

**PINE RIVER AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
April 12, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Pine River Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, April 12, 2021, in person, at the Pine River MS/HS Media Center located at 17445 Pine River Rd. Leroy, MI 49655.

**I. ROLL CALL**

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

Members present: 7- Kim Dean, Kevin Delancey, Katy Draper, Robert Kulpa, Heather Marks, Jim Peterson, Tom Shook

Members absent: 0

Administrators/Directors present: 5-Matt Lukshaitis, Heidi Hayes, Brent Ruppert, Josie Hill, and Rob Sibary.

Administrators/Directors absent: 1-Mrs. Emily Adema

**II. APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Mrs. Dean, seconded by Ms. Marks to approve the agenda as presented.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried.*

**III. PRESENTATION-End of Year Planning for Class of 2021**

High School Principal, Brent Ruppert presented end of year plans for the class of 2021 including a senior trip to Craig's Cruisers, senior awards, senior decision day, outdoor graduation ceremony and moving seniors' last day to April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**IV. Superintendent's Report**

—Mr. Lukshaitis presented information from the virtual superintendents meeting held earlier in the day that included:

- Other districts within the ISD exploring earlier "last days for seniors"
- Seven districts within our ISD have chosen to remain open after Governor's recommendation to close schools and pause athletics for 2 weeks.
- Academic planning for next year including face-to-face and virtual options were also discussed.
- Cybercrime and cyber security were also on the agenda.

## **V. President's Report**

Mr. Peterson updated the board on the following:

- Construction at Pine River Area Elementary is underway
- Mentioned potential changes to the May/June Board meeting dates that are listed farther down the agenda.

## **VI. Principals/Directors/Student Representative Updates**

### **• Heidi Hayes**

-Provided updates for the K-3 building including March is Reading Month activities were wrapped up the week school resumed after spring break.

- The elementary staff and students celebrated a PR alumni's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Plans are being made to celebrate Earth Day.
- Field trips are in the planning stages
- Discussed kindergarten round-up and kindergarten graduation plans
- Announced upcoming activities including the Art Walk, Virtual Bingo and Career Day

### **• Brent Ruppert**

-Provided a brief update on high school happenings including:

- SAT/PSAT, Work Keys and MSTEP testing dates
- Spring athletics have begun
- Athletic COVID testing is happening weekly on Monday mornings
- PRHS student was invited to ask the Governor two questions at the virtual Governor's breakfast

### **• Rob Sibary**

-Provided a brief update on building/grounds and transportation including:

- Obtain quotes for new black top
- Track and ball fields have been prepared for spring sports
- Bathroom stall upgrades have been completed

### **• Josie Hill**

-Provided a brief update on school finances including:

- Percentage of ESSER II funding is being held up
- ESSER III funding may come before ESSER II
- No information is available yet for the 2021-2022 budget

## **VII. Communications and Public Comment-ECOLP and General Comments**

No public comments were made regarding the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan (ECOLP)

- A community member/parent thanked the board and staff for their hard work but also expressed disapproval of the district's decision to move to intermittent remote learning three days prior to spring break.
- A community member/parent thank the board for choosing to remain open after the Governor's 2-week school closure/athletics pause recommendation.

## **VIII. Consent Agenda**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve the consent agenda as presented. This would include approving:

- General Fund and lunch invoices
- Capital Projects Fund Accounts Payable
- PR Expenditure Worksheet
- Board Minutes from March 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting, March 8, 2021 Closed Session and March 22, 2021 Board Workshop.

*Ayes-7, Nays-0, Motion Approved.*

## **IX. Old Business**

1. Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve the reauthorization of Pine River's Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes-7, Nays-0, Motion Approved.*

2. Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mr. Kulpa to approve the 2021-2022 school calendar as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes-7, Nays-0, Motion Approved.*

3. Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Ms. Marks to adopt Thrun Law School District Policy 5507 (amended) as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes-7, Nays-0, Motion Approved.*

## **X. New Business**

### **A. Personnel (New Hires)**

1. Special Education Supervisor (Temporary Hire)

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mr. Shook to approve the temporary hiring of Mr. Scott Benson as the Special Education Supervisor/Compliance Coordinator, effective March 23, 2021, at a maximum cost of \$3000, as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion Approved.*

2. Special Education Instructional Paraprofessional/High School Lunch Aide

Motion by Ms. Marks, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve hiring Mrs. Erin Maes as the Special Education Instructional Paraprofessional/High School Lunch Aide, effective April 5, 2021 at an Instructional Paraprofessional step 1, as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays-0 Motion Approved.*

3. Middle School Principal

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve the hiring of Jeff Hattendorf as the Middle School Principal, effective July 1, 2021, at a salary of \$81,500 annually plus \$4,000 annuity, 220 days per year, as recommended by the hiring committee and Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays-0 Motion Approved.*

4. Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Ms. Marks, to approve the immediate resignation of Darin Kanouse, JV Girls Basketball coach, as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays-0 Motion Approved.*

**B. Creation of New Position: Special Education and Student Services Coordinator**

Motion by Mrs. Dean, seconded by Mr. Kulpa to approve the creation of a Special Education and Student Services Coordinator beginning SY 21-22 as recommended by the Superintendent, with an annual salary of \$64, 000 to \$73, 000 depending on experience and education level.

*Ayes 7, Nays-0 Motion Approved.*

**C. Dead Period for the 21-22 Athletic Season**

Motion by Ms. Marks, seconded by Mr. Delancey to approve the designation of the week of June 28, 2021 through July 4, 2021 as the official "Dead Week" for all Pine River Area Schools athletics as recommended by the Athletic Director and Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays-0 Motion Approved.*

**D. Resolution to Consider Designation of Electoral Representative**

Motion by Mrs. Dean, seconded by Mrs. Draper to consider the designation of Mr. Tom Shook as the Electoral Representative and Mr. Rob Kulpa as the alternate for the purpose of the June 7, 2021 Wexford-Missaukee ISD Biennial Election.

*Ayes 7, Nays-0 Motion Approved.*

**E. Extension of FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act) including EPSLA (Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act) and EFMLEA (Emergency Family Medical Leave Expansion under the American Rescue Plan Act)**

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Ms. Marks to approve extending benefits of FFCRA including EPSLA and EFMLEA for COVID-19 related absences as specified in the American Rescue Plan, effective April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays-0 Motion Approved.*

**F. RFP for Lawn Care Services**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mr. Kulpa to approve the Request for Proposal for lawn services from May 20, 2021 through November 30, 2025 as recommended by the Superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays-0 Motion Approved.*

**G. Thrun Law School District Policies 2203 and 5708-First Readings**

**H. Outstanding Persons in Education and Outstanding Friend of Education Resolution**

Motion by Ms. Marks, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve the resolution nominating Mrs. Holly Lockhart and Mrs. Sharon Wheeler as Outstanding Persons in Education and Mrs. Francisca Webster, President of Pine River Friends of the Middle School parent group, as Outstanding Friend of Education for the 2019-2020 school year.

**XI. Other-**

President Peterson announced that the May 10, 2021 Regular Board meeting would be moved to May 19, 2021 and the June 14, 2021 Regular Board meeting would be moved to June 21, 2021 taking place right after the Budget Hearing.

Vice President Delancey thanked the Superintendent for remaining in-person after spring break.

Board members discussed COVID testing of athletes. The Board requested Superintendent Lukshaitis send letters to Governor Whitmer, MDHHS Director, MHSAA Director and legislature, on the Board's behalf, expressing concerns regarding athletic COVID testing.

**XIII. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. after Mr. Shook made the motion.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify the attached is a true copy of the proposed minutes of a Regular Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021, 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 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. Shook', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval.

Secretary, Board of Education