



I-1

Peters Township School District

MINUTES
PETERS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017 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 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Allison, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bowman, Mr. Briegel, Mr. Dunleavy, Mr. McMurray, Mr. Merrell and Mr. Taylor were present. Dr. Hardy was 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. Brad Rau - Business Manager, Mrs. Shelly Belcher - Communications Coordinator, Mr. Brandon Womer - Director of Buildings and Grounds, and Ms. Jocelyn Kramer - Solicitor.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

- **Excellence in Education**
- **Peter Township Students Named National Merit Semifinalists**
Seven students from Peters Township High School - Luke Gallagher, Pratiik Kaushik, Garrett Langley, Paul Luniewski, Shruthi Shivkumar, Benjamin Zeisloft and Wen Quan Zheng - have been named semi-finalists in the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These students are among an elite group of 16,000 students from across the nation to earn this honor. They will now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships, worth more than \$33 million, that will be offered next spring.
- **Good Nutrition Lesson**
Pleasant Valley 3rd grade students in Mrs. Barnes' homeroom had a taste test picnic last week during a lesson on good nutrition. Their favorite fruits and veggies following the testing were: blueberries, cherries, cucumbers, pears, broccoli and raspberries.
- **McMurray Author**
Our very own resident author, Classroom Support teacher Linda Diesing, visited Mrs. Stark's 4th graders to read her recently published book. The visit was the kick off to the 4th grade class narrative writing unit.
- **McMurray Rotary Dictionary Donation**
Many thanks to the McMurray Rotary who once again donated dictionaries to every 3rd grade

student in the District. The Rotary makes this donation each year in the name of former superintendent Dr. Howard Jack.

➤ **Dot Day for Kindergarten**

Bower Hill Kindergarten students had fun celebrating Dot Day last week by wearing polka dots and reading "The Dot", by Peter H Reynolds. It's a story of a student who doubted her abilities but was encouraged by her teacher to "make her mark". What begins with a small dot on a piece of paper becomes a breakthrough in confidence and courage.

➤ **Excellence in Athletics**

➤ **Sports Round Up**

Our fall sports season is off to a great start. Congratulations to our teams above who are undefeated so far this season. Our boys and girls soccer team are also ranked in the top 3 in the WPIAL.

➤ **Coaching Milestone**

Congratulations to High School boys varsity golf coach Dave Kuhn who recently recorded his 300th victory as a coach in our school.

➤ **Excellence in Character**

➤ **Help for Houston**

Following the devastating hurricanes that hit Texas and Florida this month, our community has geared up to respond with help. Our cheerleaders and boosters organized drives prior to home football games and were able to send truck loads of toiletries and other needed items to Texas. Students at McMurray are also accepting donated school supplies in a drive to help a school in Houston that was devastated by the flooding.

➤ **Bus Academy at McMurray**

McMurray students attended the "Bus Academy" with Mr. Brookie as school began. He reviewed the safety guidelines and behavior that is expected while they are on the bus – respecting themselves, other students, and their driver.

➤ **Excellence in Leadership**

➤ **Day of Giving: Peters Township Education Foundation**

September 12th was the annual Day of Giving with the Washington County Community Foundation. District families were encouraged to support the Peters Township Education Foundation through this event as a portion of the donation are matched by the WCCF. At the end of the day, the PTEF finished with more than \$2,300 in donations and had the 13th highest number of donors overall for the event. Later this year, Foundation President Matt Cheran will attend the check presentation and learn the amount of matching funds we will receive.

➤ **McMurray Kickoff**

On September 6th, McMurray Elementary held their annual kickoff event to start the school year. Students and staff spent the afternoon playing team building games as they got to know their new classmates for the year. Snacks for the event were also provided courtesy of the PTA.

➤ **Team Clemente Kickoff**

Eighth grade students on Team Clemente had a tailgate party during study lab last week to kick off the new school year.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

(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.

Part of our communication effort involves taping and sharing videos of our Board meetings to help our community stay informed on matters before the Board. Any guest speakers or members of the public who are taking part in the meetings are reminded to come to the podium and use the microphone when making comments so that they may be heard by those of us in the room and those watching online.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

An Executive Session was held 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 Board Meeting dated August 21, 2017.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for August 2017 with a balance of \$18,152,326.14.
3. Approval of the General Fund bills for August 17, 2017 through September 14, 2017.
4. Approval of the Capital Facilities Fund bills for August 17, 2017 through September 14, 2017.
5. Approval of the Food Service Fund bills for August 17, 2017 through September 14, 2017.
6. Approval of the McMurray Elementary School Activity Fund report for August 2017.

7. Approval of the Middle School Activity Fund report for August 2017.
8. Approval of the High School Athletic Fund report for August 2017.
9. Approval of the High School Activity Fund report for August 2017.

MOTION:

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(8-0)

II. BOARD COMMITTEES

Personnel

Mr. Dunleavy

1. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve a 1-day suspension without pay for employee #01-17-18.

MOTION:

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(8-0)

Buildings and Grounds

Mr. Merrell

A Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting was held on September 11, 2017.

2. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to accept the final schematic design of the New High School project as presented at the September 11, 2017 Building and Grounds Committee Meeting.

MOTION:

Mr. Merrell moved for approval of recommendation 2, seconded by Mr. Dunleavy.
Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(8-0)

3. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve the payment of additional hours to M.B. Kohne, LLC, as Owner's Representative for the Pleasant Valley Elementary and McMurray Elementary Paving Project due to the change orders at a cost of \$65.00/hour not to exceed \$1,625.00.

MOTION:

Mr. Merrell moved for approval of recommendation 3, seconded by Mr. Dunleavy.
Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(8-0)

4. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve the purchase of sixty (60) Intellect Wave desks and sixty (60) chairs from P.E.M. Co. Educational & Contract Furniture through the Pennsylvania Co-Stars program, Contract #035-018, at a cost of \$12,146.00 for use in the Middle School. This project is funded through the Capital Projects Fund.

MOTION:

Mr. Merrell moved for approval of recommendation 4, seconded by Mr. Dunleavy.
Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(8-0)

Education

Mrs. Allison

The District's Comprehensive Plan is currently on display for public comment. The Plan is available on the District's website, at Peters Township Public Library and District Administrative Office.

Finance

Dr. Hardy

Dr. Hardy is absent and there is no report for this evening.

Policy

Mrs. Anderson

Mrs. Anderson stated there is no report for this evening.

PSBA

Mrs. Anderson

Mrs. Anderson asked all in attendance to contact legislators to pass a reasonable funding plan to fund the state budget. The current plan from the state is to delay the PSERS reimbursement to districts. In the past, districts were permitted to only pay 50% until the state reimbursement was received. Elimination

of the property tax would bring about the same type of situation. It would create a new revenue stream that is controlled by the state and would be subject to the same sort of delay if a revenue bill is not approved.

There is a seminar on ESSA Foster Care provision on September 28th at noon.

The annual PSBA conference is next month – Mrs. Bowman will be attending.

Mr. McMurray added that our healthy fund balance allows us to pay bills when the state doesn't pay us.

Western Area Career and Technology Center

Mrs. Bowman

The first meeting of the new year was held August 23rd where Dr. French was welcomed as the new Superintendent. The next Joint Operating Committee Meeting will be held on September 27, 2017. Mr. Dunleavy will be attending in her absence.

SHASDA

Mr. Briegel

The first SHASDA Meeting will be held on November 16, 2017.

Intermediate Unit

Mr. McMurray

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on September 28, 2017.

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 **leaves of absence:**

September 2017-2018-02

September 2017-2018-03

2. Approve the following **student teachers/observers/interns** for the 2017-18 school year. All compliance documents for the following individuals are on file.

Name: Karina Parker
Dates of Assignment: 10/19/17 - 12/7/17
College or University: Carnegie Mellon University
Curriculum Major: Music
PTSD Teacher & Bldg.: Ryan Perrotte/High School
Assignment: Student Teacher

Name: Vince Pitassi
Dates of Assignment: 9/19/17 - 12/15/17
College or University: Duquesne University
Curriculum Major: Secondary Math
PTSD Teacher & Bldg.: Chris Kedzuf/Middle School
Assignment: Field Observation/15 hours

3. Approve the following **long term substitute**: (attachment)

Name: Patricia Trunzo
Position: English Teacher
Assignment: High School
Salary: Masters, Step 1 (pro-rated)
Effective: October 9, 2017 through March 27, 2018
Replaces: Alissa Creany

MOTION:

Mr. Merrell moved for approval of Certificated Personnel recommendation items 1 through 3, seconded by Mr. Taylor.
Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(8-0)

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 **new hires**:

Name: Christopher Hartzfeld
Position: Driver
Assignment: Bus Garage
Salary: \$10.93/hr.
Effective: September 20, 2017

Replaces: Tom O'Malley
Name: Cynthia Schultz
Position: Cafeteria/Playground Monitor
Assignment: Middle School
Salary: \$14.25/hr.
Effective: October 5, 2017
Replaces: Robert Hassett

Name: Courtney O'Connor
Position: Paraprofessional
Assignment: Bower Hill Elementary
Salary: \$16.47/hr.
Effective: September 20, 2017
Replaces: Meredith Hoskins

Name: Karen Colaianni
Position: Paraprofessional
Assignment: McMurray Elementary
Salary: \$16.47/hr.
Effective: September 20, 2017
Replaces: Newly Created

Name: Courtney Murphy
Position: Paraprofessional
Assignment: High School
Salary: \$16.47/hr.
Effective: September 20, 2017
Replaces: Newly Created

2. Approve the following **day-to-day non-teaching substitute** for the 2017-18 school year:

Tammy Kitterman - Driver and Bus Aide

MOTION:

Mr. Briegel moved for approval of Non-Certificated Personnel recommendation items 1 and 2, seconded by Mr. Taylor.

Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(8-0)

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 Resource personnel** for the 2017–18 school year: (attachment)

HIGH SCHOOL

Detention Supervisor

Casey Howells

2. Approve the following **extra-duty Activities personnel** for the 2017–18 school year: (attachments)

HIGH SCHOOL

PA Junior Academy of Science (PJAS)

Logan Hyland

Science Olympiad

Chris Allen

Students Active for Environment (S.A.F.E.)

Casey Howells

3. Approve the following **extra-duty Athletics personnel resignations** for the 2017–18 school year:

HIGH SCHOOL

Winter

Wrestling, 9th Grade Head Coach

Dennis Holderbaum

Spring

Lacrosse, Boys Assistant Coach

Dominic Perella

4. Approve the following **extra-duty Athletic personnel** for the 2017-18 school year: (attachment)

HIGH SCHOOL

Spring

Lacrosse, Girls Assistant Coach

Melanie Cocco

Comment: Mrs. Bowman expressed gratitude to Keith Compeggie, previous sponsor of PJAS, Science Olympiad and S.A.F.E.

MOTION:

Mr. Dunleavy moved for approval of Extra-Duty Personnel/Programs recommendation items 1 through 4, seconded by Mr. Merrell.

Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(8-0)

VI. PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES, TRAININGS AND TRIPS

1. Approve the following **professional conference(s), training(s) and trip(s)**: (attachment)
(Employees/Representatives will not be reimbursed for meals included in the conference)

Name: Renee Brown, Language Arts Teacher – Middle School
Activities: Presenter at Sixth Annual Conference for
Capital Peer Tutoring Association (CAPTA)
Date: December 8, 2017
Location: Arlington, VA
Estimated Cost: \$122.08

MOTION:

Mr. Dunleavy moved for approval of Professional Conferences, Trainings and Trips recommendation item 1, seconded by Mr. Merrell.
Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(8-0)

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: Interact Club – High School
Purpose: Student scholarships
Dates: September 29, 2017
Location: PTHS Auditorium
Activity: Blood Drive

Organization: Literary Magazine – High School
Purpose: Production of PTHS Literary Magazine
Dates: October 2 – 17, 2017
Location: High School
Activity: Yankee Candle Sale

Organization: Big Red Wrestling Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support wrestling program
Dates: October 7, 2017
Location: McMurray Goodwill
Activity: Donation Drive

Organization: Softball Boosters – High School
Purpose: Indoor training at Bianco’s School of Baseball
Dates: October 7, 2017
Location: High School parking lot
Activity: Pumpkin Sale

Organization: Diamond Backer Baseball Boosters – High School
Purpose: Spring trip and off-season training
Dates: October 7, 2017
Location: Century Sports
Activity: Car Wash

Organization: Big Red Wrestling Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support wrestling program
Dates: October 14, 2017
Location: Marosz Auto Service in McMurray
Activity: Car Wash

Organization: Big Red Wrestling Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support wrestling program
Dates: November 5, 2017
Location: High School
Activity: Youth Clinic

Organization: Music Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support music program activities
Dates: January 27, 2018 (January 28th was originally Board approved on 8/21/17.)
Location: High School
Activity: Meatballs & Music

Organization: Big Red Wrestling Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support wrestling program
Dates: Wrestling Season (December 2017 – February 2018)
Location: High School
Activity: Concession

Organization: Music Boosters – High School
Purpose: Support music program activities
Dates: December 1 – 22, 2017; March 1 – 22, 2018
Location: Community
Activity: Sarris Candy Bar Sales

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

Organization: PTHS Music Department – High School

Acapella Adrenaline
Advisor: Ryan Perrotte
Event: Kettering National A Cappella Festival
Dates: November 10 – 12, 2017
Location: Kettering Fairmont High School, Dayton, OH
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$415.36

Organization: PTHS Music Department – High School
Rowdy Rhythm Choir
Advisors: Ryan Perrotte & Milt Barney
Event: Rehearsals, clinics and performing in *Total Vocal DCINY* Concert Series
(Distinguished Concerts International New York)
Dates: March 22 – 25, 2018
Location: David Geffen Hall (formally known as Avery Fisher Hall)
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, New York City
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$420.00

Organization: Softball Team – High School
Advisor: Nicole Davis
Event: Pre-Season Tournament
Dates: March 27 – 31, 2018
Location: Myrtle Beach, SC
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$0.00

Organization: Peters Township Marching Band – High School
Advisor: Lorne Hyskell
Event: National Memorial Day Parade
Dates: May 26 – 28, 2018
Location: Washington D.C.
Est. Cost to Dist.: \$0.00

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

Sponsor: Judith Alexander
Event: International Service Learning Trip to China
Date: Summer of 2018

MOTION:

Mr. Dunleavy moved for approval of Educational Programs and Student Activities recommendation items 1 through 3, seconded by Mr. Merrell.

Public Comment: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(8-0)

VIII. OTHER

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

1. Approve the following **drivers** from Mlaker L.L.C. Student Transportation for the 2017-18 school year:

Laura Fink
Edmund Groff
Bonnie Olesko

MOTION:

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(8-0)

BOARD INFORMATION

Mr. Merrell thanked the football boosters for putting the Altoona football game on YouTube last week.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Nothing beyond the report delivered in Executive Session

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Board Meeting:

No additional meetings have been scheduled at this time.

October Board Meeting:

Monday, October 9, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mrs. Bowman moved for adjournment at 7:52 p.m., seconded by Mr. Merrell.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(8-0)

Board Secretary

Board President