

PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PALMERTON, PA  
September 17, 2019

**BOARD MINUTES**

An executive session was held tonight at 6:00 P.M. concerning personnel and legal matters.

The regular meeting of the Palmerton Area School District Board of Directors was held on September 17th, 2019, at 6:30P.M. in the Conference Room of the Administration Office. President Baumgardt presided.

FLAG SALUTE

**ROLL CALL** Present: Directors Baumgardt, Fallow, Gildner, Haas, Paules, Recker, Scherer, and Smale  
Absent: Director Harry

**OTHER ATTENDANCE** Thomas McLaughlin – Interim Superintendent, Ryan Kish - Business Manager/Board Secretary, Sean Lochinger – Solicitor

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

- Thanked the staff for a great beginning of the school year
- Congratulated the golf team on their championship
- Introduced the student report

**STUDENT REPORT – MADISON MOLCHAN:**

- Student Council won movie night contest – event will be in May. Looking to bring back bonfire.
- Avedium – Suicide prevention week, positive messages
- Tori Sterling – Competition winner – won \$1,000
- NHS – babysitting at PTO meetings, helped during Palmerton festival
- Scholastic scrimmage wants to join Lehigh Valley tournament
- Athletics – 50 games so far. Golf champions. Volleyball first home game. Football extra home game. New athletic director.
- Band – half time shows great

**PAEA REPORT – JODI KOCHER:**

- Student council donations
- Palmer classes learning of Times News and current events
- Mrs. Boyd in Junior high chosen to receive grant – over 100k applicants.

**BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:**

- Clarified consent agenda Item, 3: Fiscal, A: the approval of cafeteria accruals to be paid by the General Fund. The motion is for accruals, bills received after the fiscal year closed, not for delinquent student cafeteria debt.
- Delinquent student cafeteria debt was \$8,500 at the end of last school year.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

CCTI Report – Director Fallow

- CCTI hosting senior information night September 26.
- Parent section on website for new parents – download parent portal guide.

PSBA Report – Director Fallow

- Attended PSBA seminar – received information regarding job descriptions, governance, leadership, finance, and student achievement.
- Will attend school leadership conference in October.

IU Report – Director Haas

- Recent IU meeting had 7<sup>th</sup> grader who spoke about summer programs hosted by the IU. Attended Camp Mosey Wood and climbed rock wall, rang the bell.

Library Report – Director Haas

- Christmas coming soon, use amazon smile and chose the library.
- Tutor match for students 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade, wizard trivia October 10<sup>th</sup>, Anime Club 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, quilt and craft lovers bingo, fall concert is Russian music.
- Looking for volunteer coordinators for scrapbooking.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Lori Nemeth – Questioned how many applicants applied for the girls basketball coach position. Mr. McLaughlin stated one.

**CONSENT  
AGENDA  
APPROVED**

Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Smale, to approve the attached consent agenda.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present.

Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MINUTES**

Approved the Board Minutes from August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board Meeting, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 Building and Grounds Committee Meeting, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 CPCT Committee Meeting Minutes, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 Workshop RFP Interview Minutes.

**FINANCIAL  
REPORTS**

Approved the Treasurer’s Report and Accounts Payable Report.

**CAFÉ  
ACCRUALS**

Approved the June 2019 cafeteria accruals to be paid by the General Fund with a total amount of \$43,462.49.

**TUITION**

Approved the attached tuition reimbursement.

**SUB  
RESIGNATION**

Accepted the resignation of Kathy Siekonic from the substitute list.

**CUSTODIAN  
RETIREMENT**

Accepted the retirement of Francis Tartar from his position as Lead Custodian at S.S. Palmer Elementary, effective August 22, 2019.

**SUB IA**

Approved Bonnie Dommel and Albert Dommel as Substitute IAs, effective September

18, 2019.

**CAFÉ EMPLOYEE** Approved Linda Smith as a 3-hour café worker at the High School, effective September 18, 2019, at the rate of \$13.06/hour.

**INT'L TRAVELERS ADVISOR** Approved Craig Borland as a volunteer advisor for the International Travelers' Club for the 2019-2020 school year.

**MS GIRLS BBALL COACH** Approved Lyndsey Heinrich as the Middle School Girls' Basketball Assistant Coach for the 2019-2020 school year, at the stipend of \$2,018.

Approved the following column movement:

<b>COLUMN MOVEMENT</b>	Kelly Beblavy	Masters to Masters+15
	Susan Warakomski	Masters+30 to Masters+45
	Vicki McHugh	Masters+30 to Masters+45

**CUSTODIAN RESIGNATION** Approved the resignation of Eli DeSocio from his position as a custodian, effective September 4, 2019.

**COACH RESIGNATION** Accepted the resignation from Maurice Moore from his position of Asst. Boys' Basketball Coach, effective September 9, 2019.

**BASKETBALL COACHES** Approved the following Boys' Basketball Coaches:

Brad Huebner	Head JV Coach (3/4)	\$3,027
Brett Snyder	Assistant Coach (1/4)	\$1,009
Miguel Acevedo	Volunteer Asst. Coach	
Dylan Knouse	Volunteer MS Asst. Coach	

**LEAD CUSTODIAN** Approved Joshua Gibbs as the Lead Custodian at S.S. Palmer, effective September 18, 2019.

**MENTOR** Approved Brianna Carroll as a Mentor for Sarah Sullivan.

**BASEBALL COACH** Approved Erick Kresge as Head Baseball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year at a stipend of \$4,054.

**GRADUATION** Accepted the status that student #19033 has completed the graduation requirements set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Board of Education of the Palmerton Area School District.

**PSBA DELEGATE** Appointed Kathy Fallow as voting delegate at the PSBA Delegate Assembly held on October 18, 2019.

**PSBA VOTE** Authorized the Secretary to cast votes for the following PSBA officer candidates: Art Levinowitz, President Elect, David Hein, Vice President, Kathy Swope, PSBA Insurance Trust Seat 1, Mark B. Miller, PSBA Insurance Trust Seat 2.

**BUDDIES CLUB** Approved the Volunteer Buddies Club.

**BAYADA CONTRACT** Approved Bayada Nursing contract for the 2019-2020 school year.

Approved the \$1,000 donation from Walmart for the Drama Club.

**DONATION**

Approved the High School Environmental Club's Field Trip to Gettysburg National Military Park on November 7, 2019, at the cost of two substitute teachers.

**FIELD TRIP**

**COUNSELING AGREEMENT** Approved the agreement with James R. Schwab for behavioral intervention and counseling for the 2019-2020 school year, at the rate of \$100/hour as needed.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**ENGINEER OF RECORD APPROVED** Director Fallow moved, seconded by Director Haas, to approve EI Associates as the Engineer of Record for the Palmerton Area School District.

Aye Votes: Directors Baumgardt, Fallow, Haas, and Recker.

Nay Votes: Directors Gildner, Paules, Scherer, and Smale. Motion Failed.

Director Paules moved, seconded by Director Smale, to approve Keystone Consulting Engineers as Engineer of Record for the Palmerton Area School District

Aye Votes: Directors Baumgardt, Fallow, Paules, Scherer, and Smale.

Nay Votes: Directors Gildner, Haas, and Recker. Motion Carried.

**AGENDA OPENED** Director Recker moved, seconded by Director Smale, to open the agenda.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present.

Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.

**DRAMA CONTRACT APPROVED** Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Scherer, to approve the contract for Artist and Beyond to be paid in full by the Drama Club in April 2020.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present.

Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.

**POLICY 702 REVIEW APPROVED** Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Smale, to approve the review of the following policy with the review date of September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, as per policy committee: Policy 702 – Gifts, Grants, Donations.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present.

Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.

**POLICY 333 FIRST READING APPROVED** Director Recker moved, seconded by Director Smale, to approve the first reading of Policy #333 – Professional Development.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present.

Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.

**TOWA. FENCE APPROVED** Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Smale, to approve the replacement of the Towamensing playground fence proposal at a cost of \$9,170.00 to be paid for out of the Facilities operating budget.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present.

Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Doris Zellers – Had questions regarding the metal detector and its use. Mr. McLaughlin stated that both are operational at the High School and Towamensing and that both buildings have procedures in place. Mrs. Husar stated that the High School is using it for visitors, not students.

Audrey Larvey – Stated the electronic sign at High School has not been working for a month. Mr. Heaney stated that the part was ordered, and he would check on when it is expected to arrive.

Lori Nemeth – Expressed that she felt the people coming to sporting events and plays should go through the metal detectors.

Amy Kuhner – Spoke regarding a student who was making threats. Wants to know if we should update policy regarding threats and how long students should be out of school.

Doris Zellers – Questioned what the policy is for terroristic threats. Mr. McLaughlin stated it was addressed in the school handbooks. Director Baumgardt stated it will be discussed at an upcoming policy committee meeting.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Director Haas – Was blown away with the recent play performance. Also wanted to let the board know if they don't want their yearbook it can be donated back to the school to a child that could not afford one.

Director Scherer – Pointed out the enrollment figures have increased, up 31 students.

Director Fallow – Questioned the asbestos abatement. Mr. Faenza stated the remaining areas left to be done will be done over Christmas break when students are no in the building.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Smale, that the Board of Directors of the Palmerton Area School District adjourn the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan P. Kish  
Business Manager/Board Secretary