



Peters Township School District

**AGENDA
PETERS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024 AT 7:30 PM
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICES**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

- Celebration of Excellence

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA AND OTHER ITEMS

(Peters Township School District Policy 903)

Peters Township School District values parent and community engagement. Speakers who signed up in advance per Policy 903 will be allotted a maximum of five (5) minutes for public comment. All other speakers 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. All speakers are reminded to state their name and resident status for the minutes.

The public comment period of the meeting is not a question and answer format between the public and the Board. The purpose of public comment at Board meetings is to allow the Board to learn the thoughts of the public prior to Board deliberation and action.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Executive Sessions were held on October 14, 2024 and immediately prior to this meeting to discuss personnel, litigation, and other items.

NEW BUSINESS

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 September 16, 2024.
2. Approval of the Treasurer's Report for September 2024 with a balance of \$33,834,248.83.
3. Approval of the General Fund bills for September 13, 2024 through October 17, 2024.
4. Approval of the Capital Facilities Fund bills for September 13, 2024 through October 17, 2024.
5. Approval of the Food Service Fund bills for September 13, 2024 through October 17, 2024.
6. Approval of the McMurray Elementary School Activity Fund report for September 2024.
7. Approval of the Middle School Activity Fund report for September 2024.
8. Approval of the High School Athletic Fund report for September 2024.
9. Approval of the High School Activity Fund report for September 2024.
10. Approval of the High School Coffee Shop Activity Fund report for September 2024.

II. BOARD COMMITTEES

Personnel

Daniel Taylor

1. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve a one (1) day suspension without pay for employee #01-24-25.
2. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to re-appoint Edward J. Rafferty as the Peters Township School District Representative to the Peters Township Parks and Recreation Board for a three (3) year term commencing after Peters Township Council approval and ending on December 31, 2027.

Buildings and Grounds

Rebecca Bowman

3. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to authorize Administration to issue a Request for Qualifications (RFP) to solicit qualifications from Energy Services Providers (ESP) who can provide a guaranteed energy savings performance contract (GESA). (attachment)

Education

Shari Payne

An Education Committee was held on October 14, 2024.

Finance

Rolf Briegel

4. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve Resolution No. 2024-10-21A authorizing a transfer of funds from the General Operating Fund to the Capital Projects Fund. (attachment)

Policy

Lisa Anderson

5. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies:
(attachments)

Section 100 Programs

Policy 103.1 Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students with Disabilities

Section 200 Pupils

Policy 218 Student Discipline

Policy 218.1 Weapons

Policy 218.2 Terroristic Threats

Policy 222 Tobacco and Vaping Products

Policy 227 Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia

Policy 234 Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students

Policy 247 Hazing

Policy 249 Bullying/Cyberbullying

Section 300 Employees

Policy 323 Tobacco and Vaping Products

Policy 339 Uncompensated Leave

Policy 351 Controlled Substance Abuse

Section 800 Operations

Policy 801 Public Records

Policy 803 School Calendar

Policy 805 Emergency Preparedness and Response

Policy 805.1 Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies

Policy 805.2 School Security Personnel

Policy 806 Child Abuse

Policy 807 Opening Exercises/Flag Displays

Policy 815.1 Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Education

Policy 824 Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries

Section 900 Community

Policy 904 Public Attendance at School Events

Policy 909 Municipal Government Relations

PSBA

Lisa Anderson

Western Area Career and Technology Center

Rebecca Bowman

The next Joint Operating Committee Meeting will be held on October 23, 2024.

WACTC is moving forward in the process of building a new facility to expand Auto Tech, Collision Repair and adding Diesel Tech.

WACTC continues to vigorously pursue all identifiable funding sources. Successful grant applications include a \$32,000 Commonwealth Charity Foundation Grant (providing funding for students to purchase necessary protective clothing and tools), a \$498,750 Special Programs Grant, a \$30,000 PASR scholarship, a \$10,000 Gene Haas Scholarship Foundation Grant, and a \$25,000 PAWC grant. In addition, an easement to Range for a water line brought in \$27,000. WACTC was also authorized to revise a previous \$35,000 PCCD grant to cover chill room costs. The Perkins application was approved for \$225,248. Several grant opportunities are either recently opened or not yet open. WACTC is also searching for a grant for new school vehicles and boiler system replacement. Updates to fire hydrants are proceeding. A community committee has been formed to explore expansion of public sewer to WACTC and beyond; in that event, the WACTC private sewage treatment plant would be taken offline.

WACTC is currently conducting pre-tests to evaluate student preparation for the NOCTI testing.

The headline-making possibility of a teacher-prep program through CTCs will be added to the interest survey WACTC conducts to gather information about interest in potential programs.

A new articulation agreement was approved with Laurel Business Institute for Cosmetology, Electrical trades, Health professions, Networking, and Welding. The WACTC also approved a student teacher support program agreement and extended its participation in the IU3 natural gas rate agreement with NRG.

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. The following individual has completed three (3) years in Peters Township School District as a Temporary Professional Employee and has been rated in accordance with the provision of Section 1123 of the Public School Code of 1949 as amended. Having earned a final rating of “satisfactory” this individual is so certified and entitled to **Professional Employee Status** in accordance with the provision of Section 1108(b):

<u>Professional Employee</u>	<u>Building</u>
Tara Gromen	McMurray Elementary

- 2. Approve the following **student teachers/observers/interns** for the 2024–25 school year. All compliance documents for the following individuals are on file.

Name: Ian Burns
Dates of Assignment: 10/22/24 - 12/20/24
College or University: Duquesne University
Curriculum Major: Social Studies 7-12
PTSD Teacher & Bldg.: Joshua Elders/Peters Township Middle School
Assignment: Field Experience

Name: Patrick Mulligan
Dates of Assignment: 10/22/24 - 12/20/24
College or University: Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Curriculum Major: Social Studies 7-12
PTSD Teacher/Bldg.: Harry Bushmire/Peters Township Middle School
Assignment: Field Experience

- 3. Approve the following as day-to-day substitute certificated personnel for the 2024–25 school year:

Katherine Dunleavy - Nurse
Jake Monroe - Grades PK-4
Kimberly Smith - English 7-12 and Family Consumer Science K-12
Brenda Swierko - Nurse
Karin Warner - Nurse

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 **leave of absence:**

October 2024-2025-01

2. Accept the following **retirements:**

Name: Richard Ziner
Position: Custodian
Assignment: Middle School
Effective: January 31, 2025

Name: Patricia Myers
Position: Class III Clerical
Assignment: District Office
Effective: February 28, 2025

3. Accept the following **resignations:**

Name: Rachael Hall
Position: Paraprofessional
Assignment: McMurray Elementary
Effective: October 18, 2024

Name: Carolyn Heath
Position: Paraprofessional
Assignment: McMurray Elementary
Effective: September 27, 2024

Name: Jade Schweitzer
Position: Paraprofessional
Assignment: McMurray Elementary
Effective: October 31, 2024

Name: Mark Plimpton
Position: Paraprofessional
Assignment: High School
Effective: December 1, 2024

Name: Mitchell Kobrys
Position: Custodian
Assignment: Middle School
Effective: October 8, 2024

4. Approve the following **new hires**:

Name: Pamela Olszewski
Position: Paraprofessional
Assignment: McMurray Elementary
Salary: \$19.52/hr.
Effective: October 28, 2024
Replacing: Carolyn Heath

Name: Vanessa Rincon
Position: Cafeteria Food Service General Helper
Assignment: Pleasant Valley Elementary
Salary: \$16.61/hr.
Effective: October 23, 2024
Replacing: Robin Eiszler

Name: Heather Carter
Position: Cafeteria Food Service General Helper
Assignment: Middle School
Salary: \$16.61/hr.
Effective: October 28, 2024
Replacing: Liza Fisher

Name: Judy Calcutta
Position: Cafeteria Food Service General Helper
Assignment: High School
Salary: \$16.61/hr.
Effective: October 28, 2024
Replacing: Billie Jo Hullak

Name: Michele Walters
Position: Cafeteria Playground Monitor
Assignment: McMurray Elementary
Salary: \$16.88/hr.
Effective: TBD
Replacing: Laura Batchelder

Name: Robert Hodge
Position: Custodian
Assignment: Middle School
Salary: \$19.99/hr.
Effective: November 10, 2024
Replacing: Jack Minnick

5. Approve the following day-to-day non-teaching substitutes for the 2024–25 school year:

Patricia Beck - Cafeteria Food Service
Denise Greenfield - Paraprofessional and Cafeteria Playground Monitor
Julie Kelso - Driver and Paraprofessional
Deise LaCamera - Paraprofessional and Cafeteria Playground Monitor
Mark Plimpton - Paraprofessional

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 Activities personnel** for the 2024–25 school year:

MENTOR

Tara Rebar

ASSIGNED PROFESSIONAL

Samantha Denner/Middle School

2. Accept the following **extra-duty Athletic personnel resignation** for the 2024–25 school year:

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Spring

Softball, Head Coach

Taryn Sherry

3. Approve the following **renewal of extra-duty Athletic personnel** for the 2024–25 school year:

HIGH SCHOOL

Spring

Volleyball, Boys Assistant Coach

Margaret Syverson

4. Approve the following **extra-duty Athletic changes of status** for the 2024–25 school year:

HIGH SCHOOL

Fall

Edwin Brueggman

FROM:

Football, 2nd Assistant Coach
(Split 50% w/Dugan)
Football, 3rd Assistant Coach
(Split 50% w/Dugan)

TO:

Football, 2nd Assistant Coach

Daivon Jackson

Football, Volunteer Coach

Football, 2nd Assistant Coach
(Split 50% w/Dugan)
Football, 3rd Assistant Coach
(Split 50% w/Dugan)

Winter

Dante Mamone

Basketball, Boys Assistant Coach
(Split 50% w/Monroe)

Basketball, Boys Volunteer Coach

MIDDLE SCHOOL **FROM:**

Fall

James Kubina

Football, Assistant Coach
(Split 50% w/Open)

TO:

Football, Assistant Coach

5. Approve the following **extra-duty Athletic personnel** for the 2024–25 school year: (attachments)

HIGH SCHOOL

Winter

Basketball, Boys Assistant Coach

Robert Zewe (Split 50% w/Monroe)

Spring

Volleyball, Boys Head Coach

Jordan Ray

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Spring

Volleyball, Boys Head Coach

Erin Graybill

VI. PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES, TRAININGS AND TRIPS

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

Name: Dr. Jeannine French, Superintendent – District Administrative Offices
Activity: The Forum for Western Pennsylvania School Superintendents
Dates: November 20 – 22, 2024
Location: Farmington, PA
Estimated Cost: \$77.18

Name: Rebecca Fox-O’Kelly, Fourth Grade Teacher – McMurray Elementary
Activity: Guided Math: Navigating New Horizons for Grades K-6
Dates: December 5 – 6, 2024
Location: Virtual
Estimated Cost: \$845.00

Names: Dr. Jennifer Murphy, Deputy Superintendent – District Admin. Offices
Dr. Michael Fisher, Assistant Superintendent – District Admin. Offices
Mr. Adam Sikorski, Principal – Middle School
Activity: 2025 SXSW Conference
Dates: March 2 – 5, 2025
Location: Austin, TX
Estimated Cost: \$0.00 (Covered by 2025 Learning Alliance Grant)

VII. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES

RECOMMENDATION: Consider a motion to approve the Educational Programs and Student Activities subject to cancelation or change by the Superintendent for health and safety reasons as follows:

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

Organization: Forensics Team – High School
Purpose: Team Expenses
Dates: October 26, 2024
Location: High School
Activity: Speech and Debate Tournament

Organization: Swimming and Diving Boosters – High School
Purpose: Team Expenses
Dates: October 26, 2024 (Rain Date October 27, 2024)
Location: Bruster’s Ice Cream
Activity: Car Wash

Organization: Wrestling Team – High School
Purpose: Team Expenses
Dates: October 28 – November 8, 2024
Location: High School
Activity: Gourmet Apple Sale

Organization: Girls Basketball Boosters – High School
Purpose: Team Expenses
Dates: November 1 – 30, 2024
Location: Community
Activity: Sport-Specific T-Shirt Sale

Organization: Best Buddies – Middle School
Purpose: Group Expenses
Dates: November 1 – December 31, 2024
Location: Middle School
Activity: Group-Specific T-Shirt Sale

Organization: Swimming and Diving Boosters – High School
Purpose: Team Expenses
Dates: November 4 – 22, 2024
Location: Community
Activity: Sport-Specific T-Shirt Sale

Organization: Junior Class – High School
 Purpose: Class Expenses
 Dates: November 9, 2024
 Location: High School
 Activity: Baked Goods Sale

Organization: Wrestling Team – High School
 Purpose: Team Expenses
 Dates: November 15 – 29, 2024
 Location: Community
 Activity: Sport-Specific T-Shirt Sale

Organization: Girls Lacrosse Boosters – High School
 Purpose: Team Expenses
 Dates: November 19 – 30, 2024
 Location: High School
 Activity: Wreath Sale

Organization: Girls Basketball Boosters – High School
 Purpose: Team Expenses
 Dates: November 26, 2024 – March 30, 2025
 Location: High School
 Activity: Concessions

Organization: Girls Basketball Boosters – High School
 Purpose: Team Expenses
 Dates: December 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025
 Location: Community
 Activity: Golf Raffle

Organization: Parent Teacher Association (PTA) – Pleasant Valley Elementary
 Purpose: PTA Expenses
 Dates: January 16 – February 4, 2025
 Location: Community
 Activity: Read–A–Thon

Organization: Parent Teacher Association (PTA) – Pleasant Valley Elementary
 Purpose: PTA Expenses
 Dates: January 23 – January 24, 2025
 Location: Community
 Activity: Book Fair

Organization: Swimming and Diving Boosters – High School
Purpose: Team Expenses
Dates: February 1 – 12, 2025
Location: Community
Activity: Pepperoni Roll Sale

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

Organization: Cross Country Team – High School
Advisor: Kristin Sortino
Purpose: PIAA State Cross Country Individual Finals
Dates: November 1 – 2, 2024
Location: Hershey, PA
Cost to Dist.: \$3,127.84

Organization: Field Hockey Team – High School
Advisor: Kelly Meenan
Purpose: PIAA State Field Hockey Team Finals
Dates: November 15 – 17, 2024
Location: Mechanicsburg, PA
Cost to Dist.: \$7,182.34

Organization: Boys Soccer Team – High School
Advisor: Robert Dyer
Purpose: PIAA State Boys Soccer Team Finals
Dates: November 15 – 17, 2024
Location: Mechanicsburg, PA
Cost to Dist.: \$7,620.34

Organization: Girls Soccer Team – High School
Advisor: Patrick Vereb
Purpose: PIAA State Girls Soccer Team Finals
Dates: November 15 – 17, 2024
Location: Mechanicsburg, PA
Cost to Dist.: \$7,770.34

Organization: Girls Volleyball Team – High School
Advisor: Terrance Kelly
Purpose: PIAA State Girls Volleyball Team Finals
Dates: November 15 – 17, 2024
Location: Mechanicsburg, PA
Cost to Dist.: \$6,732.34

Organization: Swimming and Diving Team – High School
Advisor: Alexander Hardwick
Purpose: SPIRE Swim Invitational
Dates: December 20 – 21, 2024
Location: Geneva, OH
Cost to Dist.: \$0.00

Organization: Girls Wrestling Team – High School
Advisor: Amber Helphenstine
Purpose: Curwensville Tournament
Dates: January 3 – 5, 2025
Location: Curwensville, PA
Cost to Dist.: \$0.00

VIII. OTHER

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

1. Accept a donation of dictionaries from the Rotary Club of McMurray to Peters Township School District for third graders at Bower Hill Elementary School and Pleasant Valley Elementary School. The approximate value of this donation is \$1,044.00.
2. Accept a donation of \$50.00 from Mr. Alexander Keddie to Peters Township School District for the Golf Practice Facility at the High School.
3. Accept a \$100.00 donation from an anonymous Peters Township family to Peters Township School District for McMurray Elementary School.
4. Accept a donation of \$5,634.00 from the Peters Township Quarterback Club to Peters Township School District for Weight Room Equipment at the Middle School.
5. Accept a \$2,000.00 BotsIQ grant from the National Havoc Robot League (NRHL) and BotsFC – Emulsifier to Peters Township High School.
6. Authorize Administration to advertise for replacement school buses.
7. Approve a three-year contract extension with NRG/Direct Energy for Natural Gas on the Columbia Gas System with a start date of September 1, 2025. The contract will have a Basis price of (-\$0.267) cents per Dth. The contract extension was recommended by the Western Pennsylvania Natural Gas Consortium Committee.

BOARD INFORMATION

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS OF INFORMATION

November Meeting:

Monday, November 18, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting

December Board Meeting:

Monday, December 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Reorganization Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN