

PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PALMERTON, PA.  
November 15, 2016

**BOARD MINUTES**

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD AT 6:00 P.M. TODAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016 AND AT 8:00 PM CONCERNING PERSONNEL/LEGAL MATTERS

The regular scheduled meeting of the Palmerton Area School District Board of Directors were held on Tuesday, November 15, 2016, at 6:34 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Office. President Recker presided.

FLAG SALUTE

Present: Directors Recker, Haas, Debski, Myers, Scherer, Gildner, Harry and Yeakel  
Absent: Director Smale

Scot Engler - Superintendent, Deb Scheckler – Board Secretary, Attorney John Audi – Solicitor, Ryan Kish – Business Manager

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

- Met with the secretary of education and the state budget should look worse this year
- Bob Corp from Barry Isset
- Timelines on project
- Anticipate PennDot approval next month and township and borough approval in March
- Stadium site work four months. HS ten months
- Need guidance on when construction for stadium work. Options four months vs. seven months. Probably better pricing for the longer time period
- Option one would not have home track this year
- Option two would not have home track next year. Bid in late summer for 2017- would have seven months.
- Could be bid both ways. Some of the Board would like it bid both ways.
- Bidding the stadium and Jr high together is a cleaner bid

STUDENT REPORT: Madison Martinez

- Student council members will be working the concession stand for winter sports
- Art Club decorating event Pumpkin
- Mock Trial Team is being formed and preparing for the competition
- \$300 to dream come true
- Sophomore class selling donuts
- Fundraisers
- NHS 16 new members
- Palmerton against animal cruelty. Run a blanket and towel drive
- FBLA will have regionals testing
- Scholastic Scrimmage preparing
- Chorus very busy with performances
- Social Studies held a mock election and a veterans day
- Breakfast served on Friday for those who performed proficient on Keystones
- Sports teams did well this year

BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:

- Bond Sale documents. Bond went to sale and saved 520,000 decrease in the bond which is good for the District
- There should be more of a cost savings over the life of this bond
- Total Debt service

OLD BUSINESS:

- Josann discussed the AED at the workshop and there will be instruction for everyone

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Myers that the Board of Directors of the Palmerton Area School District approve the following consent agenda.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present  
Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried

## Consent Agenda

Approve the minutes from the October 18, 2016 meeting (attachment on file)

Approve the financial reports listed below:

- TREASURER’S REPORTS (attachment on file)
- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (attachment on file)
- BUDGET TRANSFERS (attachment on file)
- GRANTS (attachment on file)

Recommendation to approve the insurance renewal, effective November 11, 2016 as follows:

- General Liability including Boiler and Automobile – CM Regent - \$98,199
- School Board Legal Liability – CM Regent - \$16,450
- Excess Liability (\$7,000,000 limit) – CM Regent - \$13,800
- Cyber Liability – NAS, Lloyd’s - \$7,015.61

Recommendation to approve the agreement between Palmerton Area School District and Cedar Crest College to use the facilities of the District by the students and the faculty enrolled in the nursing program of the College. (attachment on file)

Recommendation to approve Change Order Number 001, CMG of Easton, Inc., Project #1043615.003. The contract sum will be increased by this change order in the amount of \$8,183.00, and the new contract sum including this change order will be \$620,183.00

Approve the following Substitutes:

- Brandi Hoffman           Substitute Instructional Aide
- Ashley Snyder           Substitute Teacher
- Katie Slater             Substitute Teacher
- April Duff                Substitute Secretary, IA, cafeteria, and custodian

Accept the retirement of Carolyn Way from the position of Teacher at the end of the 2016-2017 school year

Accept the retirement of Donald Heiney from the position of custodian on June 30, 2017

Accept the resignation of Robert Palazzo, school psychologist, effective January 2, 2017

Accept the resignation of Alex Knoll from the Head Tennis Coach, effective October 18, 2016

Accept the resignation of Joseph Russo from the Assistant Girls’ Basketball Coach, effective November 6, 2016

Approve the following extracurricular positions for the 2016-2017 school year:

Mike Gombert	Head Track & Field Coach	Stipend pending contract negotiations
Joseph Russo	Volunteer Girls’ Basketball Coach	Volunteer
Casey Rinfret	Asst. Girls’ Basketball Coach	Stipend pending contract negotiations

Approve the following Co-curricular change for the 2016-2017 school year:

Christine DeLong	Student Council Advisor	3/4 stipend, pending negotiations
Randi Freed	Student Council Advisor	1/4 stipend, pending negotiations

## End of Consent Agenda

November 15, 2016

Director Gildner moved, seconded by Director Harry that the Board of Directors of the Palmerton Area School adopted the 2017-2018 Act 1 Resolution stating the Palmerton Area School District will not increase taxes by more than its index of 3.4%.

Aye Votes: Directors Myers, Harry, Haas, Yeakel, Scherer, and Recker  
Nay Votes: Directors Gildner and Debski. Motion Carried

Director Myers moved, seconded by Director Scherer that the Board of Directors of the Palmerton Area School open the agenda to add a motion.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present  
Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried

Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Myers that the Board of Directors of the Palmerton Area School authorize Barry Isett Inc. to pursue option II with Option I as an alternate pending all approvals by PennDot, Palmerton Borough and the Township.

Aye Votes: Directors Myers, Scherer, and Gildner  
Nay Votes: Directors Debski, Harry, Haas, Yeakel and Recker. Motion Failed

Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Haas that the Board of Directors of the Palmerton Area School authorized Barry Isett to bid the Jr. High/Stadium project immediately upon receipt all clearances and approvals from PennDot, Borough and Township to begin in December 2017 or April 2017, end dates to be determined prior to bid advertisement.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present  
Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried

**INFORMATION ITEMS: (attachments on file)**

- PASD Enrollment, October 31, 2016
- LCCC Board Minutes , October 6, 2016
- LCCC President's Desk, November 2016
- Board Summary

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Anne Cronk

- Had concerns about the lack of an agreement in the negotiations between the Board and the Teachers' Association

Tiffany Christman

- Expressed concern over the statement made by the teachers' union that sports will be cancelled during a teachers' strike
- This would hurt the athletes' chances to get scholarships

Jake Christman

- Reiterated that sports would cease to take place during a teachers' strike as stated in the coaches' handbook, according to Tom Smelas, president of the teachers' union

Craig Borland

- Shared the various activities that have taken place in the different schools in the District
- Teachers have gone 138 days without a contract

Travis Green

- Read a facebook post about his wife and her dedication towards her job as a teacher

Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Harry that the Board of Directors of the Palmerton Area School District adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present  
Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Scheckler  
Board Secretary