

**Minutes of the  
PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA  
Board of Education  
March 20, 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 J. Pohl, seconded by T. Schafer, to approve the agenda, consent agenda and the February 13, 2023, board meeting minutes. Motion carried 7-0.*

**Presentation of the Clinton County RESA Career Education/CTE, Jennifer Branch** - Jennifer Branch provided an overview of the Career and Technical Education program.

**Introduction of Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht, Clinton County RESA Superintendent effective July 1, 2023** - Scott Koenigsknecht provided an overview of his professional experience leading to his new role. He plans to visit our Board members each school year and looks forward to working with Jennifer Goodman and P-W Schools.

**Administrator's Reports:**

**Instructional Technology Specialist:** Stacey Johnston stated she is preparing to place purchase orders for technology in mid-April. The clocks have been installed in the middle-high school and is hoping to purchase new clocks for the elementary school.

**Elementary School Principal:** Julie Farmer stated Elizabeth Jandernoa, Kaitlin Thelen and Cami Huhn are on the March is Reading month committee and they have done an amazon job with activities, decorations and involvement..

**Assistant Middle-High School Principal:** Troy Forton gave a shout out to the boys basketball program for their outstanding season. The team plays Tuesday evening in the state quarterfinals. Thanked the BOE for their support as he attended an athletic director's meeting in Traverse City which was very educational and worthwhile. Excitement has begun for Spring Sports. Encouraged families to use the [pwpiratesathletic.com](http://pwpiratesathletic.com) for athletic information.

**Middle/High School Principal:** Ryan Portenga deferred his presentation for the request for a new middle school teacher to be presented during New Business.

**Student Representatives:** Sarah Smith reported that the boys basketball team is doing really well. Senior Interview Day is Wednesday. Students are expressing interest in additional course offerings including AP Biography and AP Chemistry. Students discussed increasing the cheering in the student section and learning new chants. On April 28, P-W will host the RESA basketball game.

**Superintendent:**

**Strategic Plan Update-** The final strategic planning meeting of the year was held this afternoon. Jennifer Goodman will send out a report to the Board of Education. For the 2023-24 school year, the committee plans to meet four times a year to discuss how to continue working on the three goals.

**Bond Referendum Update** - Held the second informational night this evening; the last one is April 26th at 6 pm at the Elementary School. Bond videos can be found on our website. Encouraged everyone to contact Jennifer Goodman with questions.

**County Agreement for Cameras** - With the incident at MSU, there is a countywide plan to have an agreement that if we are in a crisis, we could be able to share live feed of our cameras with law enforcement. Thrun law is preparing a policy which would need board approval.

**Communications:** (3 minutes per person)

Ashley Halfman, speaking on behalf of active members in the community, expressed concern regarding the number of schools of choice openings in the 7th grade for the 2023-24 school year. She urged the Board to expand the teaching staff at the middle high school to allow for additional schools of choice openings in the middle school. Jason Hafner asked Jennifer Goodman to provide an overview of the SOC process and preliminary enrollment numbers for the 2023-24 school year at the April meeting.

**Personnel:**

Approve the recommendation to hire Chloe Cross, through Edustaff, as the Junior Varsity Softball Coach effective March 20, 2023.

President's Comments: N/A

Old Business:

N/A

New Business:

**Discussion on adding an additional middle school teacher position** - Ryan Portenga provided a presentation on the need for a new middle school teacher. By adding a middle school teacher, several high school teachers would no longer be required to teach a middle school course, which would allow us to offer some new high school and one middle school elective courses. Discussion followed. Jason Hafner asked Jennifer Goodman to provide a preliminary budget presentation at the April meeting. The Board supported posting for this position.

**Discussion on a district security officer position** - Jennifer Goodman discussed the possibility of adding a Student Support Specialist position which would serve as a security officer. At this time, grant funds may be available for one year which would fully support the costs. The Board members suggested Jennifer Goodman post for this position.

**Approve the MHSAA cooperative agreement with St. Mary's School, and St. Joseph School for middle school cross country** - *Motion made by P. Weber, seconded by T. Schafer, to approve the MHSAA cooperative agreement with St. Mary's School, and St. Joseph School for middle school cross country. Motion carried 7-0.*

**Approve the recommendation to hire six teachers and four paraprofessional aides for summer school grant funded positions** - Jennifer Goodman proposed offering two summer school opportunities during the summer of 2023. The elementary school would offer a weeklong summer learning camp, where students learn about STEM, have host guest speakers, take field trips, etc. The middle school summer program would focus on English and Math, targeting students that are not meeting the needs to advance to the next level. The middle school summer school would be half-days for three weeks, four days a week. We would like to offer free transportation, if we are able to secure bus drivers. These programs would be offered free to all students as we have received grants to offer these programs.

*Motion made by L. Pung, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the recommendation to hire six teachers and four paraprofessional aides for summer school grant funded positions. Motion carried 7-0.*

First 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 T. Anderson, seconded by J. Pohl, to approve the first 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.*

Financial:

Financial Summary Report February 28, 2023, including Special Revenue Account Payable Listing, February 28, 2023

Future Meeting Dates/Events:

March 24-31, 2023 - Spring Break

April 7, 2023 - No School for Students/Staff

April 12, 2023 - Half Day of School of Students

April 17, 2023 - April Board of Education Meeting

Adjourn: At 9:00 pm, meeting adjourned.

Approved by Preston Weber, Board of Education Secretary