

PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PALMERTON, PA.  
September 1, 2020

**BOARD MINUTES**

The special board meeting of the Palmerton Area School District Board of Directors was held on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, at 6:30 P.M. via Zoom. President Fallow presided.

FLAG SALUTE

**ROLL CALL** Present: Directors Baumgardt, Fallow, Haas, Larvey, Mazepa, Paules, Recker, Scherer, and Zellers

**OTHER ATTENDANCE** Jodi Frankelli –Superintendent, Ryan Kish – Business Manager/Board Secretary

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

- Condemned racist comments made in the chat box of a zoom meeting from a participant. Safeguards have been put in place to ensure incident does not happen again.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

- Lisa Snell Kern – Spoke in favor of sports and students can get exposed anywhere. Asked if students can play in another district if Palmerton does not have fall sports? Mr. Porembo was not sure but stated for transfers there are specific rules.
- Stacey Connell – Wants to move forward with sports. Case count low in county, kids want to play.
- Mary Jo King – Asked if any other schools are thinking about cancelling fall sports. Mr. Porembo was not aware of any.
- Brenda McGrath – Questioned how we would know what students are doing outside the class, and that at least we know sports are organized. Any student can bring disease into school. Director Fallow stated she was concerned about the high contact/high risk activities.
- Chris Walkowiak – Head football coach. Parents want kids playing, increase in participation. Must keep athletes in Palmerton.
- Erin Snyder – Daughter plays on travel soccer team and kids can’t play high school sports, but other kids would be travelling for sports. Won’t have control of kids outside of school. Supports sports.
- Tyler Svetik – More worried about COVID at school than at meets.
- Ken Termini – Head basketball coach – nothing comes with no risks, sports has not been major source of spread for COVID. No school is not playing football.
- Danielle Paules – not playing sports hurts the kids mentally.

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED** Director Baumgardt moved, seconded by Director Haas, to approve the attached consent agenda.

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

**SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARY RESIGNATION**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Approved the resignation of Ryan Kish as School Board Secretary, effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

**SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARY APPROVED**

Approved Jacqueline McCandless as School Board Secretary effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at the rate of \$1,500 per year, prorated for 2020-21.

**SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARY ASST APPROVED**

Approved Ryan Kish as Assistant Board Secretary, effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Approved the 2020-2021 school bus drivers (information on file)

**SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS**

Approved Wendy Magner as interim team leader at the Towamensing Elementary School kitchen at a rate of \$1.25 an hour in addition to her current hourly rate. This appointment will conclude immediately upon hiring of permanent team leaders, where employee will be returned to her previous position and pay rate.

**INTERIM KITCHEN TEAM LEADERS**

Approved Debra Smith as interim team leader at the S.S. Palmer Elementary School kitchen at a rate of \$1.25 an hour in addition to her current hourly rate. This appointment will conclude immediately upon hiring of permanent team leaders, where employee will be returned to her previous position and pay rate.

**INTERIM SS PALMER PRINCIPAL**

Approved Timothy Lynch as interim principal of S. S. Palmer Elementary School and Parkside Education Center effective September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at a per diem rate of \$400

**DONATION**

Approved the donation of pencils from the Carbon County Commissioners

**POLICY #103.1 SECOND READING**

Approved the second reading of Policy #103.1 – Title IX Harassment

Approved Policy #912 – Title I Parent and Family Engagement

**POLICY #912 APPROVED**

Approved the agreement to participate in eLearn21 between the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit and the Palmerton Area School District (enclosure)

**ELEARN21 AGREEMENT**

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS APPROVED**

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Mazepa, to authorize the district's participation in fall sports in accordance with the Colonial League's schedule.

Aye Votes: Directors Baumgardt, Haas, Mazepa, Paules, Recker, Scherer, and Zellers  
Nay Votes: Directors Fallow and Larvey. Motion Carried.

**SECURITY CONTRACT APPROVED**

Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Haas, to approve the KRE Security contract for the 2020-2021 school year at an estimated cost of \$128,169 (enclosure).

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

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Director Scherer - Asked about 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation.

Director Zellers - Spoke about being kind, we are all in this together.

**ADJOURNMENT** Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Baumgardt, to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan P. Kish  
Business Manager/Board Secretary