

**Minutes of the
PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA
Board of Education
April 17, 2023
7:00 P.M. Regular Board Meeting**

President's Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by President Hafner at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: T. Anderson, J. Hafner, J. Pohl, L Pung, T. Schafer, B. Weber, P. Weber,

Board Members Absent: N/A

Approval of Agenda: *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the agenda, consent agenda and the March 20, 2023, board meeting minutes. Motion carried 7-0.*

6th Grade Chicago Trip Presentation - Ryan Portenga shared a video of the 6th grade trip to Chicago.

Administrator's Reports:

Instructional Technology Specialist: Stacey Johnston stated she is working on preparing for the 2023-24 school year.

Elementary School Principal: Julie Farmer stated we have a 5th grade teacher vacancy for the fall with the retirement of Eric Johnston. Julie stated that his retirement will be a huge loss for the district and she will sincerely miss him. Working on plans for Teacher Appreciation week, where we show appreciation for all staff members. Kindergarten readiness testing takes place next week.

Middle-High School Principal: Ryan Portenga expressed appreciation for Larry Farmer, with assistance from Troy Forton, for their coordination of the spring testing last week. Our 6th graders were excellent travelers on their trip to Chicago. Lisa Bartlett stated that for the past several years, we have not had a weighted GPA and it is causing our seniors to miss out on college scholarships. She recommended placing a weighted and unweighted GPA on student transcripts for scholarship purposes and P-W will continue to use the unweighted GPAs for honors designations. McKenna Weber and Sarah Smith, Student Representatives, expressed support for this suggested change.

Student Representatives: Sarah Smith reported the Student Voice committee members discussed the Pirates on the Move and upcoming events, dedicating a space to show appreciation for military members in the hallway, attendance at leadership conferences, participation in the interviews for the new math teacher, and school store items. Senior lunches with Mrs. Goodman are going well; seniors enjoy having their voices heard. Seniors are looking forward to the senior walks through the elementary schools. Everyone on the BOE will receive commencement invitations. Students are excited about next week's CCRESA basketball game.

Superintendent:

Bond Update: - **School of Choice presentation** - Jennifer Goodman provided an overview of the Schools of Choice process. Schools of Choice is allowed by the state of Michigan, must be Board approved and all schools must follow the state regulations.

Bond Referendum Update - May 2nd, the bond referendum election, is quickly approaching. The next and last informational meeting is April 26th at 6 pm at the Elementary School.

Student Representatives - Thanked McKenna Weber and Sarah Smith, Student Representatives, for their service to the Board of Education. The Board members appreciate their support and feedback. Five students have expressed interest in serving in this role next year.

Bus Driver - We are optimistic we will have eight bus drivers for next school year, which is what we need to provide busing for both public and parochial schools without adjusting school start times.

Communications: (3 minutes per person)

Personnel:

Approve the recommendation to hire Hope Gallup, Bus Driver, effective April 10, 2023.

President's Comments: Jason Hafner stated that the Student Representatives on the school board have been a nice addition to the Board of Education.

Motion made by L. Pung, seconded by T. Schafer, to add to the New Business portion of the agenda, "Weigh AP classes on a 5.0 GPA scale on transcripts effective with the 2023-24 school year." Motion carried 7-0.

Old Business:

Second reading of Neola policies 1615, 3215, 4215, 5512, 7434, 9160, 7540.02, 7540.03, 7540.04, 8300, 8305, 8315, 9700.01, 2623, 6325, 8390, and 8400 - All policies are revisions; no brand new policies. *Motion made by J. Pohl, seconded by P. Weber, to approve the second reading of Neola policies 1615, 3215, 4215, 5512, 7434, 9160, 7540.02, 7540.03, 7540.04, 8300, 8305, 8315, 9700.01, 2623, 6325, 8390, and 8400. Motion carried 7-0.*

Continued discussion on creating an elective teacher position at the MHS - Presently, we believe we have a 26% fund balance and feel we are at a good place with our budget. Jennifer Goodman stated that we are waiting to hear what the pupil accounting allocation will be for 2023-24. Until we receive that pupil allocation amount, we cannot confidently budget for the 2023-24 school year. Without a pupil allocation increase, the fund balance would reduce to 21% with the addition of the new Middle School teacher.

New Business:

Approve moving the June Board meeting from Monday, June 19, 2023 to Monday, June 12, 2023 - *Motion made by T. Anderson, seconded by L. Pung, to approve moving the June board meeting from June 19, 2023 to Monday, June 12, 2023. Motion carried 7-0.*

Approve the Neola policies 1615, 3215, 4215, 5512, 7434, 9160, 7540.02, 7540.03, 7540.04, 8300, 8305, 8315, 9700.01, 2623, 6325, 8390, and 8400. *Motion made by J. Pohl, seconded by T. Schafer to approve Neola policies 1615, 3215, 4215, 5512, 7434, 9160, 7540.02, 7540.03, 7540.04, 8300, 8305, 8315, 9700.01, 2623, 6325, 8390, and 8400. Motion carried 7-0.*

Approve the Weigh AP classes on a 5.0 GPA Scale on Transcripts Effective with the 2023-24 School Year, for Transcript Purposes Only - *Motion made by T. Anderson, seconded by P. Weber, to weigh AP classes on a 5.0 GPA scale on transcripts, along with unweighted GPAs, effective the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried 7-0.*

Financial:

Financial Summary Report March 31, 2023, including Special Revenue Account Payable Listing, March 31, 2023

Future Meeting Dates/Events:

Bond Informational Night at Elementary School - April 26, 2023 at 6 pm
CCRESA/P-W Basketball Game @ P-W - April 28, 2023 at 12:30 pm
Bond Referendum Election - May 2, 2023
High School Prom - May 6, 2023
May Board of Education Meeting - May 15, 2023
Commencement Ceremonies - May 17, 2023

Adjourn: At 8:18 pm, meeting adjourned.



Approved by Preston Weber, Board of Education Secretary