



**BOARD OF EDUCATION - SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.
AT PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER**

This Special Board Meeting was conducted via a teleconference call. Present in the Media Center at Peotone High School were President, Mrs. Tara Robinson, Vice President, Mr. Richard Uthe, Secretary, Mrs. Jennifer Moe, Trustee Mr. Roger Bettenhausen, Trustee Paul Douglas, Mr. Steve Stein, Dr. Charles Vitton, Mr. Don Swanson and Mrs. Cathy Cuculich. Trustee Jody Thatcher, and Trustee Jodi Becker were not present for tonight's special board meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

At 6:01 p.m. President Robinson called the special board meeting to order and requested all who are present to please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mrs. Tara Robinson, Mr. Richard Uthe, Mr. Roger Bettenhausen, Mrs. Jennifer Moe, Mr. Paul Douglas and no nays. Mrs. Jody Thatcher and Mrs. Jodi Becker were not present for the special board meeting of June 18, 2020.

OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO SPEAK:

Mrs. Julie Widinski, of Manhattan, IL, Co-President of PTO, called in tonight to address the Board about the Technology Deployment Plan. Mrs. Widinski stated that she is in full support of the 1:1 Technology Deployment Plan for District, technology devices for every student. Mrs. Widinski also stated that she has heard from several parents. One parent expressed that with this plan we will have equity in education for all students of the District. Another parent stated that with this plan in place, remote learning will be easier for the teachers, staff, students and parents all using the same devices. Another parent stated that having this plan in place, would be attractive to young families looking for a school district for their children. In closing, Mrs. Widinski said that she is an advocate for the 1:1 Technology Plan that is up for approval by the Board tonight. President Robinson and the Board thanked Mrs. Widinski for calling in for the meeting tonight and also for the information she has provided to the Board.

President Robinson reported at the regular board meeting on June 15th, the Board along with Mr. Stein and Dr. Vitton had a lengthy discussion regarding implementing the 1:1 Technology Deployment Plan for the District. Dr. Vitton reviewed several options in depth with the Board, to ready us for the upcoming school year, and explained what the school year might look like. President Robinson reported that our responsibility as a Board, is to give all of our students in every grade, every opportunity to learn and succeed in school by providing them with devices needed and support for these devices to have a great school year, whether we are in school or remote learning.

President Robinson asked if Dr. Vitton can please provide a brief review of his presentation that he gave to the Board at the June 15, 2020 regular board meeting.

Dr. Vitton reported that with the current pandemic, we do not know now what the 2020-2021 school year will look like, and based on the Governor's Restore Illinois plan, we will likely not be out of Phase 4 for quite some time. This will result in major changes to the landscape of the next school year. It would be prudent at this time to take advantage of the one-time funding through the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act, Title I SIG 1003(a), and donations from the PTO, and other funding sources to engage the District in a 1:1 technology deployment that will both further engage students in the classroom and also provide instructional supports at home if in fact further school closures are required.

Dr. Vitton reported that he sent out a survey to families regarding remote learning at home. The surveys showed that 92% of our families had reliable internet, and about 8% of our families do not have reliable internet. The survey also showed that 74% of our families believed they had the technology needed for the remote learning. Some families were using their work computers for their students' remote learning. Some families were sharing their home computers with several children.

The District will be purchasing 250 Chrome Tablets for Grades K-2 and 1150 Dell Chromebooks for Grades 3-12. Dr. Vitton also reported that with the addition of these new devices and software, the District will need to add one additional tech support personnel to support the devices, the hardware and staff.

Dr. Vitton reported that we need to order the devices as soon as possible, because the supply chain will get weaker and weaker as more states start to have guidance from their governors. If we order now, we can have the devices to the District by the middle of July. Once we have the devices, it will take several weeks to process the devices and get them ready for the students. All devices will have security software that will run through our security software and IP address. We are also looking at a higher level of filtering of security software to meet all federal guidelines.

President Robinson thanked Dr. Vitton for his review of the 1:1 Technology Deployment Plan for the District.

President Robinson asked the Board if they had any questions for Dr. Vitton regarding the Plan, and the Board responded no.

REPORT NO. 87:

FOR ACTION: 1:1 TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT PLAN

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **1:1 Technology Deployment Plan** for the District. Mrs. Moe made a motion and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher were not present for the special board meeting of June 18, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:58 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the special board meeting and reported that there will not be a closed executive session meeting tonight. Mr. Uthe made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (5): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Becker and Mrs. Thatcher were not present for the special board meeting of June 18, 2020.



Tara Robinson, President



Cathy Cuculich, Reporter