PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER
Monday, February 22, 2021; 6:00 P.M. C.S.T.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anderson, Ayers, Brockmann, Dickson, Kunkel. Absent – Hoskins, Wagle. Also present: Brian Strusz, Mike Zimmer, Cindy Lewis, Mike Clingingsmith, Deborah Dayman, Beth Marsoun, Christina Myatt, Darren Erickson, Tony Hiatt, Leland Zenk, Kenny and Jane Wheeler, Abby Meuser, Marilisa Bosman, Erin Merrill, Alyce Brown and others.

Director Dickson presided over the meeting.

The meeting was live streamed, recorded, and may be viewed on the district YouTube page:  
PVCSD Board of Education Meeting, February 22

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

MOTION FOR EXEMPT SESSION: Motion by Brockmann, second by Anderson that the Board hold an exempt session for the purpose of negotiations as provided in section 20.17(3) of the Code of Iowa. Roll call vote. Ayes - Anderson, Ayers, Brockmann, Dickson, Kunkel. Nays - none. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Director Dickson 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.

Director Anderson thanked teachers, administrators and staff for their efforts in bringing students 100% back to the classroom starting February 16. She also thanked Christina Myatt for accepting the role of Service Learning Coordinator and for identifying multiple opportunities to fulfill service learning requirements. Director Ayers echoed her appreciation.

Director Kunkel recognized teachers, aides, custodians and kitchen staff for their hard work during this time of increased expectations and rough weather, and thanked administrators and staff for efforts to revise and improve pick up and drop off procedures before and after school. Traffic pattern alterations are still being considered at some of the buildings in order to mitigate traffic congestion since many more students are back in the buildings and more parents than usual are driving their children to school.

Mr. Strusz expressed condolences on behalf of the Board and District to the family of Wilma Pitsenbarger. Wilma served the District as a cook/baker for more than twenty years.
RECOGNITION:

Christina Myatt, PVHS Director of Theatre, was accompanied by students named Outstanding Performers for 2021 by the Iowa High School Speech Association. The competition was held virtually and students expertly adapted their performances to meet the challenge.

Hatrick (Group Improv): Erica Heiselman, Caleb Swinney, Miranda Croll.
Disenchanted (Group Musical Theatre) Erica Heiselman, Grace Engstrom, Lydia Cox, Leah Mendelin.
Breaking the Glass Ceiling (an original choral reading): Abby Shamrell, Maegan Neil, Grace Engstrom, Lexi Pelzer.

Mr. Zimmer introduced PVHS Girls Track Coach Kenny Wheeler, who was selected 2019-20 Iowa Girls Track and Field Coach of the Year - a nomination put forward by the Iowa High School Girls Athletic Union and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) 2019-20 Coach of the Year, Central Section (Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Illinois). Coach Wheeler has coached 14 years in the district (12 years alongside his wife Jane), and under their leadership the track team participation increased from 40 in 2008 to 90-100 athletes each season and a number of athletes have gone on to compete at the collegiate level.

Mr. Zimmer shared with the Board that PVHS senior Nick Hammes has been selected as PVHS’s first Welding Registered Apprentice. In cooperation with North Scott High School’s Welding Registered Apprenticeship program, Nick began his training February 22 at Eckhardt Manufacturing in Eldridge. Nick will attend PVHS classes each morning and work each afternoon. Upon graduation, his apprenticeship will transfer to John Deere Manufacturing. It is the District’s goal to increase student interest and participation in professional training in the trades. New machining equipment was installed at the high school in January to further that goal.

Financial Skills for Smart Living is a college-level personal finance course customized for Iowa high school juniors and seniors and adapted for high school faculty delivery. College credit is available after successful completion of the final exam, and professional development and support is available to high school faculty from UNI School of Business. Five of seven students from Ms. Janene Murphy’s inaugural offering of the course passed the final exam and earned three hours of college credit from UNI: Blake Anderson, Cecelia Fierce, Delaney Fitzgerrel, Evan Hayden-Mirocha and Jonathan Sulgrove.

Director Hoskins arrived at 6:16 p.m.

Dr. Lewis congratulated First Lego League teams who participated via Zoom in the FLL Challenge. The Trash Pandas from Pleasant View and the Fire Breathing Gummy Bears from PVJH/Pleasant View won the Core Values award at their qualifying competition. The Hummingbirds from PVJH/Bridgeview also won the Core Values award and advanced to the state competition to be held in March. Angie Brand, PVCS District Robotics Coordinator described the emphasis of the Core Values award: teamwork, fun, cooperation and generosity.
CONSENT AGENDA:

The February 22, 2021 consent agenda consists of the following:

- **MINUTES:** The approval of minutes of the February 8, 2021 Regular Meeting and Exempt Session

- **PERSONNEL:**
  
  CERTIFIED: *Larissa Bailey*, Second Grade Teacher at Cody Elementary, is recommended for employment as Elementary Innovative Technology Coach starting the 2021-22 school year. *Haley Duwa* is recommended for employment as a Physical Education Teacher at Bridgeview Elementary starting the 2021-22 school year.
  
  CERTIFIED (information only):
  *Emma Crandall*, Third Grade Teacher at Hopewell Elementary, will transfer to Pleasant View Elementary grade three starting the 2021-22 school year. *Jose Lara*, traveling Physical Education teacher, will transfer to Riverdale Heights Elementary Physical Education starting the 2021-22 school year. *Jennifer Umland*, Third Grade Teacher at Riverdale Heights Elementary, will transfer to Forest Grove Elementary grade three starting the 2021-22 school year. *Samantha Urban*, Special Education Teacher at Pleasant Valley High School, will transfer to Physical Education at Forest Grove Elementary starting the 2021-22 school year.

  CLASSIFIED: *Lori (Williams) Dexter*, Pleasant View assistant secretary and educational aide, has submitted notice of her retirement effective the end of the 2020-21 school year after 21 years’ service to the District. *Megan Kohn*, Special Education Aide at Riverdale Heights, is recommended for a contract increase from 5.0 to 5.75 hours per day effective February 16, 2021. *Kristie Phillips* is nearing the end of her probationary period and is recommended for regular employment starting March 1, 2021. *Jessica Richards* is recommended for employment as a Special Education Aide/Pre-K Aide at Hopewell Elementary starting February 16, 2021. As she has served as a substitute aide, probationary period has been waived.

  CLASSIFIED (information only): *Lori Birkel* is recommended for probationary employment as an Educational Aide at Riverdale Heights Elementary starting February 16, 2021. *Stephanie Denboer* is recommended for probationary employment as a Cook’s Assistant at Pleasant Valley High School starting February 24, 2021. *Maria Fedele Lucas* is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Bridgeview Elementary starting February 16, 2021. *Gabrielle McClure* is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Pleasant Valley Junior High starting February 16, 2021.

- **EXTRA-CURRICULAR:**

  ADDS: 
  Justin Wiese  PVJH Track & Field Coach  
  Kevin Peterson  PVHS Girls Tennis Coach

  DROPS: 
  Phil Kenney  PVJH Track & Field Coach

- **OPEN ENROLLMENT:** One IN from Davenport
Motion by Ayers, second by Anderson that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**EXPENSES APPROVED:**

Motion by Anderson, second by Ayers that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $1,660,541.09 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Brockmann that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $37,298.27 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Ayers that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $398.03 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brockmann, second by Hoskins that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $9,953.45 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kunkel, second by Ayers that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $15,495.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Brockmann that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $356,096.82 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Kunkel that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $3,546.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, second by Ayers that Internal Service Fund warrants 6201 through 6205 be issued in the total amount of $425,356.82 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Brockmann that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $374.16 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**RETURN TO LEARN:** From the start of the 2020-21 school year, in response to the pandemic the District’s goals have been to provide a high level of learning, a safe environment for all and to keep our schools open. On February 16 the District moved from a hybrid model to 100% in person / 100% online. 88% of our students have returned to school in person, and steps have been taken to continue to guard the safety of our students and staff.

An area of concern is the lunch table as it has been the District’s experience that many quarantine situations originate in the cafeteria. During hybrid, students were spaced 6 feet apart at lunch tables in the elementaries and at the junior high, and from the start of the year, plexiglass dividers were used on the round high school lunch tables. Since 88% of students have returned to the buildings, additional lunchroom mitigation measures are in place. Corrugated plastic dividers surround each student’s eating space. The table is cleaned after each student and the dividers are cleaned at the end of each day. At the elementary level, a minimum of four adults supervise and assist students and students are excused for recess as soon as they’ve finished eating; generally after 10-20 minutes. The
cafeteria dividers are a transitional measure. Positive COVID cases and quarantine counts will continue to be monitored. If numbers decrease and a spike doesn’t occur after spring break, removal of lunch room dividers is likely.

The wearing of masks, social distancing (3 feet or more), frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer will continue. Approximately 90% of district employees have received their first COVID vaccine.

A question was raised regarding the impact COVID will have on the social-emotional needs of students. The Second Step program has been implemented to address these concerns at the K-2 level. Social emotional lessons are provided to create a supportive and successful learning environment for students. The District’s Social Emotional-Behavioral team in partnership with our local Area Education Agency is in the initial stages of piloting a program called Harmony to support the social emotional learning needs of older students.

Steve Zimmerman, Diane Holst, David Zimmerman and Ashlee Holst shared concerns regarding lunch room dividers and mask requirements.

No required motion.

BOARD POLICY UPDATES: The first reading of new and revised board policies resulting from the I.A.C. Chapter 103 updates occurred at the January 28, 2021 meeting and the second at the February 8 meeting. The changes to Chapter 103 have provided additional clarity and definition to permitted and prohibited forms of restraint for students.

Board policy changes:
502.1 Student Conduct
502.2 and 502.3 Suspensions and Expulsions
502.7 Corporal Punishment (change policy number to 502.4 and adjust table of contents)

New board policy:
502.5 Physical Restraint and Seclusion of students
502.5E1 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Documentation Form
502.5E2 Debriefing letter to Guardian
502.5E3 Debriefing Meeting Document
502.5R1 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion with Students

Motion by Anderson, second by Ayers that the Board approve additions and updates to Series 500 Board Policy so that the District remains in compliance with Iowa Code Chapter 103. Roll call vote. Ayes - Anderson, Ayers, Brockmann, Dickson, Hoskins, Kunkel. Nays - none. Motion carried.

FOREST GROVE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: Director of Operations Leland Zenk shared a video and updates regarding the construction of Forest Grove and the current timeline for completion. Interior work is progressing rapidly and the gym floor is complete. The building will be ready for the 2021-22 school year.

No required motion.
CHANGE ORDER NO. 6 - FOREST GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Forest Grove change order No. 6 includes duct modifications to accommodate new air flow stations, concrete infill at east entrance islands and other minor changes; total add $12,073.67.

Motion by Anderson, second by Kunkel that the Board approve Forest Grove Elementary Change Order No. 6 in the amount of an add of $12,073.67. Roll call vote. Ayes - Anderson, Ayers, Brockmann, Dickson, Hoskins, Kunkel. Nays - none. Motion carried.

FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 PROPERTY TAX LEVY RATE DISCUSSION: Mr. Strusz and Mr. Clingingsmith presented to the Board information to be considered as the 2021-22 levy rate is established.

- The Governor has approved a 2.4% Supplemental State Aid increase for 2021-22.
- The residential rollback increased from 55.0743% at January 1, 2019 to 56.4094% at January 1, 2020. The rollback percentage defines what portion of a residential taxpayer’s assessed valuation is taxable, so for the next property tax cycle, a greater portion of residential assessed value will be subject to tax.
- Planning for staffing needs at Forest Grove Elementary School, opening for the 2021-22 academic year and other needs related to growth.

The 2020-21 Pleasant Valley Community School District property tax levy rate was set at 13.78/$1,000 taxable valuation (rounded to the nearest penny). Mr Clingingsmith and Mr. Strusz recommended that the levy rate decrease $0.02/$1,000 to $13.76/$1,000 taxable valuation. Because of the increase in the residential rollback, this levy rate decrease will not create an overall tax decrease in the residential taxpayer’s school district property tax bill when compared to the prior year. Board consensus was reached regarding the proposed levy rate of $13.76/$1,000 taxable valuation.

At the March 22th board meeting, a motion will be presented to publish the proposed levy rate and set April 12th as the date to hold the public hearing and adopt the certified budget for 2021-22.

No required motion.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mr. Clingingsmith presented the monthly financial reports for January 2021. Through January, General Fund revenue totaled $29,559,045 and expenses totaled $24,163,832. The fund balance in the General Fund on January 31, 2021 was $13,619,386. Also presented were Management, PPEL, Capital Projects, and Debt Service, Nutrition, Internal Service, and Activity Funds reports. Other than COVID effects on the Nutrition Fund, no significant variances from projections were noted.

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

EXEMPT SESSION–NEGOTIATIONS: The Board entered into closed session at 7:52 p.m. to discuss negotiations. No motions were made during exempt session. Exempt Session concluded at 8:29 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
FUTURE DATES:
March 2, 2021
March 22, 2021
April 12, 2021

REVENUE PURPOSE STATEMENT VOTE Polling places -
Belmont Administration Center and LeClaire Fire Station
Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

(Meetings are conducted in adherence to all COVID-19 room capacity and social distancing requirements.
Board Members and guests are required to wear masks.)

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PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES - Exempt Session
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER
Monday, February 22, 2021

Exempt session was called to order at 7:52 p.m. by Director Dickson.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anderson, Ayers, Brockmann, Dickson, Hoskins, Kunkel. Absent – Wagle. Also present: Brian Strusz, Mike Zimmer, Cindy Lewis, Mike Clingingsmith, Deborah Dayman

MOTION FOR EXEMPT SESSION: Motion by Brockmann, second by Anderson that the Board hold an exempt session for the purpose of negotiations as provided in section 20.17(3) of the Code of Iowa. Roll call vote. Ayes - Anderson, Ayers, Brockmann, Dickson, Kunkel. Nays - none. Motion carried.

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The Pleasant Valley Community School District wishes to highlight the following Employment opportunities:

SUBSTITUTE EDUCATIONAL AIDES - all buildings

SUBSTITUTE NURSES - all buildings

Please apply via Employment link at www.pleasval.org
PVCSD is an EOE/AA
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.

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JULY 2020

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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.

Brian Strusz
Superintendent