

**Minutes of the  
PEWAMO-WESTPHALIA  
Board of Education  
August 16, 2021  
7:00 P.M. Regular Board Meeting**

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

**Roll Call:**

**Board Members Present** - Kathy Wood, Brianne Henning, Jim Pohl, Tim Schafer, Kim Thelen and Preston Weber

**Board Member Absent** –Jason Hafner

**Recognition of Mr. Mark Rademacher, Retired Teacher**

Jay Thelen, Ethan Smith, Curt Nurenberg, Lisa Bartlett, and Mr. Simmons shared heart-felt memories and recognized the many contributions of Mr. Mark Rademacher, recently retired P-W Teacher and Baseball Coach.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Consideration of consent agenda items and Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting Minutes held July 19, 2021. *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by J. Pohl, to approve the July 19, 2021 meeting minutes, and approve the consent agenda, with the addition of moving agenda item IV C (Personnel) 4, to item VIII.B.(New Business), and the agenda. Motion passed 6-0.*

**Communications:** (5 minutes per person)

Mrs. Alanna George requested that student lockers be placed next to students in the same grade.

Mrs. Karol Sanborn requested the Board not mandate masks for students.

**Board Reports:**

**Building & Site** – N/A

**Policy/Annual Report** – N/A

**Personnel:**

*Accept the request to rescind the letter of resignation of Mr. Joe Fedewa, Bus Driver.*

*Accept the resignation of Earon Roth, MS/HS Teacher, effective August 3, 2021*

*Accept the resignation of Faith Spitzley, Student Custodian, effective August 13, 2021.*

*Accept the recommendation to hire Larry Farmer, K-12 Counselor, effective August 17, 2021.*

*Accept the recommendation to hire Mr. Nicholas Martin, Middle/High School, P.E./Health Teacher beginning August 17, 2021*

*Accept the recommendation to hire Mr. Kenneth Schafer, Shared Services Teacher/P-W Schools Teacher, beginning August 17, 2021.*

*Accept the recommendation to hire Stan Bauer, through Edustaff, as Varsity Softball Coach.*

*Accept the recommendation to hire Kathryn Hengesbach, through Edustaff, as 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball*

Mrs. Goodman stated we will move to closed session, with Board approval, under Section (8)(h) of Michigan's Open Meetings Act to discuss legal advice. *At 7:27 pm, motion made by K. Thelen, seconded by B. Henning, to move to closed session under Section (8)(h) of Michigan's Open Meetings Act. Motion carried 6-0. At 8:00, K Thelen, seconded by B. Henning, to return to open session. Motion carried 6-0.*

*Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by K. Thelen, to recommend the hire of Mr. Larry Farmer as the K-12 Counselor. Motion passed 5-1.*

**President's Comments:** N/A

**Action Items- Old Business:**

**Approve the Revised Board of Education Meeting Schedule for the 2021-22 School Year.** Mrs. Goodman requested move the December meeting to December 13. *Motion made by K. Thelen, seconded by T. Schafer to approve the revised BOE meeting schedule to include moving the December meeting to December 13, 2021. Motion passed 6-0.*

**New Business:**

**Approve the proposed salary increases for all staff** – Mrs. Goodman recommended a salary increase for all staff members, include Administrators, Support Staff, Teachers, Coaches and Extra Curricular Staff. *Motion made by K. Thelen, seconded by B. Henning, approve the proposed salary increases for all staff. Motion passed 6-0.*

**Approve the recommendation to create Lunchroom Supervisors for the Elementary School and Middle/High School** – These positions would be paid for from the Food Services Fund, not the General Fund Budget. *Motion made by K. Thelen, seconded by J. Pohl to approve three part-time Lunchroom Student Supervisors. Motion passed 6-0.*

**Approve the MS/HS Staff Handbook, Elementary Staff Handbook, Preschool Staff Handbook, Elementary School Student Handbook, MS/HS Student Handbook, Preschool Student Handbook, and the English Learner's Handbook for the 2021-22 School Year** – *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by K. Thelen, to approve the MS/HS Staff Handbook, Elementary Staff Handbook, Preschool Staff Handbook, Elementary School Student Handbook, MS/HS Student Handbook, Preschool Student Handbook, and the English Learner's Handbook for the 2021-22 School Year. Motion passed 6-0.*

**Approve the Course List for the 2021-22 School Year** – *Motion made by T. Schafer, seconded by B. Henning, to approve the approved course list for the 2021-22 school year. Motion passed 6-0.*

**Approve the Administrative Contracts for Jennifer Goodman, Superintendent, Todd Simmons, MS/HS Principal, Julie Farmer, Elementary Principal/Special Education Director, Darren Thelen, Curriculum, Assessment, and Athletic Director, Stacey Johnston, Instructional Technology Specialist, Timothy Nurenberg, Maintenance Director, Jeffery Dygert, Custodial, Transportation and Grounds Director and Deborah Prince, Administrative Assistant for the 2021-22 School Year** *Motion made by K. Thelen, seconded by P. Weber to Approve the Administrative Contracts for Jennifer Goodman, Superintendent, Todd Simmons, MS/HS Principal, Julie Farmer, Elementary Principal/Special Education Director, Darren Thelen, Curriculum, Assessment, and Athletic Director, Stacey Johnston, Instructional Technology Specialist, Timothy Nurenberg, Maintenance Director, Jeffery Dygert, Custodial, Transportation and Grounds Director and Deborah Prince, Administrative Assistant for the 2021-22 School Year. Motion passed 6-0.*

**Financial:**

*Financial Summary Report July 31, 2021, including Special Revenue Account Payable Listing, July 2021*

**Administrator's Reports:**

**Instructional Technology Specialist** – Mrs. Johnston stated a great day of Chromebook deployment today. Educators will receive some Technology Professional Development (PD) next week. Several teachers attended a virtual technology conference for county educators last week.



**Assessments, Curriculum and Athletic Director** – Mr. Thelen will be interviewing the Golf Coach candidates soon. PSAT tests have been ordered. Working on PD for Wednesday afternoon.

**Elementary School** – Mrs. Farmer thanked the BOE for their support in hiring a second kindergarten teacher, as we currently have approximately 20 students in each class. The building looks amazing and we are looking forward to our new employees officially joining our team. The Elementary School Open House is Wednesday from 6-7 pm. This school year there will be two grade levels together on the playground and at lunch.

**Middle/High School Principal** – Mr. Simmons thanked the Board for allowing us to acknowledge Mr. Rademacher this evening. We have hired many new staff members over the summer and every one of the new hires received guidance and support from their predecessor. Mr. Simmons asked the BOE members to visit during the school day.

**Superintendent** – Mrs. Goodman stated she is meeting with our Neola Representative and we will be implementing a new system to view new Neola policies. The next few meetings, there will be a great number of policies to review. Within a few months, we anticipate being current with all recommended policies.

Mrs. Goodman stated there have been a lot of updates from the State of Michigan and Health Departments. We will continue to share the message that masks are optional for staff and students in the school, but masks are required on all buses. The COVID dashboard must be posted on our website. If a student or staff member becomes infected with COVID, we must report that to the Health Department within 24 hours and update our COVID dashboard. Those individuals must quarantine. We are not required to quarantine students if they are a close contact at school. Staff must quarantine if they have not been vaccinated and were identified as a close contact. This year's metric will not be based on quarantines, but rather based on positive cases. We hope to present a metric to the Board at the September meeting.

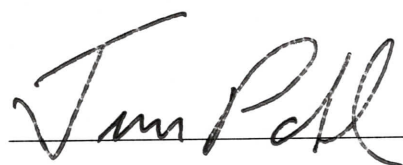
**Future Meeting Dates/Events:**

First Day of School – August 23, 2021

First Day of Preschool – September 7, 2021 for Tuesday/Thursday Preschool Students, September 8 for Monday/Wednesday/Friday Preschool Students

September Board Meeting – September 20, 2021, with Board Workshop beginning at 6:00; meeting at 7:00

**Adjourn:** *At 8:22p.m., meeting adjourned.*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Pohl", written over a horizontal line.

Approved by Jim Pohl, Secretary to the Board of Education