



**BOARD OF EDUCATION-REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021
PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER**

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 board members answered aye (5): Mrs. Tara Robinson, Mr. Roger Bettenhausen, Mrs. Jodi Becker, Mr. Richard Uthe, and Mrs. Jennifer Moe. Mr. Paul Douglas and Mrs. Jody Thatcher were absent for the regular board meeting of April 19, 2021.

CONSENT AGENDA:

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda of the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion to approve, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the regular board meeting of April 19, 2021.

OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO SPEAK:

No visitors to speak.

FY21 AMENDED BUDGET HEARING:

At 6:02 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to open the FY21 Amended Budget Hearing. Mr. Uthe made a motion to open the FY21 Amended Budget Hearing, Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a voice call vote was taken and the follow board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the regular board meeting of April 19, 2021.

President Robinson asked if Mr. Stein had any comments about the FY21 Amended Budget. Mr. Stein responded no. President Robinson asked the Board if they had comments about the FY21 Amended Budget, and the Board responded no. President Robinson if there are any comments from the public and there were no comments from the public.

At 6:03 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to close the FY21 Amended Budget and Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Moe and Mr. Bettenhausen seconded the motion and a voice call vote was taken and the follow board

members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the regular board meeting of April 19, 2021. President Robinson closed the FY21 amended budget hearing.

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

RECOGNITION OF THE RECIPIENTS OF THE MARCH 2021 PEOTONE BOWLING CENTER EXCELLENCE AWARD

Mr. Jason Spang, Principal at Peotone High School, reported that it is my honor to introduce Emily Johnson as the recipient of the March PBC Excellence Award. Emily is a science teacher at Peotone High School. The Peotone High School secretaries nominated Emily for the award and wrote:

We have selected Emily Johnson for the March PBC winner. Emily's dedication and professionalism shines everyday through her interactions with her students and the staff. Emily was present in the building during all of the weeks we were remote-learning and she's a pleasure to work with.



Congratulations Emily!

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

RECOGNITION OF KANKAKEE AREA CAREER CENTER STUDENTS OF THE THIRD QUARTER

The Board honored and recognized the following students for the third quarter of Kankakee Area Career Center; **Grace Battiato, Jade Cadieux and Declan Knecht** (students were not present at the meeting tonight). Grace Battiato, Jade Cadieux, and Declan Knecht were chosen by their instructors for their knowledge, talent, teamwork, and dedication to their program.



Congratulations Grace, Jade and Declan!

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

APRIL 2021 ACADEMIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH

The Board honored and recognized **Margaret Begley** as April's Board of Education Academic Student of Peotone High School, **Margaret Begley**, daughter of Jim and Mary Begley of Wilmington. Margaret is a sophomore at Peotone High School with a grade point average of 4.14 on a 4.0 grading scale. Margaret was not present at the meeting tonight.



Congratulations Margaret!

PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MARCH 2021 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Superintendent Stein presented certificates to the March students of the month, **6th Grade student, Valeria Diaz, 7th Grade student, Emma Durkee** and **8th Grade student, Aidan Siegel**. 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 Valeria, Emma and Aidan!

FOR ACTION:

REPORT NO. 63:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE FY21 AMENDED BUDGET

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **FY21 Amended Budget**. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve and Mr. Bettenhausen seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 64:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT OF THE AGRICULTURE EDUCATION/ CTE PROGRAMMING

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Memorandum of Agreement of the Agriculture Education CTE Programming**. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve and Mr. Bettenhausen seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 65:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE FINAL AWARDING OF BID
TO AMBER MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS TO
REPLACE PHS SHOP DUST COLLECTOR**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Final Awarding of Bid to Amber Mechanical Contractors to Replace Peotone High School's Shop Dust Collector**. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 66:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE ADOPTION OF THE
RESOLUTION OF SILVESTRI PAVING TAX ABATEMENT**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Adoption of the Resolution of Silvestri Paving Tax Abatement**. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve and Uthe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 67:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE ADDITIONAL FFA STIPEND
FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOLYEAR**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Additional FFA Stipend for the 2021-2022 School Year**. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 68:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING INTERVENTION IN PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE WILL COUNTY BOARD OF REVIEW
AND STATE PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Adoption of the Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Proceedings before the Will County**

Board of Review and State Property Tax Appeal Board. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 69:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF FY22 CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT PLAN.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **FY22 Consolidated District Plan.** Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 70:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE IHSA 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP AND FEE.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve **IHSA 2021-2022 Membership and Fee** (the fee for the IHSA membership is listed below). Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

| <u>Enrollment</u> | <u>2021-2022</u> | <u>2022-2023</u> | <u>2023-2024</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 605.5 -1379 | \$1,625.00 | \$ 813.00 | \$ 407.00 |

REPORT NO. 71:

**FOR ACTION: Approval of Personnel and the Addendum to Personnel (Additions are in red - 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 **Personnel and the Addendum to Personnel of Certified and Classified Staff.** Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April 19, 2021 regular board meeting.

CERTIFIED STAFF EMPLOYMENT:

- Amanda Bielawski - PHS - Special Education Teacher (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/17/2021).
- Colleen Grimmett - PIC - Math Interventionist (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/16/2021).

CERTIFIED STAFF EMPLOYMENT: (continued)

- Tracy Mrozek - PJHS - Math Team Coach - (effective date of 03/19/2021).
- Kim Pagliarulo - PHS - CTE Business Teacher (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/16/2021).
- Nicole Lynn Green - PES - Long Term Substitute until the end of the 2020-2021 school year (effective date of 05/03/2021).
- Shannon McLean - CSC Preschool Teacher (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/18/2021).
- Samantha Sexton - PES - 1st Grade Teacher to PES Primary Specialist (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/16/2021).
- Paul Taeuber - PHS - Assistant Principal/Athletic Director - (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 07/0/2021).
- **Madison Mikalauski - PHS - Special Education Teacher (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/16/2021).**
- **Paige Goesel - District - Speech Language Pathologist (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/19/2021).**

CHANGE IN STATUS:

- Moira Burke - Grades 6th - 12th - ESY Summer School Principal (effective date of 06/14/2021).
- Michelle Weinrich - Grades K-5th - ESY Summer School Principal (effective date of 06/14/2021).
- **Shawn Price - PHS - Yearbook Sponsor (effective date of 08/16/2021).**

CHANGE IN LOCATION:

- Michele Clayton - PIC Reading Specialist Interventionist to PJHS Reading Specialist/Interventionist (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/16/2021).

CHANGE IN LOCATION AND POSITION:

- Eric Peppmuller - PIC Remote Learning Teacher to PES Permanent Substitute Teacher (2021-2022 school year effective date of 08/16/2021).

RESIGNATION:

- Zuleyma Gonzales - PHS - EL Interventionist - (effective date of 03/26/2021).
- Josh Kreske - PHS - Assistant Wrestling Coach - (effective date of 02/24/2021).
- Mallory Martin - PJHS - Math Team Coach - (effective date of 03/19/2021).

- Corrisa Campbell - PES - Long Term Substitute (effective date of 04/30/2021).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

- **Brian Cann - District - Instructional Technology Coach - (effective date of 05/17/2021 and a return date of 10/29/2021).**

CLASSIFIED STAFF

EMPLOYMENT:

- Mark Duda - PHS - Assistant Wrestling Coach - (effective date of 04/19/2021).
- Travis Jorgensen - PJHS - Wrestling Coach - (effective date of 04/06/2021).
- Samantha Osipavicius - PHS - 1:1 Medical Aide/Paraprofessional (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/16/2021).
- Ashley Sage - District - Board Certified Behavior Analyst (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/09/2021).

CHANGE IN LOCATION:

- Darryl Boehl - CSC Paraprofessional to PJHS Inclusion Paraprofessional (2021-2022 school year - effective date of 08/17/2021).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

- Tabaitha Walke - Transportation - Bus Driver (effective date of 04/06/2021 and a return date of 08/18/2021).

FOR DISCUSSION:

Football Scoreboard at PJHS:

Mr. Stein reported to the Board that as you are all aware - it has been a number of years that we have been nursing the football scoreboard along at PJHS. It came and went many times this year. I don't believe we can band aid that scoreboard along any more. Mr. Osborne reported to the Board that the scoreboard was put in 1984. And we have looked at a number of possible ways to fix the problem, and one of the things we do believe we need to do is to go wireless with it. Ultimately, in order to get a new scoreboard up there will probably cost us somewhere in the range of \$20,000. There are certain add-ons look that we look at in terms of possibly doing something digital along the bottom of the board that might allow us to advertise and have those advertisements change up and static advertisements on portions of the board that we can offer businesses in the community to sell advertisements to offset the cost of the new scoreboard. Board Secretary, Mrs. Moe asked to see if we can include play clocks for the scoreboard. Mr. Stein reported to the Board, that we will need to make a decision fairly quickly so we can have it installed over the summer and have it ready for the upcoming season in August. President Robinson reported that our discussion that we had at our Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting - was that the money we would have to spend to repair our current scoreboard is around \$14,000 - \$16,000. So our committee meeting then moved to researching and getting quotes for a new football scoreboard. The Board also discussed getting private donations from the parents and the community to be designated directly towards a new football scoreboard.

ESSER Funds - Staffing:

Mr. Stein reported to the Board that this past week we met with the labor management team. The team consists of a number of district and building level administrators, members of the union, union leadership, and teachers from all of the buildings. The primary portion of the discussion that we had was preparing for next year. We know that we are going to have some semblance of learning loss for students coming back. We don't what this will be at this point of time and we are not going to know what this is going to be - until we get the students here in August. Part of the learning loss will be SEL loss, Social, Emotional, Loss that we need to be prepared for, and so we have taken some steps prior to that meeting and we will take steps moving forward. We do have another meeting this Thursday with the labor management team. At this meeting, we will expand some of the things we are preparing for next year to help get the students back on track. Now getting them back on track does not mean necessarily that it will be done with one fell swoop in one year. ESSER Funds I and II need to be spent by 2023 and ESSER III funds by September 2024. So with that, we should try to stagger the monies through the years. One part that we are doing is having summer school along with ESY for students K-12 this year, and probably next year too. Students will now have the chance to attend summer school.

Dr. Vitton spoke briefly on the additional staff that will be hired to help the students get back on track for the 2021-2022 school year.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, reported to the Board that he has received a couple of FOIAs this month, one from the Smart Local 265 regarding construction and maintenance, and three FOIAs from John Maxedon regarding - agreements with Mr. George Macias, another for the maintenance budget and the football scoreboard, and the last one regarding emails from Mrs. Love, from November to April 8th.

Mrs. Carole Zurales, Principal of Peotone Elementary, reported to the Board that our April monthly focus is "Be Aware - Show You Care. We have different topics each Thursday to bring understanding and awareness.

- Thursday, April 8th - Autism Awareness - Students completed a Puzzle Piece focusing on their abilities. Students watched videos to help understand- there was a great Sesame Street one for younger students. Because this is not just a one day thing, Ms. Huizenga and I read to classrooms to continue to educate students on autism and how to be a good friend to someone with autism. Ms. Huizenga also created role playing exercises to do in the classroom.
- Thursday, April 15th - Diabetes Awareness - Nurse Monica and a kindergarten student with diabetes created a video explaining what diabetes is, the equipment, how it affects people and other important information about diabetes.

- Thursday, April 22nd - Environmental Awareness/Earth Day. Students will participate in different Earth Day Activities throughout the week.
- Thursday, April 29- Childhood Hunger Awareness - Wear Orange. All students will be asked to bring in boxes of cereal to donate to Helping Hands. We will do a special activity on April 29 with all the cereal box donations :)
- Our third grade yearbook club under the direction Miss Deutsche and Mrs. Murray are putting final touches on the yearbook for this school year.
- We had our third quarter Popstar Reward the Friday before spring break. The students who earned POPstar status participated in a fun virtual Karate Dance Party/Songwriting Spectacular on Zoom and the leader actually wrote and recorded a song just for PES with all the student's favorite things... so we now have a PES Theme Song!
- I wanted to do something special activity for the staff for the four weeks leading up to spring break. PES March Madness had different challenges each week to connect with a colleague with little surprises along the way for the winners of each round! It was great to come together as a staff on the last day for the championship round! Congrats to Mrs. Hamning for winning the certified staff bracket and Mrs. Simmons for winning the classified staff bracket.
- We are busy planning for next school year. Our focus at PES for the 2021-2022 school year will be on responsive and differentiated teaching to meet the needs of all our learners. I have created a plan with how we will get there and what we need to support us with our focus. Some of the things included in the plan are a new block master schedule, having separate Math and ELA WIN time to maximize our time and resources throughout the day, dedicated time for teachers to meet with small groups daily, professional development for small group reading and math instruction, and meeting with my Student Support Team every 6-8 weeks to monitor student progress and adjust interventions as needed.

Upcoming Events:

Week of May 3rd - Teacher Appreciation Week

Tuesday 5/4 - Virtual Bell Choir Concert

Tuesday 5/11 - New Preschool/Kindergarten Registration Night at PES

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

Congratulations to **PIC's March Students of the Month** for demonstrating **Perseverance** and being a role model among their peers!
4th grade - Kayla White, Logan Cowger & Elliott Casey

5th grade - Paityn Riechers, Bryce Costanzo & Gawain Schaefer
PIC's April Monthly Character Trait is **COURAGE**.

We teach our 4th & 5th grade students that **courage** the ability to face your fears or to face fears with determination and confidence.

On Wednesday, April 14, 2021, PIC welcomed Chief Mort, Officer Stankus, Officer Kovar, Officer Miller & Detective Sergeant Obermayer to our classrooms where they read a book about Courage and engaged in a conversation with our students about what Courage looks like at their age, and the importance of having Courage to accomplish goals, staying safe, and making good decisions.

PIC's May Character Trait is Leadership!

Thank you to Mrs. Schubbe & Mr. Cann for making our first Virtual Author from Keri Graff, the author of "The Tiny Mansion" on April 8th possible. It was a great experience for our students and staff. Hats off to Mrs. Septoski & Mrs. Kauchak, PIC's Yearbook Sponsors! PIC's yearbook is ready to order. Information to purchase a yearbook was sent home today. Information is also available on PIC's website and on PIC's FB page. PIC has a door-decorating contest going on throughout the month of April. Our theme is "Earth Day". Teacher/ Remote and in-person students and teachers worked on decorations on designated days. The students will vote for the "winner" on April 21. The winning homeroom wins a "Wild Mike's" pizza party! 5TH grade students are participating in "The Change Program" presentation on 4/23. Miles of Smiles visits PIC on 4/30. PTO Sponsored Teacher Appreciation Week is set for the week of May 3, 2021. PIC is excited to welcome Bob Bryerton from Will County Forest Preserve in mid-May for two outdoor presentations on Mammals & Reptiles for our students. The Forest Preserve representative will bring in live reptiles, and fur & bones of some of the more common Illinois mammals. We are very excited to host such an engaging event. Mrs. Harmon and PIC's 5th grade band is hard at work preparing for the Band Concert on May 24th.

Mr. Scott Wenzel, Principal of Peotone Junior High School, reported to the Board that:

- **Numbers** - As of this date, PJHS currently has 56 students choosing the remote option. Breaking that down, we have eight 6th graders, twenty seven 7th graders, and twenty one 8th graders. This is approximately 18% of the student body who chose remote.
- **Summer School** - We have worked to get staff to teach Summer School as well as create a list of students at each grade level to invite to Summer School. Thank you to our staff who will be teaching our students this summer. We have invited 12 students per grade level to Summer School. Parents and students have until April 23 to let us know their intention towards Summer School. At this time, we have four students who have

returned that they will be attending. We will be sending information out as a reminder.

- **Yearbook** - Image Group Photography will be at PJHS on the afternoon of April 22 to take pictures of our Track, Wrestling, and Girls Basketball teams.
- **PJHS Math Team** - On Wednesday, April 14 the PJHS Math Team competed in the Kan-Will Math Contest. This was run much differently this year as all teams competed remotely at their school. The sixth grade team finished 2nd overall with Kayla Bean placing 3rd individually. The seventh grade team finished 2nd overall with Olivia Smaga placing 1st individually. The eighth grade team finished 2nd overall with Will Sullivan placing 2nd individually. Congratulations to all of the Mathletes as well as the coaches Tracy Mrozek and Carly Bittner.
- **PJHS Scholastic Bowl** - Peotone will be hosting the Kan-Will Scholastic Bowl Tournament on Tuesday, April 20th. The PJHS Scholastic Bowl team is currently 5-1. Congratulations and good luck to the team and Coach Travis Smith.
- **Graduation** - Graduation for PJHS 8th graders is set for Sunday, June 6th at 12:00 p.m.

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

Sports Update:

Currently we have Girls Basketball, Wrestling, and Track and Field in the middle of their seasons. It's going very smoothly. We are allowing four spectators per athlete for indoor events at home. No away spectators. All events are being live streamed for free.

8th Graders:

We will be hosting an 8th Grade Dance on Friday, May 14th. This will be for 8th graders only and will be in our gym from 6:30 to 8:00. We are also doing 8th Grade Class T-shirts for our soon-to-be graduates as well as yard signs which will be distributed in May.

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

Spring Sports Update:

Our "Spring Sports" teams (Boys' Soccer, Girls' Volleyball, Football, Cheer, Dance) wrapped up their season just this past week. The boys' soccer team finished their season with a record of 4-7. Our Girls' Varsity Volleyball Team completed their season with a winning record of 7-5. Our Varsity Football team wrapped up their season on Friday Night as they hosted Wilmington on Senior

Night. That evening, we were able to honor 20 seniors in Band, Cheer and Football and their parents prior to the start. Unfortunately, the boys lost on Friday night finishing their season at 3-2. Seniors Night Volleyball was held on April 7th, when we honored 6 seniors and their families. Then on April 13th, we honored our five Boys' Soccer Seniors at their Senior Night.

Spring Play:

This past weekend, we were able to enjoy this year's Spring Play, "*Check, Please!*" This was our first opportunity to be able to see our students on stage, and they did a phenomenal job. Plays were held at 6:00PM and 8:00PM this past Friday (April 16) and Saturday (April 17). Special thanks to Ms. McKay on preparing the students. This was our first play also with a newly installed lighting system that Ms. McKay was extremely excited to be putting to use after a much needed update.

Summer Sports:

Our "Summer Sports" of baseball, softball, girls' soccer, and track & field started practices at the beginning of April. They will each begin the first games of their seasons on Wednesday night. Wrestling practice officially began this afternoon and will start matches near the end of next week. This year, we will have Varsity levels for each sport, but will only be able to have a JV level for baseball this year due to our numbers. The "Summer" Season is different from previous seasons, because, with the exception of wrestling, each of these sports are expected to have the opportunity to compete at regional, sectional, and state level should they qualify.

Mr. Jason Spang, Principal of Peotone High School, reported to the Board that:

SAT/PSAT Update:

- PHS successfully administer the SAT for our Junior Class and a few seniors last week on Tuesday, April 13. Only a few students could not make that date, so they will assess on the makeup date of Tuesday, April 27th.
- PHS would like to recognize Sue Bartels, Kathy Derkacy, and Marlene Murray for National Administrative Assistants Week! They are fantastic employees and even better role models who are essential to our daily success as a high school. They exemplify Excellence on a daily basis and we are so lucky to have them!
- PHS would also like to recognize our teachers as we approach Teacher Appreciation week from May 3rd - May 7th. PHS student council and the administration have surprises planned throughout the week.
- Peotone High School is proud to announce Jade Cadieux, Grace Battiato, and Declan Knecht are the KACC Students of the Third Quarter. Chosen by their instructors for their knowledge, talent, teamwork and dedication to their program. Congratulations!

- Peotone High School has now officially filled all teaching vacancies for next school year 2021. We have filled our English, Industrial Arts position, FACS, Art, CTE Business, and our two Special Education vacancies.
- **Illinois State Scholars:**
 - Peotone High School just found out today that they have released the names of our Illinois State Scholars. Since that information was just released today we plan on recognizing these students at the May Board Meeting. PHS had seven students recognized for this honor.
- **PHS Prom:**
 - Saturday May 8th. Doors will open for check-in beginning at 5:00 p.m. Post Prom will be the same evening at PHS beginning at 11:00 p.m.
- March PBC Excellence in Teaching Award Winner (Nominated by PHS Secretaries)
 - We have selected Emily Johnson for the March PBC winner. Emily's dedication and professionalism shines everyday through her interactions with her students and the staff. Emily was present in the building during all of the weeks we were remote-learning and she's a pleasure to work with and it is also Emily's Birthday this evening so Congratulations and Happy Birthday Emily, Very Well Deserved!!!

Mr. Trevor Moore, Business Manager, CSBO, reported to the Board that:

- **Correction on Property Taxes Paid on Leased Farmland:**
 - Mr. Moore reported that he incorrectly stated that the District does not pay property taxes on the farmland that the District owns and leases for farming. This answer was given in response to a question from a community member. He apologized for this mistake and provided information to correct the record. In 2019, the District paid a property tax bill of \$569.50. \$351.31 of this ends up coming back to the District in property tax revenues, so the real cost of owning this land is \$218.19. This should be the only expense to owning this land and leasing it for farming purposes.
- **FEMA Reimbursement:**
 - For almost a year, Mr. Moore has been working on applying and providing the necessary paperwork to be reimbursed for some COVID related expenses by FEMA. He is happy to report that many of the supplies purchased in order to keep the facilities clean and sanitized were reimbursed at 100% of the cost. The check that was received last week was in the amount of \$20,339.32. The process was particularly difficult for school districts to get approval of their

application, so Mr. Moore thinks Peotone is particularly fortunate to have received these funds.

- **Update on Tax Extension w/ Will County:**

- Mr. Moore provided information regarding the 2020 tax extension that was just finalized with Will County. The following information was reported:
 - 2020 Extension Key Figures
 - CPI used for limiting rate increase (inflation): 2.3%
 - Equalized Assessed Valuation (property value): \$393,436,563 (1.75% increase)
 - New Property: \$2,095,203
 - Operating Levy: \$12,256,335.81 (3.30% increase)
 - Limiting Rate: 3.1152%
 - Debt Service Levy: \$2,447,962.29
 - Total Levy: \$14,704,298.06 (6.82% decrease)
 - Total Tax Rate: 3.7374%
 - The CPI used lags behind the rest of the economy so we know in advance what to expect. 2.3% was from pre-COVID. Next year will be 1.4%, which reflects the slow down of 2020.
 - Property values did increase some this year, but not as much as I would have expected given the demand for housing. Perhaps it will be stronger next year.
 - New property was down from last year. I'm not sure the reason for this, but it could just be a timing thing. The new property won't go on the rolls until the property is occupied.
 - Our limiting rate went up slightly because EAV increased at a lower rate than did CPI. As I mentioned in the referendum presentations, the best way for a community to lower its tax rate is for property growth to outpace inflation. The inverse is also true.
 - Debt service is lower this year because we only have working cash bonds to repay. You should expect this to remain at this level into the foreseeable future unless we are able to stop issuing working cash bonds to fund operations.
 - Total levy decreased because debt repayment is less, not because we will have less to fund operations.
 - This year, we expect our 3.7374% to be the lowest of all unit districts in Will and Kankakee counties.

By now, most homeowners should see full tax relief from the repayment of the PHS debt. Mr. Moore expects just about every homeowner should see savings of \$200-\$300 or more when comparing 2018 to 2020. Some higher value properties could see property tax relief over those estimated amounts.

Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services, shared with the Board that the Special Services Dept. will soon host a Parent Night in conjunction with Joliet Junior College Office of Disability Services. Adam Wouk the manager from the Office of Disability Services will present to students with IEP's and their parents on the evening of 4/28/21 in the PHS Media Center.

Additionally, Mrs. Loy shared the Special Services Department is investigating the use of Corrective Reading and Language for Learning which are research based curriculums from McGraw Hill that can be used to help struggling learners. Recently, our staff attended a virtual training and have had the opportunity to use and review sample materials. Mrs. Loy shared that the Department will further investigate purchasing this curriculum for the dept. use as well as interventionists.

Mrs. Loy also reviewed that she is working on the Extended School Year details for this summer. Student letters have been sent home and are due back by May 1st to indicate if they will attend or not.

Mr. Dave Osborne, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported to the Board that we are continuing to get summer projects lined up. Painting at PES and PIC, Bleacher repair at PJHS.

OTHER:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:42 p.m., President Robinson asked for a motion to move to adjourn the regular Board meeting and move into Executive Session and stated that there will not be any action following the closed executive session tonight. Mrs. Moe made a motion and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion and a voice call vote was taken, the following board members answered aye (5): Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson and no nays. 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.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

At 8:21 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to return to open session of the regular board meeting. Mrs. Moe made a motion for the Board to return to open session. Mrs. Robinson seconded the motion and a voice call was taken and the following board members answered aye (5): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the regular board meeting of April 19, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:21 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting. Mrs. Moe made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Robinson seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following members answered aye (5), Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and no nays. Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the regular board meeting of April 19, 2021. The regular board meeting was adjourned.


Tara Robinson, President


Cathy Cuculich, Reporter