

# PALMERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Palmerton, PA

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

<p><b>ROLL CALL</b></p> <p><b>OTHER ATTENDANCE</b></p>	<p>An executive session was held Tuesday, August 1, 2023, and after today’s board meeting concerning legal and personnel matters.</p> <p>The regular board meeting of the Palmerton Area School District Board of School Directors was held in the Boardroom of the Administration Building, 680 Fourth Street, Palmerton, PA, on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 5:32 p.m. President Recker presided.</p> <p>Present: Directors Connell, Haas, King, Larvey, Mazepa, Danielle Paules, Earl Paules, Recker, and Snyder</p> <p>Jodi Frankelli – Superintendent, Jacqueline McCandless – Board Secretary, and Shawn Lochinger– Solicitor</p> <p><b>SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Online district event calendar found on website, under About page, is packed with activities, fundraisers, orientations; also includes fundraising page</li><li>• New teacher induction started today; teachers return August 22; school begins August 28</li></ul> <p><b>BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul> <p><b>BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Director Larvey – LCCC:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Fact sheet published shows 623 students received annual scholarships amounting to over \$1m; \$20m worth of financial aid and scholarships handed out this past year; 1,915 high school students in dual enrollment; 151 students in early college; retention statistics for full time is 59% which is good for a community college</li></ul></li><li>• Director Haas – Library:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Basket raffle ongoing, drawing Sept. 11; reading chain continues</li></ul></li><li>• Director Earl Paules – CCTI:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Searching for new director since Brent Borzak resigned; thank you to Dr. Frankelli for helping with questions and contract language for the Interim Director position</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>OLD BUSINESS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>High school library renovation</i> – Dr. Frankelli showed pictures of the progress; few items on “punch list” left to be completed such as keys, a fourth power pole, electrician walkthrough, new stain on cabinets, and roof leak in small group room to be repaired</li><li><i>High school auditorium mold remediation</i> – Dr. Frankelli showed prior pictures and stated the remediation was completed August 11<sup>th</sup> by ACM, air quality then tested and passed, all within normal limits</li><li><i>Junior high school and S.S. Palmer Elementary elevators</i> – Mr. Heaney reported JHS elevator is 99% complete, still needs some programming which should be done this week; S.S. Palmer elevator work began last week, concrete pad on floor poured today, should be finished by August 25</li><li><i>Weight room renovation</i> – Director Earl Paules agreed with Director Mazepa’s past comment that costs are going to keep increasing for this project; questioned Director Larvey about why she feels we need the single-use/family-style bathroom. Ms. Larvey responded that it is in the building code that we must provide a single-use bathroom. Mr. Paules stated the inspector for this project will be Paul Jarrett of Lehigh Valley Inspection Service, who he invited to speak today at this meeting. Mr. Jarrett then passed out copies of the building code to the Board and said the interpretation of the single use/family-style</li></ol>
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bathroom is only for mercantile or assembly occupancies which, he states, is not needed for school occupancy. Therefore, the single use/family-style bathroom is not a requirement. Ms. Larvey stated it would be safer to include the single use bathroom, but research could be done to find out which should take precedence. Director Haas wants no access by others while students are changing in their locker rooms, so the bathroom is needed. Director King said youth sport families use it while they wait for their children, so we need to provide a bathroom for them that is separate from the locker rooms. Ms. King stated we already discussed and voted for approval for this design. In regard to costs increasing, Mr. Paules stated he has been asking to get the S.S. Palmer Elementary renovation started but he claims the Board is putting convenience over safety by putting wants over needs and that these actions put the weight room's needs over safety at the elementary building as we could be using the money for the single use bathroom in the weight room towards the needs of S.S. Palmer Elementary building.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

- Constance Banko – agrees with Mr. Paules on his comments about S.S. Palmer Elementary building and asked why we are neglecting the building since the project was approved already, why is it on hold? We put safety and security of kids over the wants for sports; reconsider your priorities; all staff and students would benefit every day from the renovation
- Richard Banko – wants the renovation of S.S. Palmer Elementary building; use our money wisely and reconsider the project

**MEETING MINUTES**

Director Connell moved, seconded by Director Earl Paules, to approve the board meeting minutes from July 18, 2023 and August 1, 2023.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Director Haas moved, seconded by Director Larvey, to approve the attached consent agenda.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Approved the Accounts Payable Reports  
Approved the Treasurer's Reports  
Approved Budget Transfers

**MOLD REMEDIATION**

Approved retroactively the proposal from ACM Associates, Inc., Allentown, PA, for mold remediation in the high school auditorium not to exceed \$8,500.00

**DRAMA CLUB SHOWS**

Approved the Nonprofessional Performance Rights Application for the Drama Club's performance of *The Play That Goes Wrong*, for November 30, 2023, December 1, 2023, and December 2, 2023 at an estimated cost of \$1,420.00  
  
Approved the Concord Theatricals Musical Agreement for the Drama Club's performance of *Chicago: Teen Edition*, for April 4, 2023 through April 6, 2024 at an estimated cost of \$3,050.00

**DONATION**

Accepted the donation from Frances A. & Frances J. Carazo for \$500.00 to the Aevium Activity Club

**HEALTH/PE**

Approved Sage Nalesnik as Health/Physical Education Teacher at the High School at Master's, Step 2, at an annual salary of \$49,500 effective August 16, 2023, subject to increase pursuant to

**LT ELEMENTARY  
TEACHER SUB**

any final, ratified collective bargaining agreement for the 2023-2024 school year

Approved Cathy Eckman as Long-Term Substitute Elementary Teacher at S.S. Palmer Elementary at Bachelor’s, Step 2, at an annual salary of \$48,000 effective August 16, 2023 through the end of the 2023-2024 school year, subject to increase pursuant to any final, ratified collective bargaining agreement for the 2023-2024 school year

**ENGLISH/SOCIAL  
STUDIES**

Approved Valarie Kuehner as English/Social Studies Teacher at the High School at Master’s, Step 9, at an annual salary of \$56,500 effective August 16, 2023, subject to increase pursuant to any final, ratified collective bargaining agreement for the 2023-2024 school year

**BUILDING-BASED  
SUBS**

Approved the following as Building-Based Substitute Teachers effective August 16, 2023 through the end of the 2023-2024 school year, subject to increase pursuant to any final, ratified collective bargaining agreement for the 2023-2024 school year:

Alyssa Miller	High School	Bachelor’s, Step 2	\$48,000
Adam Reichard	Junior High School	Bachelor’s, Step 2	\$48,000
Mason George	S.S. Palmer Elementary	Bachelor’s, Step 1	\$47,000
Alexandra Madison	Parkside Elementary	Bachelor’s, Step 1	\$47,000

**IAs**

Approved the following as Instructional Assistants at a rate of \$17.41 per hour effective August 16, 2023:

Amanda Coombs
Caitlin Hettler
Kristy Santee
Victoria Smith

**UNCOMPENSATED  
LEAVE**

Approve the following uncompensated leave requests:

Employee #5701	From September 18, 2023 through September 22, 2023
Employee #253	From August 22, 2023 (1/2) day, August 23, 2023, and August 24, 2023

**FMLA**

Approved the following for Family & Medical Leave:

Employee #406	From August 22, 2023 through September 15, 2023
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**GUEST TEACHER**

Approved Tonia McCole as Guest Teacher at a daily rate of \$110.00 effective August 16, 2023

**CLUB ADVISORS**

Approved the following Club Advisors for the 2023-2024 school year subject to increase pursuant to any final, ratified collective bargaining agreement:

Lindsay Moninghoff	Student Council Co-Advisor	\$1,005.50
Rhianna Rivera	Student Council Co-Advisor	\$1,005.50
Kristen Perdew	Buddies Club	--

**MENTORS**

Approved the following Mentors for the 2023-2024 school year subject to increase pursuant to any final, ratified collective bargaining agreement:

Brent Harris	for Matthew Blanchard	\$1,475.00
Tammy Hoffman	for Chelsea Hutnick	\$1,475.00
Karoline Anthony	for Rachael Parham	\$1,475.00
Bronwyn Cseh	for Isabelle Beedle	\$1,475.00
Natalie Madeira	for Audrey Hoffman	\$1,475.00
Shanna Koscinski	for Kimberly Carlson	\$1,475.00

Ashley Williams	<i>for</i> Joey Roetz	\$1,475.00
Lauren Salerno	<i>for</i> Lindsay Fronheiser	\$1,475.00
Jennifer Danzeisen	<i>for</i> Perla Javier Ortiz	\$ 737.50 for 1 <sup>st</sup> semester only
Susan Dellicker	<i>for</i> Perla Javier Ortiz	\$ 737.50 for 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester only
Dawn Burke, Co-Mentor	<i>for</i> Valarie Kuehner	\$ 737.50
Michael Gombert, Co-Mentor	<i>for</i> Valarie Kuehner	\$ 737.50

**CROSSING GUARDS**

Approved the Contracted Crossing Guard Employment Agreements with the following for the 2023-2024 school year:

Mary Bowman
Linda Duyka
MaryEllen Rhoads
Ann Woginrich

**SUBS**

Approved the following Substitutes at the rate of \$10.00 per hour effective August 16, 2023:

Kathleen Ahner	as Substitute Custodian, Substitute Food Service Worker, Substitute Secretary, and Substitute Instructional Assistant
MaryEllen Rhoads	as Substitute Food Service Worker and Substitute Secretary

**RESIGNATIONS**

Accepted the following resignations:

Anne Bleiler	Guidance Counselor-HS	Effective August 10, 2023
James Hunsicker	Football Assistant Coach (1/2)	Effective July 31, 2023
Shawn Leadbetter	Football Volunteer Assistant Coach	Effective August 15, 2023
Ethan Recker	Football Volunteer Assistant Coach	Effective August 15, 2023
Jonathan Perloni	Girls' Soccer Assistant Coach	Effective August 15, 2023

**COACHES**

Approved the following Coaches for the 2023-2024 school year effective August 16, 2023:

Shawn Leadbetter	Football Assistant Coach (1/4)	\$1,050.00
Ethan Recker	Football Assistant Coach (1/4)	\$1,050.00
James Hunsicker	Football Volunteer Assistant Coach	--
Jonathan Perloni	Girls' Soccer Head Coach	\$4,219.00
Connor Russo	Girls' Soccer Assistant Coach	\$2,771.00
David O'Brien	Girls' Soccer Volunteer Assistant Coach	--

**PAMPA**

Approved the following additional Palmerton Area Music Parents' Association (PAMPA) Volunteer Chaperones for the 2023-2024 school year effective August 16, 2023:

Garry Mack
Jennifer Sommers
Tara Spiker

**FALL EVENT WORKERS**

Approved the following as Fall Event Workers at a rate of \$23.00 per event effective August 16, 2023:

Pamela Andrews	Miriam Hedes	Justin Petersen
Craig Borland	Kelly Heinrich	Andrew Remsing
Rebecca Christman	Michael J. Horvath	Thomas Smelas
Jessica Cohen	John Hrebik	David Smith
Michael Gombert	Vicki McHugh	William Zeky
Jyneal Green	Amy Morgan	

Edward Hedes	Christine Owens
<i>Pending receipt of clearances:</i>	
Robert Everett	William Papay
Alton Hoffman	John Wilk

**SUB REMOVAL**

Removed Kristy Santee from the current Substitute Food Service Worker list

**TUITION REIMBURSEMENTS**

Approved tuition reimbursements

**KRE SECURITY SERVICES**

Approved the KRE Security, LLC, Athletic Security Services Agreement for the 2023-2024 school year

Approved the KRE Security, LLC, District Security Services Agreement for the 2023-2024 school year

**KRE GUARDS**

Approved the following KRE Security Guards for the 2023-2024 school year:

David Bardo	Sabu Richards
Jarrod Emes	Enrique Sanchez
Christopher Marrone	Mark Thomas
Matthew Pender	

**ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

Approved the Student Athletic Handbook for the 2023-2024 school year

**COACHES HANDBOOK**

Approved the Coaches Handbook for the 2023-2024 school year

**ATHLETIC SEASON PASS/TICKETS**

Approved the athletic season passes and ticket prices for the 2023-2024 school year

Approved the following George's Transportation bus drivers for the 2023-2024 school year:

**BUS DRIVERS**

Kyle Ahner	Benjamin George	Karen Laub
Lori Ahner	Danielle George	Rebekah Lorah
Emma Beal	Dean George, Jr.	Timothy Lorah
Virgie Behler	Leon George	Cynthia Marx
Jolene Black	Lonnie George	Rebecca McMullen
Rodney Cameron	Amber Getz	Colleen Rubin
Nicole Capuano	Francis Goss	Sarah Salter
Lyle Cetnar	Faro Hager	Cara Serfass
Kelli (Keys) Crostley	Donna Hahn	Amanda Spitzer
Henry Dorward	Barry Hoffman	Gary Stahler
Susan Dorward	Pamela Imler	Diane Strohl
Donald Duffield III	Robert Jennings	Roxanne Stroup
Dennis Erkinger	LeRoy Kemmerer	Cynthia Vivona
Craig Fenoff	Tracey Kline-Carey	Steven Vlossak
Donna Fischer	Johnette Kralik	Thomas Williams
Kimberly Frable	Walter Kroboth	Trudy Ziegenfuss
Barry George	Gary Kuehner	

**BUS ROUTES**

Approved the bus routes for the 2023-2024 school year

**LEHIGH LEARNING ACADEMY**

Approved the Program Placement Agreement with Lehigh Learning Academy for the 2023-2024 school year

<b>CLIU TITLE 1</b>	Approved the Intergovernmental Agreement for Title I Equitable Services with the CLIU #21 for the 2023-2024 school year
<b>CONCERN</b>	Approved the Memorandum of Understanding with CONCERN-Professional Services for Children, Youth, & Families
<b>PATHSTONE</b>	<p>Approved the Letter of Understanding with PathStone, Child &amp; Family Development Services, beginning August 16, 2023 through August 16, 2024</p> <p>Approved the Public Preschool Memorandum of Understanding and Protection of Personally, Identifiable Information with PathStone beginning August 16, 2023 through August 16, 2024</p>
<b>WRESTLING TOURNAMENT-FL 2024</b>	Approved the field trip request to attend the wrestling tournament hosted by KSA Events at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Orlando, FL, on December 26, 2024 through December 30, 2024
<b>CONFERENCE</b>	Approved Jamie Schuler to attend the Pennsylvania Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (PASCD) Recalibrating our Approach to Adolescent Literacy meeting in Williamsport, PA, on September 13, 2023 at an estimated cost of \$226.96
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> READINGS &amp; ADOPTION POLICIES 006-221</b>	<p>Approved the second reading and adoption of the following policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Policy #006 Meetings</li> <li>2) Policy #221 Dress &amp; Grooming</li> </ol>
	<b>END OF CONSENT AGENDA</b>
<b>PAEA CONTRACT</b>	<p>Director Snyder moved, seconded by Director Mazepa, to approve retroactively the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Palmerton Area Education Association effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p>
	<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michelle Muffley – thanked the Board’s negotiating team for a fair teacher contract for all so we can attract and retain teachers; thanked the entire Board for showing that you value the professional staff by passing this four-year contract</li> </ul> <p><b>FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Earl Paules stated he is the reason for the district hiring special counsel for an investigation he would like to have on some people in the district. Mr. Paules said the table has turned and now he himself is being investigated but said he has nothing to hide</li> <li>• Director Recker welcomed back the staff and students and is hoping for a healthy, happy, and safe school year for all; school opens August 28, and she is looking forward to it</li> <li>• Director Recker stated there will be an executive session immediately following this meeting for legal and personnel issues</li> </ul>
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	<p>Director Connell moved, seconded by Director Earl Paules, to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m.</p> <p>Aye Votes: All Directors Present. Nay Votes: None. Motion Carried.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,  Jacqueline McCandless Board Secretary</p>