

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES -
MONDAY- DECEMBER 17, 2018**

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 (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

VISITOR'S LOG:

No one signed the Visitors' Log.

SPEAKER'S LOG:

No one signed the Speakers' Log.

CONSENT AGENDA:

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of December 17, 2018. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Moe and Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and on a roll call vote, the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

2018 TAX LEVY HEARING:

At 6:08 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to open the 2018 Tax Levy Hearing, Mr. Uthe made a motion to open the tax levy hearing and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion. President Robinson asked the Board if they have any comments regarding the 2018 Tax Levy, and the Board answered no. President Robinson, then proceeded to open up the tax levy hearing to the public and asked for any comments from the public and there were no comments from the public.

At 6:11 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to close the 2018 Tax Levy hearing, and Mr. Uthe made a motion to close the Tax Levy hearing and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion. A voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

GOOD NEWS:

**Peotone High School
Academic Student of the Month
December 2018**

Mr. Stein presented a certificate of commendation to **Ryan Marsh**, son of David and Kelly Marsh of Monee, Illinois. Ryan is a freshman at Peotone High School and has earned all A's during his first quarter as a freshman.

**Peotone Junior High School
Academic Students of the Month
November 2018**

Mr. Steve Stein presented certificates of commendation to **6th Grade student, Dalton Sala, 7th Grade student, Landen Hamm and 8th Grade student, Faith Miller.** These students have demonstrated outstanding behavior, good work ethic, and have "gone above and beyond the call of duty" at Peotone Junior High for the month of November 2018.

**Peotone Junior High School
November 2018 - Resolutions**

PJHS - 7TH Grade Girls' Basketball Team

Mr. Steve Stein presented certificates of commendation to the Peotone Junior High School Seventh Grade Girls' Basketball Team consisting of **Addie Graffeo, Quinn Pollak, Payton Bean, Abbie Chenoweth, Reese Parker, Jolynn Murray, Payton Zalinski, Ashley Renwick, Ashley Veltman, Madi Schroeder, Katie Erikson, Emma Iozzo** who competed in the IESA State 7-3A Girls' Basketball Tournament and finished with an overall record of 25-2 as part of the Elite 8. Coaches Scott McAllister and Jim Wedic were also present for the presentation of the certificates to the team.

PJHS - 8TH Grade Girls' Basketball Team

Mr. Steve Stein presented certificates of commendation to the Peotone Junior High School Eighth Grade Girls' Basketball Team consisting of **Mackenzie Strough, Mady Kibelkis, Sarah Pierson, Brooke Gwiazda, Jenna Hunter, Makayla Smith, Marissa Velasco, Kiley Thatcher and Madi Schroeder,** competed in the IESA State 8-3A Girls' Basketball Tournament and finished with an overall record of 21-7 as part of the Elite 8. Coaches Scott McAllister and Jim Wedic were also present for the presentation of the certificates to the team.

OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO SPEAK:

Mr. John Michalesko, of Gassensmith and Michalesko, Ltd., presented to the Board and the Administration, a brief report of their audit that was completed for the District as of June 30, 2018.

FOR ACTION:

REPORT NO.42:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF 2018 TAX LEVY.

Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve the 2018 Tax Levy. Mr. Uthe seconded the motion, and on a roll call vote, the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

REPORT NO. 43:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL'S COURSE DESCRIPTION CHANGES FOR 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR.

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve Peotone High School's Course Description Changes for the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and on a roll call vote, the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

REPORT NO. 44:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF AN EARLY GRADUATE (DECEMBER 2018) OF PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL.

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Early Graduation of Nathan Battiato, of Peotone High School. Mrs. Thatcher seconded the motion, and on a voice call vote, the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

REPORT NO. 45:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER FOR THE DISTRICT.

Mrs. Thatcher made a motion to approve a School Resource Officer, Mr. Dan Stankus, for the District. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and on a roll call vote, the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

President Robinson introduced Mr. Dan Stankus, to the Board and Administration. Mr. Dan Stankus introduced himself and gave a brief statement about himself and his role as the District's school resource officer.

REPORT NO. 46:

FOR ACTION: PERSONNEL: (*Contingent upon receipt and evaluation of Employment documentation required by the District and the Illinois State Board of Education*)

Mr. Bettenhausen asked to postpone the approval of Report No. 46, Personnel, until after the Board meets in closed executive session. President Robinson asked for a motion to postpone the approval of Report No. 46 Personnel. Mr. Uthe made a motion to postpone the approval of Report No. 46 and Mr. Douglas seconded the motion, and on a voice call vote, the following members

answered aye (7) Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

CERTIFIED STAFF

EMPLOYMENT:

- Bill Benner - PHS - Track - Head Boys' Coach (effective date of 01/14/2019, splitting stipend with Colin Keppner).
- Colin Keppner - PHS - Track - Head Boys' Coach (effective date of 01/14/2019).
- Bella Gamboa, - PES - Long Term Substitute, (for Rachel Graniczny, 1st Grade maternity leave, effective date of 01/31/2019).
- Emily Kuypers - PHS - Track - Head Girls' Coach (effective date of 03/01/2019)
- Laura Zdancewicz - PES - Long Term Substitute, (for Michelle Weinrich, 3rd Grade, maternity leave, effective date of 01/14/2019).
- Rhonda Carroll - PHS - Long Term Substitute, (for Stephanie Blamble, maternity leave, effective date of 03/01/2019).
- Ginger Saliba - PJHS - Volleyball Coach (effective date of 12/11/2018).
- Ginger Saliba - PJHS - Track Coach - (effective date of 03/01/2019).
- Tara Popovich - PES - Permanent Substitute Teacher (effective date of 01/07/2019).
- Michelle Bozarth - PES - Permanent Substitute Teacher - (effective date of 01/07/2019).
- Maureen Gasik - PJHS- Science Teacher - (hired for the remainder of the 18-19 school year, effective date of 01/07/2019).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

- Stephanie Blamble - PHS -Track - Head Girls' Coach for one season, (effective date of 03/01/2019)
- Wendy Vincent - PJHS - Science Teacher – (for the remainder of the 18-19 school year, effective date of 01/07/2019).

FMLA REQUEST:

- Christine Melton - PES - Social Worker (effective date of 12/17/2018, and a return date of 01/07/2019).

RESIGNATION:

- Chelsea McKay - PJHS - Assistant Softball Coach - (effective date of 5/29/2019).
- Steven Strough - PJHS - Softball Coach - (effective date of 5/29/2019).

**CLASSIFIED STAFF
EMPLOYMENT:**

- Jenna Balthazor - PHS -Softball Assistant - (effective date of 02/25/2019).
- Jennifer Holman - District - Part-time- Long Term Substitute Occupational Therapy (for Tori Coffman, effective date of 01/07/2019).
- Kim Mraz Nagel - District - Part-time - Long Term Substitute Occupational Therapy (for Tori Coffman, effective date of 01/07/2019).
- Debra Moreno - Transportation - School Bus Aide - on call (effective date of 12/11/2018)

CHANGE IN POSITION:

- Steven Hunding -District- Data Specialist - (effective date of 12/17/2018)

RESIGNATION:

- Stephen Figlewicz - District - Data Specialist (effective date of 12/27/2018)
- Anna Marie Rosenberg -Transportation - Bus Driver (effective date of 11/19/2018)

TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT:

- Martha Prunsky - Transportation - Bus Driver (effective date of 12/17/2018)

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Dr. Charles Vitton, Assistant Superintendent, reported to the Board that two permanent substitutes have been hired to work at PES. Mr. Steve Hunding will be taking over as Data Specialist - and we have interviews on the 28th for the Technical Support Specialist position. The Education Foundation Bowling will be on Saturday, January 26th (9:00 p.m.)

Mr. Craig Fantin, Principal of Peotone High School, reported to the Board that this past month our agriculture teacher Abby Jacobs received a \$5,000 grant to use for new curriculum for next school year called CASE (Curriculum for Agricultural Sciences Education). Corteva Agriscience was the sponsor of this grant and they are a new Ag Company that has bought out Monsanto, Dow Agriscience, Dupont, and Pioneer Seeds here in the past year. Their mission with this grant is to provide teachers with the skills to go and teach their students what is actually going on in agriculture today. This summer Ms. Jacobs will be going to two CASE Institutes where she will be the student and go through all the labs, lessons, and worksheets like her students will next fall. She will be attending an Introduction to Agriculture class in Pontiac, Illinois and then a Plant Science Institute in Maryland.

Students and teachers are preparing for finals this week. Tomorrow after school from 3:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. we are hosting our annual Cocoa Cram Study Session

in the Media Center. Students are invited to study in the Media Center, and as an incentive we have hot chocolate and cookies for them. This is aimed primarily for freshmen students because they are new to final exams, but all students are invited to attend.

Mrs. Joanne Obszanski, Principal of Peotone Intermediate Center, reported to the Board that December was NWEA Map Testing. Data Day will be on January 9th. Mrs. Justus and the Drama club presented the "The Wizard of Oz" in November. Our Holiday concert was last Friday. Our Talent Show will be on January 18th and our Fifth Grade Band concert will be March 7th. Secret Santa was very successful, sales were good and PIC made \$750.00 to add to the purchase of additional chrome books. Thank you to the PTO for paying for the Will County Forest Preserve to come to PIC and present on three different occasions to our 5th Grade Social Studies students on various topics related to Joliet and Marquette. Our 4th Grade has secured their spot at the 2019 Ag Expo with the Will County Farm Bureau in March. Friends making Friends, is a new social club started this year at PIC that encourages and nurtures friendships among students across grade levels. Currently all of our sessions are during the school day and includes a host of activities to build relationships among various student groups. We hope it encourages our students to be active in the PALS program at Peotone Junior High. The clubs that are ongoing at PIC are Chess Club, Let's Build It, Coding and Floor Hockey which begins on January 14th. Students in both 4th and 5th grades will be taking their Essentials Survey in January when we return from winter break.

Mr. Dave Weissbohn, Director of Technology, had nothing to report.

Mr. Scott Wenzel, Principal of Peotone Junior High School, reported to the Board that the **PJHS Student Council** food drive was a big success. We had set a goal of 1200 items and the students and staff brought in 1449 items for the Peotone Food Pantry. The students have earned a free dance which will be held on Friday, January 25th. **PJHS Student Council** is raising money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. We have a Make-A-Wish tree where students can purchase a ribbon to tie to the tree for \$0.50. All money raised will go the Make-A-Wish Foundation. During this month PJHS hosted the 7th Grade Girls' Basketball IESA Sectional, the 8th grade Girls' Basketball Regional, and 6th Grade Boys' Basketball Tournament. In February we will be hosting the Wrestling IESA Regional. The 7th and 8th Grade Girls' Basketball teams both competed in the IESA State Tournament at the Elite 8 level. The 7th Grade team finished the season with a record of 25-2. The 8th Grade team finished the season with a record of 21-7. Wrestling and Volleyball have begun their seasons. Mrs. Heron had play tryouts last week. The play is "A Wrinkle in Time" and will be held at the PHS Media Center on Saturday, March 2 at 7:00. PJHS Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 20 at PHS Auditorium 7:00. PJHS will be conducting the Winter MAP Test beginning January 14th and the school-wide Geography Bee is coming up in January.

Mr. Chris Gibson, Assistant Principal PJHS/Athletic Director PHS, was not present for the December board meeting.

Mrs. Kathy Davis, Principal of Peotone Elementary, reported to the Board that we are currently conducting AIMS Web testing in grades K-3. We will meet as grade level teams in January to review this data and plan for our next round of WIN time. PIC and PES hosted the Santa's Secret Shop for the first time without the assistance of PTO. We had great parent volunteers and the kids had a lot of fun shopping. We will wrap up this week with our holiday sing-a-long with a visit from the big man himself and our holiday parties. Our enrollment for kindergarten is increasing. We will be at 79 students when we return from break and 349 building-wide. That puts us only five lower than where we ended the school year last year.

Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services, reported to the Board that our 1st annual district-wide Specialized Instruction Program Holiday Party would be held tomorrow at PHS Media Center for students in our SI programming. Students in grades 1-12 will celebrate the upcoming Christmas season with various games, crafts, and activities, and of course, a pizza party.

Mrs. Wendy Bean, Assistant Principal, reported to the Board that Christmas in the Village was again very successful this year. We had a few student groups from PHS helping out and we received MANY compliments regarding how helpful and pleasant these students were. A big thank you to National Honor Society, the boys' basketball players, and the Skills USA students! Around 160 gifts arrived at PHS today for our Christmas Angels program. All gifts were donated by members of the Jackson Creek Church and Pastor Jayson Workman. Twenty-two PHS students will be receiving these gifts over the next few days.

Mrs. Terry Wuske, Director of Food Services, was not present for the December board meeting.

Mr. Dave Osborne, Director of Maintenance, reported to the Board that Wade Headrick, my replacement in the Maintenance Department, started on December 10th and I am excited to start working with Mr. Headrick. Mr. Osborne also reported to the Board that we are looking to fill another custodian position for the District. And over the winter break, we have several projects that we will be working on. At PES, we will be installing new flooring in two rooms and also installing flooring at a room at PIC. We will also be installing two new cabinets at PES along with new lunch tables for the lunchroom. Also, fire and bleacher inspections are coming up soon.

Mrs. Jennifer Haag, Transportation Director, just wanted to thank the Board for the wonderful breakfast that they provided to the Transportation Department. Mrs. Haag also reported to the Board that they transported 38 district families (three busses) for the American Legion's Annual Christmas Event which was held on December 15th.

Debbie Casa, Union President, had nothing to report.

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, reported to the Board that there were no FOIAs this month. Mr. Stein talked about online safety regarding kindergarten through 12th grade students.

Mr. Trevor Moore, Chief School Business Official, thanked the Board for approving the Tax Levy. Mr. Moore also reported to the Board about the closing of the sale of the working cash bonds that took place on December 5th, 2018. The bond sale went better than expected and the bonds were attractive to investors for several reasons, the primary being the District's credit rating increase. Additionally, the bonds that were refunded were sold at a lower interest rate than they would have with a competitive sale because the bonds were sold directly to the Worth Township Treasurer's Office. The district will have a savings of about \$77,000 over what was expected days before the sale.

Mr. Bettenhausen, asked if there was a reason for the credit rating increase for the District? Mr. Moore responded by talking about the process leading up to the sale. First, he and Mr. Stein took part in a presentation with Moody's to establish some of the characteristics of the district. Mr. Moore noted that some changes in Peotone like Aqua supplying water for the town and the possibility that this could bring new taxpayers west of I-57 were particularly attractive to them. Also, the District relies less on state assistance than many other school districts, so the District's credit is affected less by the State of Illinois credit.

Mr. Bettenhausen also asked about the status of the Property Tax Relief Grant, and Mr. Moore responded by saying the due date for applications isn't until January and that we would find out a few weeks after the deadline.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:55 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting and moved for the Board to meet in Executive Session for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel; collective negotiating matters; presentation of evidence or testimony as authorized by law; purchase, lease, or sale of real or publicly owned property; investment contracts; security procedures which may include personnel; student disciplinary cases; litigation; issues under the Tort Immunity Act; professional ethics or performance; board self-evaluation; selection to fill a public office; and/or the discussion of previously closed minutes. There will be action after Executive Session. Mr. Bettenhausen made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting and go into closed executive session and Mrs. Thatcher and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

At 7:36 p.m. Mrs. Moe made a motion that the Board Return to Open Session. Mr. Uthe seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

President Robinson asked for a motion to approve Report No. 46, Personnel, Certified and Classified Staff. Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Certified and Classified Staff Personnel. Mr. Douglas seconded the motion and on a roll call vote, the following members answered aye (7): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:36 p.m. President Robinson asked for a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting. Mr. Uthe made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting and Mr. Bettenhausen seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following members answered aye (7): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Thatcher and no nays.



Tara Robinson, President



Cathy Cuculich, Reporter