wiese and participate in many leadership activities with other students from our conference. Also on November 4th, we hosted the first ICE Choral Festival. Several schools came here for an afternoon of rehearsing and then performed that night under the direction of a guest conductor. Ms. McKay did a great job with the coordination of this event.

**Mr. Chris Gibson, Athletic Director of Peotone High School/ Assistant Principal of Peotone Junior High**, reported to the Board that Peotone High School fall sports have all come to a close. We had two Cross-Country runners compete at the State Cross-Country race. Grace Battiato finished 84th overall and Joey Uthe finished 77th overall. Award nights are being held on an individual sport basis. Winter sports are ratcheting up. All teams have started practicing. Girls' basketball has started. Contests with Boys' Basketball starting the week of Thanksgiving and all other sports the week after that. We have one open position for Cheer coach. There are no candidates and we are canceling Competition season. We are still seeking candidates for the Sideline Cheer component.

**Mr. Scott Wenzel, Principal of Peotone Junior High School**, reported to the Board that all Junior High Students were treated to an author visit on Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Our guest author was Barbara Dee. She talked with our students about her career as well as her new book ***"Maybe He Just Likes You."*** Students were also provided the opportunity to purchase a book which Barbara Dee has signed. A big thank you to Mrs. Schubbe and Anderson Books for this opportunity!

Our students and staff were treated to a special assembly with two of our local veterans. Mr. Bob Krueger and Mr. Bill Wachowski, both members of the Peotone American Legion, spoke to our students in honor of Veteran's Day. The PJHS band traveled to PIC to perform at the Veteran's Day Ceremony. PJHS students attended the Youth Activation Summit for Special Olympics. Jack Klawitter and Sophie Klawitter presented on the Inclusion Revolution. Other



attendees from PJHS were JoLynn Murray, Andrew Gwiazda, Luke Ziems, and Moriah Young. A big thank you to all of our sponsors, Ms. Megan MacDougall and Ms. Tonya Schlickman for all their hard work for our students.

The PJHS Speech Team competed in the IESA Speech Contest on Friday, November 8th at Hickory Creek Middle School. The members of the Speech Team came home with five First Place Ratings, one Second Place Rating, and one Third Place Rating. The Speech Team also traveled to PIC on Thursday, November 7th to perform for the fifth grade classes. Thank you to Mrs. Tena DeGraaf and all the work she has done for our students as well as PIC for allowing us to visit.

The PJHS Student Council held its first dance of the school year. The dance was Friday, October 25th and we had 225 students in attendance.

Today is the 2nd quarter midterm. The PJHS PBIS team and students will be hosting an incentive day on Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The theme of the incentive day is basketball and pajama party.

Girls' Basketball season is coming to a close. This is our last week of the regular season. Both the 7th and 8th grade teams were Kan-Will Conference Champions. The 8th Grade was also Kan-Will Tournament Champions while the 7th Grade team were runner-up in the tournament.

PJHS will be hosting several tournaments during the month of December. We will be hosting the 8th Grade Girls Basketball IESA Regional the week of December 2nd. We will also host the 8th Grade Girls Basketball IESA Sectional on Wednesday, December 11th. We will be hosting a 6th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament on Saturday, December 7th. Lastly, we will be hosting the 8th Grade Boys Basketball Kan-Will Tournament on December 14th, 16th, and 17th.

PJHS Wrestling will begin practice and tryouts on Monday, December 2nd. Volleyball will also begin around that time frame. The PJHS Winter Concert will be Tuesday, December 17th at the PHS Auditorium at 7:00 pm.

**Mr. Dave Osborne, Director of Buildings and Grounds**, reported to the Board that we are back in boiler season, and there seems to be more pipe leaks than in the recent years. I have contacted the insurance company about Connor Shaw Center's roof after the hail storm. Korellis Roofing came out to check for the damage and found that there are three layers of shingles that have to come off. Korellis Roofing gave us an estimate of \$165,000 for the Connor Shaw Center's roof. We're waiting to hear back from the insurance company.

**Mrs. Terry Wuske, Director of Food Services**, reported to the Board that the Food Service Department ended October with our last Game Day Raffle at PHS. The students really enjoyed the Spirit Wear. Thanks to the Boosters! We had a successful **"TRY IT PIZZA DAY"** at high school. The students chose a new pizza to be put on the menu. We will be doing this again at PIC for their choice. This week I will be introducing a **"BURGER BAR"** at PHS. Students will

be able to put their favorite toppings on their burger. We continue to introduce vegetables at all schools with the Harvest of the Month Program. This fall the vegetables has been beets and sweet potatoes.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:40 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting. President Robinson also stated that there will be no Closed Executive Session meeting tonight. Mr. Uthe made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and a voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (7) Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.



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Tara Robinson, President



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Cathy Cuculich, Reporter