

**Minutes of the
PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA
Board of Education
September 15, 2025
7:00 P.M. Regular Board Meeting**

President's Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Vice President Pung at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge to the Flag and Roll Call:

Board Members Present: J. Farmer, J. Pohl, L. Pung, B. Weber, P. Weber, J. Smith

Board Members Absent: J. Hafner

Motion made by B. Weber, supported by Julie Farmer, to modify the consent agenda, accepting the resignation of Larry Farmer, JV Girls Basketball coach, effective September 10, 2025 to New Business X5. Motion Carried 6-0.

Motion made by J. Pohl, supported by B. Weber, to modify the consent agenda, adding Elect a delegate and alternate delegate to attend MASB 2025 Delegate Assembly October 23-October 26, 2025 to New Business X6. Motion Carried 6-0.

Motion made by J. Farmer, supported by B. Weber, to approve the agenda, consent agenda and meeting minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of August 18, 2025, Special Board Meeting of August 18, 2025 and Special Board Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2025. Motion carried 6-0.

Bond/Facilities Subcommittee Report - Discussion was held regarding eliminating the Bond Subcommittee.

Administrator's Reports:

Facilities and Safety Director: J. Dygert - All bus riders are accounted for. Growing Patch is handling the GSRP route, as it's federally funded. School buses and the elementary school boiler have passed inspections. South side concrete steps at the elementary school need railings added for ADA compliance. An irrigation valve blew; both zones were replaced. The system will be slowly recharged tomorrow to avoid another failure.

Technology and Student Specialist: J. Miller - Technology at the Elementary is up and running. Overhead projector, two TVs, and a BenQ board are being delivered to the cafeteria tomorrow. Changes to applications are being reviewed with Mr. Dunham to ensure compliance with the Child Online Protection Act. Exploring alternatives to Google Earth, which is now restricted to users over 18, so teachers can continue to use similar tools.

Elementary School Principal: E. Fedewa - The year is off to a great start; BenQ Boards are in use. Sondra Cherpes resigned; Ashley Trierweiler has been hired as a replacement. The new portable is mostly used for the library; one side is used for storage. Buildings, including the gym and offices, have stayed cool—thankful the air conditioning is working. Fall NWEA testing is complete; data has been reviewed. Partnering with Plattes for a Homecoming fundraiser; the parade will be in Westphalia.

Athletic Director/MHS Assistant Principal: T. Forton - Pulled tardy, attendance, and grade reports; parents are doing well reporting student absences. Cross Country: Meets held this week; thanks to volunteers. Luzier is a great new hire for MS cross country. Volleyball: Appreciation for the four middle school volleyball coaches. Jon Thelen reached 300 wins. Football: No Week 6 game for varsity; 7th-grade team has no game in Week 5. Girls Golf: Andy Hengesbach highlighted; two athletes broke school records. Basketball: Signups went out today; possible freshman team for the first time in years. Thank you to the community for purchasing old weight room equipment.

Middle-High School Principal: R. Portenga - Great start to the school year; during the county principals meeting, it was noted that this school is in a strong position compared to others. Over half the staff worked on curriculum over the summer—much appreciated. Building-level PD with Design Education Group and Vicki Wilson (author/consultant). Promoting peer observations across departments and classrooms. New tech is arriving for the cafeteria; plans to move a classroom into that space. Buck Pole

starts this week—5 photos submitted. Powderpuff game is Sunday to kick off Homecoming week. Discussion was held regarding the school store and its operations.

Student Board Representative Report: Tyler Spitzley; Excited to be back in the new cafeteria space; lunch lines are moving quickly. Fun games are helping keep students off their phones and promoting inclusion. Strong turnout at sporting events. Homecoming is on Sept 26th. Eve Martin introduced herself. Eve Martin; School trip to Greece was affordable and well-received. 7th grade trip to Adventure Point provided a great leadership experience. YouTube is now blocked; previously used as a learning tool. Phones are no longer allowed during school hours. Continuing to meet with both students and staff; attending staff meetings.

Superintendent: The State budget is still not finalized (was due July 1); similar delay last occurred during the 2007–09 state shutdown. Two versions exist—one with significantly more funding. Possible leads for a Business Manager identified; reaching out to candidates who understand school finances. Jayne will stay on to support the transition. Attending the MASA Fall Conference this week. Grateful for a smooth onboarding process; special thanks to Jeremy (technology) and CCRESA. Very happy to be part of PW—described as a great place.

Communications: (3 minutes per person) - N/A

Personnel:

- A. **Accept the recommendation to hire Victoria Luzier, HS Track Assistant, effective September 15, 2025.**
- B. **Accept the resignation of Sondra Cherpes, Special Education Para, effective August 28, 2025.**
- C. **Accept the recommendation to hire Ashley Trierweiler, Special Education Para, effective September 2, 2025.**
- D. **Accept the recommendation to hire Scott Werner, eSports Coach, effective September 15, 2025.**
- E. **Accept the recommendation to hire Isaac Riess, Student Custodian, effective September 3, 2025.**
- F. **Accept the resignation of Larry Farmer, JV Girls Basketball coach, effective September 10, 2025.**

Vice President's Comments: Thank you to Jason for guiding the district through the interim period. Appreciation to Mr. Dunham for stepping up during a challenging time, completing bond work, and managing without a finalized budget.

Old Business:

- 1. Review Financial Summary Report, July 31, 2025, including Special Revenue. (Tabled on August 18, 2025.) **Motion made by J. Pohl, supported by B. Weber to approve the Financial Summary Report, July 31, 2025, including Special Revenue. Motion carried 6-0.**
- 2. Review Payable Listing, July 31, 2025. (Tabled on August 18, 2025.) **Motion made by J. Smith, supported by J. Pohl to approve the Review Payable Listing, July 31, 2025.. Motion carried 6-0.**

New Business:

- 1. Approve 6th Grade Field Trip to Chicago, April 15-April 16, 2026. **Motion made by B. Weber, supported by J. Smith to approve the 6th Grade Field Trip to Chicago. Motion carried 6-0.**
- 2. Approve 8th Grade Field Trip to Gettysburg and Washington DC, May 5-May 9, 2026. **Motion made by B. Weber, supported by J. Pohl to approve the 8th Grade Field Trip to Gettysburg and Washington DC. Motion carried 6-0.**

3. Approve modifications to authorized bank users. **See Attachment A. Motion made by J. Pohl, supported by J. Farmer, to approve modifications to authorized bank users. Motion carried 6-0.**
4. Approve Richard Dunham's, Interim Superintendent, Employment Contract. **Motion made by J. Farmer, supported by J. Smith, to approve Richard Dunham's, Interim Superintendent, Employee Contract. Motion carried 6-0.**
5. Accept the resignation of Larry Farmer, JV Girls Basketball coach, effective September 10, 2025. **Motion made by B. Weber, supported by J. Pohl, to accept the resignation of Larry Farmer, JV Girls Basketball Coach, effective September 10, 2025. Motion carried 5-0, J. Farmer abstained.**
6. Elect delegate and alternate delegate to attend MASB 2025 Delegate Assembly October 23-October 26, 2025. J. Pohl will be the delegate and L. Pung will be the alternative delegate. **Motion made by J. Farmer, supported by B. Weber to elect J. Pohl as our delegate, L. Pung as alternate delegate for the MASB Delegate Assembly. Motion carried 6-0.**

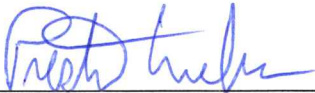
Financial:

Financial Summary Report, August 31, 2025, including Special Revenue Accounts Payable Listing, August 31, 2025

Upcoming Dates:

September 26, 2025 - Homecoming
October 1, 2025 - Count Day
October 8, 2025 - Half Day of School
October 20, 2025 - Board Meeting (held at Elementary)

Adjourn: At 7:46 pm meeting adjourned.



Approved by Preston Weber, Board of Education Secretary