



Peters Township School District

**MINUTES
PETERS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016 AT 7:30 PM
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICES**

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. McMurray, President, called the regular meeting of the Peters Township Board of School Directors to order at 7:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Allison, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bowman, Mr. Briegel, Mr. Dunleavy, Dr. Hardy, and Mr. McMurray. Mr. Merrell and Mrs. Smith were absent.

Also present were: Dr. Jeannine French - Superintendent, Dr. Jennifer Murphy - Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Michael Fisher - Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Mrs. Patricia Kelly - Director of Pupil Services, Mr. Vincent M. Belczyk - Business Manager, Mr. Adam Swinchock - Director of Instructional Technology and Ms. Jocelyn Kramer – Solicitor.

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

- **Excellence in Academics**
- **Westinghouse Science Honor Students**
Eighteen students from Peters Township High School have been selected to attend the Westinghouse Science Honors Institute. The Institute is a series of 12 Saturday lectures with an optional trip to Penn State to tour their nuclear reactor. This competitive program is open to juniors who are in high academic standing. The lectures available include a wide variety of topics including bioengineering, nuclear power production and robot development from research to commercialization.
- **Read for the Record at Bower Hill**
Students at Bower Hill took part in the Read for the Record this month with guest readers throughout the building. This annual campaign mobilizes millions of children and adults to celebrate literacy by participating in the largest shared reading experience. This is celebrated during the school’s annual Read-A-Thon where students are challenged to track their reading for a two week period. The students and classrooms with the most total minutes read will earn prizes.
- **Bower Hill Student Writer Featured at WQED Event**
WQED Writers Contest winner Colby Zimmer was featured at Passages and Prose: A Gathering of Authors & Their Books on Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at Cooper-Siegel Community Library in Fox Chapel. Colby is a third grader at Bower Hill and read his story aloud for a special story time at the event.

- **NMSI Check Presentation**
This month, we had the pleasure of recognizing our Advanced Placement students who earned scores of 4 or 5 on their AP Exams last spring. Through our partnership with the National Math Science Initiative (NMSI), the students were presented with incentive checks based on their outstanding performance. Overall, PTHS students earned \$30,700 in incentives this year!
- **CalcuSolves Winners at PTHS**
Congratulations to PTHS freshman Andrew Zhang for his first place finish at the Allegheny County CalcuSolve Tournament. Andrew was one of 11 students who earned a perfect score at the competition. Sophomore Mark McFarlin also earned a second place finish at the tournament.
- **PTHS Ranks Third in Region on Keystone Exam**
Congratulations to Peters Township High School who has been ranked 3rd in the region in the 2016 Keystone Exam Ranking by the Pittsburgh Business Times. PTHS is one of only nine high schools in the seven-county region that averaged at least 90 percent of their students in the top two tiers.
- **Excellence in the Arts**
- **Room 100 Debuts**
This year Peters Township High School offered a new class to vocal music students. Taught by Mr. Ryan Perrotte, the class is called Acapella Adrenaline and this month they shared their first video production with the community and received rave reviews. You can see the complete video on the District's facebook page.
- **Excellence in Athletics**
- **PTHS Golf Honors**
Congratulations to our boys and girls golf teams who have qualified for the WPIAL team finals. This is the 6th consecutive year that both teams have qualified for the finals. Please also join us in recognizing the golfers for their outstanding performances in the WPIAL individual finals as well.
 - Senior Mia Kness finished 2nd in the WPIAL Individual Finals
 - Junior Hunter Bruce finished 6th in the WPIAL Individual Finals
- **Girls Tennis**
Congratulations to PTHS Senior Anna Komer who finished first in the WPIAL Section Singles.
- **Sportsmanship Award for PTHS**
The WPIAL Sportsmanship Committee has selected Peters Township High School as one of five area schools to receive the 2015-16 Sportsmanship Award. The school is being recognized for the second consecutive year for their promotion and demonstration of good sportsmanship during the fall, winter and spring sports seasons. Athletic Director Brian Geyer will accept the award on our behalf at the WPIAL Sportsmanship Summit later this year.

- **Excellence in Character**
- **Character Counts Week at PTMS**
Last week was character counts week at Peters Township Middle School. Throughout the week, students took part in special events to help show their good character. The week ended with a special presentation by School Resource Officer (SRO) Jim Stevick talking to the students about making smart choices when they are online and using social media.
- **PTCC Fall Awards**
Mark Your Calendar for the Annual Fall Character Counts Awards. The ceremony will take place on November 1st at 7 p.m. in the Peters Township Middle School Auditorium.
- **Excellence in Leadership**
- **ALICE Safety Training for Parents**
This month the District hosted an ALICE safety training session for parents of students in all grades. Conducted by Shelly Belcher and SRO Jim Stevick, parents who attended the training learned more about how the program works, how it was developed and what it means for the safety of our schools.
- **Brian Griffin Named “Leader in the Classroom”**
Please join us as we congratulate PTMS technology education teacher Brian Griffin who has been named a Leader in the Classroom by Chevron and the Pittsburgh Steelers. The Leaders in the Classroom program honors teachers "who are providing engaging instruction and curriculum, encouraging lifelong learning and inspiring a passion for education beyond the classroom." This month representatives from Chevron stopped by PTMS to surprise Mr. Griffin with a personalized Steelers jersey, a \$1,500 grant for supplies in his classroom and tickets to the January 1st Steelers game where he will be recognized on the field.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: None

(Peters Township School District Policy 903)

Peters Township School District values parent and community engagement.

Speakers listed on the agenda will be allotted a maximum of five (5) minutes for public comment.

Speakers not listed on this agenda will be allotted a maximum of two (2) minutes for public comment.

PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS

An Executive Session was held on October 10, 2016, and immediately prior to this meeting to discuss personnel and other items.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

I. BUSINESS OFFICE

RECOMMENDATION: Consider a motion to approve Business Office recommendations as follows: (attachments)

1. Approval of the minutes for the Regular Meeting dated September 19, 2016, the Special Public Meeting: Proposed Site Acquisition dated October 3, 2016 and the Special Voting Meeting dated October 3, 2016.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Reports for September 2016 with a balance of \$25,938,634.44.
3. Approval of the General Fund bills for September 16, 2016 through October 12, 2016.
4. Approval of the Capital Facilities Fund bills for September 16, 2016 through October 12, 2016.
5. Approval of the Food Service Fund bills for September 16, 2016 through October 12, 2016.
6. Approval of the McMurray Elementary School Activity Fund reports for September 2016.
7. Approval of the Middle School Activity Fund reports for September 2016.
8. Approval of the High School Athletic Fund reports for September 2016.
9. Approval of the High School Activity Fund reports for September 2016.

MOTION:

Dr. Hardy moved for approval of the Business Office recommendation items 1 through 9, seconded by Mr. Dunleavy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(7-0)

II. BOARD COMMITTEES

Personnel

1. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve the revised substitute teacher wage rates for the 2016-17 school year. (attachment)

MOTION:

Mr. Dunleavy moved for approval of recommendation 1, seconded by Mr. Briegel.
Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(7-0)

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Dunleavy reported a Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting was held on October 10, 2016 and informed the Board that at the next Buildings and Grounds meeting we will discuss a Feasibility Study of all our schools.

Education

Mrs. Allison reported an Education Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, November 7, 2016.

2. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve the Peters Township School District's Comprehensive Plan. (attachment)

MOTION:

Mrs. Allison moved for approval of recommendation 2, seconded by Mrs. Bowman.
Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(7-0)

3. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve the contract between Zulama Modern Learning and Peters Township School District for the Zulama Game Design Fundamentals Grades 6-8 Package (GDF-MSP) for McMurray Elementary and Peters Township Middle School. The curriculum license period is from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. (attachment)

MOTION:

Mrs. Allison moved for approval of recommendation 3, seconded by Mrs. Bowman.
A discussion was held on the implementation of Zulama and the cost of the program.
Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(7-0)

Finance

Dr. Hardy reported a Finance Committee meeting was held on October 10, 2016 to review the borrowing capacity of the District for future financing options. These funds can be used for the purchase of the Rolling Hills property, or building renovations and/or new construction projects.
Public Comment: None

Policy

Mrs. Anderson informed the Board that Policy updates are provided periodically from PSBA and she will be bringing these updates to the Board as a first and second read. A Policy Committee meeting will not be necessary unless multiple policy updates need to be reviewed with the Board.

PSBA

Mrs. Anderson thanked Mrs. Bowman for representing Peters Township at the State Conference. Mrs. Bowman informed the Board of various Leadership events she attended while at the conference: dangers of helicopter parents, every student succeeds act, PEER classrooms, use of technology, producing successful math students, career and technology education, topics on special education, and homeless students. Mrs. Anderson informed the Board that most of the convention was videotaped and is available on line at PSBA. She then informed the Board of webinars available for viewing: October 26th - Transporting Foster Children; November 3rd - Key State Election Races; and November 9th - Board Reorganization in a non-election year.

Western Area Career and Technology Center

Mrs. Bowman reported the next Joint Operating Committee Meeting will be held on October 26, 2016.

SHASDA

Mr. Briegel reported the speaker at the last monthly meeting discussed the election and voting. He also informed the Board the next SHASDA meeting has been scheduled for November 17, 2016 at Upper St. Clair School District's LGI Room. The topic will be legal updates for Public Schools. All Board Members and Administrators are invited.

Intermediate Unit

Mr. McMurray reported the next Board of Directors meeting will be held on October 27, 2016.

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

III. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

RECOMMENDATION: Consider a motion to approve Certificated Personnel recommendations subject to all required pre-employment history reviews and clearance requirements as follows:

1. Approve the following **student teacher/observer/intern** for the **2016-17** school year. All compliance documents for the following individual are on file:

Name: Alec Searles
Dates of Assignment: 10/18/16 - 12/22/16
College or University: Duquesne University
Curriculum Major: Secondary/Social Studies
PTSD Teacher & Bldg.: Matthew Cheran/PTMS
Assignment: Field Experience

2. Approve the following as **day-to-day substitute certificated personnel** for the **2016-17** school year:

1. Homer, Denise - Reading Specialist PK-12 and Elementary K-6
2. Laukaitis, John - Biology 7-12
3. McLeod, Lynette - Grades 4-8 (All subjects 4-6, English Language Arts and Reading 7-8)
4. Monk, Edward - Social Studies 7-12 and Communications 7-12

MOTION:

Mr. Dunleavy moved for approval of Certificated Personnel recommendation items 1 and 2, seconded by Dr. Hardy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(7-0)

IV. NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

RECOMMENDATION: Consider a motion to approve Non-Certificated Personnel recommendations subject to all required pre-employment history reviews and clearance requirements as follows:

1. Approve the following **leaves of absence:**

October 2016-2017-03
October 2016-2017-04

2. Approve the following **resignation:**

Name: Lauren Tan
Position: Part time Paraprofessional
Assignment: McMurray Elementary
Effective: October 28, 2016

3. Approve the following **new hire:**

Name: Carol Polis
Position: Cafeteria/Playground Monitor

Assignment: Middle School
Salary: \$14.04/hr.
Effective: November 4, 2016
Replaces: Tracy Coyle

4. Approve the following **day-to-day non-teaching substitutes** for the **2016-17** school year:

1. Gerhold, Michelle - Cafeteria/Food Service
2. Lusk, Harold - Custodian
3. McCrea, Charlotte - Bus Aide
4. Myers, Christopher - Custodian
5. Peteya, Vincent - Bus Aide

MOTION:

Dr. Hardy moved for approval of Non-Certificated Personnel recommendation items 1 through 4, seconded by Mr. Dunleavy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(7-0)

V. EXTRA-DUTY PERSONNEL/PROGRAMS

RECOMMENDATION: Consider a motion to approve Extra-Duty Personnel/Program recommendations subject to all required pre-employment history reviews and clearance requirements as follows:

1. Approve the following **extra-duty Athletics personnel** for the **2016-17** school year: (attachment)

HIGH SCHOOL

Softball Volunteer

Cory Huminsky

2. Approve the following Personnel as **Support Personnel for Athletics** for the **2016-17** school year. (e.g., ticket takers, ticket sellers, crowd control, announcers, scorekeepers, judges, etc.)

Nicole Davis
Kristin Sortino

MOTION:

Mr. Dunleavy moved for approval of Extra-Duty Personnel/Programs recommendation items 1 and 2, seconded by Dr. Hardy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(7-0)

VI. PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES, TRAININGS AND TRIPS

NO ACTION ITEMS AT THIS TIME

VII. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES

RECOMMENDATION: Consider a motion to approve the Educational Programs and Student Activities as follows:

1. Approve the following **fundraising** activities:

Organization: Swimming & Diving Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support program
Dates: October 23, 2016
Location: Bruster’s Ice Cream
Activities: Car Wash

Organization: Interact Club – High School
Purpose: Support program
Dates: October 29, 2016
Location: 100 Acre Manor Haunted Mansion, South Park
Activities: Haunted Acres

Organization: Cheerleading Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support Cheer program
Dates: November 5, 2016
Location: St. Benedict the Abbot Church
Activities: Pancake Breakfast

Organization: Cheerleading Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support Cheer program
Dates: November 5 – December 17, 2016
Location: Community
Activities: Christmas Tree Sales

Organization: Swimming & Diving Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support program
Dates: November 18, 2016 – February 18, 2017
Location: Community
Activities: Football Frenzy Lottery

Organization: Swimming & Diving Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support program
Dates: November 18, 2016 – February 18, 2017

Location: Community
Activities: Hockey Shot Lottery
Organization: Freshman Class – High School
Purpose: Class activities & Prom
Dates: November 28 – December 2, 2016
Location: PTHS
Activities: Order Spirit Wear Clothing (artwork by PTHS Art Dept.)

Organization: Freshman Class – High School
Purpose: Class activities & Prom
Dates: December 14 – 20, 2016
Location: PTHS
Activities: Candy Grams

2. Approve the following **student trips**: (attachments)

Organization: Boys Golf Team – High School
Advisor: David Kuhn
Event: PIAA Boys Golf Individual Finals
Dates: October 23 – 25, 2016
Location: York, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$1,310.00

Organization: Girls Golf Team – High School
Advisor: Brian Farrell
Event: PIAA Girls Golf Individual Finals
Dates: October 23 – 25, 2016
Location: York, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$1,205.00

Organization: Girls Tennis Team – High School
Advisor: Brandt Bowman
Event: PIAA Girls Tennis Individual Finals
Dates: November 3 – 5, 2016
Location: Hershey, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$1,312.00

Organization: PTHS Forensics – High School
Advisor: Frank Kerber & Bill Lemonovich
Event: M&M Forensic Tournament
Dates: November 4 – 5, 2016
Location: Penn State - Behrend, Erie, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$2,205.70

Organization: Cross Country Team – High School
Advisor: Timothy Wu
Event: PIAA Cross Country Individual Finals
Dates: November 4 – 5, 2016
Location: Hershey, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$2,432.56

Organization: Boys Soccer Team – High School
Advisor: Robert Dyer
Event: PIAA Boys Soccer Finals
Dates: November 17 – 20, 2016 (PIAA Dates not Finalized)
Location: Hershey, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$6,835.08

Organization: Girls Soccer Team– High School
Advisor: Patrick Vereb
Event: PIAA Girls Soccer Finals
Dates: November 17 – 20, 2016 (PIAA Dates not Finalized)
Location: Hershey, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$7,175.08

Organization: Girls Field Hockey Team– High School
Advisor: Amy Casciola
Event: PIAA Girls Field Hockey Finals
Dates: November 18 – 19, 2016
Location: Whitehall, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$4,124.32

Organization: Girls Volleyball Team– High School
Advisor: Ashley Green
Event: PIAA Girls Volleyball Finals
Dates: November 18 – 19, 2016
Location: Johnstown, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$2,867.30

Organization: PTHS Thespian Troupe 185 – High School
Advisor: Jean Cygrymus
Event: Pennsylvania Thespian Conference
Dates: December 1 – 4, 2016
Location: Central York High School, PA
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$170.00

3. Approve the following request for **student trip solicitation**:

Sponsor: Judith Alexander – Gifted Coordinator, High School
Event: Service Trip to the Rain Forest in Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands
Date: Summer of 2017

MOTION:

Dr. Hardy moved for approval of Educational Programs and Student Activities recommendation items 1 through 3, seconded by Mr. Dunleavy.
A discussion was held on the Sports travel.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(7-0)

VIII. OTHER

RECOMMENDATION: Consider a motion to approve other recommendations as follows:

1. Approve a donation for the purchase of twenty (20) Apple iPad Air 2 Tablets, twenty (20) DropTech iPad Air 2 Cases, and one (1) Ergotron YES40 Charging Cart for Tablets to support classroom activities at Pleasant Valley Elementary School from the Pleasant Valley PTA. This donation is valued at \$10,676.21.
2. Approve a donation for the purchase of games and equipment to support recess activities at Pleasant Valley Elementary School from the Pleasant Valley PTA. This donation is valued at approximately \$750.00.
3. Approve the donation of a \$200.00 B&H Photo Video Pro Audio gift card from Catalyst Connection to support activities related to the Middle School's participation in a video contest hosted by Catalyst Connection.
4. Approve a \$200.00 donation from the Peters Township Mega Reunion 2016 for the purchase of a replacement bench in the turning circle at the District Administration Office.

MOTION:

Dr. Hardy moved for approval of Other recommendation items 1 through 4, seconded by Mr. Dunleavy.
A discussion was held on the donation from the PTA to Pleasant Valley Elementary.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(7-0)

BOARD INFORMATION: None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: A report on the personnel and legal issues was delivered in executive session. Ms. Kramer informed the Board she has copies of her presentation at the Exceptional Children's Conference in Lancaster. She also informed the Board her associate Rebecca Hall will be presenting information on Disciplining Students with Disabilities for the National Business Institute tomorrow.

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

November Board Meetings:

Monday, November 7, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Education Committee Meeting

Monday, November 14, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Joint Buildings & Grounds
and Finance Committee Meeting

Monday, November 21, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mrs. Bowman moved for adjournment at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Mr. Dunleavy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(7-0)

Board Secretary

Board President