

# *Pine Grove Area School District*



Board of School Directors Public Meeting  
Thursday, March 21, 2019

5:30 PM Committee of the Whole Meeting

6:30 PM Regular Board Meeting

Pine Grove Area Middle School

Pine Grove, PA 17963

**Dr. Evelyn Wassel    Mr. Heath W. Renninger**  
**Board President       Superintendent**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Dr. Evelyn Wassel, Board President.

In attendance: Heath Renninger, Joanne Brindle, Jodie Dermo, Steve Brill, Wes Ney, Donald E. Brown, Jr., , Dave Lukasewicz, Evelyn Wassel, Alethea Wessner, J.T. Herber, Mike Janicelli, Kim Pribilla, Andy Diehl, Scott Dimon, Henry Snyder, Melissa Mekosh, Pam Watts, Sandra Burns, Gerald Salen, Joan Schwer, Nathan Minnich.

- High School Curriculum Changes – Mike Janicelli gave a handout to the Board showing the numbers at the Vo-Tech. Discussion on what programs are filled, what programs students are waiting for, time it takes for new seats to open. Act 158 will affect changes in the high school. It looks for pathways, pass all three Keystone Exams, composite score of all Keystone Exams or something they have done in place of not doing well on the exams. This will only affect the current 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Some schedule changes for next year will be a STEAM rotation this will include all incoming freshman.
  - Nathan Minnich – of Troop 611 Eagle Scout Project – possible project in the middle school a trophy case to display the archery trophies which are sitting in a closet. A motion will be put on tonight's agenda to vote on this project.
  - Jr. High Girls' Basketball – Scott Dimon – Tamaqua had a Title IX complaint because the girls' Jr. High plays in the fall and not the winter like the boys. Some of the county schools have approved moving their schedules to the winter already. Scott will make a recommendation to the Board in the early fall on whether we should move to winter or stay in fall the following school year.
  - Policy 113.2 – Pam Watts – Behavior Support must be revised for our Special Education Audit. Had to revise to add law enforcement
- A. J. T. Herber made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 113.2 Behavior Support, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**

- IU Updates – Internet and Staff – Donald E. Brown, Jr. and Andy Diehl. Attended a tech director meeting at the IU. We have more outages with our Internet this year than ever before. IU suggested a new router, not a lot of money but it has been at 95% capacity and they are turning some of it off. It does a lot of blocking of junk and spam and deals with the firewall. To take this on by the district would be more cost and not enough manpower. We need to maybe put a little extra money in the budget in case they are going to buy a new unit.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

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1. CALL TO ORDER – Dr. Evelyn Wassel, Board President called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Steve Brill	Donald E. Brown, Jr.	Dave Frew – Absent
J.T. Herber	Dave Lukasewicz	Wes Ney
Randy Stump – Absent	Alethea Wessner	Evelyn Wassel
Hannah Reiter, Student Representative		

Others in Attendance: Heath Renninger, Joanne Brindle, Jodie Dermo, Mike Janicelli, Kim Pribilla, Andy Diehl, Scott Dimon, Henry Snyder, Melissa Mekosh, Pam Watts, Sandra Burns, Gerald Salen, Rhonda Culbert, Rich Dunkelberger, Nathan Minnich, Beth Sattizahn, Chris Coombe, Clarisa Morgan with grandma, Dad and Aunt, Ryan Culbert with parents, Tavian Frey with parents and sister.

4. GUESTS

Student from the play “Annie” gave the Board a sneak preview.

Mike Janicelli, Evelyn Wassel and Heath Renninger honored March Seniors of the Month – Clarissa Morgan and Ryan Culbert

Melissa Mekosh, Evelyn Wassel and Heath Renninger honored March 8<sup>th</sup> Grader of the Month – Tavian Frey

5. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

What’s So Cool About Manufacturing – presentation by Melissa Mekosh, Chris Coombe and students from the middle school. The kids created a video which they entered into a contest.

Wreaths Across America – Rhonda Culbert, Rich Dunkelberger, Beth Sattizahn (Indiantown Gap Wreath Coordinator). SADD, Varsity Club and JROTC took part in this project. Students went to Indiantown Gap to place wreaths and attended the ceremony, almost 6,000 people participate.

6. INVITATION TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

Nick Christensen asked the Board to consider moving the date of graduation so the students going to Normandy can attend graduation.



7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by D. Lukasewicz, seconded by W. Ney to approve the minutes.

**Vote was Unanimous**

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8. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (*Dave Frew, Chairperson*)

- A. D. Brown made a motion to award the High School Ash Hoist contract to Bognet Inc. in the amount of \$129,895. This cost will be taken from the Capital Projects Fund, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- B. D. Brown made a motion to contract professional services with Mountain Environmental and Radon Services LLC to oversee the High School art room floor abatement Not to Exceed \$4,500. This cost will be taken from the Capital Projects Fund, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- C. D. Brown made a motion to approve to perform abatement of the High School art room floor and re-install new flooring for a total Not to Exceed cost of \$11,000, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- D. D. Brown made a motion to approve the proposed Eagle Scout Project by Nathan Minnich to build a trophy case in the middle school under the guidance of Mr. Snyder, seconded by J.T. Herber. **Vote was Unanimous**

9. CURRICULUM (*Evelyn Wassel, Chairperson*)

- A. D. Lukasewicz made a motion to ratify homebound instruction for a 10<sup>th</sup> grader beginning on March 4, 2019 and ending the last day of school, seconded by W. Ney. **Vote was Unanimous**
- B. D. Lukasewicz made a motion to revise the 2018-2019 School Calendar to reflect the March 4, 2019 snow day. The last student day will be  $\frac{1}{2}$  day on Thursday, June 6, 2019. This will also be graduation, seconded by D. Brown.  
**Vote was Unanimous**

10. FINANCE/AUDIT (*Dave Frew- Chairperson*)

- A. A. Wessner made a motion to approve bills for payment, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- B. A. Wessner made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- C. A. Wessner made a motion to approve the application for Payment in Lieu of Taxes on the Swatara Gap State Park Project, seconded by J.T. Herber.  
**Vote was Unanimous**
- D. A. Wessner made a motion to create a PBIS Activity Account, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**

- E. A. Wessner made a motion to approve the Performance Audit of the Pine Grove Area School District conducted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Auditor General for the time period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- F. A. Wessner made a motion to approve the Corrective Action Plan per the state audit covering periods July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- G. A. Wessner made a motion to approve the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29 General Operating Budget for 2019-2020, seconded by D. Lukasewicz.  
**Roll Call Vote, 7 yes, 0 no, 2 absent**

11. EXTRA-CURRICULAR (*Wes Ney, Chairperson*)

- A. W. Ney made a motion to hire Gene Kreitzer as head volleyball coach for the 2019/2020 school year. Gene will receive a stipend of \$3,825, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- B. W. Ney made a motion to ratify hiring students Karson Felty and Autumn Jacoby as game workers, seconded by A. Wessner. **Vote was Unanimous**
- C. W. Ney made a motion to add Scott Fisher to the list of girls' softball volunteers, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**
- D. W. Ney made a motion to approve the following Archery Coaches for the 2019/2020 school year, seconded by A. Wessner. **Vote was Unanimous**  
Mike Griffiths at a stipend of \$1,710  
Paul Felty at a stipend of \$1,575  
Volunteers: Erin Frantz, David Mease, Jr.

12. PERSONNEL (*David Lukasewicz, Chairperson*)

- A. D. Lukasewicz made a motion to hire Kaleen Zerbe as a 4 hour Paraprofessional I beginning as soon as all paperwork has been completed. Kaleen will be paid \$11.35 per hour and any applicable benefits in accordance with the AFSCME Contract, seconded by D. Brown. **Vote was Unanimous**
- B. D. Lukasewicz made a motion to grant leave without pay to Tina Niemi a 4 hour aide on April 23, 24, 25, 26 and 29<sup>th</sup>, seconded by D. Brown.  
**Vote was Unanimous**
- C. D. Lukasewicz made a motion to grant maternity leave to Mrs. Aurora DeWitt from approximately June 21, 2019 to approximately September 23, 2019. She will be using personal, vacation and sick leave during this time, seconded by A. Wessner. **Vote was Unanimous**

D. D. Lukasewicz made a motion to ratify the following school volunteers: Kristie Ludwig, Jocelyn Rehrer, seconded by A. Wessner. **Vote was Unanimous**

13. POLICY– (*J.T. Herber, Chairperson*)

A. J.T. Herber made a motion to approve the second reading and final adoption of Policy 113.2 Behavior Support, seconded by D. Lukasewicz.

**Vote was Unanimous**

B. J.T. Herber made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 247 Hazing, seconded by D. Lukasewicz. **Vote was Unanimous**

14. TRANSPORTATION– (*Dave Lukasewicz, Chairperson*)

A. D. Lukasewicz made a motion to ratify adding Katie Aldinger and Colleen Butler to the list of approved van drivers, seconded by D. Brown. **Vote was Unanimous**

15. TECHNOLOGY – (*Donald E. Brown, Jr., Chairperson*)

16. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – (*Hannah Reiter*)

- Hannah reported on the activities going on in the high school, middle school and elementary school.

17. SCHUYLKILL INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT – (*Dave Frew, Representative*)

18. PUBLIC COMMENTS

19. ADJOURNMENT – On a motion by D. Lukasewicz, seconded by D. Brown the Board adjourned the meeting and went into an executive session to discuss personnel.

  
Joanne Brindle, Board Secretary