PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER
Tuesday, March 24, 2020; 6:10 P.M. C.D.T.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenel Nels (remotely), Molly Brockmann (remotely), Jean Dickson (remotely), Nikhil Wagle, Jodi Hoskins, Brent Ayers, Tina Anderson. Absent – none. Also present: Brian Strusz, Mike Zimmer, Cindy Lewis, Mike Clingingsmith, Deborah Dayman, Beth Marsoun, Kevin Pennekamp, Megan Valley.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVED: Motion by Dickson, second by Anderson that the agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Wagle welcomed everyone to the meeting and read the vision of the District: It is the vision of the Pleasant Valley Community School District that we shall provide the finest academic and extra-curricular programs in the state – not in some things, but in everything; not for some students, but for every student.

Superintendent Strusz congratulated the junior high cast, crew and staff for their Schoolhouse Rock production. He also congratulated all winter athletes and coaches for their successful and exciting seasons. Condolences were shared with the family of David Fairweather. Mr. Fairweather served as principal at Riverdale Heights Elementary from fall 1989 through spring 1999.

CONSENT AGENDA, March 24, 2020: Motion by Ayers, second by Hoskins that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

The March 24, 2020 consent agenda consists of the following:

● MINUTES: The approval of minutes of the February 24, 2020 Regular meeting and Exempt Session.

● PERSONNEL:

CERTIFIED: Taylor Barros is recommended for employment as a Strat II Special Education Teacher at Pleasant Valley Junior High starting the 2020-21 school year. Brianna Call is recommended for employment as an elementary classroom teacher, building to be determined, starting the 2020-21 school year. Madison Glatz is recommended for employment as a Language Arts Teacher at Pleasant Valley Junior High starting the 2020-21 school year. Hannah Guy is recommended for employment as an elementary classroom teacher, building to be determined, starting the 2020-21 school year. Elizabeth McCartney is recommended for employment as an elementary classroom teacher, building to be determined, starting the 2020-21 school year.
Shannon Harty is recommended for employment as an elementary classroom teacher, building to be determined, starting the 2020-21 school year. Zachary Meseke is recommended for employment as a Language Arts Teacher at Pleasant Valley Junior High starting the 2020-21 school year. Ann Peters is recommended for employment as an Art Teacher at Pleasant Valley Junior High starting the 2020-21 school year. Bethany Piotter is recommended for employment as a grades 3-6 Special Education teacher at Pleasant View Elementary starting the 2020-21 school year. Jeremiah Stevenson is recommended for employment as an elementary classroom teacher, building to be determined, starting the 2020-21 school year. Jace Teed, Pleasant Valley Junior High Guidance Counselor, has submitted his resignation effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.

CLASSIFIED: Linda Fullmer, Food Service Worker and Special Education Aide, has had a contract increase of 35 minutes per day starting February 24, 2020. Jack Lorenzen, Riverdale Heights Custodian, has submitted his resignation effective June 5, 2020. Rylie Milliken, Special Education Aide at Riverdale Heights Elementary, is recommended for regular employment starting April 1, 2020. Kristina Waugh, Educational Aide at Pleasant View Elementary, is recommended for regular employment starting April 1, 2020.

CLASSIFIED (Information only): Lori Olderog is recommended for probationary employment as Library and Tech Assistant at Bridgeview Elementary starting the 2020-21 school year. Kristin Thompson is recommended for employment as a Preschool and Special Education Aide at Bridgeview Elementary starting the 2020-21 school year.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR:

ADDS:  
- Angela Brand  
  PVHS Assistant Robotics Advisor  
- Angela Brand  
  PVJH and Elementary Robotics Coordinator  
- Erin Klage  
  PVHS Theater Technical Director  
- Bill Myatt  
  PVHS Theater Technical Co-Director  
- Kevin Peterson  
  PVHS Assistant Girls Tennis

DROPS:  
- Brett Ahlgren  
  PVHS Assistant Girls Tennis  
- Zach Chaplain  
  PVHS Theater Technical Co-Director  
- Taylor Rockey  
  PVJH Freshman Volleyball Coach  
- Craig Parker  
  PVHS Freshman Class Sponsor


STUDENT TEACHING AGREEMENT with University of Northern Iowa.

COOPERATIVE SWIMMING AGREEMENT with North Scott Community School District and the IGHSAU (girls) and IHSAA (boys).

EXPENSES APPROVED:

Motion by Hoskins, second by Anderson that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $1,515,042.04 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.
Motion by Dickson, second by Brockmann that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of **$112,572.59** in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Nels that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of **$13,948.92** in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Nels, second by Ayers that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of **$38,059.20** in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brockmann, second by Hoskins that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of **$816,969.48** in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Brockmann that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of **$49,571.44** in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Dickson that Internal Service Fund warrants 6061 through 6073 be issued in the total amount of **$451,759.43** in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Ayers that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of **$4,458.70** in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**COVID-19 RESOLUTION:** The following resolution, drafted by the Iowa Department of Education, provides the Board and the Superintendent authority to suspend or establish policy as required in order to meet Federal or State dictates during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Should the state mandated school shutdown extend beyond April 12, the resolution will be revised.

**Resolution – Pandemic Response and Emergency Suspension of Policy**

**WHEREAS**, Iowa Code Ch. 279.8 authorizes local school boards to govern their respective districts, including adopting policies for their own governance; and

**WHEREAS** the Board may, by formal, action suspend or rescind board policy as deemed necessary, appropriate or in the best interests of the District; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national state of emergency and on March 15, 2020 Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds recommended closure of all public and private K-12 schools in Iowa until April 13, 2020 to contain the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds declared a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency under the authority granted through Iowa Constitution, Art. IV, §§ 1, 8 and Iowa Code §§ 29C.6(1), 135.140(6), and 135.144 and directed implementation of the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management’s Iowa Emergency Response Plan in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

**WHEREAS**, most hourly non-exempt employees will be unable to report to work due to the District’s closure and certified contract employees may be asked to work at remote locations to help provide continuity in educational services; and
WHEREAS, it fulfills a public purpose to continue to pay District employees during this closure to prevent or contain the spread of COVID-19, to promote morale and to help retain current employees following the closure; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 the Iowa Legislature passed and the Governor signed SF 2408 granting waiver of the instructional time requirements in Iowa Code Ch. 279.10 for all public school districts closing before April 12, 2020 in order to prevent or contain the spread of COVID-19; and granting Governor Reynolds the ability to waive instructional time requirements for any public school district which closes on or after April 12, 2020 to prevent or contain the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Education, which has the authority to establish and interpret graduation requirements, and to oversee other crucial aspects of public education is providing written guidance to Iowa school districts on issues related to COVID -19, including but not limited to student attendance, distance/online learning, high school credit, meal distribution, and other issues; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pleasant Valley Community School District School Board hereby suspends provisions of its board policies and/or whole policies, as identified by the District Superintendent or designee, if such suspension is necessary to implement written guidance from state or federal agencies relating to containing COVID-19 for the duration identified in the Governor’s State of Public Health Emergency declaration of March 17, 2020, or as otherwise determined by the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Superintendent will consult with and report to the Board as feasible and appropriate regarding the emergency closure and efforts to implement written guidance from health and government agencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Superintendent is authorized to close any school facility without further action by the Board of Directors. Such closure shall continue during the emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic until such time as the Superintendent, in consultation with appropriate health and government authorities, deems it in the best interests of the District and its students to open schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Superintendent is authorized, based upon the needs of the District and guidance from health and government agencies, to direct staff assignments during District closures, including but not limited to essential employees who must report to work, employees who may be reassigned, and employees whose services are not needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that access to public school grounds and public school buildings of the District may be limited as directed by the Superintendent during District closures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified, exempt employees will remain employed during the school closure and until the number of days expressed on the contract have been fulfilled, unless otherwise approved by the Board. Days that employees do not report for duty onsite or from a remote location, due to closure, do not constitute a fulfilled contract day except to the extent those days are forgiven by the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in light of this District-wide emergency closure, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to place hourly non-exempt employees on paid administrative leave and to continue to pay them for up to three weeks during the period of school closure, and the Board shall reevaluate this authority for any school closure lasting longer than three weeks.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the interest of public health and/or to comply with federal or state health department recommendations or guidance, the Board may limit the number of people who can physically attend Board meetings and may, instead, encourage the public to attend or listen to its open public meetings via telephone or video conference, live streaming on television and/or the internet and the Board may also limit public comment to written comments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board reserves the right to adjust board meeting dates, times, and locations during the district-wide emergency closure in a manner consistent with the Open Meetings law, and notes that any or all board members may attend board meetings electronically as permitted by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that execution of this Resolution is conclusive evidence of the Board’s approval of this action and of the authority granted herein. The Board warrants that it has, and at the time of this action had, full power and lawful authority to adopt this instrument. This resolution will remain in full force and effect until it is rescinded or amended by subsequent action of the Board.

Motion by Anderson, second by Ayers that the Board approve the COVID-19 resolution as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE: Mr. Strusz summarized the communications and work which has taken place in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic mandated closures and protocols, described actions to be expected in the coming weeks, and answered questions from the Board.

Online learning opportunities are being constructed in adherence to Iowa Department of Education guidelines. Before coursework can be made available for some students, equal relevant opportunities must be available for all students, regardless of age or ability. Administrators, teachers and classroom coaches are working to make online learning opportunities available for all by the end of the current week.

Collaboration with neighboring districts and Eastern Iowa Community College as well as consultation with Iowa Department of Education leadership and the office of the Governor will help ensure compliance and effective content delivery.

No required motion.

2020 CENSUS RESOLUTION: The District encourages all residents to participate in the 2020 census so that census data is accurate and appropriate federal education funding is received for the next ten years. Census Day is April 1, and the US Census Bureau has mailed to all households instructions for online census participation.

Pleasant Valley Community School District
Resolution in Support of a Complete Count
in the Decennial U.S. 2020 Census

WHEREAS, The United States Census, which is mandated by the U.S. Constitution, enumerates every person in the country, regardless of citizenship status, and is fundamental to fair and representative government;
WHEREAS, The 2020 decennial census has critical implications for the state of Iowa, and determines its allocation of seats in the House of Representatives and billions of dollars in federal funding;

WHEREAS, A fair and accurate count on the 2020 U.S. Census will help ensure that Iowa’s communities, families and students are represented in our democracy and receive critical services and supports for education, healthcare, transportation and infrastructure, including rural utilities and broadband;

WHEREAS, Census counts of school-aged children and children in poverty at the state and school district levels are used to determine funding for the U.S. Department of Education’s two biggest elementary and secondary programs, Title I (compensatory education) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (special education), as well as the National School Lunch Program; and

WHEREAS, Census data are used to calculate the rate at which federal funds match state spending on programs that support the health and well-being of Iowa students, including Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pleasant Valley Community School District Board of Education pledges to:

- Inform its families, staff and other leaders within the community about the critical importance of a complete count and participation in the 2020 U.S. Census;
- Provide appropriate resources and support to assist in securing a complete count;
- Work in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as organizations focused on traditionally undercounted communities to explore other activities and maximize opportunities to ensure a complete count;
- And, further, recognizes that every Iowa child and adult counts.

ADOPTED by ACTION of the BOARD this 24th day of March 2020 and signed by Board President Nikhil Wagle.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT PLEASANT VALLEY JUNIOR HIGH PARKING LOT BID: Bids for the Pleasant Valley Junior High parking lot replacement and reconstruction project were received March 23, 2020. Two bids were received. The low bidder was Tri City Blacktop with a base bid amount of $912,100. Alternative items (tennis court, crack fill and sealing, replacement and asphalt pad for physical education challenge course) will be considered as contingency items including soil instability are resolved.

Motion by Dickson, second by Ayers that the Board approve the low bid from Tri City Blacktop of $912,100 for the Pleasant Valley Junior High Parking Lot replacement and reconstruction project. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.
FOREST GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHANGE ORDER #3: Forest Grove Change Order #3 represents a total add of $17,196.03. The primary increase is due to revisions to the west entrance from Forest Grove Road and the decrease results from revision of rooftop unit electronic airflow monitoring stations.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Anderson that the Board approve Forest Grove Elementary Change Order #3 in the amount of a total add of $17,196.03. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH PROPOSED 2020-21 CERTIFIED BUDGET SUMMARY AND ESTABLISH DATE FOR 2020-21 CERTIFIED BUDGET HEARING: The 2019-20 property tax levy rate is $13.41/$1,000 taxable valuation (rounded to the nearest penny). The residential rollback percentage decreased from 56.9180% (2019-20) to 55.0743% (2020-21). The decreased rollback percentage allows the district’s levy rate to increase by approximately $0.46 and be property tax neutral. The District recommends that the levy rate increase $0.37 (to $13.78) for 2020-21.

At the February 24, 2020 meeting, the Board came to consensus regarding a $0.37 increase in the district’s levy rate (rounded to the nearest penny) for the 2020-21 fiscal year. Board authorization is required so that the Chief Financial Officer can publish the proposed budget summary in the newspaper as required by law. April 13, 2019, 6:00 p.m. CDT is the proposed time for the public hearing and adoption of the certified budget for 2020-21.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Nels that the Board direct the Chief Financial Officer to publish a proposed budget summary reflecting a tax levy rate not to exceed $13.78134 per $1,000 taxable valuation and to establish a date and time of April 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. CDT to hold the required public hearing and adopt the certified budget for 2020-21. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mr. Clingingsmith presented the monthly financial reports for February 2020. Through February, General Fund revenue totaled $31,838,461 and expenses totaled $29,060,499. The fund balance in the General Fund on February 29, 2020 was $9,831,968. Also presented were Management, PPEL, Capital Projects, and Debt Service, Nutrition, Internal Service, and Activity Funds reports. No significant variances from projections were noted.

Motion by Ayers, second by Brockmann that the Board accept the monthly financial reports for February as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

2020-21 CERTIFIED PERSONNEL CONTRACT APPROVAL: Details of the Certified (teacher) contract was presented. On March 11, the District and the Pleasant Valley Educational Association reached agreement upon a 2.59% total package increase. Total package includes wages, insurance and other employee-related costs.

Motion by Nels, second by Ayers that the Board approve the 2020-21 Certified employee wage and benefits package as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.
ADJUST JULY BOARD MEETING DATE TO JULY 21: To avoid conflict and to more centrally locate the July board meeting between the last meeting in June and first meeting in August, it has been recommended that the July board meeting be held Tuesday, July 21 instead of Monday, July 13, 2020.

The April 27, 2020 board meeting, originally scheduled for 5:30 is rescheduled for 6:00 p.m. since the conflicting event has been postponed.

Motion by Anderson, second by Ayers that the Board change the July Board of Education meeting from July 13 to Tuesday, July 21, 2021. Roll call vote. Ayes - Nels, Brockmann, Dickson, Wagle, Hoskins, Ayers, Anderson. Nays - none. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:
Monday, April 13, 2020 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
Monday, April 27, 2020 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

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OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open Enrollment is the process by which a parent or guardian residing in an Iowa school district may enroll their child into a public school district other than the one in which they reside. The deadline for filing an Open Enrollment Application for students in grades 1-12 is March 1st prior to the school year of requested attendance. The deadline for filing an open enrollment request for an incoming kindergarten child is September 1st of the year open enrollment is first requested. For Open Enrollment information and application, visit the district website at www.pleasval.org/district/new student enrollment/open enrollment info or contact Deborah Dayman daymandeborah@pleasval.org (563)332-5550.
It is the policy of the Pleasant Valley Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

The district requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

The district is committed to the policy that no otherwise qualified person will be excluded on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, or age. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

Inquiries concerning the application of federal and state nondiscrimination statutes and the implementing regulations to the district may be referred to Mike Zimmer, who has been designated by the district as Educational Equity Coordinator, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of HEW, and Washington, D.C. Mr. Zimmer’s office is at Pleasant Valley Administration Center, 525 Belmont Rd., Bettendorf, Iowa 52722; telephone (563) 332-5550.

[Signature]
Brian Strus
Superintendent