

**Pine River Area Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 13, 2021**

*A Regular meeting of the Pine River Area Schools Board of Education was held Monday, December 13, 2021, at the Pine River Middle/High School Media Center.*

**I. ROLL CALL**

President Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Members Present: 7- Mrs. Kim Dean, Mr. Kevin Delancey, Mrs. Katy Draper, Mr. Rob Kulpa, Mr. Jim Peterson, Mr. Tom Shook, Mrs. Heather Smith

Members Absent: N/A

Administrators/Directors Present: Matthew Lukshaitis, Jeff Hattendorf, Heidi Hayes, Josie Hill, Brent Ruppert, Aaron Schab, Rob Sibary, Cody Wagatha

**II. APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve the agenda as amended to include the addition of line X (new business), item G, Purchase of New Band Uniforms for the 2022-2023 School Year and moving Board Policy Updates to item H.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

**III. PRESENTATIONS (2):**

Heidi Hayes and Aaron Schab presented the elementary school improvement plan, and Brent Ruppert, Laura Mumby, Jessica Gardner and Ben Ruetz presented the HS school improvement plan. Both presentations included assessment procedures, social emotional learning supports, educational goals and progress tracking.

**IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Lukshaitis presented updates to the Board including topics of discuss at the ISD superintendents meeting:

- Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)
- Threat assessments
- Oxford shooting
- Martin Luther King Day

Mr. Lukshaitis also thanked the elementary and high school presenters for their school improvement presentations.

**V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Peterson announced the superintendent's evaluation has been postponed in order for the Board to attend MASB training that is scheduled for January. Mr. Peterson

also announced that Pine River Area Schools is not conducting any criminal investigation or Title IX investigation—that law enforcement and the district's attorneys are. Also announced upcoming winter break schedule and January's Board meeting date.

## **VI. PRINCIPALS/DIRECTORS' UPDATES**

Mr. Ruppert provided high school building updates including:

- First semester's exam schedule
- Five (5) Days of Christmas events happening this week
- Upcoming winter athletic events
- Senior cap/gown orders

Mr. Hattendorf provided middle school building updates including:

- First activity night for 6th and 7th graders
- School store has been a success in improving behaviors
- 4th and 5th grade art show was a success
- Santa's Secret Shop for students grade 4-7 will take place this week

Mr. Sibary provided bond updates reporting that construction on the baseball/softball announcer booths and bus garage have slowed down.

Mrs. Hill provided financial updates to the Board including a proposed amended budget to be presented at January's meeting, one payroll left for the 2021 calendar year and open enrollment for 2022 is in full effect, with an end date of December 17.

## **VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

One parent/community member addressed the Board regarding questions they asked at the November 8, 2021 Board meeting. This member informed the Board they received a letter from the superintendent stating the questions could not be answered due to Title IX investigation. This member asked the Board the questions again and provided a written copy to the Board president requesting an answer from the Board president, not the superintendent.

Another parent/community member addressed the Board following up on data they presented at the November 8, 2021 Board meeting. This community member commented on the high ratings the elementary school displayed during their school improvement presentation but asked the Board where the disconnect is between the rating at the elementary and the ratings at the high school level. Also suggested the Board find additional SAT prep supports outside of Khan Academy.

Another parent/community member addressed the Board asking various questions related to the Title IX investigation, qualifications of the Board to do the superintendent's evaluation, asked about steps of the evaluation process, wanted to know if public comment is considered when completing the superintendent's evaluation, etc. This community member gave written questions to the Board president requesting answers.

Another parent/community member addressed a comment made during the HS school improvement presentation regarding the lack of comparison data for student growth due to NWEA testing being new to the HS level. This parent, who is also a member of the building improvement committee, reminded the Board that although there may not be historic NWEA data, there is still data available to compare and define academic growth and areas of academic deficiency.

Another parent/community member addressed the Board following up on questions they asked at the November 8, 2021 Board meeting. This community member expressed disappointment in those questions not being answered. The community member resubmitted their questions in writing requesting these questions be answered by the Board/district.

Another parent/community member thanked both the elementary and high school presenters for their school improvement presentations. This member also complimented the district on their social emotional learning efforts. The community member also expressed concerns of the administration of Khan Academy, dual enrollment and online learning leaving students "completely on their own" with no instruction. Also addressed the Board regarding a lack of AP class offerings.

*The Board president called a brief recess at 7:38 p.m.  
This meeting went back into open session at 7:50 p.m.*

#### **VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Mrs. Dean, seconded by Mr. Kulpa to approve the following consent agenda:

- General Fund and Lunch Fund Invoices
- Capital Projects Fund Accounts Payable
- PR Expenditure Worksheet
- November 8, 2021 Regular Meeting and Closed Session Minutes
- December 8, 2021 Board Workshop and Closed Session Minutes

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

#### **IX. OLD BUSINESS-No old business was discussed at this meeting**

#### **X. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Staff Resignations**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the immediate resignation of Mr. Aaron Schab as the assistant varsity/sub-varsity football coach as recommended by the athletic director and superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mr. Kulpa to approve the resignation of Mr. Jordan LaDouce, flex custodian, effective December 17, 2021 as recommended by the transportation director.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

#### **B. New Hires**

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mr. Delancey to approve the hiring of Mrs. Deanna Draper, secondary graphic arts/PE/health teacher, at a BA+15 II, step 1, effective November 9, 2021, as recommended by the high school principal and the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

Motion by Mrs. Draper, seconded by Mr. Kulpa to approve the hiring of Mr. Brian Jackson as the varsity boys track coach, effective for the 2021-2022 season, at a coaching step 2, as recommended by the athletic director and superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

#### **C. New Positions**

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve creating a high school academic recovery tutor, effective for 2021-2024, funded with ESSER III dollars for the purpose of providing tutoring to students in grades 9-12 who have fallen behind or present as academically deficient in any class, as recommended by the high school principal and superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mr. Kulpa to approve creating a middle school instructional coach/interventionist, effective 2021-2024, funded with ESSER III dollars for the purpose of providing direct intervention time with students along with teacher coaching/relief time to ensure academic success for all learners, as recommended by the middle school principal and superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Draper to approve the posting for an additional Kindergarten teacher and creating and posting for one to two paraprofessional positions in the elementary school to assist in the Kindergarten room, as recommended by the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

#### **D. Bus Leases for 2022**

Motion by Mr. Delancey, seconded by Mr. Shook to approve the leasing of four (4) new buses: Three (3) at an annual lease price of \$18,909.00, and one (1) wheelchair bus at an annual lease price of \$19,940.00 as recommended by the transportation director and superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

E. Set January 2022 Organizational Meeting

Motion by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Draper to schedule the 2022 Organizational Board meeting for January 10, 2022, 6:00 p.m. as recommended by the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

F. Changes to the HS Curriculum Guide, MS Handbook, and Continuing Trimesters for 6th Grade Band

Motion by Mr. Kulpa, seconded by Mrs. Dean to approve changes to the high school curriculum guide and middle school handbook in order to allow 6th grade band students to remain in band for additional trimesters and provide mentorship opportunities for 9th-12th grade students enrolled in high school jazz band/chamber ensemble as recommended by the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

G. Purchasing New Band Uniforms for the 2022-2023 School Year

Motion by Mr. Shook, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the purchasing of 85 new band uniforms for the 2022-2023 school year, from Oreface LTD, at an approximate cost of \$33, 179.75 as recommended by the superintendent.

*Ayes 7, Nays – 0, Motion carried*

H. First Reading: Thrun Law School District Policy Updates

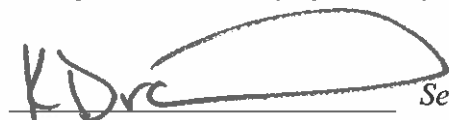
**XI. OTHER**

No other items were discussed at this meeting

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:** President Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m. after Mr. Shook motioned for adjournment.

**CERTIFICATION**

*I hereby certify the attached is a true copy of the proposed minutes of a Regular Meeting held on the 13th day of December, 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 10th day of January, 2022.*



*Secretary, Board of Education*

