

PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Palmerton, PA

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

BOARD MINUTES

<p>ROLL CALL</p> <p>OTHER ATTENDANCE</p>	<p>An executive session was held on June 1, 2021 after the workshop and today, June 15, 2021, after the meeting concerning legal and personnel matters.</p> <p>The regular board meeting of the Palmerton Area School District Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at 6:32 p.m. via Zoom. President Fallow presided.</p> <p>Pledge of Allegiance</p> <p>Present: Directors Baumgardt, Fallow, Haas, Larvey, Mazepa (arrival 6:37 pm), Paules, Recker, Scherer, and Zellers</p> <p>Jodi Frankelli – Superintendent, Ryan Kish – Business Manager, Jacqueline McCandless – Board Secretary, and Shawn Lochinger – Solicitor</p> <p>SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The district’s Health and Safety Plan will be revised for the 2021-2022 school year; template has been created by the state for the required plan which will be more concise to use; updated HSP should be presented to be approved at July board meeting <p>BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workers compensation renewal premium is just under \$50k in savings for next year as we negotiated with current provider; safety committee does a great job which also contributed to the decrease• Will meet with PFM regarding financing our 2016 bond; need a resolution likely at September board meeting• Recognized Mary Brumbach, retiring elementary principal, for her dedication and positive impact to the district as she will be greatly missed <p>BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director Fallow – CCTI:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Graduation set for June 18○ District inductees to National Technical Honor Society are: Audrey Ramos-Culinary Arts; Carter Gardner & Caleb Strohl-Drafting & Design Technology; Samantha Nenscel-Graphic Design; Autumn Benedict & Rheese Borland-Health/Medical Asst./Aide; Kaden German-Marketing/Distributive Education○ Link to graduation ceremony and talent show on CCTI website• Director Haas – Library:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Time to register for the summer reading four-week program, Tails & Tales, which begins July 5, choose online/offline program• Director Zellers – PSBA:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Reported that the parent opinion survey results were an A or B grade as to their school’s performance during the pandemic; also overall, parents would
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	<p>choose traditional public school for their children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public comment period is open to residents to provide input on new state Science standards proposals ● Director Larvey – LCCC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extracurriculars and sports back on schedule for 2021-22 school year <p>OLD BUSINESS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussion regarding how to resume in-person board meetings going forward; live streaming, Zoom, and closed captioning and costs analyzed and debated as to whether to include once meetings are in person; consensus was to try live steaming/Zoom for July meeting and see what interest/attendance is like from the public <p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None <p>CONSENT AGENDA</p> <p>Director Baumgardt moved, seconded by Director Larvey, to approve the attached consent agenda.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONSENT AGENDA:</p>
BOARD MINUTES	Approved Board Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2021
FINANCIAL REPORTS	<p>Approved Accounts Payable Reports</p> <p>Approved Treasurer’s Reports</p>
BUDGET TRANSFERS	Approved budget transfers
DEPOSITORIES DESIGNATED	Approved, in accordance with Section 621, PA Public School Code of 1949, the following depositories for the funds of the Palmerton Area School District in the 2021-2022 fiscal year: First Northern Bank & Trust, Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT), and Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF)
WORKERS COMPENSATION	Approved the 2021-2022 workers compensation coverage through CM Regent Insurance Company at a cost of \$70,609 compared to an expiring premium of \$119,634
STUDENT ACCIDENT	Approved the 2021-2022 student accident coverage through Axis Insurance Company at a cost of \$38,541. There is no change from the expiring premium.
VOLUNTARY STUDENT ACCIDENT	Approved the 2021-2022 voluntary student accident coverage through Axis Insurance Company for the period of August 7, 2021 to August 7, 2022
HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD	Approved the 2021-2022 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution

TAX DUPLICATES	Granted permission to release 2021 Tax Duplicates to the respective tax collectors for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021
MAKE & RELEASE PAYMENTS	Approved the Superintendent and Business Manager to make and release payments for the remaining June accounts payable
REAL ESTATE TAX UNIVERSAL INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN	Approved resolution #6.15.21 per the Real Estate Tax Universal Installment Payment Plan Resolution to use the following installment dates for the collection of the 2021 Real Estate Taxes
MACHINERY MAINTENANCE	Approved the machinery maintenance contract with Shop Specialties, Inc. for the 2021-2022 school year in the amount of \$1,450
BONDING AMOUNTS	Approved the following bonding amounts for the 2021-2022 fiscal year: Board President \$100,000, Board Vice President \$100,000, Board Secretary \$100,000, Board Treasurer \$100,000, Superintendent \$100,000, Business Manager \$100,000, Employee Theft \$5,000, Forgery or Alteration \$100,000
FISCAL YR. BUDGET TRANSFERS	Approved all budget transfers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 in order to comply with audit requirements. The Board will be provided with an itemized listing of all required budget transfers upon completion of the 2020-2021 audit.
GIANT DONATION	Accepted the donation from The Giant Company in the amount of \$5,810.81 as part of their “Feeding School Kids Initiative” to be used for outstanding student lunch debt
FUND TRANSFERS	Approved the estimated transfer of \$485.00 from the General Fund to the Fund Service Fund to pay the additional outstanding student lunch balances not covered by the donation. Exact amount to be determined at the conclusion of the current fiscal year. Approved the transfer of \$3,270.47 from the General Fund to the Fund Service Fund for uncollectable bad debt owed by inactive students. Exact amount to be determined at the conclusion of the current fiscal year.
PRINCIPAL RETIREMENT	Accepted the retirement of Mary Brumbach, S.S. Palmer/Parkside Principal, effective July 1, 2021
TENURE	Approved tenure status for the following teachers who have attained 3 years of satisfactory performance ratings with the Palmerton Area School District: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brianna Bush • Amanda Cappella • Susan Dellicker • Rachel Harry • Kristina Himmelwright • Joshua Rake • Tyler Svetik
HORIZONTAL MOVEMENTS	Approved the following column movement effective first semester of 2021-2022 school year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew Kosciolk from Master’s to Master’s +15

<p>CUSTODIANS HIRED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karoline Anthony from Master's to Master's +15 • Lauren Michalik from Bachelor's +24 to Master's <p>Approved Robin Klock as full-time custodian at Towamensing Elementary at a rate of \$45,180 per year prorated effective July 12, 2021</p> <p>Approved Scott Bierman as part-time flex-time custodian at a rate of \$14.67 per hour effective June 28, 2021</p>
<p>SUMMER SCHOOL STAFF</p>	<p>Approved the following staff to work in the summer school program from July 13, 2021 through August 5, 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary Teachers at \$33.00/hour: Felicia Fischer; Jessica Hansen; Jodi Kocher; Kimberly Nenscel; Morgan Hesse; Lori Smith • Secondary Teachers at \$33.00/hour: Jeana Baumgardt; Lisa Failla; Tammy Muniz • Instructional Assistants at current rate of pay: Elizabeth Campbell; Eileen Long; Mary Stahler • Health Room Technician at current rate of pay: Michelle Bisbing effective for August 3-5, 2021
<p>SUMMER EMPLOYEE</p>	<p>Approved Jacob Green as summer employee at the rate of \$7.25/hour, not to exceed 28 hours a week, effective June 16, 2021 through August 19, 2021</p>
<p>FIELD HOCKEY VOLUNTEER COACH</p>	<p>Approved Abigail Everett as volunteer assistant field hockey coach for the 2021-2022 season effective June 16, 2021</p>
<p>UNCOMPENSATED LEAVE</p>	<p>Approved one day of uncompensated leave on May 21, 2021 for employee #521</p>
<p>MARCHING BAND ASST.</p>	<p>Approved Chrissy Rehatchek as HS marching band assistant for the 2021-2022 school year with a stipend of \$2,604 effective June 16, 2021</p>
<p>RESIGNATIONS</p>	<p>Accepted the following resignations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timothy Lynch as Interim Principal at S.S. Palmer/Parkside effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year • Kendra Smiley as instructional assistant effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year • Shannon Ledo as cafeteria worker effective June 9, 2021 • Samantha Stevens as part-time custodian effective May 28, 2021
<p>IA SUB</p>	<p>Approved Kendra Smiley as substitute instructional assistant at \$10.00 per hour effective June 16, 2021</p>
<p>TEACHER & IA SUB REMOVALS</p>	<p>Removed from the current substitute list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa Calabro, teacher • Janet Sager, instructional assistant
<p>TUITION REIMBURSEMENTS</p>	<p>Approved tuition reimbursements</p>

1st READINGS POLICIES 113- 113.1-113.2-113.3- 113.4-123.1-123.2- 246	<p>Approved the first reading of the following policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Policy # 113 Special Education 2) Policy # 113.1 Discipline of Students with Disabilities 3) Policy # 113.2 Behavior Support 4) Policy # 113.3 Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities 5) Policy # 113.4 Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information 6) Policy # 123.1 Concussion Management 7) Policy # 123.2 Sudden Cardiac Arrest 8) Policy # 246 Student Wellness
2nd READING POLICIES & ADOPTION 218.1- 218.3-338	<p>Approved the second reading and adoption of the following polices:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Policy #218.1 Weapons 2) Policy #218.3 Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault 3) Policy #338 Sabbatical Leave
POLICY #248 RETIRED	<p>Approved the retirement of the Policy #248 Sexual Harassment as this policy is now covered under another existing and active district policy</p>
PSBA VOTING DELEGATES	<p>Appointed Directors Doris Zellers and Kathleen Fallow as voting delegates to the PSBA Delegate Assembly on October 23, 2021</p>
CLASS OF 2021 GRADUATES	<p>Accepted the status that the designated members of the Senior Class of 2021 have completed the graduation requirements set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Board of Education of the Palmerton Area School District (enclosure)</p>
CARBON- MONROE-PIKE D&A AGREEMENT	<p>Approved the letter of agreement with the Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc., for the 2021-2022 school year at a total cost of \$14,000</p>
PREFERRED EAP AGREEMENT	<p>Approved the service agreement with Preferred EAP beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024</p>
GARAGE RENTAL AGREEMENT	<p>Approved the three (3) year lease and rental agreement, beginning on July 15, 2021 and expiring on July 15, 2024, with Robert Hahn for the right half of a garage owned by the Palmerton Area School District located at 3681 Fireline Road</p>
SCHWAB COUNSELING AGREEMENT	<p>Approved the agreement with James R. Schwab for behavioral intervention and counseling at the rate of \$100/hour as needed for the 2021-2022 school year</p>
LEHIGH LEARNING ACADEMY AGREEMENT	<p>Approved the agreement with Lehigh Learning Academy, Inc. for educational services for the 2021-2022 school year</p>
BHA SERVICES	<p>Approved the contract for services with Behavioral Health Associates for the 2021-2022 school year</p>
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST	<p>Approved Art Feinberg, school psychologist, for an additional 10 days for the 2020-2021 school year at a rate of \$420/day</p> <p>Approved Art Feinberg, school psychologist, at a rate of \$420/day not to exceed 130 days effective for the 2021-22 school year</p>

FACILITIES CONTRACTS	Approved the facilities contracts for the 2021-2022 school year
DONATION	Accepted the donation from James Wimmer in the amount of \$50 in memory of former Superintendent Ronald Mihalko to be used to purchase books in the elementary building libraries
END OF CONSENT AGENDA	
2021-2022 TAX INCREASE	<p>Director Zellers moved, seconded by Director Haas, to approve the Palmerton Area School District General Operating Budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year with a real estate tax levy of 60.1482 mills (a 2.3689 mill increase over 2020-2021) with budgetary expenditures of \$35,262,562. The Board also authorizes, as a part of the General Operating Budget adoption, the Section 679 Per Capita Tax of \$5.00: Act 511 Earned Income Tax of 1.00%; Act 511 Per Capita Tax of \$10.00: Act 511 Realty Transfer Tax of 1.00%; Local Services Tax of \$5.00. The Board reaffirms and reenacts all collection procedures that are applicable to the local service tax, Section 679 and 511 Per Capita tax and Act 511 Earned Income Tax, and Act 511 Realty transfer tax. For informational purposes: Sharing of certain taxes occurs as permitted by law: Per Capita --\$10.00 school district, \$5.00 municipality; Earned Income Tax --.5% school district, .5% municipality; Realty Transfer Tax --.5% school district, .5% municipality; Local Services Tax --\$5.00 school district, \$47.00 municipality.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p> <p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason Behler – asked for tax forgiveness to be granted to volunteer firefighters as an incentive to volunteer in the fire department • Michelle Gordon – on behalf of the S.S. Palmer/Parkside PTO, thanked Mary Brumbach, retiring principal, for her dedication to the district; best wishes to her in retirement <p>FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Rentschler, Director of Special Education, thanked the local Lions Club for aiding one of our students
ADJOURNMENT	<p>Director Scherer moved, seconded by Director Haas, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>Jacqueline McCandless Board Secretary</p>