

PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
PALMERTON, PA
November 19, 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 November 19th, 2019, at 6:30 P.M. in the Conference Room of the Administration Office. Vice President Recker presided.

FLAG SALUTE

Present: Directors Fallow, Haas, Harry, Paules, Recker, Scherer, and Smale

ROLL CALL Absent: Director Baumgardt and Gildner

Al Lonoconus – Interim Superintendent, Ryan Kish - Business Manager/Board Secretary, Shawn Lochinger – Solicitor

**OTHER
ATTENDANCE**

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

- This week is National Education Week. November 20th is Education Support Professionals Day where secretaries, aides, maintenance, cafeteria, bus drivers and other employees are recognized. November 22nd is set aside to honor our substitutes. On behalf of Board of Education, would like to recognize education professionals for outstanding work in making Palmerton great for every child.
- Honored long term school directors Tammy Recker, Josh Smale, Josanne Harry, Sherry Haas, and Charles Gildner.
- Bomb threat was made, staff did great job of investigating. Will advise board to prosecute if necessary. Encourages parents to speak to their students about the seriousness of the situations.
- Active shooter and lock down drills recently conducted went well. State and local police commended staff and students. More drills will be forthcoming.
- Attended Veterans Day at Palmer – well done.
- Was able to witness a fire drill at Parkside today and was impressed how well behaved the students were. Staff and students did great job.

STUDENT REPORT – Erica Messics:

- Provided a summary of happenings and events from around the district, including: Environmental clubs trip to Gettysburg, Seniors attended Veterans Day program, Christmas Story drama club tickets being sold online and holding toy drive with play, art classes celebrated Bob Ross, NHS induction and blood drive, PAAC donations, Leo Club donations to Special Olympics, Jr. Class fundraisers, FBLA testing, cross country and golf championships, and district soccer games hosted.

PAEA REPORT – Kelly Beblavy:

- Provided a summary of happenings and events from around the district, including: Jr. High drug and alcohol essay contests winner, Bomber pride day, Stem day for elementary, Toy Story room, Veterans Day programs, Thanksgiving lunches,

Towamensing food drive, Towamensing environmental club and peer tutoring program.

BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:

- Annual Financial Report submitted to state.
- Local auditors in next week for single audit – federal programs.
- Moody’s credit rating A1 – Moody’s described the district as having a strong financial position.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

CCTI Report – Director Fallow

- Culinary art school holding gourmet French cuisine take out day. Also hosting spaghetti dinner to benefit North Schuylkill QB who was injured. See CCTI website for more details.

PSBA Report – Director Fallow

- Will be attending board reorganization webcast from PSBA. Will provide copies of presentation to new board members.

IU Report – Director Haas

- IU presented General Operating budget, once in 10 years they had to increase total budget to schools. Palmerton’s share looks to be going up slightly for new year.
- Saw video of behavioral health services offered by IU – amazing job.

Library Report – Director Haas

- Shared upcoming events going on at the Library including Children’s Christmas Party December 16th, basic pet first aid December 7, art show January 26, make and take ginerbreak house December 11, healing during the holidays December 14.
- Library closed December 23rd, 24th, and 25th. December 30th open 10-2. Closing December 31st and January 1st.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Doris Zellers – Questioned the roles of the security officers being hired by the district and how the metal detector policy is keeping kids safe. Dr. Lonoconus responded that officers would have routine safety and security duties such as patrolling the halls, help staff with altercations, school safety and support, monitor visitors, and coordinate with law enforcement. They are certified to carry but can only detain, not arrest. The metal detector policy is also being put in place because there was no policy, the generic policy would not outline specific details, but the procedures would.

Jason Behler – Palmerton fire chief thanked administrators and teachers for supporting fire prevention – was able to reach 648 kids. Volunteerism low in department and around the state. New bill could allow school district option to forgive property tax for volunteers. Dr. Lonoconus mentioned looking into a fire crew program for the students in school.

**CONSENT
AGENDA
APPROVED**

Director Haas 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 October 15, 2019 and the November 5, 2019 minutes from the following committees: Comprehensive Plan, Curriculum, and Technology, Building and Grounds, and Policy.									
FINANCIAL REPORTS	Approved the Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable Report.									
TUITION	Approved the attached tuition reimbursement.									
SUB REMOVED	Removed Katie Michael from the substitute list.									
BUS DRIVERS	Approved the attached additional bus drivers.									
EXTRA CURRICULAR	Approved the following extracurricular positions for the 2019-2020 school year: <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Randi Freed</td> <td>MS Assistant Track Coach</td> <td>\$ 2,662</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Darris Rodrigues</td> <td>½ Assistant Track Coach</td> <td>\$ 1,331</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jim Hay</td> <td>Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Randi Freed	MS Assistant Track Coach	\$ 2,662	Darris Rodrigues	½ Assistant Track Coach	\$ 1,331	Jim Hay	Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach	
Randi Freed	MS Assistant Track Coach	\$ 2,662								
Darris Rodrigues	½ Assistant Track Coach	\$ 1,331								
Jim Hay	Volunteer Girls' Basketball Coach									
IA HIRED	Approved Mary Herrmann as an IA at the rate of \$15.35/hour, effective November 20, 2019.									
PT CUSTODIAN HIRED	Approved Frank Cross as a part-time custodian at the rate of \$13.82/hour, effective November 20, 2019.									
SUB IA/SECRETARY HIRED	Approved Brandylee Veanus as a Substitute Instructional Aide and Substitute Secretary, effective November 20, 2019, at a rate of \$10 per hour.									
SUB HIRED	Approved Miriam Cuddy as a K-6 Substitute Teacher, effective November 20, 2019, at a daily rate of \$110/day.									
SUB CUSTODIAN HIRED	Approved Earl Kocher as a substitute custodian, effective November 20, 2019.									
IA TO SECRETARY TRANSFER	Accepted the transfer of Kelly Heinrich from her Instructional Assistant position to the secretary position for HS guidance and Athletics at the salary of \$37,295 (Prorated), effective January 6, 2020.									
CAFÉ RESIGNATION	Accepted the resignation of Melanie Dickson from her position as a cafeteria worker, effective November 11, 2019.									
SUPER. RESIGNATION	Approved the resignation of Thomas McLaughlin as Interim Superintendent effective 10/21/19. It is also noted for the record that Dr. Alan Lonoconus started as Interim Superintendent on 10/22/19.									
SOCCER RESIGNATION	Accepted the resignation of Richard Roselli from the position of Head Boys' Soccer Coach effective November 7, 2019.									
YEARBOOK ADVISOR	Approved the change of Krystle Meglio from Towamensing Yearbook Advisor to co-advisor with Trisha Green as the other co-advisor.									
HS SCIENCE RESIGNATION	Approved the resignation of Michael Lengle, High School Science Teacher, effective November 15, 2019.									
SUB CUSTODIAN-CAFÉ HIRED	Approved Robin Klock as a substitute custodian and cafeteria worker, effective November 20, 2019, at a rate of \$10 per hour.									

NURSING AGREEMENT Approved the one-year agreement with Around the Clock Nursing, Inc. for nursing services as needed by the District, effective January 1, 2020.

ELECTRIC CONTRACT Authorized the Business Manager to retroactively sign the agreement with WGL Energy/Provident Energy for a 24-month term (July 2021 – June 2023) for electricity at \$0.03192/kWh. The district is part of a cooperative purchasing group and this price results in a \$0.0014/kWh reduction from the current pricing.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

CHANGE ORDER APPROVED Director Smale moved, seconded by Director Haas, to approve Change Order 004 from Myco Mechanical in the amount of \$7,267.30 to furnish and install the addition of circuit setters on plumbing piping (\$4,679.69) and furnish and install gas line from tee in the main to RTU Connection (\$2,587.61).

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

CHANGE ORDER APPROVED Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Harry, to approve Change Order 006 from Myco Mechanical in the amount of \$7,012.83 to furnish and install an electronic monitor system on the fire pump and fire tank assembly.

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

AUTHORIZED ENGINEER TO BID AND A DESIGN TANK Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Fallow, to to authorize Keystone Consulting Engineers to design specifications and bid the 10,000-gallon heating oil tank at Towamensing Elementary School.

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

AUTHORIZED ENGINEER TO DESIGN HS WINDOWS Director Harry moved, seconded by Director Haas, to authorize Keystone Consulting Engineers to design the High School Window replacement project.

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

AUTHORIZED ENGINEER TO DESIGN PALMER RENOVATIONS Director Harry moved, seconded by Director Smale, to authorize Keystone Consulting Engineers to design the Palmer Security Project and interior renovations.

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

APPROVED BUDGET TRANSFERS Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Scherer, to approve the enclosed budget transfers.

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

**APPROVED
SECURITY
AGREEMENT
WITH KRE**

Director Fallow moved, seconded by Director Harry, to approve the security agreement between Palmerton Area School District and KRE Security LLC, for the amount of \$155,280 prorated for 2019-2020 school year (approved 2-year proposal on 10/15/2019).

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

**APPROVED
FIRST READING
POLICY 709.1**

Director Fallow moved, seconded by Director Harry to accept the first reading of Policy 709.1, Use of Metal Detectors at School Facilities

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

**APPROVED
CONTRACT
WITH PAEA**

Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Harry, to approve the three-year contract with the Palmerton Area Education Association, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

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

**DENIED SICK
DAY EXTENSION**

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Scherer, to approve a forty-day sick day extension, as per the PAESPA contract, for employee #416.

Aye Votes: Directors Scherer and Smale.
Nay Votes: Directors Fallow, Haas, Harry, Paules, and Recker. Motion Fails.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Michelle Muffley – President of PAEA thanked the board for the positive negotiation process. Teachers voted overwhelmingly to accept the contract.

Chuck Laviolette – Thanked the district for the use of the lift at the library.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Director Recker – No committee meetings in December. Reorganization meeting at 5:45 on December 3rd. Thanked Directors Harry, Smale, and Gildner for the time they spent on the board. Congratulated the district for coming together with the teacher contract.

Dr. Lonoconus – Attended Thanksgiving lunches. Thanked outgoing board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Smale moved, seconded by Director Haas, that the Board of Directors of the Palmerton Area School District adjourn the meeting at 7:49 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan P. Kish
Business Manager/Board Secretary

