

PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Palmerton, PA

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

An executive session was held April 26, 2022, May 3, 2022, and today after the regular board 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 Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 6:01 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, Alan Lonoconus – Interim Business Manager, Jacqueline McCandless – Board Secretary, and Shawn Lochinger – Solicitor

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

- Climate surveys posted on website with robo-call to parents this week
- Charter school survey and letter will be sent this week to parents with instructions and robo-call made to follow up
- “Success Starts Here” story posted on student Grace Heist
- Thank you to Rep. Doyle Heffley for providing citation to girls’ basketball team
- Attended Sgt. Major Dan Dailey’s retirement ceremony with Director Recker this past weekend; honored to be asked to speak there

BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:

- Finishing up year-end items such as food service renewal; working on healthcare numbers which expect to increase about \$400k for next year and dental to increase \$40k for next year
- For 2021-2022 budgeted expenditures were \$35,262,562 and budgeted revenue was \$33,661,193 showing an estimated fund balance change of -\$1,601,369
- Projections for 2022-2023 expenditures are \$38,310,010 and revenues are \$36,213,317 making an estimated fund balance change of -\$2,096,693. Increases budget between \$1.3m and \$1.4m with ESSER money but also receiving revenue; fund balance is still healthy
- Total revenue sources expected for 2022-2023 are \$36,213,317 so district will use about \$2m in reserves before any tax increase, leaving budget gap of \$826k using the allowable tax increase of 4.6%. Total budget is proposed at \$38,310,010; still looking at ways to reduce budgetary increases.
- Final budget presentation at June 7th board workshop; final vote on budget at June 21st board meeting
- Director Haas would like the building budgetary increases shown to the community at each presentation

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

- Director Larvey – LCCC:
 - Held graduation on Monday; one Palmerton graduate, Maddison Beahm, was an Honors Scholar; we should be proud of what our community college provides to our students; Director Recker stated two 1991 HS grads also graduated from the college on Monday
- Director Haas – IU/Library:
 - IU gave a presentation on sign language and its offerings to hearing impaired students
 - Library has many programs available to the public. Some include Book Walk/Giveaway; Seed Library - to connect gardeners, offer workshops, and promote growing wholesome foods; Art with a View - sharing a slideshow on the Carbon County Sheltered Stories to be included with Carbon County Creative Arts Fund, project was honored with grant money; participating in Title 1 Family Night on May 26th; summer reading program in July; check the website and Facebook for activity details

STUDENT REPORT: Fiona Winger, Grade 11

- German class – Lucas Heydt, Grace Heist, Elizabeth Morgan, and Jessica Heydt received the PA State Modern Language Association awards for their ‘A’ averages
- NHS – Juniors holding elections for next year; helping at Senior Awards Night and at Art Festival; looking for summer projects
- PYEA – wrapping up second observations with teachers and receiving input on how to improve and develop the club
- Scholastic Scrimmage – still practicing for possible event via Zoom
- Envirothon – John Schaible, Brance Fronheiser, Gretchen Schaible, Josh Merkel, and Cody Walkowiak placed 3rd overall in May competition
- Drama Club/Stage Crew – *Fiddler on the Roof* well attended; thank you to all who supported the production
- Virtual NSA Career Day Presentation – students learned more about cybersecurity and careers in the field
- Cybersecurity – Business/Technology department received \$1,000.00 grant to develop a proposal to support new Cybersecurity class
- Introduction to Coding/Computer Science – students, Alex Saas and William Marks, named National Cyber Scholarship Foundation finalists
- Athletics – baseball and softball teams qualified for league playoffs and both will play in district quarterfinals next week; Track team medalists at district meet are: *Gold* – Lucas Heydt (Javelin), Nataly Walters (Long Jump), Analise Recker (Pole Vault), Jessica Heydt (Shot Put), Nataly Walters (Triple Jump-broke school record); *Silver* – Stephen Jones (Long Jump); *Bronze* – Emma Snyder (High Jump), Harrison Daily (Javelin), Abigail Fredericks (Shot Put), Bryson Walters (100 Hurdles), Brance Fronheiser, Dylan Hartranft, Jordan Mann, and Bryson Walters (4x400). Three state qualifiers so far: Analise Recker, Nataly Walters, and Justin Herman
- Buddies Club – participated in canvas painting project; completing paperwork to be allowed to fundraise to help purchase supplies for future projects

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Tennis courts – project being advertised in newspaper for bids; pre-bid meeting at the site on May 24th; proposals accepted until June 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at KCE; expect project to be approved at June 21st board meeting

	<p>B. 7th Street field house – Environmental Restoration awarded contract; PPL to terminate electric service; UCC, zoning, and demolition permits are approved; stone delivered for the base; sheds due for delivery May 31st; maintenance staff will install electric; Booster Club will relocate equipment to new garage; field house demolition then to be scheduled</p> <p>C. Towamensing roof – there was a report of possible roof leak because of a few stained ceiling tiles; some flashing pulled away at the knee wall where the new addition meets the existing building and was repaired; a roof contractor inspected the roof last month and reported it is in very good condition and should last another 25-30 years; contractor recommended a sealant be applied to area and an existing vent be closed which staff will do at close of school year</p> <p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lori Nemeth – appreciated Rep. Heffley’s recognition of girls’ basketball team and thanked parents’ club for district jackets; questioned future direction of girls’ team and hiring of head coach
BOARD MEETING MINUTES	<p>Director Connell moved, seconded by Director Zellers, to approve the board meeting minutes from April 19, 2022.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p>
CONSENT AGENDA	<p>Director Connell moved, seconded by Director Mazepa, to approve the attached consent agenda.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p>
FINANCIAL REPORTS	<p>CONSENT AGENDA:</p> <p>Approved the Accounts Payable Reports</p> <p>Approved the Treasurer’s Reports</p> <p>Approved the Budget Transfers</p>
STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND	<p>Approved the establishment of Fund dimension 21 – Student Sponsored Activity Fund, as per the PA Department of Education accounting standards and GASB #54 and #84 beginning with the 2022-2023 fiscal year along with establishing a separate checking account for Fund 21</p>
SUBSTITUTE TEACHER	<p>Approved Stacia Gouger as Substitute Teacher at a daily rate of \$110.00 effective May 19, 2022</p>
SUBSTITUTE IA & SUB SECRETARY	<p>Approved Katherine Cressman as Substitute Instructional Assistant and Substitute Secretary at the rate of \$10.00 per hour effective May 19, 2022</p>
SUBSTITUTE IA	<p>Approved Ryan King as Substitute Instructional Assistant at the rate of \$10.00 per hour effective May 19, 2022</p>

ESY IA

Approved Ryan King as One-to-One Instructional Assistant for the Extended School Year (ESY) program from July 5, 2022 through July 28, 2022 at the contractual hourly rate per the PAESPA Agreement

CHEERLEADING ADVISORS 2022-2023

Approved the following cheerleading advisors for the 2022-2023 school year:

Amy Mertz	Cheerleading Advisor	\$2,557
Christine DeLong	Cheerleading Advisor	\$2,557
Magin Gursky	MS Cheerleading Advisor	\$1,279

WINTER COACHES 2022-2023

Approved the following winter coaches for the 2022-2023 school year:

BASKETBALL-BOYS:		
Kenneth Termini	Head Coach	\$6,352
Jeremy Coleman	Assistant Coach	\$4,158
Brian Stevko	Assistant Coach	\$4,158
Brett Snyder	Co-Assistant Coach (3/4)	\$3,119
Arthur George III	Volunteer Assistant Coach	--
Dylan Knouse	Volunteer Assistant Coach	--
BASKETBALL-GIRLS:		
Daniel Beck	Head Coach	\$6,352
James Hay	Assistant Coach	\$4,158
Paul McCrone	Assistant Coach	\$4,158
Michael C. Horvath	Co-Assistant Coach (1/2)	\$2,079
Michael J. Horvath	Co-Assistant Coach (1/2)	\$2,079
WRESTLING:		
Justin Petersen	Head Coach	\$6,352
Zachary Christman	Assistant Coach	\$4,158
Joshua Rake	Assistant Coach	\$4,158
Alfredo Ortiz, Jr.	Assistant Coach	\$4,158
Jacob Christman	Volunteer Assistant Coach	--
Shawn Gardner	Volunteer Assistant Coach	--

COACH RESIGNATION

Accepted the resignation of Lauren Salerno as Field Hockey Head Coach effective May 11, 2022

VOLUNTEER COACH

Approved Lauren Salerno as Field Hockey Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2022-2023 school year effective May 19, 2022

UNCOMPENSATED LEAVE

Approved the uncompensated leave requests for the following employees:

Employee # 496	April 13, 2022
Employee # 536	April 19, 2022 through April 22, 2022; April 25, 2022 through April 29, 2022; May 2, 2022
Employee #574	April 29, 2022; May 19, 2022; May 25, 2022

FMLA

Approved Family & Medical Leave for the following employees:

Employee # 315	Effective from approximately May 15, 2022 through the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year
Employee # 510	Effective from April 18, 2022 through approximately May 20, 2022

BUS DRIVERS

Approved retroactively the following bus drivers for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year:

Dean George, Jr.	Effective April 22, 2022
Karen Laub	Effective May 4, 2022
Rebekah Lorah	Effective May 4, 2022
Timothy Lorah	Effective May 4, 2022
Colleen Rubin	Effective May 4, 2022
Amanda Spitzer	Effective May 4, 2022
Thomas Williams	Effective May 4, 2022

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Approved tuition reimbursements

REVISED 2021-2022 CALENDAR

Approved the revised 2021-2022 school district calendar

STUDENT COUNCIL

Approves the re-establishment of the S.S. Palmer Elementary School Student Lighthouse/Council Club

BAYADA NURSING

Approves the contract with Bayada Nursing for in-school nursing services beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

RETIREMENT EVENT

Approves retroactively Jodi Frankelli and Tammy Recker to represent the PASD at the retirement event for U.S. Army Sergeant Major Daniel Dailey on May 14, 2022 at a cost of \$40.00 each

SSKW FEE AGREEMENT

Approved the fee agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz, and Williams for the 2022-2023 school year with the hourly rate for non-routine matters at \$200.00 per hour and the hourly rate for routine or general advice at \$170.00 per hour

IU TRANSPERFECT INTERPRETERS

Approved the CLIU #21 Agreement for TransPerfect Remote Interpreters Products & Services beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

IU TECH POOL LEGAL SERVICES

Approved the CLIU #21 Technology Pool Legal Services Consultation Agreement beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

IU eLEARN

Approved the CLIU #21 Agreement for eLearn21 Accelerate Education beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 with automatic renewal for additional two (2) year terms

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT

Approved the agreement with the ASSE International Student Exchange Programs for the 2022-2023 school year

SHOP SPECIALTIES MAINT.

Approved the Shop Specialties Inc. Machinery Maintenance Agreement beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$1,450.00 plus any repair parts required throughout the school year

CHARTER BUS AMENDMENT

Amended the amount of the approved \$1,087.14 Trans-Bridge Lines, Inc., Acceptance Agreement and the Trans-Bridge Lines Coach/Bus Lease-COVID Waiver for the Junior High School National Honor Society field trip to Hershey Park on May 13, 2022. Approve to amend the amount to \$1,152.37 due to the addition of a \$65.23 fuel surcharge. All costs paid through student fundraising

COSTUME RENTAL AMENDMENT

Amended the amount of the approved rental contract agreement with The Costumer for costume rentals for the High School Drama Club’s performance of Fiddler on the Roof at a cost of \$2,440.05 to a cost of \$2,715.98 due to costume fees and shipping and handling charges

FBLA NATIONAL COMPETITION

Approved the field trip request for the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Chicago, IL, from June 28 through July 3, 2022 which will be paid for with fundraising and donations with the acknowledgement that parent chaperones will reimburse the district for any expenses incurred on their behalf such as airfare, lodging, registration, etc.

ADVISOR FOR FBLA COMP.

Approved Brandyn Miller to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Chicago, IL, from June 28 through July 3, 2022 as advisor with costs to be paid by the district general fund for this school year only not to exceed \$2,500.00

DONATIONS

Accepted the following donations:

\$1,000.00	from Paules Metal Works, Inc.	to the Future Business Leaders of America Club account
\$500.00	from Palmertoni Magyar Szovetkezet (Hungarian Club)	to the Band Activity Club account
\$50.00	from the PHS Basketball Parents Club	in memory of Richard Radler

1st READING POLICY 239

Approved the first reading of the following policy:
1) Policy #239 Foreign Exchange Students

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PROPOSED FINAL BUDGET 2022-2023

Director Earl Paules moved, seconded by Director Zellers, to approve the proposed final budget for 2022-2023 with a 2.7668 mill index increase and expenditure totals of \$38,310,010. The 2022-2023 Real Estate Tax mills will be set at 62.9150. The final budget is set to be approved at the June 21, 2022 Board meeting.

**BOARD
TREASURER**

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

Director Larvey moved, seconded by Director Connell, to approve Sherry Haas as Treasurer of the Palmerton Area School Board effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at the rate of \$400.00/year.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- None

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Director Recker:
 - stated the amount of support from the administration was amazing for “prom in the gym”, changed from the park due to the rain; have a great senior class; thank you to Mr. Kyle Poremba for livestreaming the event
 - Celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week and Nurse Appreciation Month this month
 - Carbon County drug treatment court celebrated seven people who went through program/system and now sober a long time; a recovery stigma simulation is on June 7th for anyone to see what it’s like for those struggling with addiction
 - Cosmetology services are available thru CCTI, anyone can call to schedule
 - Acknowledged a 5th grade student, Autumn Kulak, in the crowd who was interested in the workings/business of the Board

ADJOURNMENT

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Connell, to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline McCandless
Board Secretary