

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
PEOTONE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA CENTER
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M.**

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 (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Uthe and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

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 April 15, 2019. Mr. Uthe made a motion and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

GOOD NEWS:

Peotone High School

Academic Student of the Month- April 2019

Mr. Stein presented a certificate of commendation to **Michael Hunding**, son of Steve and Suzanne Hunding of Peotone. Michael is a freshman at Peotone High School with a grade point average of 4.143 on a 4.0 grading scale and ranks 1st in his class of 124 students.

Peotone Junior High School

March 2019 Academic Students of the Month

Mr. Stein presented certificates of commendation to **6th Grade student, Amanda Mezydlo**, **7th Grade Student Nolan Mueller** and **8th Grade student Kyle Coners**. These students have demonstrated outstanding behavior, good work ethic, and have "gone above and beyond the call of duty" at Peotone Junior High School.

OPPORTUNITY FOR VISITORS TO SPEAK:

No Visitor Speakers.

FOR ACTION:

REPORT NO. 61:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE TEMPORARY SUMMER
CUSTODIAL AND SUMMER GROUNDS POSITIONS.**

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Temporary Summer Custodial and Summer Grounds Positions. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 62:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL FOR AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND THE
FY19 BUDGET.**

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Authorization to Amend the FY19 Budget. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 63:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL
CALENDAR (DISTRICT).**

Mrs. Robinson asked the Board to table Report No. 63 for tonight's meeting. A voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 64:

**FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF CHANGING THE DATE OF THE
SCHEDULED REGULAR BOARD MEETING DATE OF
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019.**

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve changing the date of the scheduled regular board meeting date of Monday, August 19, 2019 to Monday, August 12, 2019. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting. Mrs. Robinson reported that the Board is requesting changing the scheduled board meeting from Monday, August 19, 2019 to Monday, August 12, 2019 because August 19th is the first day of school.

REPORT NO. 65:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE INSTALLATION OF THE TRIDIUM NIAGARA-4 PLATFORM SYSTEM SOFTWARE (HVAC) AT PHS.

Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve the installation of the Tridium Niagara-4 Platform System Software (HVAC) at PHS. Mr. Uthe seconded the motion and a roll call was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 66:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE ASBESTOS REMOVAL AT PJHS THIS SUMMER.

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Asbestos Removal at Peotone Junior High School this summer. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 67:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF A RELEASE OF A PHS DIPLOMA.

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the release of a Peotone High School diploma to Emily Tierney) who has completed her educational programming and has earned her high school diploma as of March 22, 2019. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and a voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 68:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL MATHEMATICS SEQUENCE / ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR.

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Mathematics Sequence/Eligibility Criteria 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion, and a voice call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6): Mr. Uthe, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

REPORT NO. 69:

FOR ACTION: APPROVAL OF THE ASPHALT AND WATER DRAINAGE PROJECT OF THE "U" AT PJHS.

Mr. Uthe made a motion to approve the Asphalt and Water Drainage Project of the "U" at Peotone Junior High School. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken and the following members answered aye (6), Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

***ADDENDUM TO PERSONNEL - (additions in bold and underline)** **REPORT NO. 70:**

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

CERTIFIED STAFF EMPLOYMENT:

- Molly Siniawski – School Counselor – PES (effective date of 08-12-2019).
- **Terri Jean (TJ) Kauchak – Special Education Teacher-PIC (effective date of 08-12-2019).**

RESIGNATION:

- Craig Fantin - Principal - PHS (letter dated 03-19-2019, effective date of 06-30-2019).
- Jordan Hopman - Boys' Basketball - PJHS (effective date of 06-05-2019).
- Chelsea McKay - Cheerleading - PJHS (effective date of 06-05-2019).

RETIREMENT- End of the 2018-2019 School Year:

- Sue Justus - Art/Music Teacher - PIC (letter dated 03-21-2019, effective date of 06-05-2019).

CLASSIFIED STAFF EMPLOYMENT:

- Sandra Baker - Bus Aide - Transportation- (effective date of 04-10-2019).

TEMPORARY SUMMER POSITIONS:

- Cole Evans - Summer Crew Custodian – (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Joey Uthe -Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Matt Lexow- Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Ian Hamann-Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).

TEMPORARY SUMMER POSITIONS (continued):

- Kobe Baumgartner- Summer Crew Custodian-(effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Marty Merigold- Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Lee Merigold- Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Lynn Merigold-Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Brianna Miller- Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Matt Asbrand -Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Spencer Bettenhausen - Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Benjamin Warden- Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Lucas Rumisek- Summer Crew Custodian– (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Alex Strough- Summer Crew Custodian- (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Cassie Carstens - Summer Crew Custodian-(effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Nick Stupegia - Summer Crew Custodian - (effective date of 06-06-2019).
- Kyle VanGilder - Summer Grounds Crew- (effective date of 06-06-2019).

CHANGE IN STATUS:

- Carrie Crawford - 1:1 Paraprofessional at PIC to a 1:1 Paraprofessional at PES (effective date of 04-11-2019).

FLMA REQUEST:

- David Miller - Custodian - PES (effective date of 02-05-2019).

EXTENSION OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

- Tori Coffman - MOTR/L Occupational Therapist- District (new return date of 05-01-2019).

RESIGNATION:

- Connie Chartier - Bus Driver -Transportation - (effective date of 03-18-2019).

Mrs. Moe made a motion to approve the Addendum to the Personnel of Certified and Classified Staff. Mr. Uthe seconded the motion and on a roll call vote, the following members answered aye (6), Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Dr. Charles Vitton, Assistant Superintendent, reported to the Board that he is interviewing along with Mrs. Loy and Mr. Stein for various teaching and administrative positions.

Finalizing ELA adoption for presentation at the May 20th regular board meeting for the Board's approval.

PreK/Kindergarten- Early New Student Registration opens up tomorrow for NEW PreK and Kindergarten to the district for 2019-2020 (the new Power School Registration portal):

- Returning Student Registration will open up in early May;
- Continuation of New Student for PK-12 will begin after July 1st

Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services, reported to the Board that we have completed the alternative assessment, DLM-MAP administered to applicable students in the district. We had approximately 15 students in grades 3-11 that qualified to take this assessment.

We recently had our Will County ROE McKinney Vento Homeless Liason, Ron O'Connor stop by for a compliance and monitoring visit. He was happy with our district's effort to seek out and support families that qualify under the McKinney Vento Act.

Mr. Craig Fantin, Principal of Peotone High School, reported to the Board that on Tuesday, April 9th we had our all school testing day. We administered the SAT to Juniors, the PSAT 10 to Sophomores and the PSAT 8/9 to Freshmen. The day went very smoothly. A Big thank you to Nichole Schultz and Kara Lindsay for the work they have done for the all school testing day!

Also, we have upcoming events at the Peotone High School:

- **April 25, 2019**
Honors Breakfast for Illinois State Scholars and Top 10 students here in the Media Center.
- **May 1, 2019**
Prom Drinking and Driving Crash Site presentation for our Juniors and Seniors.
- **May 1, 2019**
Senior Awards Night at 6:30 p.m.
- **May 4, 2019**
Prom at Odyssey Country Club in Tinley Park.
- **May 6, 2019 - May 15, 2019**
A.P. Testing.
- **May 15, 2019 - May 17, 2019**
Senior final exams and Senior's last day.
- **May 23, 2019**
Graduation practice @ 1:00 p.m.
- **May 24, 2019**
Graduation @ 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Stein asked Mr. Fantin to make sure that the students are wearing their caps and gowns to the graduation practice.

The Board thanked Mr. Fantin for all that he done at Peotone High School since he taken on the role of principal at the high school, and he will be truly missed by everyone. The Board wished Mr. Fantin all the best!

Mr. Dan Stankus, Resource Officer for the District, reported to the Board that he is finalizing plans for "Road to Reality" Prom assembly at PHS on May 1st. I am continuing with my participation in classrooms and student discussions at all campuses. I have reviewed the current speed limit along the north access drive at PHS and will be posting new signs indicating 20 m.p.h. Also, I am assessing the flow of traffic and congestion along Garfield Avenue during student dismissal at Peotone Junior High School and will be reviewing options to improve safety measures for students crossing Garfield Avenue. I have noticed an increasingly positive impact of my presence in the schools with the youth both while in school as well as throughout the community.

Mr. Fantin stated that he has seen the positive impact of having Mr. Stankus in his building. Mr. Stankus is a value to the District and is worth every penny.

Mr. Dave Osborne, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported to the Board that the PES Teachers' lounge is almost completed. Adolfo Marquez worked all day Saturday and Sunday painting so that the flooring can be installed on Monday. At PJHS, eight rooms and a custodial closet will have the tile removed and re-floored over the summer break. The lower East wing of the junior high will abated, excluding the main school office and the Library media center. The abatement will be put out for public bid and Affordable Flooring by Rodigo will be installing the new flooring. The insulation will also be removed from the boiler to check for a leak. At that time the boiler will also be checked to see if it is still ok or should be replaced. The tile abatement is projected to cost about \$71,500, Hygieneering's fee is \$23,250 and the flooring will be about \$20,000 for a total of about \$135,000, including the boiler insulation removal. We also have been discussing, and I've polled other schools and some people in the industry, about going to four to ten hour days for the summer crew. Most schools do that now and it seems to work out very well. If a sixth day is needed to get work done it is easier to get someone in a on a Friday instead of a Saturday.

I have been discussing the need for some cordless backpack vacuum cleaners for some of the schools with a lot of carpet and especially the computer labs. Dave asked the Board if he could have the go ahead with checking into buying or renting a couple to see how they will work. There will be a sign demo for the new digital sign for the high school on Thursday, April 18th at 1:30 p.m. at the high school.

Dave Osborne wanted to thank the Board and Administration for all their support.

The Board expressed how much they appreciate all the hard work that Dave has done for the District!

Mr. Trevor Moore, Chief School Business Official, discussed with the Board the Request to Pursue a Referendum for the District. Mr. Moore reported since

last August when the Board started the process of selling working cash bonds, it has been our goal to explore the possibility of putting a referendum question on the ballot in March of 2020. The question posed to voters would raise the operating tax rate the district can levy under the provisions of Illinois State law. With this goal in mind, the working cash bonds sold in December are sufficient to cover the projected operating deficit for fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Beyond that year, the district would need additional revenue to cover the operating deficit. It is the hope of the Board and the Administration that an operating rate increase would allow for these revenues to be levied in a way that does not waste precious resources on fees and interest that the working cash bonds require. As we have discussed in previous Board Meetings, we feel this possible rate increase comes at a unique time for the community because the Peotone High School debt is nearly repaid and the rate increase would have little impact to the total tax levy in coming years.

The Board responded with the help of the Administration and feedback from the community, the Board feels like there is a strong case to move forward with these referendum efforts. On behalf of the Peotone Board of Education, I would like to officially ask the Administration to begin the process of pursuing these referendum efforts. It is our hope that the Administration will be able to educate the voters on the financial history and their vision of the financial future of this school district. I ask that the Administration keep the Board informed of these efforts in the coming months and be reactive to any questions or concerns that may arise during the process. Finally, I would like to remind the community that we have set up an email address where questions, concerns, and comments can be submitted. These will help to shape the community engagement efforts of the District and make sure the situation is fully understood by all community members. This email address is Referendum2020@peotoneschools.org.

Referendum Open House Meetings:

A flyer will be published announcing a series of four "Open House" style meeting that will allow this District to present the facts of the referendum efforts and give the community a chance to ask questions. The first will be **on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the Peotone High School Media Center.** Mr. Stein asked Chris Russell, from the Peotone Vedette, if he would please publish the first Open House meeting for the Referendum in the newspaper.

Property Tax Relief Grant:

ISBE has processed all of the applications and we did not qualify for any property tax relief at this time. No surprising because Peotone has a very low tax burden compared with many other communities in the State of Illinois. There were 373 districts that submitted applications and we ended up 362 on the list.

The \$50 million in relief only covered the first the first 28 schools that applied. With the help of Dave Osborne and Terry Wuske, we applied for a federal grant at the end of 2018 to upgrade kitchen equipment. The total award could have been \$50,000. The largest and most important part of the project was to upgrade the septic system at PIC in order to be able to have hot lunch service at the building. Unfortunately, we were not chosen to receive any grant money because of our relatively low number of free and reduced price students and because we

do not participate in the national breakfast program. Board members asked if this is still something we would like to do at PIC even though we didn't get the grant money. Dave Osborne agreed to look into how much it would cost to have the building hooked up to the Aqua water and sewer that is across the street at the Green Garden Golf Course. This project is something we will continue to work on and the administrative team will report back to the board on this project. Mr. Stein stated he would place a call to the village about the hook-up of water.

Mrs. Debbie Caza, Union President, had nothing to report.

OTHER:

Mr. Steve Stein, Superintendent, reported to the Board that he has received one FOIA request, from Smart Procure.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:12 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 no action after Executive Session. Mr. Uthe made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting and go into closed executive session and Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moe, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Uthe, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mrs. Becker and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher were absent for the April regular board meeting.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

At 7:35 p.m. Mr. Uthe made a motion that the Board Return to Open Session. Mrs. Moe seconded the motion and a voice call vote was taken, the following members answered aye (6): Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Douglas, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Uthe Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:35 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 Mrs. Moe and Mrs. Robinson seconded the motion and on a voice call vote, the following members answered aye (6): Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Bettenhausen, Mr. Uthe, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Becker and no nays. Mrs. Thatcher was absent for the April regular board meeting.



Tara Robinson, President



Cathy Cuculich, Reporter