



**BOARD OF EDUCATION-REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.
PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER**

****This Regular Board Meeting was done via teleconference call with Board members, Administrators and the Public. Present at Peotone High School, Media Center, were Mr. Steve Stein, President, Mrs. Tara Robinson, Vice President, Mr. Richard Uthe, Mrs. Cathy Cuculich and Mr. Don Swanson*.***

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 (6): Mrs. Tara Robinson, Mr. Richard Uthe, Mr. Paul Douglas, Mrs. Jennifer Moe, Mrs. Jodi Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

VISITOR'S LOG:

No one signed the Visitor's Log.

SPEAKER'S LOG:

Mr. John Maxedon, of Peotone, IL joined the teleconference call and asked President Robinson about his email that he had sent to all Board members. He wanted to know when he will be receiving their responses. He also stated that he did receive a response from Mrs. Jodi Becker. Mrs. Robinson responded that she will have to talk to the Board members about receiving your email and their responses to your email.

CONSENT AGENDA:

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda of the regular board meeting of Tuesday, March 24, 2020. Mr. Uthe made a motion, Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

FOR ACTION:

REPORT NO. 59:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE DESTRUCTION OF CLOSED
EXECUTIVE SESSION TAPES FROM
JANUARY 2015 THROUGH JUNE 2015.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Destruction of the Closed Executive Session Tapes from January 2015 through June 2015.**

Mr. Uthe made a motion, and Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6):

Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 60:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A USED
FORKLIFT FOR THE DISTRICT.**

President Robinson asked for a motion for the **Approval of the Purchase of a Used Forklift for the Maintenance Department.** Mr. Uthe made a motion, and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 61:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF A
USED CARGO VAN FOR THE
MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Purchase of a Used Cargo Van for the Maintenance Department.** Mr. Uthe made a motion, Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 62:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE GREEN ARBOR LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS, INC.'S CONTRACT FOR THE DISTRICT.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Green Arbor Landscape Contractors, Inc.'s Contract for the District**. Mr. Uthe made a motion, Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 63:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF THE 27 ACRES FARM LEASE.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Renewal of the 27 Acres Farm Lease**. Mr. Uthe made a motion, Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 64:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 IHSA MEMBERSHIP.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **2020-2021 IHSA Membership**. There is no fee for the renewal of this membership. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 65:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE FY20 BUDGET.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Authorization to Amend the FY20 Budget**. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 66:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 DISTRICT SCHOOL
CALENDAR.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **2020-2021 District School Calendar**. Mr. Uthe made a motion, and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 67:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 PES/PIC AND PHS/PJHS
STUDENT HANDBOOKS.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **2020-2021 PES/PIC and PHS/PJHS Student Handbooks**. Mr. Uthe made a motion, and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 68:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION FOR DISMISSAL
OF PROBATIONARY TEACHERS (NOT FINAL YEAR).**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Resolution for Dismissal of Probationary Teachers (Not Final Year)**. The following teachers, **Austin Rueth and Susan Blakely are hereby dismissed effective as of the end of the 2019-2020 school term and not re-employed as teachers in this School District for the 2020-2021 school term**. Mr. Uthe made a motion, Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

REPORT NO. 69:

FOR ACTION:

PERSONNEL:

(*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 **Certified and Classified Staff Personnel**. Mr. Uthe made a motion, Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.

CERTIFIED STAFF

EMPLOYMENT:

- Megan MacDougall - PJHS - Unified Bowling Sponsor - (effective date of 01-15-2020).
- Tonya Schlickman - PJHS - Unified Bowling Sponsor - (effective date of 01-15-2020).

CHANGE IN STATUS:

- Katherine Herder - from PHS Band Teacher to PJHS/PHS Band Teacher (effective for the 2020-2021 school year).

DISMISSAL:

- Austin Rueth - PHS - Social Studies Teacher (effective date - end of the 2019-2020 school year).
- Austin Rueth - PHS- Baseball Assist. Coach, PJHS – Baseball Assist Coach and 6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach (effective date – end of the 2019-2020 school year).
- Susan Blakely - PJHS - Special Education Teacher (effective date - end of the 2019-2020 school year).

INVOLUNTARY TRANSFER:

- Jennifer Bachmann - PJHS - General Music/Band Teacher to 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher (effective for the 2020-2021 school year).

RESIGNATION:

- Christina Juma - PHS - Freshman Sponsor - (effective date of 06-30-2020).
- Chris Gibson - PHS Athletic Director/PJHS Assistant Principal (effective date of 06-30-2020).
- Christopher Napolitano - PHS - Science Teacher (effective date – end of the 2019-2020 school year).
- Christopher Napolitano - PHS - Boys Asst. Basketball Coach (effective date - end of the 2019-2020 school year).
- Melanie Green - School Counselor - Peotone Intermediate Center/Peotone Early Education Program (effective date of 04-10-2020).
- Mike Curta - PHS - Boys' Head Coach Basketball (effective date of 3-17-2020).

RETIREMENT: (4) four years- 20-21, 21-22, 22-23, 23-24

- Deborah Caza- PES - Kindergarten Teacher (letter dated 02-23-2020 retirement at the end of the 2023-2024 school year).

SECOND YEAR:

- Shannon Anselmo - School Psychologist - PES
- Sarah Acevedo - SI Special Education Teacher - PES
- Carly Bittner - Math Teacher- PJHS
- Moira Burke - Special Education Teacher - PHS
- Kelly Chenoweth - Speech and Language Pathologist -PES
- Joselyn Daher - Special Education Teacher – PHS
- Kathryn Grygiel - 5th Grade Teacher - PIC
- Krysta Harmon - Music/Art Teacher - PIC
- Katherine Herder - Band Teacher - PHS
- Terri Jean Kauchak,-Special Education Teacher - PIC
- Connie Mortell - 4th and 5th Special Education Resource Teacher
- Gregg Schreiber - Physical Education Teacher - PES
- Samantha Sexton - 1st Grade Teacher - PES
- Ashley Siemion -School Counselor - PHS
- Molly Siniawski - School Counselor - PES
- Travis Smith - Art Teacher - PJHS
- Deanna Staley - Science Teacher - PJHS
- Amber Tiggelaar - Special Education Teacher - PJHS
- Katrina Yager - 4th Grade Teacher - PIC

THIRD YEAR:

- Michelle Bozarth- Permanent Substitute Teacher - PES
- Amy Cameron- Special Education Teacher - PES
- David Church - Guidance Counselor - PHS
- Michelle Dandurand - 6th Grade Math Teacher - PJHS
- Eric Englert- English Language Arts - PHS
- Abby Jacobs - Ag Teacher - PHS
- Nicole Kreml - 5th Grade Teacher - PIC
- Steven Malm - School Psychologist - PHS
- Robyn Markowicz- Math Teacher - PHS
- Alexandra Martin - Special Education Teacher - PES
- Gerard McManus- Special Education Teacher - PHS
- James Nealon - Industrial Arts Teacher - PHS
- Kimberly Onsen - Preschool Teacher - CSC
- Tara Popovich - Permanent Substitute Teacher - PES
- Jill Scheffers - Kindergarten Teacher – PES

FOURTH YEAR:

None.

TENURE:

- Wendy Bean - Assistant Principal - PHS
- Colleen Crabbe - Special Education Teacher - PHS
- Emer Flanagan - 4th Grade Teacher - PIC
- Christina Juma - English/Language Arts Teacher - PHS
- Megan MacDougall - Special Education Teacher - PJHS
- Nicole Majca - Spanish Teacher - PHS
- Nathan Matthies - Physical Education/Athletic Director - PJHS
- Justin Meyers - Math Teacher - PHS
- Ashley McDonald - Kindergarten Teacher - PES
- Nicole Phelps - Science Teacher - PHS
- Amanda Whiteside - Science Teacher - PHS

**CLASSIFIED STAFF
EMPLOYMENT:**

- Thomas Klikuszewski - Transportation - Bus Driver (effective date of 02-24-2020).
- Joseph Ladislav - Transportation - On-call Bus Aide (effective date of 03-16-2020)
- Gina Stanley - PES - On-call Substitute Lunchroom Supervisor (effective date of 03-17-2020).
- Daniel Bennett - PHS - Assistant Track Coach - (effective date of 03-05-2020).
- DeMario Baines - Transportation -Bus Driver - (effective date of 03-16-2020).
- Lee Merigold - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-03-2020).

RETIREMENT:

- Linda Chellson - PHS - Cafeteria - (effective date of May 29, 2020).

FOR DISCUSSION:

First Reading of Board Policy 4.140.

Mr. Steve Stein reported to the Board that we are having a first reading again for this policy because of additional changes and updates made to the policy.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, reported to the Board that the boilers have been turned off for the season at the buildings. Also, Phoenix Fire Company is making great progress on the installation of the fire system. They should be on target for their completion date of April 6th.

****The following Administrators' reports were submitted by the Administrators but not reported at the March 24, 2020 regular board meeting*.***

Mrs. Carole Zurales, Principal of Peotone Elementary, reported to the Board that Third quarter POP star total - 611 POP stars - beating our quarter two record of 554. Read across America Day was March 2nd and we had guest readers to each classroom during WIN reading favorite Dr. Seuss books. PES going to see the junior high students perform Willy Wonka at the high school was awesome. We want to make this an annual event. My teachers did a great job developing choice boards and resources for E-Learning in the short time frame. We developed 10 days of choice boards with additional online and offline resources for students and parents. The PES leadership team met virtually yesterday via Zoom. I have enjoyed engaging with students and families via Facebook and school messenger daily. I want to continue to promote that positive culture we have created at PES this school year even if we are not currently physically together.

Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services, reported to the Board that the Special Services Department is working to better understand alternate service delivery models like tele-therapy should the mandated school closures continue past April 7th due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, I am working with Google Hangouts Meet platform to investigate holding virtual IEP meetings.

Mr. Jason Spang, Principal of Peotone High School, reported to the Board that Peotone High School would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Sophomore Delaney Balmer! Delaney applied to be a member of the Student Advisory Committee for the Illinois High School Association. PHS Administration selected Delaney from a pool of PHS applicants as our school representative to send on to the next level.

Delaney advanced to the final round and was interviewed by the IHSA over the phone last week. Today she received a letter from the IHSA informing her that she has been selected to represent Peotone High School at the state level. She graciously accepted the position today.

This is a role that she will fill for the remainder of her high school career with one meeting at the IHSA headquarters in Bloomington, IL in April and several other meetings throughout her junior and senior years.

Delaney is one of only twenty one students throughout the state that are selected to this committee. It is in fact a tremendous honor! The SAC is a diverse group of students who participate in interscholastic athletics/activities and are focused on providing education and leadership through open and honest communication with all member school students, administrators and coaches. The committee serves as a liaison between students, administrators, the IHSA Staff and Board of Directors. The Student Advisory Committee promotes the ideals of the IHSA, including leadership, sportsmanship and integrity.

Mr. Scott Wenzel, Principal of Peotone Junior High School, reported to the Board that here are the things that have occurred at PJHS:

- The 8th Grade students and staff attended the movie "Call of the Wild" on February 25th. Thank you to the staff and Cinemark Theaters for the organization.
- Congratulations to the Play crew and Mrs. Heron for a great performance "Willy Wonka Jr."
- The PJHS staff worked very hard to get prepared for E-learning by every teacher setting up their classes and students with Google Classroom. Thank you to all who helped especially Mr. John Sankey.
- The PJHS staff continue to look for ways to improve the E-learning system.
Staff is sharing links that can help improve and differentiate the learning for our students.
- The PJHS Wrestling team will be sending five wrestlers to the IESA State Meet on Friday, March 13th and Saturday, March 14th to be held at Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, Illinois. Congratulations to Jaxon Jorgensen, Micah Spinazzola, Ian Kreske, Nick Herman, and Byron Olson.

Mr. Dave Osborne, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported to the Board that all boilers have been shut down at the schools as of last Friday. The installation of the fire alarm system at CSC is on schedule and will be completed by April 6th.

Mrs. Joanne Obszanski, Principal of Peotone Intermediate Center, reported to the Board that Emer Flanagan would like the Board to know how grateful she is (we are) that we were able to quickly get E-Learning in place - it involved a tremendous level of inter-staff, and interdepartmental co-operation, with great guidance and direction from the top. The commitment I have seen across the board has been very impressive - even today (Tuesday, March 24th) we had a PIC staff lesson in google meets, to prepare ourselves to improve our E-Learning offering upon return from Spring Break!

- A BIG thanks to PIC's staff for pulling together on the days leading up to March 16th. The care and support given to each other to insure our students would have a valuable E-Learning experience in these unpredicted times speaks to ways in which our teachers demonstrate dedication to their students, their colleagues, their administration, their profession, and are examples of the Character Ed traits that we (PIC) focus on each month in our lessons.
- PIC teachers have gone above and beyond to be available to our students. They are dedicated to their students, collaborating in light of the distance, and offering words of support and encouragement to students

and their colleagues. A teacher reported calling parents who required support as it pertains to E-Learning.

- I have communicated with students via Google Classroom with words of encouragement and links to virtual tours.
- Teachers are sending endearing messages to their students and their colleagues.
- Teachers are currently identifying opportunities to improve E-Learning by identifying both positive and negative aspects of our current practice.
- Teachers in 4th & 5th grade are reporting varying percentages of participation. Homeroom teachers are reporting mid-80's to high 90's percent student participation in E-Learning assignments posted.
- Students are completing assignments as technology becomes available to them, and teachers respond accordingly.
- Specialist's percentages are lower than homeroom teachers.
- Teachers are collaborating to develop ways to increase participation, and provide valuable E-Learning opportunities for our students as we continue in the weeks to come.
- Teachers are active with students outside of the designated window of engagement. Teachers are responding to students throughout the day and weekend.
- Teachers are providing a variety of activities that are curriculum focused, but also unique on-line opportunities that are coupled with entertainment and a learning opportunity.
- Teachers are exploring the idea to have a group "meet" on-line with their students as they miss the in-person connection with their students.
- I will arrange for a time next week to meet via Google Meets with teams of teachers to continue to plan for the upcoming weeks. I will reach out to parents of non-active students to identify a way/s to support all of our students during this time. Also, utilize PIC's Facebook page to stay connected to students, with encourage and ways to stay engaged.

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 6:15 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting and 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. Thatcher seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6) Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays. Mr. Roger Bettenhausen was absent for the regular board meeting of March 24, 2020.



Tara Robinson, President



Cathy Cuculich, Reporter