



**BOARD OF EDUCATION-REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 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 (7): Mrs. Tara Robinson, Mr. Roger Bettenhausen, Mrs. Jodi Becker, Mr. Richard Uthe, Mr. Tim Stoub, Mrs. Jennifer Moe, and Mrs. Dawn Love.

CONSENT AGENDA:

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Consent Agenda items, A through E** of the regular board meeting of December 20, 2021. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda **A through E** and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion to approve, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe and Mrs. Love and Mr. Stoub.

GOOD NEWS:

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

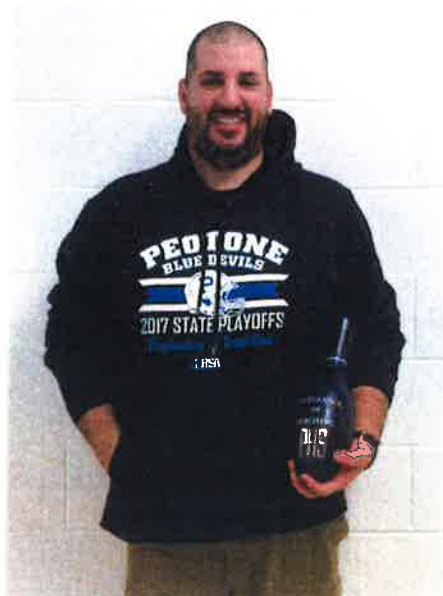
RECOGNITION OF THE RECIPIENT OF THE DECEMBER 2021

PEOTONE BOWLING CENTER'S EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Mr. Jason Spang, Principal of Peotone High School reported to the Board that it is my honor to introduce **Mr. Tolly Tsiamas**, Physical Education Teacher at Peotone High School as the recipient of the December 2021 Peotone Bowling Center's Excellence in Teaching Award! Tolly was nominated by Steve Strough, who was the November recipient of the PBC award. Steve wrote the following on Tolly's behalf:

I am proud to say that over two decades as a teacher and coach I have witnessed numerous colleagues who have dedicated countless hours to ensure the well-being and success of their students. As we all know, teaching can take place in a variety of school settings including a classroom, a stage, a court, or a field. This month, I would like to honor an educator who impacts his students inside and outside the traditional classroom setting. This teacher and coach, a devoted husband and father of three young children, balances family life along with the extra hours his job requires. As the pandemic has altered his department over the past two years, this educator has been asked to contribute to the building environment in different ways, including the planning of SEL activities and substituting in classrooms throughout the building. In addition, he is a visible supporter of all activities at this school and has served on leadership committees. He has served as a head or assistant coach for multiple sports here at Peotone, but his primary passion is football. He has had many on field successes as he once again led the Blue Devils to the IHSA playoffs this season. More importantly, he continues to guide and influence our student-athletes by instilling character, sportsmanship, teamwork, and service to the community. This educator has demonstrated he genuinely cares for all involved in his program and is constantly thinking of new ways to develop, communicate, and build relationships with his student-athletes, the staff, and the community. Simply put, he has made this school a better place and has impacted many lives in his time here at Peotone. I am proud to call him a friend.

For all of these reasons, please join me in honoring this month's PBC Excellence in Teaching Award, Coach Tolly Tsiamas.



Congratulations Tolly!!

PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2021 ACADEMIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH

President Robinson honored and recognized **Liam Fogarty** as the December 2021 Board of Education Academic Student of the Month. Liam is a freshman at Peotone High School with a grade point average of 4.0 on a 4.0 grading scale. Liam was unable to attend the board meeting on December 20th. President Robinson did ask Mr. Spang to reach out to Liam and invite him to the January board meeting to be recognized.



CONGRATULATIONS!
Liam Fogarty
PHS December
Student of the Month

PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2021 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Mr. Scott Wenzel, Principal of Peotone Junior High School presented certificates to 6th Grade student, **Greyson Denny** and 7th Grade student, **Fayth Scheffers** as the November students of the Month for Peotone Junior High School. 8th Grade student, **Billy Giese** was not present at the December 20th meeting to receive his certificate.

Congratulations, Greyson, Fayth and Billy!!



2021 TAX LEVY HEARING:

At 6:09 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to open the 2021 Tax Levy Hearing. Mrs. Moe made a motion and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion, and on a voice call vote, the following members answered aye, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Love and no nays.

Mr. Trevor Moore, Chief School Business Official, answered a few questions about the 2021 Tax Levy from the Board and the Public.

At 6:22 p.m. Mrs. Robinson asked for a motion to close the 2021 Tax Levy Hearing. Mrs. Moe made a motion and Mr. Stoub seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following members answered aye, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Love and no nays. The 2021 Tax Levy is now closed.

FOR ACTION:
REPORT NO. 38:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE 2021 TAX LEVY.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve **2021 Tax Levy** for the District. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve **Report Action No. 38** and Mr. Stoub seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Love, Mr. Stoub and no nays.

REPORT NO. 39:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF TRANSITION COORDINATOR
JOB DESCRIPTION.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the **Transition Coordinator Job Description**. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve **Report Action No. 39** and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Love, Mr. Stoub and no nays.

REPORT NO. 40:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEAM
LEADER JOB DESCRIPTION AND STIPEND.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve **Special Education Team Leader Job Description and Stipend**. The special education team leader will be Kara Lindsay with a stipend amount of \$4,000. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve **Report Action No. 40** and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Love, Mr. Stoub and no nays.

REPORT NO. 41:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF OPENING A NEW ACTIVITY
FUND ACCOUNT.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve a **New Activity Fund Account for PHS Wrestling**. The treasurer of the PHS Wrestling activity fund account will be Phil Thorne. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve **Report Action No. 41** and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Love, Mr. Stoub and no nays.

REPORT NO. 42:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF 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 Personnel***. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve **Report Action No. 42** and Mr. Bettenhausen seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Love, Mr. Stoub and no nays.

CERTIFIED STAFF CHANGE IN STATUS:

- Vivian Kilias - PHS Student Teacher to PHS English Teacher (effective date of 12.01.2021).

CLASSIFIED STAFF EMPLOYMENT:

- Karen Knecht - PHS Paraprofessional/Job Coach (effective date of 01.04.2022).
- Nicole Johnson - District - Long Term Substitute for Tori Coffman's maternity leave (effective date of January 3, 2022).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

- Shelli Posey - PES/CSC School Counselor - Maternity Leave (effective date of 03.08.2022 with a return date of 06.03.2022).
- Dennis Spada - Transportation - Bus Driver - Medical Leave (effective date of 01.03.2022 through 01.31.2022).

RESIGNATION:

- Joseph Lentz - PES Custodian (effective date of 11.22.2021).
- Samantha Osipavichuk - Transportation 1:1 Medical Bus Aide (ESL Program) (effective date of 12.22.2021).

RETIREMENT:

- Cindy Oliver - PES Paraprofessional (effective date of 12.31.2021).
- Tanya King - Transportation-Bus Driver/PHS-Cafeteria (effective date of 12.13.2021).

TERMINATION:

- Terri Mephem - District - On-call Substitute Medical Aide (effective date of 12.02.2021).

FOR DISCUSSION:

President Robinson ask the Board to please review the first reading of **PRESS 108** Board Policies. If any board member has any questions or concerns about PRESS 108, please reach out to Mr. Stein or Mrs. Becker.

President Robinson asked if Mr. Moore can speak on the second discussion item on the agenda tonight, *"Public input - Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan"*. Mr. Moore reported to the Board, that this is a requirement of the ESSER III Grant. Basically, we have had discussions since the summer of 2020 with staff and at several of our board meetings, regarding policies that we need to have in place to get back to in-person and in school full-time. Mr. Moore went on to say when we submit the Grant, we will have to attest that we provided an opportunity for people to provide input or feedback in terms of COVID health and safety protocols that we would need to have in place to get back into the classrooms full-time.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, was not present for the December 20, 2021 regular board meeting to give his administrative report.

Mr. Brandon Owens, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, reported to the Board:

Peotone Early Education Program

The first semester of classes at Peotone Preschool wrapped up on Thursday, December 16. Last week, we held a Holiday Spirit Week that included some dress up days for our students and staff. On the final day of school, we had a special visit from Mrs. Claus who delivered candy canes and special gifts for each class from Santa.

Mr. Trevor Moore, Business Manager, CSBO, reported to the Board that since the 2021 Tax Levy has been approved this evening, he would make sure to file the levy with both Will and Kankakee Counties tomorrow.

Mr. Paul Taeuber, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director of Peotone High School, reported to the Board:

● **High School Updates:**

- Christmas Angels:
 - Jackson Creek Church was kind enough to continue the Christmas Angels program this year and they dropped off gifts last week. A big thanks to the Student Services Department for helping in this as well as Clint Iland and Melissa Carlson for helping organize this.
- High School Orientation:
 - On January 18 we will be hosting a High School Orientation night for our current 8th graders.

- Student Handbook:
 - Jason and I are meeting with Wendy and Scott tomorrow to discuss Student Handbook Changes that we would then meet with parents and teachers in January.
- **Sports Updates:**
 - Unified eSports:
 - Last board meeting we did not publicly recognize the accomplishments of our Unified eSports, who won the first ever Special Olympics Illinois Fall League Championship for esports! They defeated Schaumburg in the championship match. Team members Matt Derkacy, Jack Klawitter, Josh Leitelt, and Logan Szymanski, as well as Coach Crabbe hope to join us to present their trophy at next month's board meeting.
 - Boys Basketball:
 - Currently are at 7-5 (2-2), have more wins than the past three years already this season and are making great progress despite a tough loss to Herscher. They've rebounded winning four of their last five and play tomorrow night for 5th place @ the Watseka Holiday Tournament (5:00 start).
 - Girls Basketball:
 - Currently are at 8-3 (5-0). On a 6 game winning streak after a very competitive opening tournament @ Beecher. We host the Blue Devil Holiday Classic next week where we will play Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.
 - Bowling:
 - Currently there are two girls on our Girls' competition season that was previously scheduled, and Coach Pagliarulo has opened up bowling to boys on a club level. We've had four boys commit to this year. The next girls match will be home on Jan. 5 hosting Lisle.
 - Dance:
 - Competing in IDTA (Illinois Drill Team Association) this year. Picked up some great feedback in their first competition @ Gardner-South Wilmington after finishing in 2nd place in the Jazz Category. They have three more tournaments lined up after break.
 - Wrestling:
 - Coach Thorne continues to build a program of high expectations. While their record is 2-4 in duals, they have placed 4th in each tournament they have participated in. At Tolono this past weekend Marco Spinazolla finished 1st in his weight class, Kevin Hogan and Oscar Villalobos finished 2nd, Santino Izzi and Ian Kreske finished 3rd, Jackson Bergeron finished 4th, and Seth Lonard finished 5th. They play later this week at Abe's Rumble in Springfield.

Mrs. Carole Zurales, Principal of Peotone Elementary, reported to the Board that we had fun events at PES leading up to break including- in person third grade concert, principal elf on the shelf, virtual K-3 Christmas concert, room parties with parent volunteer and with a visit from Santa and the Grinch! Mrs. Zurales also reported to the Board with Peotone Elementary School Improvement Plan for 2021-2022 which is listed below.

OUTCOME STATEMENT OF IMPROVEMENT FOR ELA:

By spring 2021, 70% of grades K-3 students will be in the average or above range for their AIMSweb reading composite score.

Current Results - Fall 2021- ELA AIMSweb Reading Composite

	Well Below Average	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Well Above Average
Kindergarten	23 (34%)	15 (22%)	25 (37%)	1 (1%)	2 (3%)
First Grade	20 (35%)	16 (28%)	16 (28%)	4 (7%)	0 (0%)
2nd Grade	19 (28%)	13 (19%)	23 (34%)	7 (10%)	5 (7%)
3rd Grade	10 (12%)	12 (15%)	40 (51%)	11 (14%)	4 (5%)
All School	72 (27%)	56 (21%)	104 (39%)	23 (9%)	11 (4%)

OUTCOME STATEMENT OF IMPROVEMENT FOR MATH:

By spring 2021, 70% of grades K-3 students will be in the average or above range for their AIMSweb math composite score.

Current Results - Fall 2021-Math AIMS web Composite

	Well Below Average	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Well Above Average
Kindergarten	13 (19%)	17 (25%)	26 (39%)	9 (13%)	1 (1%)
First Grade	2 (3%)	15 (26%)	30 (53%)	7 (13%)	2 (3%)
2nd Grade	9 (13%)	12 (17%)	34 (50%)	8 (11%)	4 (5%)
3rd Grade	8 (10%)	16 (20%)	37 (47%)	10 (12%)	7 (8%)
All School	32 (12%)	60 (22%)	127 (48%)	34 (13%)	14 (5%)

Gap Analysis (What are the root causes of the gaps?)

Internal	External
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half Days for the 20-21 school year • Students in person and remote for 21-22 school year • Exposing students to concepts in ELA and Math but not able to get to level of mastery • Only one reading specialist for 21-22 providing push in interventions, no math interventionist • Foundational skills gaps (especially in 2-3) • Implementation of new ELA Curriculum for grades 1-3 was during both pandemic years. • FUNdations and MyView word study taught differently and with different academic vocabulary. • Lack of Vertical Articulation between grade levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid • Quarantines • Many more Kindergarten students with different preschool experiences (CSC, no preschool, remote preschool private preschool, daycare preschools, etc) • Parental support • Increase in ESL and low income population • New students to the district • Level of maturity and functional skills • Attending and executive functioning concerns

DO:

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.

How Will We Get There?

Timeline	
By August 2021	<u>New Master Schedule</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Block Scheduling● Prioritizes WIN time for scheduling of interventions● Provides a Math and ELA WIN block daily● Additional person to support in every Kindergarten classroom for WIN block● Splits Recess and Lunch● Allows for Inclusion Parapro to not cover recess/lunch duty and support students for majority of day
May 2021 (Ongoing for 2021-2022 as needed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Professional Development with Gail Bohnenstiel from PDA<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Focus on Daily 5, Guided reading group structure, F&P, ELA WIN options○ By Grade Level to meet grade level needs○ Follow up sessions with Gail during SIP Days next school year
Summer 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Professional Development with Tasha Ohtotzke for Math<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Focus on Math Centers, Math Guided Group Structure, Technology Integration for Math WIN, Number Talks○ Several sessions throughout the summer. Sessions will be recorded for those who cannot attend.
Summer 2021	<u>Resources Update</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Create New Guided Reading Library● Math Tubs?
Institute Day 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Professional Development with Brian Cann/Don Swanson<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ New Promethean Boards
2021-222 School Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Addressing SEL Needs<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Hire School Counselor○ Implement Second Step Weekly○ RtI groups for General Ed Students to focus on their SEL needs as we transition back to full day○ Morning Meeting in Classroom○ Kamp Kindergarten with Social Worker and PE Teacher

2021-2022 School Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Addressing Gaps in Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Time at the Institute Day at beginning of the year to meet with previous grade level to review needs/gaps of incoming students ○ AIMSWEB benchmarking three times a year (fall, winter, spring) ○ Data Days three times a year (fall winter, spring) ○ Pre-Assessments for Math Units to see if learning gaps ○ Implementation of FUNdations in second grade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Training in May for second grade teachers ■ Reading Specialists will support with all Second Grade Classroom Foundations during implementation roll out ○ Daily WIN time for ELA and Math <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Students stay in their classrooms (no switching to other rooms) ■ Student Support Staff pull out for interventions ■ Classrooms meet daily with small groups for reading and math ○ Student Support Team meets every 6-8 weeks. Student Support Team: School Psych, Reading Specialists, Math Specialist, Primary Specialist, EL Specialist, Kindergarten Sped, School Counselor
2021-2022 School year	<p>Addressing Staff Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Common Plan time for grade levels for collaboration ● New Promethean Boards and 1 to 1 technology ● Additional specialists to provide Tier 2 and Tier 3 instruction ● Having more para support because paras are no longer required for lunch/recess duty for an hour of their day ● Professional Development to support with implementation of Math and ELA WIN ● POP (Peer Observation PD)- Opportunities for staff to observe each other

STUDY:

In Process Data (How are we doing?)

Winter 2021- AIMSweb Administered December 2021 and Fountas and Pinnell in January 2022

Winter 2021- ELA AIMS web Reading Composite- 69% is average or above

	Well Below Average	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Well Above Average
Kindergarten	9 (13%)	16 (23%)	37 (55%)	6 (8%)	1 (1%)
First Grade	12 (21%)	18 (31%)	22 (39%)	2 (4%)	3 (5%)
2nd Grade	8 (12%)	9 (14%)	33 (51%)	10 (15%)	5 (8%)
3rd Grade	5 (7%)	5 (7%)	47 (65%)	8 (11%)	7 (10%)
All School	34 (13%)	48 (18%)	139 (53%)	26 (10%)	16 (6%)

Fall 2021-Math AIMSweb Composite- 83% is average or above

	Well Below Average	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Well Above Average
Kindergarten	4 (6%)	8 (12%)	39 (57%)	13 (19%)	5 (6%)
First Grade	3 (6%)	2 (5%)	34 (60%)	13 (23%)	5 (6%)
2nd Grade	5 (8%)	9 (14%)	30 (46%)	13 (20%)	8 (12%)
3rd Grade	6 (8%)	7 (9%)	46 (58%)	8 (10%)	12 (15%)
All School	18 (7%)	26 (10%)	149 (55%)	47 (17%)	30 (11%)

ADJUST/ACT:

Plan for Continuous Improvement

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

- PHS began its annual “12 Days of Christmas” countdown with the staff again this year. This began on Thursday, December 2nd and culminated this past Friday.
- Thank you to Roy Erickson who once again donated and planted 4000 bulbs of beautiful flowers set to bloom just in time for Graduation this spring. Roy does this for the graduating seniors every year and it does not go unnoticed or unappreciated. Thanks Roy!
- Thank you to the Will County Fair Board for donating picnic tables that were originally on loan. PHS plans to maintain them structurally and probably paint them with a nice shade of Devil Blue and store them behind the weight room until the spring. After Spring Break, we plan to move them back out front to give out students a nice lunch option as well as classes that want to go outside for the day to conduct their classroom lessons and enjoy the weather.

PSAT/NMSQT Fall 2021, 11th grade - Scores & Benchmarks



Mr. Scott Wenzel, Principal of Peotone Junior High School, reported to the Board on behalf of himself and **Wendy Bean, Assistant Principal**:

PJHS Events:

- Student Council ran two events before the Christmas Break. We did our annual Food Drive which brought in over 700 items for the local food pantry. They also had donations made to the Make a Wish Foundation.
- Choose to Include was part of a virtual Summit. We had 30 students participate in the summit with two students, Sophia Klawitter and Landon Scroggins, present at the Summit.
- The Unified Sports Bowling team had their competition on December 11 in Addison, Illinois. The students competed well and finished in 2nd place.
- PBIS still looks different this year. The last week of school each grade level was given a movie day where in the afternoon they reported to the gym and were treated to a movie.

PJHS Sports Update:

- Our 7th and 8th girls' basketball teams finished their seasons. They each lost in the Regional Championship. The 7th grade team finished with a record of 18-7 while the 8th grade team finished the season with a record of 13-12. Our boys' basketball teams are in full swing and doing well. Their postseason will be early February.
- The 6th grade boys' basketball team finished their season with a record of 10-8 and finished in 3rd place in the Peotone Tournament.
- We will have wrestling starting up the week of Nov. 29th and girls' volleyball will start the week of Dec. 6th.

Mr. Ruben Suarez, Director of Technology, reported to the Board that we successfully implemented Multi Factor Authentication on our VPN in order to meet the requirement of our insurance provider and improve the security of our network.

Mrs. Jennifer Haag, Director of Transportation, reported to the Board that the Transportation department participated in PIC's spirit week so we had a handful of drivers have some fun with that. Pajama day was a HUGE hit! We also collected money for Adopt a soldier and we were able to raise \$150 to shop for a veteran! This weekend was the Christmas trip to Walmart for the Legion and we had three drivers, Thomas Ivanoff, Dave Cann, and Bob Hindelewicz who volunteered their time to drive the local families of the District to Walmart. We had cake and refreshments on Friday morning to recognize our three drivers that are retiring, Janet Riney who already retired, Thomas Ivanoff and Tanya King. We thank them for their years of service and dedication to the Transportation Department and Peotone CUSD 207U. Hoping everyone has a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:11 p.m., President Robinson asked the Board if anyone had anything for closed executive session tonight and all board members answered no.

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 OR MAY NOT BE ANY ACTION FOLLOWING THE CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.

OTHER:

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:11 p.m., President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting of December 20, 2021. Mrs. Moe made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion, and on a voice call vote, the following board members answered aye (7); Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Love, Mr. Stoub, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays



Tara Robinson, President



Cathy Cuculich, Reporter