

**PINE RIVER AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 9, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Pine River Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, November 9, 2020, at Pine River Middle/High School Media Center.

I. ROLL CALL

President Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Members present: 6-Merryllie Cameron, Kevin Delancey (attended remotely), Katy Draper, Terry Koetje, Jim Peterson, Tom Shook

Members Absent: Kim Dean

Administrators/Directors present: Matt Lukshaitis, Josie Hill, Heidi Hayes, Emily Adema, Rob Sibary, Brent Ruppert

Administrators/Directors absent: N/A

II. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Koetje, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to approve the agenda as amended to include appointing Katy Draper as temporary board secretary for the purpose of signing documents at tonight's meeting due to Mr. Delancey attending the meeting remotely.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr., Lukshaitis provided updates from the ISD-wide superintendents meeting he attended including: Explanation of the process implemented in receiving reported COVID-19 cases and contact tracing under the direction of local health departments.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Peterson thanked staff and administration for their work this school year operating during a pandemic. Discussed tentative election results of new school board members and thanked Mrs. Cameron and Mr. Koetje, whose terms expire in December for their years of service.

V. PRINCIPALS/DIRECTORS UPDATES

- **Rob Sibary** provided building/grounds and transportation updates including: High School parking lot/water main repair, Middle School septic repair and Tustin building septic repairs that all occurred in the same month.

- **Heidi Hayes** provided Elementary updates including: Elementary Halloween parties were a success. They are looking into a virtual option for Christmas concerts this year. Also discussed WIN (What I Need) time that has been implemented at the elementary that is 1 hour of daily interventions per grade level.

- **Emily Adema** provided Middle School updates including: NWEA testing has been completed, test results were also discussed. Thanked staff for planning and implementing Halloween parties that met health and safety guidelines. Also announced that currently grades 4-7 of Buck Virtual students have a 76% passing rate.

- **Josie Hill** provided financial updates including: Staff were notified regarding eligibility for Hazard Pay, an amended budget for SY 20-21 is being worked through and some of the federal grant money has to be spent by December 31, 2020.

- **Brent Ruppert** provided High School updates including: Food collection was handled differently this year with collecting money instead, shopping for the families. Flu Clinic occurred last week and was successful. Virtual college visits are being planned for seniors. Blood drive is being cancelled due to COVID restrictions. CTC staff came to the high school to speak with sophomores interested in attending next school year. Also discussed winter sports updates including: Middle School boys basketball has already started. Girls JV/Varsity basketball started 11/9 and boys JV/Varsity basketball is scheduled to begin 11/16/2020. All fall PSAT/SAT testing has been completed. Also congratulated the boys cross country team who placed 16th at state competition.

VI. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT-Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan and General Comments

One community member who attended in person asked questions about the remote learning plan. The questions were written down for the superintendent to address and respond to after the meeting.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mr. Shook to approve the consent agenda, including the General Fund invoices, PR expenditure worksheet and meeting minutes from the 10/12/2020 Regular Board meeting, as presented.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS-

A. Thrun Law Policy-2nd Reading took place.

B. Reauthorization of Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Motion by Mrs. Cameron, seconded by Mr. Shook to approve the reauthorization of Pine River Area Schools Extended COVID-19 Learning plan.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel-

1a. Social Studies-RX (6-12) Teacher

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mr. Koetje to approve the hiring of Mrs.

Katherine Genthner, Social Studies teacher, at a BA II + 15, step 14, as recommended by the HS principal and the superintendent.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

1b. Special Education (6-12) Teacher

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Draper, to approve the hiring of Mr. John Benoit, Special Education (6-12) teacher, at a BA II + 15, step 7, as recommended by the HS principal, Special Education Director and Superintendent.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

2a. Flex Custodian Resignation

Motion by Mrs. Cameron, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve the resignation of Michelle Schneider, flex custodian, effective 10/21/2020, as recommended by the superintendent.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

2b. Special Education Teacher Resignation

Motion by Mr. Koetje, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to approve the resignation of Mrs. Terri Lukshaitis, Special Education teacher, effective 11/6/2020, as recommended by the superintendent.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

B. Rescission of NEOLA policies/administrative guidelines and adoption of Thrun Law Firm Policy Manual and administrative guidelines

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve rescinding/repealing (including all NEOLA polices and bylaws that by their terms requires a reading(s) or hearing(s) before repeal, modification or adoption), with the exception of existing Board policy PO 5517.01 concerning student bullying, which requires a public hearing before being repealed and replaced and adopting the Thrun Law Policy Manual, except Policy 5207 (Anti-Bullying) in the form presented and recommended by the Administration as the Board's new policies and bylaws, including those forms and administrative guidelines in the Policy Manual, for the purpose of governing the district, as recommended by the Superintendent.

WHEREAS, the Board identified a need to review its current Board policies, bylaws, and administrative guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the District's administration ("Administration") has reviewed the Thrun Law Firm Policy Manual ("Policy Manual") and recommends the Policy Manual for consideration, in the form presented for Board review and approval, to replace the Board's existing policies, bylaws,

and administrative guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has reviewed any and all legal settlements and resolution agreements between the District and any state or federal agency, as applicable, that address the modification or agency review of existing Board policy and the Board has considered the impact of those settlements or agreements when recommending adoption of the Policy Manual; and

WHEREAS, the Administration recommends that the Board repeal its existing policies, bylaws, and administrative guidelines, with the exception of existing Board policy NEOLA PO5517.01 concerning student bullying, and adopt the Policy Manual, with the exception of Policy 5207(Anti-Bullying), concerning student bullying, which requires a public hearing before Board adoption pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1310b, MCL 380.1310b; and

WHEREAS, the Board has carefully reviewed, considered, and evaluated the Policy Manual collectively and as individual Board members and the Administration's recommendation

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board accepts the Administration's recommendation to adopt the Policy Manual.
2. All existing Board policies, bylaws, and administrative guidelines are hereby repealed (including all policies and bylaws that by their terms require a reading(s) or hearing(s) before repeal, modification, or adoption), with the exception of existing Board policy NEOLA PO5517.01 concerning student bullying, which requires a public hearing before being repealed and replaced.
3. The Board hereby adopts the Policy Manual, except Policy 5207 (Anti-Bullying), in the form presented and recommended by the Administration as the Board's new policies and bylaws, including those forms and administrative guidelines in the Policy Manual, for the purpose of governing the District.
4. The Administration shall promptly review District publications and forms that may reference the now-repealed Board policies and revise those publications and forms as necessary to align them with the newly adopted Policy Manual within ____ calendar days after this resolution.
5. The Board's adoption of the Policy Manual, except Policy 5207 (Anti-Bullying), shall take immediate effect.
6. At a Board meeting scheduled for December 14, 2020, the Board will hold a public hearing concerning proposed Policy 5207 (Anti-Bullying) in the Policy Manual.
7. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

C. Thrun Law Policy 4225-First and Second Reading

Motion by Mrs. Cameron, seconded by Mr. Shook to adopt Thrun Law Policy 4225 implementing a Temporary Remote Work Policy for MIOSHA compliance as recommended by the superintendent.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

D. Thrun Law Policy 5207-First Reading

A first reading of Thrun Law 5207 Anti Bullying policy took place.

E. Resolution Regarding Open Meetings Act: SB 1108

Motion by Mrs. Cameron, seconded by Mrs. Draper to adopt the resolution regarding open Meetings Act which gives the Board of Education allowance to utilize electronic participation, when necessary, and in approved circumstances, in compliance with Senate Bill 1109 and as recommend by the superintendent.

Whereas the Open Meetings Act was recently amended to grant greater latitude with respect to electronic participation by members of the Board of Education and the public in certain circumstances; and

Whereas the Board of Education desires to utilize electronic participation, as necessary and in approved circumstances, in compliance with the law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to create procedures to accommodate electronic participation by Board members who are absent due to a medical condition or due to a statewide or local state of emergency declared pursuant to law or charter by the governor or local official or local governing body that would risk the personal health or safety of members of the public or the public body if the meeting

were held in person. In the event of such an emergency, if the meeting location is usually held in an affected area the entire Board may participate electronically, otherwise, only members who reside in the affected area may participate electronically. For purposes of this paragraph, medical condition means an illness, injury, disability, or other health-related condition.

Electronically may include video and/or telephonic conferencing.

2. The procedures must provide for:

a. Two-way communication;

b. For each member of the Board attending the meeting electronically, a public announcement at the outset of the meeting by that member, to be included in the meeting minutes, that the member is, in fact, attending the meeting electronically and, except for members who are participating electronically due to military duty, stating the county, city, township or village and state where the member is located.

c. A means by which the public is provided notice of the absence of a member and information about how to contact the member sufficiently in advance of the meeting to provide input on any business that will come before the Board.

3. Through December 31, 2020, the Board may hold its meetings electronically, in whole or in part, for any reason.

4. The Board further authorizes, from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, electronic participation solely under the circumstances set out in paragraph 1, as well as the pre-existing law requiring accommodation due to military duty. After December 31, 2021, only members requiring accommodation due to absence for military duty may participate electronically.

5. The Board authorizes the use of technology to facilitate typed public comments during the meeting that may be read to or shared with Board members and other participants in satisfaction of the requirement that members of the public be heard by others during the electronic meeting and the requirement that they be permitted to address the Board.

6. Advance notice of any meetings held electronically, in whole or in part, shall be posted on the District's website either on the homepage or on a separate web page dedicated to public notices for non-regularly scheduled or electronic public meetings through a prominent and conspicuous link on the homepage. This notice must be posted at least eighteen (18) hours before the meeting begins. Notice of a meeting held electronically must explain as follows:

a. Why the Board is meeting electronically.

b. How members of the public may participate in the meeting electronically, including provision of the specific telephone number, internet address, or both needed to participate.

c. How members of the public may contact members of the Board to provide input or ask questions on any business that will come before the Board at the meeting.

d. How persons with disabilities may participate in the meeting.

7. If an agenda exists for an electronic meeting held under this resolution, the Board shall post the agenda on the website at least two (2) hours before the meeting begins. This does not prohibit subsequent amendment of the agenda at the meeting.

8. Members of the public who are participating electronically or in person shall not be required to register, other than as required by the bylaws to participate in public comment.

9. Members of the public will not be allowed to participate in any closed sessions during meetings held electronically, in whole or in part, and all prior laws and bylaws relating to

closed sessions continue to apply.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that execution of this Resolution is conclusive evidence of the

Board of Education's approval of this action and of the authority granted herein.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

F. Calendar Adjustment

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mr. Koetje to approve adjusting the school calendar to make November 18, 2020, December 2, 2020, December 9, 2020, December 16, 2020 and January 13, 2021, half days.

Ayes 5, Nays – 1, Motion carried. (Katy Draper voted nay)

G. Chromebook Purchases for Teaching Staff

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mr. Koetje, to approve purchasing 65 Chromebooks for teaching staff from Trinity3 Technology at a quoted price of \$28, 600.00 as recommended by the IT Director and superintendent.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

H. Desktop Computer Purchases for Teaching Staff

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to approve the purchasing of 65 desktop computers for teaching staff from Trinity3 Technology at a quoted price of \$41, 275.00 as recommended by the IT Director and superintendent.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

I. Teacher/Administrator Evaluator Procedures for SY 2020-2021 and Beyond

Motion by Mrs. Cameron, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve the proposed teacher/administrator evaluator procedures for school year 2020-2021 and beyond as recommended by the superintendent.

Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

J. COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to replace the September 14, 2020, COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan with the August 10, 2020, previously Board-approved version in order to be compliant with MDHHS Emergency Order of October 29, 2020 as recommended by the Superintendent.

Ayes 4, Nays – 2, Motion carried. (Kevin Delancey and Terry Koetje both voted nay)

X. Closed Session

Motion by Mr. Koetje, seconded by Mr. Shook to move meeting into closed session for purpose of negotiations and superintendent evaluation.

Roll Call Vote:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Y | Merrylie Cameron | <input type="checkbox"/> Y | Terry Koetje |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Y | Kim Dean | <input type="checkbox"/> Y | Jim Peterson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Y | Kevin Delancey | <input type="checkbox"/> Y | Tom Shook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Y | Katy Draper | | |

This meeting went into closed session at 7:13 p.m.

XI. Open Session

Motion by Mr. Koetje, seconded by Mrs. Cameron to move meeting back into open session.
Ayes 6, Nays – 0, Motion carried.

This meeting went into open session at 7:47 p.m.

A. November 16, 2020 Board Workshop

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Draper to schedule a Board workshop for Monday, November 16, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. as recommended by the superintendent.

XII. OTHER-No other business was discussed

XIII. ADJOURMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m. after a motion was made by Mr. Shook.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the attached is a true copy of the proposed minutes of a Regular Meeting held on the 9th day of November, 2020, and that said proposed minutes have been approved and made available to the public at the address designated on the posted public notice of said meeting from and after the 14th day of December, 2020.



Secretary, Board of Education

