

**Minutes of the
PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA
Board of Education
June 17, 2024
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 and Roll Call:

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

Board Members Absent:

Motion made by T. Schafer seconded by B. Weber, to approve the minutes, agenda and consent agenda, Motion carried 7-0.

Budget Hearing - Scott Brown provided an overview of the amended budgets, including the special accounts review. The food service fund experienced a loss; the State of Michigan had requested we spend down this fund. We anticipate spending the funds down further in 2024-25 with the purchase of kitchen hoods. At the February budget amendment, we anticipated a loss of \$15,000. Now at year-end, we have a surplus of \$259,000. We borrowed \$159,000 for the portable classroom, have received the funds but have not yet paid the \$100,000 invoice but will do so just after July 1. Jennifer Goodman added that when the budget was approved in June 2023, we anticipated a significant loss, however we received nearly \$400,000 in grants which greatly improved our financial standing.

Anticipate an increase for student enrollment in 2024-25. All staff will receive a one percent salary increase. The \$250,000 portable classroom cost and the purchase of four new copy machines are built into the budget. At this point we anticipate a surplus of \$100,000, due largely to the enrollment increase, with the proposed State of Michigan budget. We are beginning the year with a 26% fund balance. If we drop below a fund balance of 20%, we would need to borrow funds to make payroll.

Bond Subcommittee Report - Alumni use the weight room and we do not charge for their use; may look into charging for non-student usage. Should have figures for Phase III soon. Phase I is on schedule. Units for classrooms are scheduled to be delivered on June 28. Lockers are expected to arrive at the end of July. The band room casework to be finished in early July. Summer School will still take place on July 8. The subcommittee will meet at the elementary school in early July to take a tour of the progress. The elementary school's storage building was demolished last week.

Administrator's Reports:

Instructional Technology Specialist: The Chromebook collection went well. The emergency alert system gateway has been installed at the elementary school and will begin at the MHS by the end of July.

Elementary School Principal: Jennifer Goodman reported for Julie Farmer that she has been working on the transition for her departure and filling of the current vacancies. Congratulations to Evan Fedewa, as he was approved as the new Elementary School Principal. E. Fedewa thanked Jennifer Goodman, the interview panel and the administration team, and thanked his family for their support and to the basketball team for being here tonight.

Middle-High School Principal: Ryan Portenga stated this year has been the best year he has ever spent in education. The MHS is almost fully staffed and hopes to have the last vacancy filled by next month's meeting. Thanked Jeremy Miller, Lisa Bartlett and Larry Farmer for preparing for planning for next school year. Will share spring testing results as soon as received. Thanked the students and staff who helped with classroom pack up after the last day of school. Thanked Jennifer Goodwin for her outstanding service she provides to our food service program. Thanked the substitute teachers who help throughout the school year.

Student Representatives - Seniors are on summer break. Trey Nurenberg and McKayla McRae will be the student representatives on the Board of Education for the 2024-25 school year.

Superintendent: J. Goodman provided an overview of the following:

Schools of choice - Received 46 applications and approved 40 of them..

Goal Progress Report - Our NWEA scores have been updated, and shared our goals.

Welcomed Mr. Fedewa to the administrative team.

Communications: (3 minutes per person)

Alanna George stated she sent an email earlier today regarding the strength and athleticism email sent to families, asking students to “buy in” to strength and athleticism and to let their coaches know if they will not be attending the sessions. A. George believes students have a lot of pressure and their coaches are handling their programs well on their own.

Personnel:

Approve the recommendation to hire Evan Fedewa, Elementary School Principal, effective July 1, 2024.

Approve the recommendation to hire Jordan Brown, 6th grade teacher, effective August 12, 2024

Approve the recommendaiton to hire Kelce Emmons, Paraprofessional Aide, effective August 12, 2024.

Accept the retirement of Todd Droste, Maintenance Worker/Bus Driver, effective June 28, 2024.

President’s Comments: J. Hafner wished Trina Anderson a happy birthday and thanked her for being a board member.

Old Business:

Approve the Revised Parent, Student, and District Outline of Device Responsibilities - Jennifer Goodman provided an overview of the proposed changes. J. Hafner asked that we monitor how this new policy of \$400 cap affects the technology expenses. Most students did not have any repairs all year. Broken screens and chargers are the majority of repairs. L. Pung asked J. Goodman to find out how much money was spent in 2023-24 for Chromebook repairs to monitor the costs for next school year. Motion made by J. Pohl, seconded by T. Anderson, to approve the revised Parent, Student, and District Outline of Device Responsibilities. Motion carried 7-0.

Approve the Board Resolution Authorizing Property Acquisition - Motion made by L. Pung, seconded by P. Weber, to approve the Board Resolution Authorizing Property Acquisition. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by T. Anderson, to add an item to the agenda under New Business X, B 11, to discuss the purchase price of the land in closed session. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business:

Approve the MHSAA Membership Resolution for the 2024-25 School Year - Motion made by T. Anderson, seconded by J. Pohl, to approve the MHSAA Membership Resolution for the 2024-25 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

Approve the recommendation to hire Yeo & Yeo to conduct the 2023-24 fiscal audit - Jason Hafner strongly feels that we should consider going out for formal bids to switch auditors for next years’ audit. Motion made by L. Pung, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the recommendation to hire Yeo & Yeo to conduct the 2023-24 fiscal audit and the Business Manager to issue an RFP in the fall of 2024 for the 2024-25 school year audit. Motion carried 7-0.

Approve the 2023-24 General Fund Appropriation Budget. - Motion made by B. Weber, seconded by T. Anderson, to approve the 2023-24 General Fund Appropriation Budget. Motion carried 7-0.

Approve the 2023-24 Special Services Fund Appropriation Budget - Motion made by L. Pung, seconded by T. Anderson, to approve the 2023-24 Special Services Fund Appropriation Budget. Motion carried 7-0.

Approve the 2024-25 General Fund Appropriation Budget - Motion made by B. Weber, seconded by L. Pung, to approve the 2024-25 General Fund Appropriation Budget. Motion carried 7-0.

Approve the 2024-25 Special Services Fund Appropriation Budget - Motion made by L Pung, seconded by T. Schafer, to approve the 2024-25 Special Services Fund Appropriation Budget. Motion carried 7-0.

Approve the L-4029 Form (2024 Tax Rate Request) - The milage rate is now 7.75; non-homestead millage remains at 18 mills. Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by J. Pohl, to approve the L-4029 Form (2024 Tax Rate Request). Motion carried 7-0.

Approve the Pre-Labor Day Start of August 19, 2024, for the 2024-25 School Year - *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the Pre-Labor Day start of August 19, 2024 for the 2024-25 school year. Motion carried 7-0.*

Approve the Board Sponsored stipend to Mrs. Jennifer Goodman for the 2023-24 School Year - *Motion made by T. Anderson, seconded by B. Weber, to approve the Board Sponsored stipend to Jennifer Goodman for the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried 7-0.*

Approve the administrator contracts for 2024-25 for Jennifer Goodman, Scott Brown, Ryan Portenga, Evan Fedewa, Troy Forton, Jeremy Miller, Jeff Dygert, Deborah Prince - *Motion made by B. Weber, seconded by T. Anderson to approve the administrative contracts for Jennifer Goodman, Scott Brown, Ryan Portenga, Evan Fedewa, Troy Forton, Jeremy Miller, Jeff Dygert, and Deborah Prince. Motion carried 7-0.*

Discussion was held on the Strength and Athleticism change without any knowledge provided to the Board of Education. J. Hafner asked J Goodman to find the process that was followed to come up with this Strength and Athleticism change and in the future to make the BOE aware ahead of time before changes are announced. J. Pohl questioned why attendance is even taken into consideration; why can't students attend at their will. J. Hafner asked Jennifer Goodman to do some research and report back next month. It was requested to clearly separate what is expected in the classes and the expectations of the students participating in the voluntary strength and athleticism workouts.

At 8:13, motion made by L. Pung, seconded by T. Anderson, to discuss the purchase price of the property acquisition. Motion carried 7-0.

At 8:18, motion made by J. Pohl, seconded by P. Weber, to end the closed session. Motion carried 7-0.

Financial:

Financial Summary Report May 31, 2024, including Special Revenue Account Payable Listing, May 31, 2024

Future Meeting Dates/Events:

First Summer Shut Down: July 1 - 7, 2024

July Board of Education Meeting: July 15, 2024

Second Summer Shut Down: August 5 - 11, 2024

Adjourn: At 8:19 pm meeting adjourned.



Approved by Preston Weber, Board of Education Secretary