

Port Allegany School District
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting
January 13, 2020

MINUTES

Call to Order

President Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library with a moment of silence and the flag salute. Mr. Moate called the roll.

Board Present: Dr. Mark Carlson, Mr. Justin Fillhart, Mrs. Bonna Johns, Mr. Jason Stake, Mr. Jonathan Stehle, Mr. Donald Tanner, Mr. Gary Buchsen, Mr. Adam Moate, and Board Treasurer Mr. Daniel F. Lane, III.

Board Absent: Mr. Kerry Hawver, Mr. Sean Lathrop and Mrs. Erica Petruzzi.

Others Present: Rachel Vargeson of The Nutrition Group, Mary Lashway, Lisa VanGorden, and Joyce Stehle.

Public Comment

There were no comments relating to agenda items or federal programs.

Mrs. Lisa VanGorden, High School Teacher asked about replacement status of the high school technology technician. Mr. Buchsen responded that In-Shore has made an offer for the position. She asked if the Independent Audit Report is public record and asked for copies if so. Mr. Moate said it is and she should stop by and see him. She further commented about the recent audit report and wondered how “working under a deficit” is determined. Mrs. VanGorden also commented on student scheduling and the fact that too many students have 2-3 study halls per day. She expressed her belief that teachers covering study halls is a waste of taxpayers’ money and a disservice to our students and community when they could be providing instruction stating we should be presenting more options for electives for students.

Minutes of Preceding Meetings

Approved the Minutes of the November 25, 2019 special meeting and the December 2, 2019 reorganization/regular meeting. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was unanimously carried.

Treasurer’s Report

Approved the Treasurer’s Reports for the periods ended November 30 and December 31, 2019 as presented by Mr. Daniel Lane, District Treasurer. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was passed unanimously.

General Fund account balances on December 31, 2019 were as follows: Juniata Valley Bank (JVB) Investment Savings - \$8,175,427.83 and JVB Now Account – \$3,479.76. Receipts since January 1 were \$111,532.72 and expenditures were \$306,776.46 bringing the balance in the general fund to \$7,984,213.85.

December 31, 2019 balances for various accounts were reported as follows: Capital Reserve Investment Fund - \$2,733,863.53; Student Activities Account - \$91,542.04; Student Athletics Account - \$67,976.07; and Cafeteria Account - \$40,570.85.

Bill Listings and Payrolls

Approved the General Fund Bill Lists of January 13, 2020 - \$1,151,311.83 and December 9, 2019 - \$1,307,635.15; and payrolls of December 5, 2019 - \$239,829.08; December 19, 2019 - \$233,734.18; and January 2, 2020 - \$249,183.29. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: J. Stake. Clarification was provided for various bill list items. Mr. Moate reported that check 26667 on the January bill list will be voided and reissued for the correct amount of \$188. The motion was carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Moate reviewed the General Fund Budget Summary Report highlighting negative balances and noted 41% of the budget expended. He reported the Student/Athletics quarterly report is informational only as the district simply serves as custodian of accounts for student clubs. Mr. Moate reviewed the Cafeteria Quarterly report which reflects a deficit balance of \$26,000 noting that \$34,000 has already been transferred from the general fund. Brief discussion was held.

Personnel

Appointed the following staff to serve as homebound instructors during the 2019-2020 school year at a supplemental hourly rate of \$31.65 according Schedule B of the Professional Agreement: Ms. Beth McElwee, Mr. George Riley, Ms. Sally Smock, and Mrs. Carri Madison. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved Mr. Jeff Barber and Mr. Robert Guilds as volunteer junior high boys' basketball coaches for the 2019-2020 school year, pending completion of appropriate paperwork. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: B. Johns. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance

Approved the repository sale of Liberty Township parcel 26-017-002, 12 Wilson Drive (.37 acre) to Ms. Cynthia Cisneros for a bid of \$351.99. Motion: J. Stake; Second: D. Tanner. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved the quote of \$7,200 from Otis Elevator to repair the wheelchair lift in the high school lobby. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion carried unanimously

Approved the quote of \$30,011.08 from In-Shore Technologies, Inc. to complete a security camera project at the elementary school which will be covered by Safe Schools funding. Motion: J. Fillhart; Second: J. Stake. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Buchsen asked if there is interest from the board to continue discussion with Schneider Electric to conduct a business plan for a potential energy project. Doctor Carlson said there would be no cost to move forward at this point. Mr. Buchsen recapped information from Mr. Myers of Schneider. Discussion was held among board members and administration. Consensus of the Board was to move forward with the business plan at no cost to the district.

Board

Doctor Carlson distributed the list of 2020 committee assignments indicating that members should contact him with any concerns.

Adopted revised Policy 233 - Compulsory School Attendance. Motion: J. Stake; Second: J. Fillhart. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board was notified that Mr. Christian Sevinsky, Mathematics Teacher and Mrs. Olivia Wolf, Life Skills Teacher have been employed by the Port Allegany School District for three years and have been rated satisfactory during the last four months of the third year; therefore, this sixth rating made to comply with Section 1108 of the Pennsylvania School Code results in professional employee status (tenure).

Adopted the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) board principles. Motion: D. Tanner; Second: J. Stake. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Buchsen distributed PSBA board certificates to board members “*Honoring members who volunteer their time and talents for the betterment of public education and our community*” in observation of school director recognition month.

The board convened to executive session to discuss negotiations at 7:44 p.m.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:08 p.m. for adjournment.

Adjournment

Motion: Stake; Second: B. Johns. The motion was unanimously carried. Doctor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAM C. MOATE
Secretary to the Board of School Directors