

# *Pine Grove Area School District*



**Board of School Directors Public Meeting  
Thursday, September 29, 2022, 6:30 PM  
Middle School Library**

**Mr. Dave Lukasewicz      Mr. Heath W. Renninger  
Board President              Superintendent**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Dave Lukasewicz called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Donald E. Brown, Jr.	Amanda Daubert	Dave Frew	J.T. Herber
Genavieve Moyer	Lauren Potter	Sascha Primeau	Randy Stump
Dave Lukasewicz	Mason Kroh, Student Rep		

In Attendance: Amanda Daubert, J.T. Herber, Genavieve Moyer, Sascha Primeau, Randy Stump, Dave Lukasewicz, Heath Renninger, Solicitor Nick Quinn, Vince Hoover, Todd Lingle, Melissa Mekosh, Mike Janicelli, Sandy Burns, Mason Kroh, Eric Leymeister and his wife, Michelle Leymeister, Ryan Allar and 2 guests, Katie Herring and her mother, Christina Becher and her family, Nathaniel Judd and his family, Katelyn DeRemer and her family, and Jennifer and Bill Hall.

Vince Hoover is substituting for Joanne Brindle, Board Secretary.

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Janicelli recognized the September Seniors of the Month: Katie Herring and Christina Becher.

Ms. Mekosh recognized the September 8<sup>th</sup> Graders of the Month: Katelyn DeRemer and Nathaniel Judd.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No Public Comment

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. R. Stump made a motion, seconded by A. Daubert to approve the August 18, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. **Vote was Unanimous.**

7. **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS** (*Dave Frew, Chairperson*)

R. Stump made a motion, seconded by A. Daubert to approve the following Building and Grounds Items A through D by consent. **Vote was Unanimous.**

- A. Request approval to make the final payment for the High School EPDM roof project to Blair Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$101,750.00. All final documentation has been completed and this will close out the project.
- B. Request approval to contract services with Mitsubishi Electric Trane HVAC US, Inc. to perform an assessment of the air conditioning equipment at the high school and purchase equipment for in-house maintenance diagnostics at a cost not to exceed \$3,248.78. This cost will be taken from the capital projects account.
- C. Request approval to expend an amount not to exceed \$330,000 from capital projects to upgrade security systems district wide. A portion of the funds will be covered through the School Mental Health & Safety & Security Grant. Services will be contracted through NRG Controls North, Inc. Project cost based on COSTARS #040-039 – NRG Controls North Contract #215178. This system will be fully integrated into our Milestone XProtect System. This motion allows for a 3% contingency.
- D. Request approval to expend an amount not to exceed \$66,103 from capital projects to install Halo Threat Detection devices in the High & Middle Schools. Services will be contracted through NRG Controls North, Inc. Project cost based on COSTARS #040-039 – NRG Controls North Contract #215178. This system will be fully integrated into our Milestone XProtect System.

**8. CURRICULUM** (*Dave Lukasewicz, Chairperson*)

A. Daubert made a motion, seconded by S. Primeau to approve the following Curriculum Items A through C by consent. **Vote was Unanimous.**

- A. Approval of the out of state field trip for the High School Media Class to go to Columbia University in New York City on Monday November 7, 2022 for the Fall Conference.
- B. Approval to approve homebound instruction for a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student from approximately September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 through approximately October 28, 2022.
- C. Approval of the Language Instruction Education Plan (LIEP) for the 2022-2023 school year.

**9. FINANCE/AUDIT** (*Dave Frew- Chairperson*)

J.T. Herber made a motion, seconded by S. Primeau to approve the following Finance Items A through F by consent. **Vote was Unanimous.**

- A. Approval of bills for payment.
- B. Approval of treasurer's report.
- C. Approval of the disposition of assets forms as found in the board packet as to dispose of them as per board policy.
- D. Approval of the Special Education Service Agreement for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023.
- E. Approval to authorize Portnoff Law Associates to proceed with the writs of execution for 10 parcels located within the Pine Grove Area School District.

- F. Approval to appoint Sweet Stevens Katz & Williams as special counsel in accordance with their fee agreement for such special education matters as may be determined by the Superintendent or designee and the Solicitor.
- G. J.T. Herber made a motion, seconded by A. Daubert to authorize a settlement agreement pertaining to student #9039. **Roll Call Vote was Unanimous. 6 Yes, 0 No**

**INFORMATIONAL:** The local auditors will be here the week of October 17, 2022 to start the audit.

**10. EXTRA-CURRICULAR** (*Randy Stump, Chairperson*)

- R. Stump made a motion, seconded by G. Moyer to approve the following Extra-Curricular Items A through E by consent. **Vote was Unanimous.**
- A. Approval to grant permission for the wrestling team and track & field team to stay overnight for events when necessary throughout their season. Regular season events are paid for by the booster clubs, post-season events are paid for through the athletic budget.
- B. Approval of the girls' basketball coaches for the 2022/2023 season:
  - Head Coach Kyler Burke at a stipend of \$4,550
  - Assistants - Ryan Achenbach at a stipend of \$2,957.50
  - Paul Felty at a stipend of \$2,730
  - Kaylin Ryan at a stipend of \$2,730
  - Pam Ryan at a stipend of \$1,365
  - Abigail Swanson at a stipend of \$1,365
- C. Approval of the boys' basketball coaches for the 2022/2023 season:
  - Assistants - Jake Leininger at a stipend of \$2,957.50
  - Abe Hitz at a stipend of \$1,365
  - Keith Lehman at stipend of \$1,365
  - Volunteers: Dennis White, Bob Lehman
- D. Approval of the wrestling coaches for the 2022/2023 season:
  - Head Coach Ken Newswanger at a stipend of \$4,550
  - Assistants - Jake Herring at a stipend of \$1,592.50
  - Josh Hewes at a stipend of \$2,730
  - Paul Frantz at a stipend of \$2,730
  - Volunteers: Jack Drey, Ted Butler, Paul Dean, Dillon Kintzel, Travis Anderson, Ted Kemmerling, Eric Schneck, Chas Aungst, Jacob Warner.
- E. Approval for the baseball team to travel to Myrtle Beach, SC to the Ripken Experience. The team would depart on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 and return Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The trip will be funded through the booster association.

**11. PERSONNEL** (*David Lukasewicz, Chairperson*)

J.T. Herber made a motion, seconded by S. Primeau to approve the following Personnel Items A through J by consent. **Vote was Unanimous.**

- A. Approval to ratify accepting the letter of resignation from Jenny Clay dated August 26, 2022 from her position as High School Counselor.
- B. Approval to ratify accepting the letter of resignation from William Hall dated August 10, 2022 from his position as Special Education Teacher in the elementary school.
- C. Approval to ratify accepting the letter of resignation from Jacquelyn Butz dated September 9, 2022 from her position as Special Education Teacher in the middle school.
- D. Approval to ratify accepting the letter of resignation from Randi Ellex dated September 15, 2022 from her position as Regular Education Teacher in the middle school.
- E. Approval to ratify accepting the letter of resignation from Crystal Hallick dated September 23, 2022 from her position as Special Education Teacher in the elementary school.
- F. Approval to hire Justine Hosler as a professional employee beginning as soon as she is released from her current position. She will be paid Master's - Step 16 with a salary of \$60,955, and all benefits in accordance with the professional staff contract for the 2022-23 school year. Justine will be a Special Education Teacher in the elementary school.
- G. Approval to hire Jennifer Hall as a temporary professional employee beginning as soon as she is released from her current position. She will be paid Bachelor's - Step 1 with a salary of \$43,290, and all benefits in accordance with the professional staff contract for the 2022-23 school year. Jennifer will be a Special Education Teacher in the elementary school.
- H. Approval to ratify allowing staff member #93108 FMLA leave beginning on August 24, 2022 and returning on or about September 19, 2022.
- I. Approval to ratify accepting the letter of resignation from Tammy Krammes from her position as Paraprofessional effective September 19, 2022.
- J. Approval to ratify accepting the letter of resignation from Dawn Tucker from her position as Paraprofessional effective August 18, 2022.
- K. R. Stump made a motion, seconded by A. Daubert to hire Eric Leymeister as Assistant Middle School Principal at a salary of \$66,500 pro-rated and all benefits in accordance with the Act 93 Contract. **Roll Call Vote was Unanimous. 5 Yes, 1 No (Herber)**

J.T. Herber explained reason for his dissenting vote. His no vote was due to the creation of the position being created after the budget was approved. He wished Mr. Leymeister success in the position.

Eric Leymeister shared that he is excited to join the Pine Grove Area team.

- R. Stump made a motion, seconded by S. Primeau to approve the following Personnel Items L through T by consent. **Vote was Unanimous.**

- L. Approval to ratify hiring Dana Sabaday as the Community Service Advisor for the middle school at a stipend of \$1,582.
- M. Approval to ratify hiring Tanya Tice as a Paraprofessional I. Tanya will be paid \$12.35 per hour and receive any benefits as per the AFSCME Contract. She started on September 19, 2022.
- N. Approval to hire Kaylee Brooks as a Paraprofessional I. Kaylee will be paid \$12.35 per hour and receive any benefits as per the AFSCME Contract. She may start when all clearances are received and all paperwork completed.
- O. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Pine Grove Area Education Association and the Pine Grove Area School District to create new category in the non-athletic co-curricular positions called Instructional Technology Advisors. The positions/s shall be .33 and there will be a position in each building.
- P. Approval of the new job description entitled "Instructional Technology Advisor."
- Q. Approval to hire Megan Sunday, elementary school, Lindsey Semar, middle school and Katie Cook, high school as the Instructional Technology Advisors. They will each receive a stipend of \$1,864.50.
- R. Approval to ratify adding Nicholas McGrath, Robert E. Wolfe, Nikita Merwine and Jasmine Wildermuth to the list of substitute cleaners/custodians.
- S. Approval to add Rick Heinbach, Michael Culbert, Karson Felty, Tessa Bohn, Melissa Hannevig and Dave Young to the list of athletic workers for 2022-2023 seasons.
- T. Approval to add Tracy Kurtz and Sherrie Grove to the list of approved volunteers.

**12. POLICY-** *(J.T. Herber, Chairperson)*

J.T. Herber made a motion, seconded by R. Stump to approve the following Policy Items A through H by consent. **Vote was Unanimous.**

- A. Approval of the first reading of changes to policy 805 "Emergency Preparedness and Response."
- B. Approval of the first reading of changes to policy 805.2 "School Security Personnel."
- C. Approval of the first reading of changes to policy 808 "Food Services."
- D. Approval of the first reading of changes to policy 913 "Non-school Organizations-Groups-Individuals."
- E. Approval of the first reading of changes to policy 220 "Student Expression - Dissemination of Materials."
- F. Approval of the first reading of changes to policy 227 "Controlled Substances - Paraphernalia."

G. Approval of the first reading of changes to policy 218 "Student Discipline."

H. Approval of the first reading of changes to policy 236.1 "Threat Assessment."

**13. TRANSPORTATION-** (*Dave Lukasewicz, Chairperson*)

No Report

**14. TECHNOLOGY** - (*Donald E. Brown, Jr., Chairperson*)

Mr. Renninger shared that he copier contract will expire at the end of the year.

Mr. Lengele shared that we are in process of adding new student devices to the computer lab.

**15. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE-** (*Mason Kroh, Student Representative*)

Mason Kroh shared an update on high school activities that included information on this week's Aevium assembly, upcoming fundraisers, drones in JROTC, as well as updates from each sports team.

He also shared an update on middle school activities that included information on cross country, new middle school sports - football and cheerleading, and Start with Hello Week.

Mason shared that elementary activities were an all-school pep rally and a Reading Challenge that includes a big surprise for students.

Mr. Renninger shared that the purchase of drones was for the new aviation course beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

**16. SCHUYLKILL INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT** - (*Dave Frew, Representative*)

No Report

**17. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

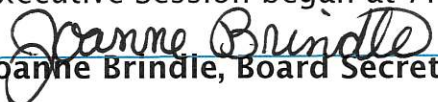
Ryan Allar, from Donaldson, shared on behalf of his son who has been subject to bullying last year and into this year. He has reached out to administration in the past and did not appreciate their response. He would like to develop solutions to this problem. He offered additional comments on the funding for the assistant principal position, offering competitive salaries, the cause for higher enrollment in cyber charter schools. He is hopeful for future decisions. Mr. Allar also shared comments from others in the community in their experiences.

Keith Allar, also from Donaldson, shared comments about the need for bullying prevention.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

R. Stump made a motion, seconded by A. Daubert that the meeting adjourned at 7:10PM to go into executive session to discuss legal issues with the Solicitor.

Executive Session began at 7:16PM and adjourned at 7:51PM.

  
Joanne Brindle, Board Secretary