

PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Palmerton, PA

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

An executive session was held January 4, 2022, after the workshop meeting and today after the regular meeting concerning legal and personnel matters.

The regular board meeting of the Palmerton Area School District Board of Directors was held in the Boardroom of the Administration Building, 680 Fourth Street, Palmerton, PA on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. President Recker presided. A Zoom meeting was also made available.

ROLL CALL

Present: Directors Connell, Haas, Larvey, Mazepa, Danielle Paules, Earl Paules, Recker, Snyder, and Zellers

OTHER ATTENDANCE

Jodi Frankelli – Superintendent, Jacqueline McCandless – Board Secretary, and Shawn Lochinger – Solicitor

STUDENT REPORT:

Given by Emma Martinez, Grade 11

- Presented a report detailing the activities and updates on a number of school clubs, class reports, and athletics. Reports on the following clubs were included:
 - Environmental Science; Environmental Club; Buddies Club; National Honor Society; Scholastic Scrimmage; PYEA; PAAL; Oratory; and Leo
- Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior Classes held fundraisers; Student Council had a pep rally and talent show/lip sync event; Gifted students presented their robotic car project
- Fall sports recently released athletic awards for the season. Also have three (3) Times News Area Players of the Year: Ana Recker, field hockey; Josh Suto, golf; and Brianna Moore, girls' soccer.
- Matt Machalik earned a spot on the PA Football Writers 2A All-State Team, Channel 16 Dream Team, and Times News All-Area Team
- Lucas Heydt earned the 1st Team PA Football News 2A All-State Team as well as the Mini Maxwell Award
- Brianna Moore scored her 1,000th career point in girls' basketball
- Mrs. Paula Husar introduced Ms. Lyndsey Heinrich, Art teacher and assistant girls' soccer coach, who spoke about Brianna Moore's accomplishments as a girls' soccer player. Brianna is a Senior who set a single-season school record of 52 goals, had hat tricks in 8 games, was the team captain, earned Times News Player of the Year, and named to PA Soccer Coaches Association First Team, All-State - the first player to do so in the district. She will attend and play soccer at Division 1 Duquesne University and major in Nursing.
- Dr. Frankelli acknowledged that Mrs. Lauren Salerno, field hockey head coach, was nominated for U.S. Coach of the Year by a field hockey website. Coach Salerno took the team to their first playoff berth in 38 years.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- Regarding the snow event this morning, there were a number of treacherous roads in Lower Towamensing Township. Heard from some parents regarding issues of lack of

township staff to address inclement weather situations. Need to work with township on staffing concerns and getting students to school by bus. We will begin to address this as an administrative team.

- Spoke about the HSP mid-year update; needs to be reviewed every six (6) months. Provided updated community transmission data and the district's case information so the Board has an opportunity to make any changes, if necessary, to the HSP
- Currently working with staff on a draft of a one-page document for guidelines for quarantining from COVID to help parents and staff view the process in an easy-to-use format
- Masking on buses must remain as it is a federal order; in school, masks are currently optional with the Board and the Superintendent having the authority to reinstate; medical organizations are recommending universal masking in schools
- Reapproval of HSP means keeping a "mask optional" approach; the Board may move in a different direction such as temporary mask mandate with majority vote tonight
- Each household/residential address may request four (4) free at-home rapid tests via <https://special.usps.com/testkits>

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

- Director Earl Paules – CCTI:
 - CCTI Superintendent is retiring in March with CCTI Principal moving into the position; will be looking to fill Principal position
 - Modular home building project beginning with work lasting about 1½ years for students
 - New course, Introduction to Plumbing with Home Repairs and Copper Piping; Cosmetology salon is open to public; restaurant open; check website for hours of operation for both
 - 16 students competed at SkillsUSA District competition in December with 15 students earning medals. PASD students are:
 - Carter Gardner, 2nd Place in Technical Drafting
 - Victoria Keller, 3rd Place in Automotive Refinish Technology
 - Austin Novak, 3rd Place in Job Demo Open
 - At the DECA district-level event, all 18 students placed and will move on to the state competition in Hershey. PASD students are:
 - Haley Kuehner, 3rd Place in Entrepreneurship
 - Connor Ronald, 6th Place in Entrepreneurship
 - Rheese Borland, 4th Place in Quick Serve Marketing
 - Montanna Costenbader, 4th Place in Hotel & Lodging
 - Kadin German, 4th Place in Sports & Entertainment Marketing
 - Madalynn Moyer, 6th Place in Sports & Entertainment Marketing
- Director Haas –Library/CLIU:
 - Many online programs and activities available, see library website
 - Sign up on AmazonSmile.com to receive a portion from your Amazon purchases to go to the library; also similar program available through IGive.com
 - No increase in budget for CLIU for next year
- Director Larvey – LCCC:
 - Over 2000 students impacted by financial hardships related to COVID have accessed/applied for grant money to help with tuition, food, housing, utilities, childcare, or healthcare; FAFSA not required to apply for grant money

<p>BOARD MEETING MINUTES & REORG. MINUTES</p>	<p>OLD BUSINESS: Dr. Frankelli stated the next update on the 7th Street fieldhouse will be given at the February workshop; questions/concerns from the Booster Club can be directed via email before then</p> <p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>Director Connell moved, seconded by Director Larvey, to approve the reorganization meeting minutes and the regular board meeting minutes from December 7, 2021.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p>
<p>ITEM TABLED ON CONSENT AGENDA</p>	<p>Director Haas made a motion, seconded by Director Larvey, to table Item #2-M, fall coach hires, on the consent agenda.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p>
<p>CONSENT AGENDA</p>	<p>Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Mazepa, to approve the attached consent agenda with the exception of Item #2-M.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p>
<p>FINANCIAL REPORTS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CONSENT AGENDA:</p> <p>Approved the Accounts Payable Reports</p> <p>Approved the Treasurer’s Reports</p> <p>Approved budget transfers</p>
<p>DELEGATES TO CARBON CTY. TAX COLL. COMMITTEE</p>	<p>Appointed Alan Lonoconus as delegate to the Carbon County Tax Collection Committee</p> <p>Appointed Jodi Frankelli as alternate delegate to the Carbon County Tax Collection Committee</p>
<p>DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR</p>	<p>Appointed Berkheimer Associates, Bangor, PA, as the delinquent tax collector of the 2021-2022 school year per capita taxes effective January 1, 2022. There is no fee assessed to the district for this service as the fees are assessed to the taxpayer.</p>
<p>BERKHEIMER RESOLUTION</p>	<p>Approved the updated Confidential Resolution with Berkheimer Associates, Bangor, PA, to reflect the position and not a specific person as its authorized representative to make requests and provide/transmit tax information</p>
<p>TAX COLLECTORS’ EXONERATION</p>	<p>Approved to exonerate the following current tax collectors from the collection of the 2021-2022 school year delinquent per capita taxes effective January 1, 2022:</p>

Bowmanstown Borough	Maria Smith	\$1,480.00
Lower Towamensing Township	Nicole Jahelka	\$6,180.00
Palmerton Borough	Lisa Nemeth	\$13,110.00
Towamensing Township	Brenda Drew	\$6,360.00

**TAX
EXONERATION
LIST**

Approved the per capita tax exoneration lists

DJ CONTRACTS

Approved the contract retroactively with Nick Romano for DJ services for the Junior High School Winter Dance on December 17, 2021

Approved the contract with Nick Romano for DJ services for the Junior High School Dance on February 11, 2022

**READING
SPECIALIST
HIRE**

Approved Lindsey Armitage as Reading Specialist, at Master's, Step 7, at S.S. Palmer Elementary, at a salary of \$53,250 prorated effective upon the release from her current employer

**BUSINESS
MANAGER
SERVICES
CONTRACTOR**

Approved Ryan Kish as an independent contractor to provide business manager services for the Palmerton Area School District at the rate of \$60.00/hour, as needed, for the 2021-2022 school year effective December 27, 2021

**BUS DRIVER
HIRE**

Approved retroactively Faro Hager as bus driver for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year effective January 10, 2022

**SUB TEACHER-
IA-SECRETARY
HIRE**

Approved Carol Schnaiter in the following positions effective January 19, 2022:

Substitute Teacher	At the rate of \$110/day
Substitute Instructional Assistant	At the rate of \$10.00/hour
Substitute Secretary	At the rate of \$10.00/hour

**FOOD SERVICE
RESIGNATION**

Accepted the resignation of Amanda Kromer as food service worker effective January 28, 2022

IA HIRE

Approved Amanda Kromer as Instructional Assistant, S.S. Palmer Elementary, at the rate of \$16.28 per hour effective January 31, 2022

FMLA

Approved Family & Medical Leave from approximately January 24, 2022 for eight (8) weeks for employee #482

**UNCOMPENSATED
LEAVE**

Approved the uncompensated leave request from December 9, 2021 until released from physician for employee #520

**SICK LEAVE
EXTENSION**

Approved the 40-day sick leave extension for employee #353 as per the terms of the PAESPA collective bargaining agreement

COACH HIRES

Approved the following coaches for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year effective January 19, 2022:

Michael Svetik	Baseball Volunteer Assistant Coach	--
Michael Noyola	Track Volunteer Assistant Coach	--
Jonathan Perloni	Track Volunteer Assistant Coach	--

**IA
RESIGNATION**

Accepted the resignation of Sonya Porter as Instructional Assistant effective January 14, 2022

**COACH
RESIGNATIONS**

Accepted the following resignations of coaches for the 2021-2022 school year:

Samantha Curcio	Softball Assistant Coach	Effective December 12, 2021
Jennifer Harrison	Softball MS Coach	Effective January 10, 2022
Rachel Harry	Volleyball Assistant Coach	Effective January 4, 2022

**SUB LIST
REMOVAL**

Approved the removal of Nia Fratrick from the district's current substitute list

**HORIZONTAL
MOVEMENT**

Approved the horizontal movement of Felicia Fischer from Master's +15 to Master's +30 effective the second semester of the 2021-2022 school year

**TUITION
REIMBURSEMENT**

Approved tuition reimbursements

**HS PROGRAM
OF STUDIES**

Approved the 2022-2023 Program of Studies for the Palmerton Area Senior High School

**CLIU #21 USE OF
FUNDS
AGREEMENT**

Approved the CLIU#21 Use of Funds Agreement – IDEA Part B, Section 611, for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

**PDE DATA
SUMMIT**

Approved Jamie Schuler to attend the PA Department of Education Data Summit on March 20-23, 2022, in Hershey, PA, at a cost not to exceed \$1,100.00

**1ST READINGS
POLICIES 209-
209.1-209.2-210-
210.1-822**

Approved the first reading of the following policies:

- 1) Policy #209 Health Examinations/Screenings
- 2) Policy #209.1 Food Allergy Management
- 3) Policy #209.2 Diabetes Management
- 4) Policy #210 Administration of Medications/Emergency Care
- 5) Policy #210.1 Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers & Epinephrine Auto-Injectors
- 6) Policy #822 Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

**2ND READING
POLICY 903**

Approved the second reading and adoption of the following policy:

- 1) Policy #903 Public Participation in Board Meetings

**ADOPT
POLICIES 247-
249-252-827**

Approved the adoption of the following policies:

- 1) Policy #247 Hazing
- 2) Policy #249 Bullying/Cyberbullying
- 3) Policy #252 Dating Violence
- 4) Policy #827 Conflict of Interest

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

**2022-2023 ACT 1
RESOLUTION**

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Zellers, to adopt the 2022-2023 Act 1 Resolution stating that the Palmerton Area School District will not increase taxes by more than its 2022-2023 adjusted index of 4.6%, as determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

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

**CCTI BUDGET
2022-2023**

Director Mazepa moved, seconded by Director Haas, to approve the 2022-2023 Proposed Secondary Budget for Carbon Career & Technical Institute, calling for Receipts and Expenditures in the amount of \$9,050,721 to be forwarded as presented to the Boards of School Directors in each of the participating school districts for final adoption by Resolution.

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

**CLIU #21
BUDGET 2022-
2023**

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Snyder, to approve the 2022-2023 General Operating Budget of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21 for the fiscal year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.

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

**LCCC BUDGET
2022-2023**

Director Larvey moved, seconded by Director Haas, to approve the Lehigh Carbon Community College Operating Budget and Debt Service/Leases and Capital Budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023.

Aye Votes: Directors Connell, Haas, Larvey, Danielle Paules, Earl Paules, Recker, Snyder, and Zellers.
Nay Votes: None.
Abstentions: Director Mazepa. Motion Carried.

**HSP PLAN
REAPPROVAL**

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Zellers, to reapprove the district's Health and Safety Plan.

Aye Votes: Directors Connell, Haas, Danielle Paules, Earl Paules, Recker, and Snyder.
Nay Votes: Directors Larvey, Mazepa, and Zellers. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- None

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Dr. Frankelli thanked the owners of Country Harvest for donating \$100 each to Raising the House and Micah's Backpack, the recipients of our ongoing district-wide food drive collection
- January is National School Board Recognition Month. Dr. Frankelli acknowledged the Board members in all that they do in their sometimes-thankless job as directors in which they are volunteers. The decisions that school boards make have been so extremely challenging and thank you for all the work you do in making a difference at our school district and in our community.

- Director Haas asked about the heat issue at the high school today. Director Paules explained there are two heat pumps that circulate the hot water. One pump broke about a week ago - there's a bushing inside that pump that keeps going out every year for an unknown reason. When the contractors installed the venting system outside, there were a lot of air leaks unseen at the time. Because it was very cold, one of the units froze which wouldn't allow the water to circulate and the other working pump automatically shut off and we now have frozen pipes and pumps that won't run. Two classrooms involved - one classroom already fixed. Pencor Services made a bushing for the pump. Second classroom will be worked on tomorrow. We will buy more bushings so we have in stock to be able to fix immediately. Pumps will be run more instead of just in the winter and we have insulated most of the vents. Mesh to be added to inside so debris can't get in to hold vents open. Not much water damage, limited to one classroom
- Director Recker stated there will be an executive session immediately following tonight's meeting for personnel and legal matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Larvey moved, seconded by Director Connell, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Aye Votes: All Directors Present.

Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline McCandless
Board Secretary