



**BOARD OF EDUCATION-REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 19, 2020
PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER**

ROLL CALL:

At 6:01 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. Tara Robinson, Mr. Richard Uthe, Mr. Paul Douglas, Mr. Roger Bettenhausen, Mrs. Jennifer Moe, Mrs. Jodi Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

VISITOR'S LOG:

No one signed the Visitor's Log.

SPEAKER'S LOG:

No one signed the Speaker's Log.

CONSENT AGENDA:

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda of the regular board meeting of Wednesday, February 19, 2020. Mrs. Moe made a motion, Mr. Uthe seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

GOOD NEWS:

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2020 ACADEMIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Mr. Steve Stein presented a certificate to **Karli Borsch**, the February 2020 Board of Education Academic Student of the Month for Peotone High School. Karli is the daughter of Christer and Kelly Borsch of Manhattan. Karli is a junior at Peotone High School with a grade point average of 4.0 on a 4.0 grading scale.

Congratulations Karli Borsch!



PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

JANUARY 2020 PBC EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Mrs. Wendy Bean, Assistant Principal of Peotone High School, introduced Mrs. Luisa Suarez, Spanish Teacher at Peotone High School, to the Board as the recipient of the January 2020 PBC Excellence in Teaching Award. Mrs. Nicole Majca, nominated Mrs. Suarez for this award and wrote:

The first thing this teacher said to me on the day returning from break was that she was ready to be here. We then went on to discuss curriculum, plans, and more. This is not the only time she has taken time out of her prep to motivate, collaborate, listen to my stories, and give me guidance and structure. She even came to the rescue and covered my morning duty last minute in December when I needed her most.

She never misses a day and she takes time before, after, and during school to make sure her students are welcomed. Not only does she care about teaching the curriculum but my most important takeaway from her is the importance of establishing meaningful relationships. I constantly see students working with her whether it be for her club, her class sponsor, or for her classes in general. Her bonds formed with students are so strong that alumni come back to visit and thank her. Her classroom is filled with pictures, moments, and memories throughout the year. This is an idea I stole from her and now use in my own classroom to create a warm, welcoming environment.

I would not have this job at Peotone if it were not for this teacher. In my interview, she expressed her importance of best practices and how she even did the unthinkable, which is 'throwing away the textbook' to revamp Peotone's FL curriculum. Knowing that these were all of the best approaches I freshly learned in college, this teacher drew my attention immediately to eagerly become a part of this department. Throughout these three years, I have had her as a mentor and a friend. Please join me in congratulating an amazing teacher, Luisa Suarez, for the PBC Excellence in Teaching Award.

Congratulations Mrs. Luisa Suarez!



PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2020 RESOLUTION - MAE GRAFFEO

Mr. Steve Stein presented a certificate to Mr. Steve Strough on behalf of Mae Graffeo, a 12th grade member of the Peotone High School Girls' Basketball Team coached by Steve Strough, scored the 1,000th point of her high school career on January 16, 2020. Mae is one of only four players in the history of the girls' basketball program who have accomplished this outstanding achievement.

Congratulations Mae Graffeo!

PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL JANUARY 2020 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Mr. Steve Stein presented certificates to the January 2020 Students of the month of Peotone Junior High School. **6th Grade student, Aiden Sharp, 7th Grade student Donovan Esquivel and 8th Grade student, Dania Marquez.** These students have demonstrated outstanding behavior, good work ethic, and have “gone above and beyond the call of duty” at Peotone Junior High School.



Congratulations Aiden Sharp, Donovan Esquivel and Dania Marquez!

OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO SPEAK:

Mr. James Bowden, of Peotone, IL, addressed Mr. Stein regarding the Preschool and the number of preschool students. Mr. Bowden also read his letter to the editor that was published in the Peotone Vedette to the Board and Administration regarding the referendum ballot and Mr. Moore’s contract.

Mr. Bob Janeliunas, of Peotone, IL, addressed the Board about his concerns about the negative referendum flyer that has been circulating on Facebook and around Peotone. I think Peotone is a great town, the schools and teachers are great! We love it here! I will be voting yes for the referendum! Thank you for your time tonight.

FOR ACTION:

REPORT NO. 53:

FOR ACTION:

APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF THE CLOVERLEAF MILK CONTRACT FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Renewal of the Cloverleaf Milk Contract for the 2020-2021 School Year.** Mr. Uthe and Mrs. Moe made a motion, and Mr. Bettenhausen seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

REPORT NO. 54:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF A HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM
AT PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve a **Health Education Program at Peotone Junior High School**. 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, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

REPORT NO. 55:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES STAFFING
NEEDS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Special Services Staffing Needs for the 2020-2021 school year**. One FTE Special Education Teacher at PES and one FTE English Language Interventionist for the District. 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, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

REPORT NO. 56:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF A FLOOR HOCKEY CLUB AT
PEOTONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve a **Floor Hockey Club and a Stipend (\$422.38) for a staff member at Peotone Elementary School**. Mrs. Moe made a motion, and Mr. Uthe and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

REPORT NO. 57: ADDENDUM TO PERSONNEL (Addition in Bold and Underline):

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

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Addendum to Personnel of Certified and Classified Staff**. Mr. Uthe made a motion, and Mr. Bettenhausen seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays

CERTIFIED STAFF:**EMPLOYMENT:**

- Denise Denny - PES - Long Term Substitute (effective date of 03-02-2020).
- Moira Burke - PHS - Head Track Coach (effective date of 02-14-2020).
- Gerard McManus - PHS - Assistant Track Coach (effective date of 02-14-2020).
- Gregg Schreiber - PES - Sponsor for Floor Hockey Club (effective date of 03-02-2020).

RESIGNATION:

- Jeremy Snowden -PIC-Intramural Coach for Football and Floor Hockey (effective date of 02-14-2020).

CLASSIFIED STAFF**EMPLOYMENT:**

- **Jill Schroeder - District - on call substitute nurse (effective date of 02-20-2020).**

TEMPORARY SUMMER POSITIONS:

- Bradley Tennison -Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- McKenna Evans -Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Cole Evans - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Mallory Ashline -Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Jake Lexow - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Daphne Sheehan - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Marty Merigold - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Matt Zaida - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Matt Asbrand - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Tyler Rekau - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Patricia Martz - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Jennifer Guerrero - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 03-06-2020).
- Alyson Matthias - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Julia Beechy - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).
- Billy Robinson - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).

CHANGE IN STATUS:

- Michelle Carlson - PIC - Lunchroom Supervisor- (effective date of 2-21-2020).

RESIGNATION:

- Ryan Vlk - Transportation - Bus Driver (effective date of 02-10-2020).

FOR DISCUSSION:

First Reading of Board Policy 4:140 -President Robinson asked the Board to review Board Policy 4:140 and you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mr. Stein.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, reported to the Board that I did not speak at the January board meeting, so I am reporting FOIAs for January and February tonight. January 2020 FOIAs: one (1) from Smart Procure, three (3) from Mr. John Maxedon, video of the December 10th Referendum meeting, potential downfalls of the referendum, and changes to the goals of Mr. Trevor Moore's contract. February 2020 FOIAs: one (1) from the Illinois Retired Teachers' Association, one (1) from Mrs. Robyn Greenfield, Admin contract and percentage of the increase and who else has requested this information, one (1) from NBC5, Filtering software, one (1) from Mrs. Julie Widinski, district mailing information, one (1) from Mr. Tom Stoub, 2017-2019 account requests, one (1) from Mrs. Deb Swidergal, Vedette Invoices, two (2) from Mr. James Bowden, Trevor Moore's contract and goals, working cash interest for 2006-2008, this FOIA was denied, documents already produced, and six (6) from Mr. John Maxedon, cost savings, preschool expenses, Russell publications, Account 1719, number of teacher positions, money spent on referendum materials.

Dr. Charles Vitton, Assistant Superintendent, reported to the Board that this Friday, Mr. Stein, myself, and Mrs. Zurales will be attending a training session at the PDA in Joliet regarding our next steps with regard to the ESSA summative designation of "underperforming" at PES (based on last year's IAR data). This meeting will discuss how we analyze our data and prepare the continuous improvement plan that will describe our intentions to provide additional student supports for the next three years under the ESSA plan.

Next Tuesday (February 25th) I will be meeting with the K-8 Science curriculum committee all day to further discuss our planning to implement a new Science curriculum for the 2020-2021 school year.

Information from Mr. Suarez (not present at the board meeting):

Working on setting up replication between Powerschool and Routefinder.
Joined the Homeland Security Information Network. We will be informed of newly discovered Cyberattacks and how to prevent them. They will also monitor our IP address and domain for specific attacks targeting our district.

Ordered UPS's for lunchroom to keep the PushCoin POS terminals running during a power failure.

Working with buildings and grounds on replacing the broken magnet door locking system at PJHS front door with new latch based key fob system.

Mrs. Carole Zurales, Principal of Peotone Elementary, reported to the Board that: we wrapped up our January monthly focus with SNOW-ga. Coach Tolly and PHS football players came to participate alongside our PES students which was awesome.

- Our February monthly focus is “All You Need is Love” Each week, we have focused on different types of love. Love yourself, love your family and friends, love your school, and love your world. Today, we had a school-wide assembly because it is LOVE your school week... so it was great to come together as a school community and we always have the best time!
- Valentines’ Day Parties were this past Friday. It was great having all our parent volunteers in the building organizing fun games, crafts, and activities for the students. PES also participated in the Valentines for Vets program through State Representative Lindsay Parkhurst.
 - We currently have 291 POP stars... we are anticipating our biggest call down tomorrow morning because we missed last week’s call down because of the snow day and it is also a double POP ticket week.

Upcoming Events at PES

- Our March Monthly focus will be SUPER Students... and we will be discussing and learning about qualities of super students including perseverance, honesty, and cooperation
- We will be conducting our ALICE Counter Drill next Monday, February 24th.
- Next Friday, our entire school will be going to the high school to watch the junior high students perform the play Willy Wonka Jr.
- On March 2nd and 3rd, March Family Dental will be doing dental talks with our first through third graders.
- March 2nd is Read Across America Day...during WIN time, each classroom will have guest readers reading their favorite Dr. Seuss book.

Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services, thanked the Board for approving the two new positions for the Special Services Department tonight. She emphasized that she appreciates the Board's commitment of investing in our programming and in our students and their needs. Mrs. Loy reported that in recent years, the Special Services Department has eliminated the use of many contractual services. Mrs. Loy noted that the District no longer uses contractual psychological services, contractual nursing services, and contractual occupational therapy services, as these are all now provided more efficiently and with better quality within the district. Mrs. Loy also noted the creation of the in-district comprehensive programming that has also been developed in recent years and thanked the Board for their continued support.

Mrs. Loy reported that the Peotone High School's Special Olympics Unified Basketball Team kicked off the season on February 12th with an Exhibition Game against Best Buddies, followed by a game with Andrew High School. Next on Saturday Feb 16th, we traveled to Plano High School for the Regional

Competition. Peotone was victorious over Hoffman Estates in the first game, and lost to Plano in the second round. The Unified Coaches will now prepare for our next event this year which will be Track. Peotone Junior High School's Special Olympics Unified Bowling has begun practice. They will host the Special Olympics Summit at PJHS on April 14th, and focus on the Inclusion Revolution. Additionally, the PJHS Unified Basketball team will compete in the Unified Bowling competition in Joliet on April 25th.

Mr. Jason Spang, Principal of Peotone High School, reported to the Board that Scott Wenzel, Wendy Bean, Chris Gibson, and myself have all met on five different occasions and have collaborated to provide you all with a proposed draft of the 2020-2021 Peotone High School and Peotone Junior High School Student Handbook tonight. Everything highlighted in blue are new or adjusted policies. It was cleaned up and a lot of information was organized in an easier to read format for parents.

Cambridge Educational Services:

Junior SAT Prep through Cambridge will be on March 5th in the auditorium. We offer this annually for our Junior students and is the culmination of practice that includes the PSAT 8/9, the PSAT10, and the PSAT/NMSQT. This education will include strategies to help the students understand what exactly the test is asking of the students and how to navigate those questions. All School Testing Day/SAT will be assessed on Tuesday April 14 and will last all day.

Winter Ball:

PHS hosted its annual Winter Ball this past Saturday on February 15th from 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Attendance was around 230 students and student behavior was outstanding. Special thanks to Mrs. Crabbe, Mrs. Aguilar, Officer Stankus, Mr. Napolitano, Mrs. Juma, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Arnold, and anyone else I missed for all volunteering for the event!

STEM Trailer:

On February 4th, the Illinois National Guard brought their STEM Trailer to PHS. This trailer included cutting edge technology that the military uses to diffuse bombs and help in military warfare. All high school students enrolled in science courses were organized to walk through the trailer in groups of 12. The trailer featured two rooms and each group spent five minutes in each room prepping for a mission and then attempting to carry that plan out. Special thanks to PHS Counselor Mr. David Church for organizing the event.

Mrs. Wendy Bean, Assistant Principal of Peotone High School, reported to the Board that the Community Wide Viewing Event, Screenagers, will be Wednesday, March 11th. An award-winning film that probes into the vulnerable corners of family life and depicts messy struggles over social media, video games and academics. The film offers solutions on how we can help our kids navigate the digital world.

Screenagers, Next Chapter, Wednesday, April 22nd - High Stress, Anxiety and Depression are experienced by millions of young people. We follow physician

and filmmaker, Delaney Ruston, as she discovers solutions for improved adolescent well-being in the digital age.

Our counselors and Mrs. Murray are wrapping up registration for next school year. In the next few weeks, we will be making decisions regarding classes and then building the master schedule.

Mr. Scott Wenzel, Principal of Peotone Junior High School, reported to the Board that the PBIS event took place on Friday, January 31st. The event was attended by many as it was our Dodgeball Tournament. Thanks to the staff for their help.

The Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee was held on Friday, February 7th. Finishing in first place was 8th grader Nolan Mueller, second place was 8th grader Sam Jensen, and third place was 6th grade Ava Hartsch. All three advance to the next round of the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee to be held on March 21st in Lansing.

The 8th grade students took the Illinois Youth Survey on Tuesday, February 11th during their P.E. Class. On February 14th, our school held the finals of the all school Spelling Bee. The school-wide spelling bee champion is 8th grader Ethan Ferrier, second place is 8th grader Nolan Mueller, and third place is 7th grader Dalton Sala. Ethan Ferrier will be advancing to the Will County Spelling Bee on March 10th. Thanks to Spelling Bee coach Laura Fitzpatrick. The PJHS Math team competed in the Momence Math Competition. The 6th grade team finished 3rd overall out of 12 teams. The state testing (IAR) will begin in March for PJHS students.

Things that will be occurring or are occurring at PJHS:

The 8th grade students will be attending the movie "Call of the Wild" on February 25th. They have completed reading the novel. Peotone Junior High School play performance will be Saturday, February 29th. Mrs. Heron and the drama team will be holding a dress rehearsal on Friday, February 28th for the elementary students.

PJHS will be holding a school dance on March 6th.
Kan-Will Spelling Contest will be held on March 18th in Manteno.

Athletics:

We will be hosting the IESA Wrestling Regional on Saturday, February 29th.
The 7th Grade IESA Volleyball Regional may begin Saturday, February 29th.
The 8th Grade IESA Volleyball Regional may begin Saturday, March 7th.

Mr. Chris Gibson, Assistant Principal PJHS/Athletic Director PHS, reported to the Board that at:

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL:

- Mae Graffeo, a senior member of the Varsity Girls Basketball team, reached her 1,000th point.
- On January 16, 2020. Mae joins a very elite group of only three other young ladies who have reached this pinnacle in the history of Peotone Girls Basketball.
- We have four wrestlers who have advanced to the State Wrestling Tournament. Marco Spinazzola (Fr), Kevin Hogan (So), Logan Hartnett (Sr), and Paul Keane (Sr) are the four wrestlers who advanced. They will be wrestling on February 20-22 in Champaign.
- Peotone High School will be hosting the IHSA 2A Girls Basketball Super-Sectional on Monday, February 24, 2020. The Super-Sectional game is the Elite-8 round of the state series. The game will begin at 7:00 p.m.
- Spring Sports (Girls Soccer, Baseball, Softball) begin March 2nd. Track is currently underway.

Mr. Dave Osborne, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported to the Board that we are checking in to getting chemical treatment for the boilers. I think it is an effort to save money, the systems were unhooked years ago. We are now paying for that with corrosion in the systems.

Mrs. Carole Zurales found a grant from Will County for bottle filling stations that we are applying for. We have installed seven so far and they are getting good use by the students.

We are checking in to renting a portable boiler if one of ours ever goes down. We'll look at where to set one, and how to hook it up at each building. I'd rather do this now than wait until one goes down to start looking for one.

Ofc. Dan Stankus, School Resource Officer for the District, reported to the Board that the Emergency Go-Bags at Peotone High School and Peotone Junior High School are now completed with the final addition of Stop the Bleed Kits. Awaiting more to arrive so Peotone Elementary and Peotone Intermediate Center can be completed as well.

- Conducted an Active Shooter drill on Presidents Day (2-17-20) at PES involving multiple surrounding police and fire agencies. All went well.
- As the weather breaks we will be conducting evacuation drills at all campuses
- Principal Jason Spang, Superintendent Steve Stein and myself recently held a conference call with members of the National Threat Assessment Division of the Secret Service & Department of Homeland Security regarding our districts Threat Assessment protocols. We gained some new insight during the discussion as well as received compliments on how

well structured our plan is. They even suggested that they may use some of our outlines as guidelines while assisting other school districts in their planning. We are continuing to draft and finalize the protocols in cooperation with their assistance.

- Looking into issues regarding district wide communication on our two way radios.

Mrs. Joanne Obszanski, Principal of Peotone Intermediate Center, reported to the Board that:

- Thank you to Knights of Columbus for inviting PIC to participate in the 38th Spelling Bee on 2/7/2020. William Zdzancewicz & Devon Stone represented PIC 5th grade students.
- Special thanks to Don Swanson & Ruben Suarez for repairing PIC's PA system on Tuesday morning upon our return to school from the long weekend.
- 50 students participated in PIC's Intramural Floor Hockey season.
- 62 students are signed up for PIC Intramural Volleyball season beginning 2/24 thru 4/3.
- Thanks to PTO for providing funds for Will County Forest Preserve presenting the Snowshoe Program to our 5th grade students on Wednesday & Friday.
- PIC's Kindness Café is a big hit with staff. Each Friday Mrs. Kauchak, Ms. Hamann, Ms. Septoski, Ms. Schuzer & Ms. Walker and their students serve a breakfast menu item for a minimal fee. The Kindness Café offers Mrs. Kauchak's students the opportunity to interact with their peers and various adults throughout the building. The Kindness Café affords PIC's staff an opportunity to appreciate and enjoy students not otherwise included in their schedules.
- On 2/20/2020 Drama is travelling to Moraine Valley for a performance of "The Wizard of Oz" followed up by pizza @ Giordano's Pizza
- Leadership & Self-Discipline are PIC's February Character Ed Traits – Both 4th & 5th grade students completed activities on the topic of leadership & self-discipline. PIC students look forward to a visit from Mrs. Schubbe and 24 PHS students on the afternoon of 2/26/2020 to share with our students how Leadership & Self-discipline impact their success.
- Thanks to Mrs. Schubbe for arranging the author visit from Peter Lerangis on March 11th. Mr. Lerangis is the author of Throwback. Information is going home in the next day or so regarding the visit and purchase of the book.
- Letters are going out to parents regarding the IAR state assessment for both 4th & 5th grades.
- In addition letters will be sent home to 5th grade parents regarding the Illinois Science Assessment. Assessments begin in early March thru the beginning of April.

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/MAY NOT BE ACTION FOLLOWING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.

OTHER:

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:10 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting and she 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, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.


Tara Robinson, President


Cathy Cuculich, Reporter