

Pine Grove Area School District



Board of School Directors Public Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 2020

5:30 PM Committee of the Whole Meeting

6:30 PM Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Dave Lukasewicz **Mr. Heath W. Renninger**
Board President **Superintendent**

Call to Order – Dave Lukasewicz, Board President called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

In Attendance: Steve Brill, Wes Ney, Dave Frew, Heath Renninger, Dave Lukasewicz, Genavieve Moyer, Randy Stump, Donald E. Brown, Jr., Joanne Brindle, Vince Hoover, Henry Snyder, Andy Diehl, Jill Hlavaty, Rich Dunkelberger, Jodie Dermo, Sandy Burns, Bernie Kelly, Mike Janicelli, Alethea Wessner, Ken Gibson, J.T. Herber.

Vince Hoover explained the Pine Grove Area School District Language Instructional Education Program Plan.

Dave Frew explained the motion under Finance to increase the substitute rate for AFSCME substitutes and asked the Board to move it to the 6:30 agenda for approval. We have a huge shortage in substitutes and cannot get anyone at the current rate. It will be moved to the agenda for a vote.

ITAC Update – Andy said the committee met on Tuesday. Lots of topics were discussed. Will meet every two weeks for right now. Will be drafting some policies on the use of the Chromebooks, developing how to videos on the website, and getting feedback from parents, teachers and students. Timelines on computers is October for 36 touchscreens for K thru 2 and November for the other 1,300 computers. If we get the machines in October for the pilot program, and it works well, we should consider purchasing as soon as possible for next year. ERATE Reimbursement came in \$31,000.

Data Update – Heath gets an update on the data from the Emergency Management. He did a PowerPoint of the PDE and Department of Health Website showing the Board the week September 4th thru September 10th. We are considered in the moderate category right now. The PDE and PADOH recommendation for the next two weeks is Blended Learning and Full Remote.

Lots of discussion was held on when to bring the students back. Will continue this discussion at the 6:30 PM meeting.

Adjournment at 6:30 pm.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Dave Lukasewicz called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. and announced that the September 17, 2020 School Board Meeting is physically closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting is being held virtually by using the ZOOM Webinar platform. The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting by going to www.pgasd.com and following the directions under the School Board Meeting Alert heading. Public comment on the agenda will be accepted by email up to 10 minutes before the official start of the meeting.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Steve Brill	Donald E. Brown, Jr.	Dave Frew
J.T. Herber	Genavieve Moyer	Wes Ney
Randy Stump	Alethea Wessner	Dave Lukasewicz
Jade Shollenberger, Student Rep.		

Others in Attendance: Heath Renninger, Joanne Brindle, Vince Hoover, Henry Snyder, Andy Diehl, Jill Hlavaty, Rich Dunkelberger, Jodie Dermo, Sandy Burns, Bernie Kelly, Mike Janicelli, Melissa Mekosh, Attorney Nick Quinn, Ken Gibson.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mike Janicelli announced the Seniors of the Month – Gabrielle Miller, Jade Shollenberger
Melissa Mekosh announced the 8th graders of the Month – Alex Dubbs and Alexis Butler
The students will be brought in at a later date.

Heath thanked everyone for working hard, following the rules to keep the district safe.
Dave Lukasewicz thanked the Journalism Class for the live streaming of the sporting events.

4. **INVITATION TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS:** During this time, written public comment on agenda items will be accepted electronically via email at public_comment@pgasd.com. All public comments must be posted no later than ten minutes prior to the official start of the meeting on the day of the meeting. Dave Lukasewicz, Board President asked Joanne Brindle Board Secretary if there have been any public comments. She responded no.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. G. Moyer made a motion, seconded by R. Stump to approve the August 20, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes and the September 8, 2020 Extra-Curricular/Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes. **Vote was Unanimous**

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

7. CURRICULUM (*Dave Lukasewicz, Chairperson*)

- A. J.T. Herber made a motion, seconded by G. Moyer to approve the Pine Grove Area School District Language Instructional Education Program Plan. **Vote was Unanimous**

8. FINANCE/AUDIT (*Dave Frew– Chairperson*)

- A. D. Frew made a motion, seconded by D. Brown to approve the bills for payment.

Vote was Unanimous

- B. D. Frew made a motion seconded by W. Ney to approve the Treasurers Report.

Vote was Unanimous

- C. D. Frew made a motion, seconded by D. Brown to approve ratifying accepting the disposition of assets sheets as found in the board packet and to dispose of them as per Board Policy.

Vote was Unanimous

- D. D. Frew made a motion, seconded by G. Moyer to increase the daily substitute rates for job classifications within the AFSCME Collective Bargaining Agreement. The new daily substitute rates for each classification will be determined by taking the current starting hourly rate minus \$1.00.

Vote was Unanimous

Informational: Pine Grove Area School District has been awarded the Special Education COVID19 Mitigation Grant in the amount of \$5,510.58, the Continuity of Education Equity Grant in the amount of \$17,750, the Pine Grove Area COVID19 Health & Safety Grant in the amount of \$183,902 and the CARES Funding Grant in the amount of \$293,565.

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

- A. W. Ney made a motion, seconded by G. Moyer to approve to ratify adding Stephanie Boyer to the Cross Country volunteer list. **Vote was Unanimous**

10. PERSONNEL (*David Lukasewicz, Chairperson*)

- A. D. Brown made a motion, seconded by D. Frew to hire Melinda Diehl as a professional employee. Melinda will be paid at M+15 Step 12 for a salary of \$56,450 and all benefits in accordance with the professional staff contract. She will teach 7th grade science.

Vote was Unanimous

- B. D. Brown made a motion, seconded by J.T. Herber to ratify accepting the resignation of Judith Kielbowick from her position as Paraprofessional effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year. **Vote was Unanimous**
- C. G. Moyer made a motion, seconded by R. Stump to ratify accepting the resignation of Gina Hindman from her position as Paraprofessional effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year. **Vote was Unanimous**
- D. J.T. Herber made a motion, seconded by D. Frew to ratify accepting the resignation of Sara McKinsey-Barra from her position as Paraprofessional effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year. **Vote was Unanimous**
- E. D. Brown made a motion, seconded by G. Moyer to ratify accepting the resignation of Tiffany Swingle from her position as Paraprofessional effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year. **Vote was Unanimous**
- F. G. Moyer made a motion, seconded by S. Brill to ratify terminating employee #95883 effective September 4, 2020. **Vote was Unanimous**
- G. G. Moyer made a motion, seconded by W. Ney to hire Madison Rhode as a Paraprofessional I. Madison will be paid \$11.35 per hour and receive any applicable benefits as per the AFSCME Contract. She will begin as soon as all clearances are received. **Vote was Unanimous**
- H. G. Moyer made a motion, seconded by A. Wessner to grant maternity leave to Elaine Myers, preschool teacher from approximately November 16, 2020 through approximately January 3, 2021. She will use her sick and personal leave followed by FMLA. **Vote was Unanimous**
- I. D. Brown made a motion, seconded by G. Moyer to grant a medical leave of absence for employee #98875 from September 29th for approximately 6 weeks or until she is released from her doctor. **Vote was Unanimous**
- J. J.T. Herber made a motion, seconded by G. Moyer to grant Intermittent FMLA leave for employee #92336 from September 2020 through September 2021 to care for a sick family member. **Vote was Unanimous**
- K. D. Brown made a motion, seconded by J.T. Herber to approve the following students as substitute cleaning people: Trystian Fessler, Logan Sondag, Merrill Lambert. **Vote was Unanimous**

11. **POLICY-** *(J.T. Herber, Chairperson)*

None

12. **TRANSPORTATION-** *(Dave Lukasewicz, Chairperson)*

None

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

None

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

None

15. **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE** – *(Jade Shollenberger, Student Representative)*


Jade spoke to students throughout the district and got their opinion on how the school year was going for them. Most of the students wished they were back full time but have adjusted to the hybrid mode.

16. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** The board is not accepting public comments at this time on non-agenda items. All comments of this nature should be directed to the Superintendent. Continued discussion by the Board on when to bring the students back to school.

After much discussion J.T. Herber made a motion, seconded by R. Stump to bring back the elementary school students in Pre-K through 4th grade to the school full time beginning on October 5, 2020. Also October 2, 2020 will become an Act 80 day for the teachers to prepare their classrooms. There will be no school for students this day. The B

Roll Call Vote, 6 yes, 3 no (Wessner, Moyer, Brill)

17. **ADJOURNMENT** – On a motion by R. Stump, seconded by J.T. Herber the meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.


Joanne Brindle
Board Secretary