

**RECORDS AND PROCEEDINGS**  
**Pocahontas Public Schools**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
April 17, 2023

Board Members Present: Gary Cole, President; Chad Overman, Vice President; Ruth Holt, Secretary; Brent Massey and Jennifer Rawls

Others Present: Lesa Grooms, Superintendent; Dr. Lance Arbuckle, Amanda Sutfin, Tracy Ward, Courtney Throesch, Anthony Brewington, Craig Green, Kathy Fisk, and Dianna Johnson, Visitors

Item 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in the junior high library.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Ruth Holt, seconded by Jennifer Rawls, the board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting on March 13, 2023.

Item 3: Approval of Financial Statements

On a motion by Brent Massey, seconded by Chad Overman, the board voted 5-0 to approve the financial statements for the Pocahontas School District for the month of March, 2023.

**OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Item 4: Approval of Professional Development Calendar

On a motion by Jennifer Rawls, seconded by Ruth Holt, the board voted 5-0 to approve the 2023-2024 Professional Development calendar as presented. (See attached)

Item 5: Legal Transfers

On a motion by Brent Massey, seconded by Chad Overman, the board voted 5-0 to approve the following legal transfers:

- 1 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student from Maynard to Pocahontas
- 1 11<sup>th</sup> grade student from Maynard to Pocahontas
- 1 8<sup>th</sup> grade student from Lawrence Co. to Pocahontas
- 1 5<sup>th</sup> grade student from Lawrence Co. to Pocahontas
- 1 4<sup>th</sup> grade student from Lawrence Co. to Pocahontas
- 1 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student from Lawrence Co. to Pocahontas
- 1 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student from Lawrence Co. to Pocahontas

Item 6: Request to Hire Part-Time Summer Help

On a motion by Jennifer Rawls, seconded by Chad Overman, the board voted 5-0 to authorize the superintendent to hire part-time help during the summer as needed.

Item 7 : Approval to Use Athletic Activity Funds to Purchase Awards for Athletic Program

On a motion by Brent Massey, seconded by Ruth Holt, the board voted 5-0 to approve the use of athletic activity funds to purchase awards for the 2022-2023 Athletic Awards Program.

Item 8: FY22 Audit

On a motion by Brent Massey, seconded by Jennifer Rawls, the board voted 5-0 to approve the FY22 audit. There were no findings in the audit.

Item 9: Approval to Purchase Interactive Panels

On a motion by Jennifer Rawls, seconded by Chad Overman, the board voted 5-0 to approve the purchase of 28 interactive panels for the MD Williams Intermediate building to be paid out of Title I funds. The total cost is \$229,245.80 per the attached quote from Data Center Warehouse. The board will be purchased through the BuyBoard Contract #661-22.

Item 10: Catastrophic Leave

On a motion by Jennifer Rawls, seconded by Brent Massey, the board voted 5-0 to approve the following catastrophic leave requests:

- Wanda Bennett
- Tracy Ballard

Item 11: Alma Spikes Elementary Building

Superintendent Elect, Dr. Lance Arbuckle, provided the board with information that he received from DESE Facilities on the Alma Spikes Elementary Building. Dr. Arbuckle made a recommendation to submit a letter to DESE Facilities to request a waiver to sell the Alma Spikes Elementary Building. After presenting the information the following motion was made:

On a motion by Ruth Holt, seconded by Brent Massey, the board voted 5-0 to approve the recommendation of Dr. Arbuckle to submit a letter to DESE Facilities to request a waiver to sell the Alma Spikes Elementary Building.

Item 12: Certified Salary Schedule

Dr. Arbuckle, Superintendent Elect, proposed a certified salary schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. The salary schedule will be valid for the 2023-2024 school year only and is provided to meet the requirements of ACT 237. The salary schedule provides a base pay of \$50,000 for any certified staff at a current base of \$37,000.00 - \$48,000.00. Certified

staff with a current base pay of \$48001.00 or more will receive a \$2000.00 increase on base pay.

On a motion by Jennifer Rawls, seconded by Brent Massey, the board voted 5-0 to approve the proposed certified salary schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. See attached.

Item 13: Resignations

On a motion by Ruth Holt, seconded by Brent Massey, the board voted 5-0 to approve the following resignations:

- Kristin Foust – 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher M.D. Williams Intermediate
- Jillian Hogan – Kindergarten teacher Pocahontas Elementary
- Debbie Thompson – 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher M.D. Williams Intermediate
- Kathy McCloud – Pocahontas Elementary Computer Lab Paraprofessional

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item 14: Employment

On a motion by Brent Massey, seconded by Ruth Holt, the board voted 4-0 to re-employ the certified staff who had requested re-employment for the 2023-2024 school year. Gary Cole abstained from voting. (See attached)

On a motion by Ruth Holt, seconded by Jennifer Rawls, the board voted 5-0 to re-employ the classified staff who had requested re-employment for the 2023-2024 school year. (See attached)


On a motion by Jennifer Rawls, seconded by Chad Overman, the board voted 5-0 to hire Tyler Lingo as Assistant Football Coach.

OTHER

1. Superintendent Grooms reported the district enrollment to be 1932.

ADJOURNED

  
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Gary Cole, President

  
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Ruth Holt, Secretary