

**Minutes of the  
PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA  
Board of Education  
May 15, 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

**Board Members Absent:** P. Weber

**Approval of Agenda:** *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by L. Pung, to approve the agenda, consent agenda and the April 17, 2023, board meeting minutes. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Administrator's Reports:**

**Instructional Technology Specialist:** Stacey Johnston provided an overview of artificial intelligence, which was recently presented to our teachers. We are moving to an online enrollment system for the upcoming school year. Emails were sent to parents today informing them of this change.

**Elementary School Principal:** Julie Farmer introduced Evan Fedewa, who will be the new 5th grade teacher. With our anticipated enrollment of 38 students in the first grade, we are recommending hiring an additional first grade teacher. If approved later this evening, Jodi Thelen, current kindergarten teacher, would become the first grade teacher. We recommend hiring Britney Nurenberg as the new kindergarten teacher.

**Middle-High School Principal:** Ryan Portenga applauded Troy Forton's efforts during this very busy time of the year. The incoming seventh graders have some alarming statistics with 16 students not proficient in reading and 17 students not proficient in math. The Pirates on the Move trip to Washington DC was a great success; a video is on our Facebook page.

**Superintendent:**

**Bond Update:** Jennifer Goodman stated we are currently working with Baker-Tilly and Thrun Law on the legalities; their staff are preparing paperwork. At the June board meeting, we will review the budget amounts. On August 3 the bonds will go on sale. On August 29 the funds get deposited into the bond accounts. Staff are in the planning stage; identifying classroom and lab needs.

**School of Choice:** The window is open until May 24, 2023. Jennifer Goodman provided an overview of the applications received per grade.

**Commencements:** Please let Jennifer know if you will not be attending and if a board member would like to present a diploma to a relative.

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

**Stefanie Smith** - appealed to the board to ask questions and to be as involved as possible with the bond process. Some HVAC acquaintances have indicated that the two pipe system, which is being recommended with this bond, is not the standard HVAC system currently recommended in similar facilities. A bigger concern is the bathroom project. Recommends individual single sex bathrooms to protect our students from being in a bathroom with members of the opposite sex.

**Karen Hanses** - Asked what the best way is to communicate with the superintendent. Jennifer Goodman indicated it is best to call the office or email her directly.

**Closed Session** - *At 7:37 pm, motion made by J. Pohl, seconded by B. Weber, to recommend the Board meet in closed session under section MCL 15.268(c) of the Open Meetings Act, to discuss collective bargaining. Motion carried 6-0. At 8:20 pm, motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by L. Pung, to end the closed session. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Personnel:**

*Approve the resignation of retirement of Eric Johnston, 5th Grade Teacher, effective June 30, 2023.*

*Approve the recommendation to hire Kimberlee Smith and Melissa Irrer as Elementary School Paraprofessional Aides for the 2023 Summer School at the Elementary School.*

Approve the recommendation to hire Sharon Brown, Elizabeth Jandernoa, Kaitlin Thelen and Kristy Kochensparger as Elementary School Teachers for the 2023 Summer School at the Elementary School.

Approve the recommendation to hire Tia Halsted and Amanda White as Middle High School Paraprofessional Aides for the 2023 Summer School at the Middle High School.

Approve the recommendation to hire Carisa Kramer and Chad Podolak as the Middle High School Teachers for the 2023 Summer School at the Middle High School.

Approve the recommendation to hire Erica Nartker as the High School Math beginning with the 2023-24 school year.

Approve the recommendation to hire Evan Fedewa as the 5th Grade Teacher beginning with the 2023-24 school year.

Approve the recommendation to hire Tim Smith as Substitute Bus Driver effective May 17, 2023.

Approve the recommendation to hire Curt Weber as a part time bus driver beginning with the 2023-24 school year.

**President's Comments:** Jason Hafner thanked everyone who voted; the voter turnout was impressive.

**Old Business:**

**Discussion on Budget and Hiring of New Staff** - Ryan Portenga had presented at a previous meeting the need for the addition of an electives teacher for the middle high school. Jennifer Goodman's recommendation is to not approve the middle high school elective teacher at this time.

**Discussion on weighted/unweighted GPA and transcripts** - PowerSchool does not have the ability to include both a weighted and unweighted GPA on them. Lisa Bartlett indicated that for two years we could include it, with her calculating out the calculations. The current ninth graders would only include weighted GPA to their transcripts. Jennifer Goodman recommends moving to weighted GPAs for the current ninth grade students. *Motion made by T. Anderson, seconded by T. Schafer, to add to New Business, an action item to move to the weighted GPA on transcripts beginning with the ninth grade class. Motion carried 6-0.*

**New Business:**

**Select BOE members to serve as a representative and an alternate representative, to attend the June 5 Clinton County RESA Board meeting and direct the representative to vote for candidates for the Clinton County RESA Board of Education** - *Motion made by L. Pung, seconded by T. Anderson, to select Tim Schafer to serve as representative, and Brad Weber to serve as alternate representative, to attend the June 5 Clinton County RESA Board meeting and direct the representative to vote for candidates Mark Palmer and Dave Kudwa for the Clinton County RESA Board of Education. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Approve the Clinton County RESA General Fund Operating Budget for the 2023-24 school year as presented by Clinton County RESA** - Board members viewed a short video which provided an overview of the proposed operating budget. *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the Clinton County RESA General Fund Operating Budget for the 2023-24 school year as presented by Clinton County RESA. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Approve the recommendation to extend the bus lease through Midwest Transit through July 1, 2025** - *Motion made by B. Weber, seconded by J. Pohl, to approve the recommendation to extend the bus lease through Midwest Transit through July 1, 2025. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Approve the Business Services Agreement between the Clinton County Regional Education Service Agency and P-W Schools from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026** - *Motion made by J. Pohl, seconded by T. Schafer, to approve the Business Services Agreement between the Clinton County Regional Education Service Agency and P-W Schools from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Approve the recommendation to create a new first grade teaching position** - *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by T. Anderson, to approve the recommendation to create a new first grade teaching position. Motion carried 6-0.*

Approve the recommendation to hire Britney Nurenberg as a Kindergarten Teacher beginning with the 2023-24 school year - *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the recommendation to hire Britney Nurenberg as a Kindergarten Teacher beginning with the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried 6-0.*

Approve the proposed Technology Acceptable Use Policy for the 2023-24 school year - *Motion made by B. Weber, seconded by J. Pohl, to approve the proposed Technology Acceptable Use Policy for the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried 6-0.*

Approve the proposed Device Responsibilities Policy for the 2023-24 school year - *Motion made by J. Pohl, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the proposed Device Responsibilities Policy for the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried 6-0.*

Approve the recommendation to hire Elite Masonry MI, Inc. for wall repair work in the middle school wing - Discussion was held. *Motion made by B. Weber, seconded by T. Anderson, to approve the recommendation to hire Elite Masonry MI, Inc. for wall repair work in the middle school wing. Motion carried 5-1.*

Approve the creation of a Bond Board Subcommittee and members - Tim Schafer, Brad Weber and Lori Pung have expressed interest in serving on the committee.. *Motion made by T. Anderson, seconded by J. Pohl, to approve the creation of a Bond Board Subcommittee and Lori Pung, Brad Weber and Tim Schafer to serve as the members. Motion carried 6-0.*

Approve the 2023-24 Board of Education meeting dates/time/location - *Motion made by J. Pohl, seconded by T. Schafer, to approve the 2023-24 Board of Education meeting dates/time/location. Motion carried 6-0.*

Approve the recommendation to transition to weighted GPA on transcripts for the current 9th grade students and beyond. *Motion made by T. Anderson, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the recommendation to move to a weighted GPA on transcripts for the 9th grade class (class of 2026) and beyond. Motion carried 6-0.*

**Financial:**

*Financial Summary Report April 30, 2023, including Special Revenue Account Payable Listing, April 30, 2023*

**Future Meeting Dates/Events:**

May 17, 2023 - Commencement Ceremonies  
May 22, 2023 - Middle-High School Band Concert  
May 29, 2023 - No School, Memorial Day  
June 2, 2023 - Pirate Pete's Adventure Challenge at Elementary School  
June 7, 2023 - Last Day of School  
June 12, 2023 - June Board of Education Meeting

**Adjourn:** At 9:11 pm, meeting adjourned.



Approved by Preston Weber, Board of Education Secretary