

August 18, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Mullett. Mr. Mullett led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Durrwachter, Mrs. Conley, Mr. Morris, Ms. Enyeart, Mr. Frye, Ms. Spiker, Mrs. Watkins, Mrs. Eddy, Mr. Polk, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Moon, Dr. Redmon, parents, and a local news media rep.

On motion by Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Comerford, the Board approved the public agenda with one addition (IV.G. SUBSTITUTE PAY INCREASES), the memorandum of July 21, 2020, and the personnel report with one deletion (C. Item #1 - benefits addendum) (Mr. Durrwachter also noted a change to Mr. Polk's ECA) by a vote of 5-2, Dr. Quin and Ms. Justice opposed.

#### PERSONNEL

##### A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Katie Wyant - resignation as PHS Science teacher and Varsity softball head coach, effective pending new employer board approval on August 18, 2020.
2. Nora Majors - resignation as PJHS art teacher, effect July 21, 2020.
3. Christina Overdorf - resignation as PJHS Science teacher and NJHS sponsor, effective July 31, 2020.
4. Karen Baker - resignation as PJHS track assistant, effective August 8, 2020.
5. Kristi Wilhelm - resignation as PJHS special education math aide, effective July 16, 2020.
6. Martha McGowan - resignation as PJHS part-time custodian, effective August 11, 2020.
7. Tracy Renfrow - resignation as 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls' basketball coach, effective July 31, 2020.
8. Jaimie Seward - resignation as Blair Pointe SE teacher, effective July 15, 2020.
9. Sandy Zak - resignation as Blair Pointe Title I tutor, effective July 28, 2020.
10. Tracy Eckerley - resignation as Elmwood SE teacher, effective August 4, 2020.
11. Ashley Hiers - resignation as Elmwood instructional aide, effective August 21, 2020.
12. Nykolas Molder - resignation as bus monitor, effective August 11, 2020.

##### B. LEAVES - no business

##### C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS

1. Administrative contract, ECA extensions, and ~~administrative benefits addendum~~ through the 2021-22 school year:  
Dan Durrwachter - Assistant to the Superintendent, 250 days  
Paul Frye - PHS Principal, 215 days  
Pat Polk - PHS Assistant Principal, 205 days  
Chuck Brimbury - Athletic Director, 205 days  
Linda Watkins - Blair Pointe Principal, 210 days  
Chris Snyder - Blair Pointe Assistant Principal, 205 days  
Kristi Eddy - Elmwood Principal, 210 days  
Greg Badry - Elmwood Assistant Principal, 205 days
2. Andrea Chambers - PHS Art teacher (\$1,500 pre-tax signing bonus, pending Corp meet and discuss in addition to Board approval)
3. Rebecca Christner - Blair Pointe 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher (\$1,200 pre-tax signing bonus, pending Corp meet and discuss in addition to Board approval)
4. Sandra Nallenweg-Jones - Blair Pointe special education teacher (\$1,200 pre-tax signing bonus, pending Corp meet and discuss in addition to Board approval)
5. Julie Worland - Elmwood special education teacher (\$1,200 pre-tax signing bonus, pending Corp meet and discuss in addition to Board approval)
6. Receiving \$1,200 pre-tax signing bonus, pending Corp meet

and discuss -  
Suzanne Gray  
Wendy Hendrix

7. Autumn Nero - transfer from Blair Pointe Title I Remediation teacher grades 3-6 to PJHS Science
8. Continued certified postings until filled:  
PHS Science  
PJHS Art

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Ashlee Linkenhoker - PHS special education (1-1) aide
2. Gail Frazier - PJHS math, temporary teacher, first 15 days sub pay, then base teacher pay for remainder of contract, no benefits
3. Robert Huppenthal - PHS science, temporary teacher, first 15 days sub pay, then base teacher pay for remainder of contract, no benefits
4. Danielle Blackburn - PJHS art, temporary teacher, first 15 days sub pay, then base teacher pay for remainder of contract, no benefits
5. Terri Bargerhuff - Blair Pointe Title I tutor, pending background check
6. Danielle Brown - Elmwood Title I tutor
7. Christy Spencer - Elmwood recess monitor - 2 hours per day
8. Alexandra Burton - bus monitor
9. Permission to hire:  
PCS parent liaisons - Elementary and Secondary stipends from grant dollars

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Eric Thompson - boys' varsity head basketball coach, contract extension through 2021 -22 school year
2. Romison Saint-Louis - varsity head football coach, contract extension through 2021-22 school year
3. Lisa Hobbs - Varsity girls' track assistant coach
4. Don Honn - 7<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball assistant (lay) coach
5. Desiree Miller - 8<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball assistant (lay) coach
6. Alexandria Blong - Elementary Cross Country (lay) coach

F. REQUEST TO ATTEND CONFERENCE - no business

G. DONATIONS

1. PCS PD - police vehicle from Peru PD for general use - if approved, outlined use and limitations would need to be approved in the PCSPD SOP in September before utilizing vehicle.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - no comments

II. RETIREMENTS/RECOGNITIONS/BLACK & GOLD AWARDS - Mr. Watkins made the following comments:

Purple Star Designation for PHS - Mr. Frye stated that we are one of sixty-nine schools to receive this honored recognition. He stated that we have displayed our military Peru alumni and their years of service. Mr. Morris has also added a Veterans page for Peru and can be found at [vets.peru.k12.in.us](http://vets.peru.k12.in.us)

III. PROGRAM

A. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR PUBLIC AGENDA - no Business

- B. J-TURN RESOLUTION - Mr. Jim Tidd stated that this is an effort along with other bodies of Miami County to oppose J-Turns. He stated that they are saying that they are worried about the safety of our community when traveling on U.S. 31. Mr. Tidd reviewed the different locations where they are wanting to put them in. Mr. Tidd stated that they are asking for the school Board's approval for the resolution. He stated that they have received approval from many entities already. This resolution was presented to the Board as informational and will be brought back in September for a vote.

- C. NEOLA FIRST READING - Mr. Watkins reviewed the following policies for a first reading:  
Po5111 - Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students Without Legal Settlement in The Corporation  
Po6520 Payroll Deductions  
Po7300 Disposition of Real Property  
Po8310 Public Records  
Po8405 Environmental Health and Safety Issues - Indoor Air Quality, Animals in The Classroom, and Idling Vehicles on School Property  
Po8420 Emergency Evacuation of Schools  
Po8455 Coach Training, References, and IHSAA Reporting

- D. TAG GRANT POLICY FIRST AND SECOND READING - Mr. Watkins had discussion with the Board. He stated that there are no changes to the policy for this year. Speaking about the clause, 'The corporation shall not allocate a percentage of the Teacher Appreciation Grant funds received to provide a supplemental award to each teacher with less than five (5) years of service who is rated as highly effective or effective on the most recent performance evaluation', Mr. Watkins wanted it noted on record that the Board feels strongly that there is an inequity with first - five-year teachers and he does as well. The PCEA and president also feel the same he stated. Mr. Watkins stated that this inequity will be addressed during negotiations this year. With that being said, Mr. Watkins recommended the TAG Grant for this year.

On motion by Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Comerford, the Board approved the TAG Grant by a vote of 5-2, Dr. Quin and Ms. Justice opposed.

- E. STAFFING UPDATE - Mr. Watkins outlined the changes to PCS personnel for the 2020-21 school year. He stated that we are so glad that people have chosen Peru Community Schools. He stated that we are a corporation where people want to work. He thanked them all for choosing Peru.
- F. 7-12 PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION - Mr. Watkins stated that he thanks the Board for their patience. Mr. Watkins recommends that PCS move to a consolidated high school. Mr. Frye stated that we could effectively separate our 7-8 from 9-12. He stated that the 7-8 would have their own wing and lunch shifts would be easy to work out. He stated that we can also have a different entrance for 7-8. The lower Northwest hall would be dedicated to the Jr. High. Sports will be separated and there is plenty of gym space for separate P.E. classes. Mr. Watkins stated that we could possibly consolidate operations starting next year. Mrs. Eddy stated that there are many 7-12 buildings in our state. It is sad to see the building go, but it is necessary. Ms. Spiker stated that there are updates that are severely in need of fixing. She stated that in order to save it, it will take some time and money to get it done. Mr. Wannamecher reviewed how the separation between the grades will work.

The Board asked questions and discussion continued. Ms. Justice expressed concerns on moving students during a pandemic and moving the 7-8 students to an even smaller location. Ms. Justice also feels that if we aren't going to demolish the Jr. High and still use it, it's still going to have to be fixed either way. Dr. Quin felt that we can do better and stated that he is against moving the 7-8 with 9-12. He feels that there has been a lot of fiscal irresponsibility and that there are plenty of other areas to save money. He stated that drop off is not going to get any better. Dr. Quin stated that if we don't get a bond then taxes will go down. Mr. Wolfe stated that he agrees with Dr. Quin as well. He feels that there has not been enough details

given for such a big building project.

Mr. Durrwachter stated that he feels that our students are going to be significantly safer moving up rather than continuing as normal in a debilitating building.

Before the vote, Mr. Comerford stated that he feels that Dr. McKaig is someone that we can really rely on. He stated that Dr. McKaig has spent a lot of time working on this and he feels that this recommendation is a solid one. Mr. Comerford feels that personal things have gotten in the way of some professionalism. He personally feels that Dr. McKaig has studied this and dedicated a lot of his time and effort into this study. He stated that he feels comfortable accepting the recommendation.

After much discussion, on motion by Mr. Wagner to approve the 7-12 recommendation from Mr. Watkins, seconded by Mr. Comerford, the Board approved the recommendation by a vote of 4-3, Mr. Wolfe, Ms. Justice, and Dr. Quin opposed.

#### IV. BUDGET

- A. CLAIMS - Mr. Durrwachter presented and reviewed the claims for Board approval. Questions were asked and answered. On motion by Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Comerford, the Board approved the claims by a vote of 6-1, Dr. Quin opposed as follows:

EDUCATION FUND	432,326.14
OPERATING FUND	122,599.85
CONSTRUCTION 2016 GO BOND	16,126.91
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	60,655.25
TEXTBOOK RENTAL FUND	4,706.19
REIMBURSEABLE FUND	448.93
PSI IOTA XI GRANT	33.48
KROGER REWARDS	200.00
SPEC ED MKP	10,258.40
HIGH ABILITY GRANT	7,949.25
TECHNOLOGY FUND	1,672.25
TITLE I 19/20	5,683.49
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	1,343.46
ADULT ED 19/20	1,030.32
TITLE IV-A 84.186 08/09	4,000.00
TITLE II-A	1,369.24
COVID19 CARES ACT	31,258.37
GROUP INSURANCE	7,278.00
TOTAL	708,939.53

- B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Durrwachter stated that the education fund is currently in a good place. July was three pays. The amount and needs are new to our budget. The operations fund received \$534,000. He stated that the education fund offset is longer out. He also stated that we are still waiting to find out about school funding from the state. It is delayed due to covid. Mr. Durrwachter also talked about the school lunch fund. He stated the summer lunch fund has ended and we are now in the school lunch fund. We are continuing to serve virtual students. The drive-up can only be used for PCS students, however, dinner is available for all of Miami County students. Adults can also get a meal for a very low price.

On motion by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Ellis, the Board unanimously approved the fund monitoring report.

- C. BUDGET LETTER - Mr. Durrwachter briefly reviewed the budget letter. He stated that he has been working with SBOE and finance. Title grants have been consolidated. Applications are not open yet.

- D. PROPOSED BUDGET - Mr. Durrwachter briefly reviewed the proposed budget. It is very tentative due to current changes. We will hold a budget hearing in September and will have a solid budget at that time.
- E. EDUCATION FUND ESTIMATE - Mr. Durrwachter briefly reviewed the education fund estimate. On April 1, he had to give an estimated ADM. At that time it was 1860. The state takes two months to reconcile. We are hoping for them to accept 100% funding for our virtual students.
- F. PLACEMENTS CONTRACT RESOLUTION - Mr. Watkins recommended the alternative services and private residential school placements designee. This resolution made Mr. Watkins the designee signer for all placements. Annual renewal.

On motion by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board approved the SEEC contract resolution by a vote of 6-0-1, Dr. Quin abstained. A copy of the placements contract can be found in Supplementary Minute Book #15, page 37.

- G. SUBSTITUTE PAY INCREASES - Mr. Durrwachter recommended increasing our substitute pay:
  - High School Diploma - from \$60.00 to \$75.00
  - Post-Secondary Degree - from \$70.00 to \$95.00
  - Licensed Teachers - from \$85.00 to \$115.00
  - PCS Classified Staff Rate - from N/A to \$115.00

On motion by Mr. Comerford, seconded by Dr. Quin, the Board unanimously approved the substitute pay increases. A copy of the sub pay increases can be found in Supplementary Minute Book #15, page 38.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. FACILITY USE REQUESTS

1. PJHS parking lot - Peru Ministerial Association - community prayer walk - September 27, 2020 - 3 p.m. - used for parking only - will walk from the Jr. High to Riverwalk. Rental fee waiver requested.
2. Blair Pointe kitchen and café - Cheeseballs - Psi Iota Xi Sorority- Friday, November 6, Saturday, November 7, Friday, December 4, and Saturday December 5, 2020, 5:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. with set-up on the Friday before each date from 3:30 p.m. -4:30 p.m. - requesting rental fee waiver, will pay for food, cafeteria, and custodian -annual request.

On motion by Dr. Quin, seconded by Mr. Ellis, the Board unanimously approved the facility use requests.

VI. AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS

- A. YMCA MOU - Mr. Watkins recommended the MOU for the YMCA to continue their programming. They house students and assist with homework. We bus there and many of our local parents utilize the YMCA services. Dr. Quin requested that the fiscal costs be attached to future MOU's.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board unanimously approved the YMCA MOU. A copy of the YMCA MOU can be found in Supplementary Minute Book #15, page 39.

- B. LOGANSPORT MEMORIAL ATHLETIC TRAINER CONTRACT RENEWAL - Mr. Watkins recommended the annual renewal of the athletic trainer contract. The Board requested to strike A4 from the contract. This section stated that this contract is rolling. The Board prefers for it to be an annual renewal.

On motion by Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, the Board approved the athletic trainer contract by a vote of 6-1, Dr. Quin opposed. A copy of the Logansport Trainer Contract can be found in Supplementary Minute Book #15, page 40.

C. WORKERS' COMPENSATION RECOMMENDATION - Mr. Durrwachter gave his recommendation for our workers' compensation. He recommended staying with Webster's.

On motion by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Comerford, the Board unanimously approved the workers' compensation recommendation.

VII. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Watkins expressed his gratitude and gave thanks to the following:

- Happy Birthday to both Mr. Mullett's - Ron and Don
- Alexandria Blong - PHS Fine Art Gallery housed within the high school. On display at this time is an exhibit that showcases portraits, landscapes, and florals of female artists from the turn of the century to 1930.
- Start of school year thank you's:  
Dr. Redmon and surrounding school superintendents  
Chuck Brimbury, Will Woodruff, Chris Snyder, and coaches  
- preparations  
Terry Fuller and food service  
Carl Snyder, Dave Ply, Don Mullett, Brad Dillon, and custodians  
Chuck Hight and maintenance  
George Morris and educational technicians  
Ron Potts and transportation  
Andrea Barker, Kristine Van Baalen, and Maggie Sturch  
Secretaries: Brooke Sheets, Gail France, Becky Gaddy  
Lisa Clark, Miriam Bokan  
Teachers and aides - blended learning  
Administration - principals, assistant principals
- Board members

B. BOARD MEMBER - Mr. Mullett stated that things are running smoothly. He stated that some may not remember, but long-ago Central school on Miami was a 7-12 building.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Ms. Justice motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m., unanimously approved.

Secretary,

Charles Wagner

/dc