



Peters Township School District

**MINUTES
PETERS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020 AT 6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Allison, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Bowman, Mr. Briegel, Mr. Dunleavy, Mrs. Grossman, Dr. Hardy, Mr. McMurray and Mr. Taylor were present.

Also present were: Dr. Jeannine French - Superintendent, Dr. Jennifer Murphy - Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Michael Fisher - Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Brad Rau - Business Manager, Mrs. Patty Kelly – Director of Pupil Services, Mr. Adam Swinchock - Director of Instructional Technology, Mr. Brandon Womer – Director of Buildings and Grounds, and Ms. Jocelyn Kramer – Solicitor

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS

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. All speakers are reminder to state their name and address for the minutes.

Jennifer Alexander (Topic: New High School Parking Lot)
104 Kingwood Drive, Venetia, PA 15367

Ms. Alexander spoke about her concerns on the amount of available parking at the New High School. Her main concern was about parking spots for juniors and seniors especially for those students who have to be at practice after school and would be required to walk along East McMurray Road.

Dr. French stated that though we cannot discuss back and forth, the district is doing everything we can to accommodate students. The priority of the district was academics.

Mr. Rau we are looking at 100 more spaces total, however we will be on a year by year basis depending on class sizes.

Clara Trueblood (Topic: Health and Safety Plan)
126 N. Heide Lane, McMurray, PA 15317

Clara has a child entering second grade, she thanked the district for being upfront with families about the plan for reopening school. Her major concern would be that the district would not go back to in school instruction five days a week.

Jill Bullister (Topic: Health and Safety Plan)
103 Country View Lane, McMurray, PA 15317

Jill spoke on the 69% of parents that wanted school to resume with optional masking. She does not think that students need to be in masks all day, and stated that the district is using social distancing. Is requesting the board to reissue a survey to the district parents about masking.

Dominic Battista (Topic: Health and Safety Plan)
226 Marion Drive, McMurray, PA 15317

Dominic spoke on the same topic of student masking. He stated that people move to Peters Township for the school district, and we cannot support a school district that is requiring masking against parent consent.

Mylaina Sherwood (Topic: Health and Safety Plan)
117 Little John Drive, McMurray, PA 15317

Mylaina stated that she is a ten year resident she works in the healthcare field and is aware that it is a difficult time for the district. She feels that children should be allowed to wear a face shield if it is recommended by a physician. She was concerned that there would not be standardized masks that have good quality rather than mesh.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

An Executive Session was held on July 20, 2020 to discuss personnel, security, litigation, and other items.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Hardy thanked Dr. French and the Administration for fielding countless inquiries.

I. BUSINESS OFFICE

NO ACTION ITEMS AT THIS TIME

II. BOARD COMMITTEES

Finance

Jamison Hardy

1. **RECOMMENDATION:** Move to approve Resolution No. 2020-07-27A to extend the Discount and Face periods for the collection of real property taxes to provide tax relief due to the COVID 19 emergency. (attachment)

MOTION:

Dr. Hardy moved for approval of recommendation 1, seconded by Mrs. Bowman.

Comment: Dr. Hardy gave background information on the document. Stating that only recently Gov. Wolf gave school districts permission to do the extension. This will give people an extra 30 days to pay with the 2% discount ending on September 30th.

Mrs. Anderson asked how the public will be notified that they have an additional 30 days.

Mr. Rau responded saying that the resolution will be provided to the tax collector and we will be putting it on the website, as well as, blasts from the school district. The district will also be contacting the newspapers for notification in them, and possibly having the township post it on their website.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(9-0)

Policy

Lisa Anderson

Policy 815 – Acceptable Use of Technology Resources

Comment: Mrs. Anderson stated that the district will be providing an option for parents to purchase accidental protection for devices given to students in the 1-1 initiative.

Health and Safety Plan

Solicitor Ms. Kramer stated that the Health and Safety Plan will supersede any policy or procedure in place currently.

Dr. Hardy asked if there was a timeframe for the plan to be reevaluated.

Dr. French gave a presentation on the district Health and Safety Plan.

Mr. Taylor spoke on the topic of having a student boarding a bus without a mask.

Dr. French stated that if it is a onetime occurrence the student could be separated and placed at the front of the bus.

Ms. Kramer said that if the student did not abide by procedures then the student would be subject to discipline measures.

Mr. Breigel questioned students with IEP's that may have mask limitations.

Mrs. Kelly has scheduled meetings with staff, they will be doing IEP revisions and reviews within the first three weeks of school.

Mrs. Allison stated that it would be a good idea that back to school letters include something about student's mental health.

Mr. Breigel asked, how soon could we change from one phase to another?

Dr. French stated that very quickly. The way we start using remote learning will not be the way we end.

Dr. Hardy believes that the district should go full on and then adjust backwards.

Mr. Dunleavy believes that the community is not social distancing. So he has a hard time saying which way he is leaning.

Mr. McMurray stated that everyone is trying to get back to some kind of normal. He is leaning towards the green at this point. But there are many points that have been brought up tonight. He thinks that Peters Township School District can be a leader during a time of confusion.

Mrs. Anderson said that at the next meeting on Monday, the board will make a decision.

SUPERINTENDENT’S AGENDA

III. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NO ACTION ITEMS AT THIS TIME

IV. NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

NO ACTION ITEMS AT THIS TIME

V. EXTRA-DUTY PERSONNEL/PROGRAMS

NO ACTION ITEMS AT THIS TIME

VI. PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES, TRAININGS AND TRIPS

NO ACTION ITEMS AT THIS TIME

VII. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES

NO ACTION ITEMS AT THIS TIME

VIII. OTHER

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

1. Approve the revised 2020–21 School Calendar. We are requesting ACT 80 approval for August 12, 2020, August 13, 2020, August 17, 2020 and August 18, 2020. (attachment)
2. Reappoint Washington Financial Bank as Treasurer of Record for the 2020–21 school year under the existing terms and conditions.
3. Approve an Educational Services Agreement between Intermediate Unit 1 and Peters Township School District for services and programs, commencing July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. (attachment)

MOTION:

Mr. Briegel moved for approval of Other recommendation items 1 through 3 seconded by Dr. Hardy.

Comment: Mrs. Anderson asked why we are moving the start date.

Dr. French responded that the teachers will have instructional days for canvas and other professional development to prepare for the year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(9-0)

BOARD INFORMATION: none

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: none

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS: none

CORRESPONDENCE: none

ANNOUNCEMENTS

August Board Meetings:

Monday, August 3, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Special Board Meeting

Monday, August 17, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Dr. Hardy moved for adjournment at 9:37 pm seconded by Mr. Taylor.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(9-0)

Board Secretary

Board President