



**BOARD OF EDUCATION-REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022
PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER:

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 board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Tara Robinson, Mrs. Jennifer Moe, Mrs. Jodi Becker, Mr. Tim Stoub, Mr. Roger Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Dawn Love was absent for the November 21, 2022 regular board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the ***Consent Agenda, A through E*** of the regular board meeting of November 21, 2022. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda ***A through E***. Mr. Uthe seconded the motion to approve, and a roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Stoub, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Uthe, (1) absent, Mrs. Love and no nays.

GOOD NEWS:

**PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 2022 BOARD OF EDUCATION
ACADEMIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH:**

President Robinson recognized and introduced ***Lauryn Rembert*** as the November 2022 Board of Education Academic Student of the month for Peotone High School. Lauryn is the daughter of Dr. Ronald and Gaynell Rembert of Monee and is currently a sophomore at Peotone High School with a grade point of 3.9 on a 4.0 grading scale.

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent presented a certificate of commendation to Lauren.



Congratulations Lauryn!

**PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL
RECOGNITION OF KANKAKEE AREA CAREER CENTER
STUDENT OF THE FIRST QUARTER:**

President Robinson recognized ***Melanie Chaloupka***, daughter of Dan and Dawn Chaloupka of Peotone, who is currently a senior at Peotone High School. Melanie has been chosen as Kankakee Area Career Center's Student of the First Quarter in the C.N.A. Training Program. Melanie Chaloupka was unable to attend the board meeting to receive her certificate.

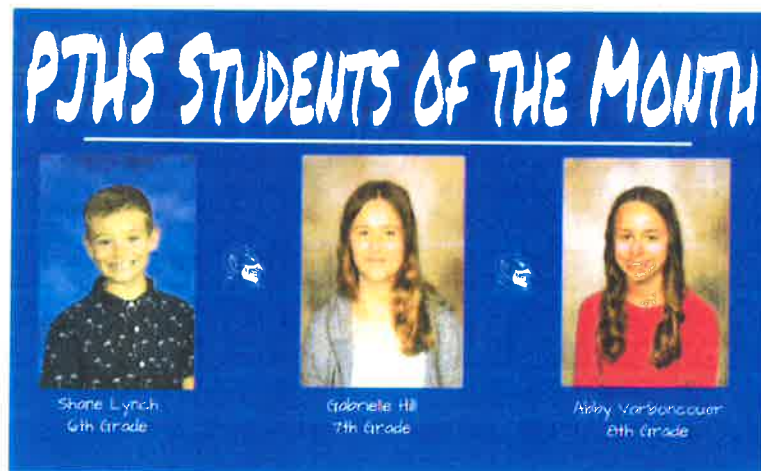


**Melanie Chaloupka
Peotone H.S.**

Congratulations Melanie!

PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
OCTOBER 2022 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH.

President Robinson recognized the October 2022 students of the month for Peotone Junior High School. 6th Grade student, **Shane Lynch**, 7th Grade student, **Gabrielle Hill** and 8th Grade student **Abby Varboncouer**, Shane and Gabrielle were not present to receive their certificates. Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent presented a certificate of commendation to **Abby Varboncouer**, 8^h grade student, who was present at the November 21st board meeting.



Congratulations Shane, Gabrielle and Abby!

PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 2022 RESOLUTION - SPEECH TEAM

President Robinson recognized ***Shariah Judon*** a seventh grade student and member of the Peotone Junior High Speech Team competed in the IESA Speech Contest, coached by Mrs. Tena DeGraaf, was awarded a rating of 1st place and given the Judge's Choice Award for her Solo, which each judge selects one exceptional performance among those they have adjudicated. ***Shariah Judon*** was not present at the November 21st board meeting to receive her certificate.

PEOTONE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 2022 RESOLUTION - SPEECH TEAM

President Robinson recognized and introduced ***Olivia Robinson***, an eighth grade student and a member of the Peotone Junior High School Speech Team. ***Olivia Robinson*** and ***Katelyn Leitelt***, competed in the IESA Speech Contest, coached by Mrs. Tena DeGraaf, and were awarded a rating of 1st place and given the Judge's Choice Award for their Duet, which each judge selects one exceptional performance among those they have adjudicated. ***Katelyn Leitelt*** was not present at the November 21st board meeting to receive her certificate.



Congratulations Shariah, Olivia and Katelyn!

2022 ILLINOIS ASSESSMENT OF READINESS STUDENT RECOGNITION:

Mr. Brandon Owens, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, recognized 3rd Grade through 8th Grade students who received a rating of **EXCEEDS** on the Math and/or English Language Arts section(s) of the Illinois Assessment of Readiness. Mr. Brandon Owens presented medals in honor of their achievement to the students present for the November 21st board meeting!

Congratulations!

3rd Grade:

Patrick Burke
Olive Clay
Crosby Kamba
Jakob Rodriquez
Andi Thompson

4th Grade:

Kathleen Begley
Keaton Denny
Nolan Panichaya
Hayden Schmidt
Olivia Varboncouer
Kamryn Sluis

5th Grade:

Payton Pape

6th Grade:

Greyson Denny
Katelyn Leitelt
Alexa Matichak

7th Grade:

Kayla Bean
Augustyn Price
Olivia Smage

8th Grade:

Addison Brandau
Tenley Oliver





OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO SPEAK:

Mrs. Bev Christensen, addressed the Board to say that she has been a Peotone school district taxpayer for 100 years, and Peotone is such a wonderful place to live. Mrs. Christensen wished that more people knew how much this administration, faculty, and teachers, support the children of the District. We really don't know how lucky and fortunate we are to have all of you leading our children, and she thanked everyone from the bottom of her heart. Mrs. Christensen also thanked Mr. Stein for being a great leader.

2022 TAX LEVY PRESENTATION:

Mr. Adrian Fulgencio, Business Manager of the District presented and reviewed with the Board, Administration and the Community the 2022 Tax Levy. Mr. Fulgencio reported to the Board that the 2022 Tax Levy will be on the agenda for approval and adoption at the December 19th regular board meeting.

FOR ACTION:

REPORT NO. 25:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE TENTATIVE 2022 TAX LEVY
AND THE CERTIFICATE OF THE TAX LEVY
ADOPTION DATE OF DECEMBER 19, 2022**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the ***Tentative 2022 Tax Levy and the Certificate of the Tax Levy Adoption Date of December 19, 2022.***

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve ***Report No.25*** and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe and (1) absent, Mrs. Love and no nays.

REPORT NO. 26:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE EARLY GRADUATES
(DECEMBER 2022) OF PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the ***Early Graduates (December 2022) of Peotone High School.*** The early graduates are Nicholas J. LaPapa, Madeline Ann Matejka, Tara Pleckham, and Kiley Thatcher. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve ***Report No.26*** and Mr. Bettenhausen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe and (1) absent, Mrs. Love and no nays.

REPORT NO. 27:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED JOB DESCRIPTIONS.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the ***Updated Job Descriptions of the Peotone High School Registrar and District Mechanic.*** Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve ***Report No.27*** and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe and (1) absent and no nays.

REPORT NO. 28:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE PHS WELDING HOOD
VENTILATION UPGRADE PROJECT.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the ***PHS Welding Hood Ventilation Upgrade Project***. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve ***Report No.28*** and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe and (1) absent, Mrs. Love and no nays.

REPORT NO. 29:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE PHS FIRE PANEL
REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the ***PHS Fire Panel Replacement Project***. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve ***Report No.29*** and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe and (1) absent, Mrs. Love and no nays.

REPORT NO. 30:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE PJHS ONE-KEY SYSTEM PROJECT.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the ***PJHS One-Key System Project***. Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve ***Report No.30*** and Mr. Uthe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe and (1) absent, Mrs. Love and no nays.

REPORT NO. 31:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF A NEW CLUB AT
PEOTONE INTERMEDIATE CENTER.**

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve ***a New Club (Yoga Club) at Peotone Intermediate Center*** for 4th and 5th grade students. The sponsor will be ***Kristine Stukenborg*** and the stipend for the club will be ***\$442.38***.

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve ***Report No.31*** and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe and (1) absent Mrs. Love and no nays.

REPORT NO. 32:

FOR ACTION:

ADDENDUM TO THE 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 *Personnel and the Addendum to Personnel of the Certified and Classified Staff of the District*. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve *Report No.32* and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the following board members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Becker Mr. Uthe (1) absent Mrs. Love and no nays.

CERTIFIED

CHANGE IN STATUS:

- Mallory Martin - PJHS Math Team Coach (effective date of 01.10.2023).
- Shawn Sobotka - PJHS Assistant Baseball Coach (effective date of 08.01.2022).
- Tracy Toepfer - PHS Fall Technical Director (effective date of 10.26.2022).

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT:

- Steve Strough - PHS Dean and Athletic Director (effective date of 07.01.2023).

CLASSIFIED

EMPLOYMENT:

- Sandra Cutsinger -Transportation School Bus Aide (effective date of 10.25.2022).
- Charlie Punzalan - District Mechanic (effective date of 12.01.2022).
- John Gaffney - PJHS Custodian (effective date of 11.25.2022).

CHANGE IN STATUS:

- Kathy Derkacy - PHS Secretary to PHS Registrar (effective date of 07.01.2023).

CHANGE IN LOCATION ONLY:

- David Reick - PES Night Custodian to PHS Night Custodian (effective date of 10.24.2022).

OTHER:

Mr. Brandon Owens, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented and review with the Board, Administration and the Community the 2022 Summative Designations and State Assessment Data. Mr. Owens answered questions from the Board members.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, reported to the Board that he received one FOIA this month and it was the bi-annual FOIA from Smart Procure, which is a purchasing cooperative out of Florida, requesting our purchasing agreements.

Mr. Adrian Fulgencio, Business Manager, reported to the Board that at our last meeting, the board approved the district's request in applying for the school maintenance project grant for the PES and PIC electrical upgrade project. I am happy to report that Peotone School District 207U was awarded the \$50,000 matching grant. The architect is working on putting the project scope together, when we have an update on that we will bring it to the board.

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

- **Veterans Day Ceremony 2022**
 - PHS would like to thank all students and staff that contributed to the Veterans Day Ceremony that also live streamed to the public on November 11th at 10:30 a.m. It was a huge success. Special Thanks to Mike Heywood, Tracy Toepfer, Kate Perry, Chief Mort, Steve Malone, Irv Darnall, and all PHS students.
- **Curriculum Meetings**
 - Mr. Owens, PHS Counselors, myself and Mrs. Adamow all met these past few weeks to discuss the course guide as well as the Master Schedule. We met with each department to discuss questions or concerns they had moving forward to next year. These were extremely positive, and we all had very productive communication.
- **ALICE Barricading Drill**
 - We successfully conducted this drill on Thursday, 11/10/22 as all classrooms participated in the practice of barricading. I, Mr. Stein, and Ms. Adamow all assisted with the drill.
- **KACC November Positive Referral**
 - Congrats to Gianna Baker on being recognized by the KACC for a positive student referral. Keep up the great work.
- **NHS Induction**
 - I would like to thank our national honor society sponsor: Mrs. Meri Reitman on a very well-organized event. A special thanks goes to all of the parents who were in attendance as well. Overall, we welcomed 18 new student members into the National Honor Society!

- **PHS Speech Team**
 - PHS would like to recognize and thank our Speech Team members Valerie Naples, Billy Giese, Julia Giese, Janna Stoub, Molly Peters, Kathryn Miller, & Natasha Forsythe for assisting with the PJHS Speech Competition. They did an outstanding job serving as door monitors, office runners, and role models to the younger contest participants.
- **November Game On Educator of the Month: Seth Diaz**
 - Hi, I know you are new to our school district, and I wanted to reach out and tell you that your presence and support of the PHS activities and students is not going unnoticed. In a time when teaching is not a favored profession following COVID, many parents have commented on the number of outside activities you attend and what a rapport you already have with the students, mine included. Madi states you are one of her favorite teachers and she can be a challenge to get to talk and warm up. I know you do not have to attend all these events, but your presence amongst the students shows one of respect and a very personable demeanor, two qualities hard to establish with teenagers. THANK YOU for all of this and your school spirit I have been seeing on social media. COVID has been so hard for these teenagers and making school educational, fun, and engaging means a lot to us parents. Welcome to our small-town school and I hope you are enjoying being here as much as we are having you.

Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services, reported to the Board that the students in the Specialized Instruction Program in the district will meet for a Friendsgiving celebration tomorrow in the library.

PHS transition coordinator Mrs. Tomaszewski is working to set up Joliet Junior College presentations for students and families on the Connect to Your Future Program as well as the Disability Services office. We are looking to host this in a luncheon format at PHS.

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

- The PJHS students and staff were provided the opportunity to visit with therapy dog, Dug, and his handler. Our next visit is scheduled for December 15th. Thank you to Mrs. Amy Loy for organizing these visits.
- PJHS had two veterans for the Peotone American Legion visit the school and share their stories and wisdom with the students and staff. We thank Mr. Bill Wachowski, a member of the Navy Seabees and Vietnam Veteran and Mr. Robert Krueger, a member of the Army and Air Force as well as a Vietnam Veteran.

- We were very thankful to have Peotone Alum and Naval Academy student Ben Balmer come back to PJHS and talk with our students today, November 21st
- The PJHS Student Council held the school wide Red Ribbon Week where students and staff participated in dress up days and a poster contest. Points were given to homerooms for participation and the winning homeroom received a traveling trophy. This year's winning homeroom was Mrs. Bennett's 8th Grade Class.
- Image Group Photography was at PJHS on Friday, November 11th for picture retakes and sport/club pictures of Speech, Girls' Basketball, Boys' Basketball, and Cheerleading.
- PJHS hosted the IESA Speech Contest on Friday, November 11th. We had seven schools participate in the event. Among the PJHS students who competed Shariah Judon received the Judge's Award for her solo performance as well as Olivia Robinson and Katelyn Leitelt receive a Judge's Award for the duet performance. Thank you to Mrs. Tena DeGraaf our Speech Coach for all of her hard work.
- Our Choose to Include group will be participating in a Virtual Summit on Thursday, December 8th.
- The PJHS Band/Choir will hold their Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 13th at the PHS Auditorium 7:00 p.m.

Sports Update

- Our girls' basketball teams have finished their regular seasons very successfully. The 7th grade team will open the IESA Regional today, November 21st. We will be hosting the 8th Grade IESA Regional beginning November 28th.
- Our boys' basketball teams are in full swing and doing well. Their postseason will be late January. We will be hosting a 6th grade boys' basketball tournament on Saturday, December 3rd
- Our cheerleaders are doing a great job at all of the boys' home games as well.
- We will have wrestling starting up the week of Nov. 28th and girls' volleyball will start the week of Dec. 5th.

Mrs. Carole Zurales, Principal at Peotone Elementary School reported to the Board that our Parent Teacher Conferences were on October 26 and we had 94% percent attendance rate. We had a special Veterans Day Celebration. We had our Poppy Wall of Honor and our assembly with special guests from the American Legion. The students sang songs, read poems, and shared a slideshow about "What is Veterans Day".

- Our monthly focus is "Magical Manners with Mary Poppins" and we kicked off our month with our Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious Salute to Service. Students and families raised \$3,056.39 for Helping Hands and Adopt a Soldier. We had our Mary Poppins Spectacular today which included Mary Poppins going on our roof because we met our school wide goal, having a school wide sing along to classic Mary Poppins Songs, Buddy Classroom activity where they decorated kits, and the winning grade level classrooms finished the day by flying kites in the field.

Upcoming Events:

- Kindergarten and Third Grade Christmas Concert- December 6th
- PTO Pancake Breakfast/Christmas in the Village- December 10th

Mrs. Jennifer Tekiela, Principal at Peotone Intermediate Center reported to the Board that:

Life Safety Inspection - PIC passed with flying colors. Thank you to teachers, staff, custodians, and maintenance staff for keeping our building safe.

World Kindness Day - On November 9th, the PIC learning community recognized World Kindness Day. Students wore Kindness apparel and created a handprint mural. Parents in the car line were treated to hot coffee to go as they dropped off students as a gesture of kindness.

Veterans Day - PIC honored local veterans this year by taking up a collection for the Manteno Veterans Home. Our PIC community collected food, toiletries and other essentials for our local veterans. Additionally, students wrote notes of gratitude to the vets. On Veterans Day, three members of our local American Legion representing the Army, Air force, and Navy, came in to share their military experiences with the students and what it means to be a veteran.

Therapy Dog Visit - Bailey the therapy dog and his handler came in for a visit on November 17th. Students got to visit with their classrooms.

Game of the Month - Thanks again to our generous PTO who have once again funded our Game of the Month. This month, our game is Qwirkle. Qwirkle is a game that looks at patterns and taps into the player's strategy skills. We will continue on with a new game throughout the year. December 7, 2022 - 4th Grade Holiday Musical

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

Camera Update:

We have received quotes from two companies at this time. One was discussed at the previous Board Meeting, and the other was received in recent weeks. There is a significant difference in pricing, but the quotes are not fully comparable. We are currently working with one of the companies to develop a quote that more aligns with our expected needs. We anticipate this quote on Wednesday.

Peotone Educational Foundation Update:

Peotone Educational Foundation recently held its First Sip and Support Sunday Funday on Sunday, November 6th. We had beautiful weather, and it was a great opportunity for all who attended to enjoy the Bears game, experience tastings, and hang out. We were very excited about hosting this event and hope to be able to continue annually. I'd also like to thank the Educational Foundation for approving 11 grants for the Fall Grant Application Process. They were able to support our teachers by purchasing over \$10,000 of stand-up desks, books, Learning Lab Furniture at PIC, dramatic play costumes, social-emotional supports, music equipment/programs, and math manipulatives

Mr. Chris Crawford, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported to the Board that:

1. Reported 259 work orders for the month of October. Those include work orders created by the maintenance team, administration and automatic preventative maintenance work orders.
2. Work Orders by school :
 - a. PIC = 30
 - b. CSC = 36
 - c. PES = 56
 - d. PHS = 61
 - e. PJHS = 76
3. Work Orders by Category:
 - a. HVAC = 48
 - b. Plumbing = 41
 - c. Grounds = 37
 - d. Preventative Maintenance = 24
 - e. Electrical = 22
 - f. General Maintenance = 21
 - g. Carpentry = 18
 - h. Lock & Key = 10
 - i. Equipment Repair = 9
 - j. Athletic Fields = 8
 - k. Moving/Delivery = 8
 - l. Furniture Repair = 7
 - m. Administrative = 6

Mrs. Terry Wuske, Director of Food Services, reported to the Board that there is not much to add for the month. We are serving daily with increasing numbers, still being three staff short. And we are also preparing for the PTO Pancake breakfast in December.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:14 p.m. President Robinson asked the Board members if anyone had anything for 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.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:14 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting of November 21, 2022. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following board members answered aye (6): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Stoub, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe (1) absent, Mrs. Love and no nays.



Tara Robinson, President



Cathy Cuculich, Reporter