

PENN CAMBRIA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
201 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
CRESSON, PENNSYLVANIA 16630

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting  
November 17, 2020

MEMBERS: Pat Albright, Jenny Guzic, Terry Krug, Rudy McCarthy, Guy Monica, George Pyo,  
Patricia Pyo, Justin Roberts, Michael Sheehan

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A Regular Meeting of the Penn Cambria School District Board of Education was called to order by George Pyo, President, at 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, November 17, 2020 in the Cafeteria of the Penn Cambria High School.

ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Pat Albright (*via phone*)  
Mrs. Jenny Guzic  
Mr. Terry Krug  
Mr. Rudy McCarthy (*via phone*)  
Mr. Guy Monica  
Mr. George Pyo  
Miss Patricia Pyo  
Mr. Justin Roberts  
Mr. Michael Sheehan  
TOTAL. . . . . 9

MEMBERS ABSENT:

TOTAL. . . . . 0  
QUORUM PRESENT.

**AMONG OTHERS PRESENT:**

William Marshall, Superintendent  
Jill Francisco, Business Administrator  
Krystal Edwards, Solicitor – Beard Legal Group, PC  
Jeanette Black, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Lewis Hale, Network Administrator  
Carrie Conrad, Special Education Director  
Courtney Kuncelman, School Psychologist  
Dave Beck, Facilities Manager

Dane Harrold, Middle School Principal  
Kaitlyn Kalwanaski, High School Principal  
Gregory Shingle, Asst. High School Principal  
Robin Lappi, PCESPA President  
Kerry Nileski, Teacher  
Ray Berardinelli, Parent  
Tim Duff, Parent  
Brenda Mullen, Parent

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the following were the items of business and discussion.

**HEARING OF VISITORS** – Ray Berardinelli, Gallitzin, informed the Board of Directors on statistics which included the following:

- US News and World Report - from 2016 there were 4,074 deaths due to motor vehicle accidents
- National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration - 128 deaths were related in school transportation
- In 2018 - 995 children drown
- CDC influenza statistic - from 2018-2020, pediatric flu deaths of 188 were confirmed and an estimate of 600 children died of the flu
- CDC - provisional COVID-19 deaths were 93 in children ages 5-18
- LA Times - nearly 6,200 committed suicide between the ages of 15-24
- CDC graphs of child deaths due to COVID have a steady downward trajectory since August 1st and are forecasting it to continue to drop.

He closed with an excerpt from C.S. Lewis referring to the atomic bomb: C.S. Lewis said just because there is one more way, in a myriad of ways, that we are going to die, and all of us certainly are going to die in god awful, horrible ways, doesn't

mean that we should hide and cower in fear. If the virus does find us, let it find us educating our children, comforting them, coaching them and cheering them on at sporting events.

### **SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

The Board of Directors were presented with a video performance of the band and chorus.

Congratulations to the following students that have successfully auditioned into PMEA District VI Chorus: Adrianna Boldizar - Soprano II, Cassandra Brown and Emily Riggleman - Alto I, Brandon Riley - Tenor II, and Anthony Hurst and Grant Bossler - Bass II.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was offered by Miss Pyo, seconded by Mr. Krug, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the regular meeting held October 20, 2020 and special meeting held October 29, 2020, be approved as recorded in the copies mailed to the Board prior to this meeting.

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

A motion was offered Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Guzic, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the invoices as mailed to Board prior to the meeting, and as evaluated and reviewed, reconciled, and recommended for payment by the Business Office be hereby approved for payment. Copy to be made part of the minutes. (*See Addendum "A"*)

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was offered by Mr. Sheehan, seconded by Mr. Roberts, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the Treasurer's Report for October 2020, be accepted as mailed to the Board, and that a copy be filed with the official records of the School District. (*See Addendum "B"*)

### **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

A motion was offered by Miss Pyo, seconded by Mrs. Guzic, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the reports of grants, projects, and federal programs and financial reports for the general fund, capital reserve fund and cafeteria fund be accepted as presented to the Board and that a copy be filed with the official records of the of the school district. (*See Addendum "C"*)

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Krystal Edwards informed the Board of Directors on updates issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Health that involve a travel order and mask order that will take effect Friday, November 20th.

The travel order states that anyone who visits Pennsylvania from another state, or any Pennsylvania resident who travels out of the state and returns, must have tested negative 72-hours prior to their arrival. If they do not have a negative test, visitors or returning residents must quarantine for 14 days upon arrival.

This order does not apply to people who commute to and from another state for work or medical treatment.

The updated mask order requires wearing masks at private locations, including any indoor location where there are individuals who are not members of your household. For example, the order applies if you are at a cousin's house for Thanksgiving dinner. If you are in your own house with your own household members, the order does not apply. This update strengthens the current order to now apply to private indoor locations.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

A motion was offered by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the Superintendent's recommendations be approved as follows:

#### **A. PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

Approve Appointments

Marc Smith, Altoona, Pre-Primary/High School 2nd Shift Custodian, effective November 28, 2020

Karin Seymore, Portage, building to be determined, Aide, effective pending documents

Nickole Bender, Lilly, building to be determined, Aide, effective pending documents

Brenda Biller, Gallitzin, High School Food Service Worker at 4.75 hours per day, effective pending documents

Angela Gailey, Lilly, from Pre-Primary School Aide to High School Food Service Worker at 6.5 hours per day, effective November 16, 2020

Jodie Albertelli, Gallitzin, Elementary Substitute Teacher, effective on/or about November 16, 2020 through anticipated date of January 1, 2021

Abby Kelly, Gallitzin, Middle School Substitute Teacher, effective on December 2, 2020 through anticipated date of January 13, 2021

Christine Trexler, Cresson, Middle School Substitute Teacher, effective on November 2, 2020 through anticipated date of December 22, 2020

Michael Morgan, Duncansville, from Substitute Teacher to retired Substitute Teacher, effective October 23, 2020

Shelby Civils, Altoona, IU08 Substitute Teacher, effective pending documents

Nicodemus Usry, Portage, IU08 Substitute Teacher, effective immediately

Amy Farabaugh, Loretto, Volunteer Girls Soccer Coach, effective pending documents

Michelle Jones, Cresson, Volunteer Volleyball Coach, effective immediately

Approve Mentor Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year

Justin Wheeler as the Mentor Teacher for Andrew Tomaselli, at a stipend of \$1,000, prorated from the teacher start date

Accept Resignation

Taylor O'Hara, Patton, Substitute Teacher, effective November 3, 2020

Approve Drivers

Frank and Maria Moreland, daily transportation for student #249401, effective date to be determined

**NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was offered by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Miss Pyo, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**ADOPTION OF NEW OR REVISED POLICIES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies:

210.1 AR-1 - Asthma Management Form

222 - Tobacco and Vaping Products - Pupils

323 - Tobacco and Vaping Products - Employees

333 - Professional Development

707 - Use of Facilities

709 - Building Security

*(See Addendum "D")*

A motion was offered by Mr. Krug, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE TO APAVTS**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby appoint Justin Roberts as representative to the Admiral Peary Area Vocational Technical School Joint Operating Committee, for a three-year term expiring December 1, 2023.

Mr. Marshall informed the Board of Directors that as it was it stated in the public release on Monday morning, the high school is experiencing a full coronavirus outbreak. More than 40% of the professional staff are absent and more positive tests have been received. The middle school is now starting to see that same issue. He added that one of the benefits of having three elementary buildings has helped mitigate the spread in the elementary schools. However, today the District started seeing more issues with the elementary staff and positive test results. The following resolution recommends moving to districtwide full remote learning on Thursday. Communication from the Department of Health shows that for three straight weeks, Cambria County has been in the substantial level of community transmission due to the increase in COVID-19 cases. Based on the numbers from yesterday and today alone, Cambria County will be substantial again. The Department of Health is getting much more adamant in their recommendation and anytime a county is in substantial for two consecutive weeks, the District should be in a full remote learning model.

A motion was offered by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Krug, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve modifications to the existing Penn Cambria School District Health and Safety Plan to show the district moving to district wide full remote learning through December 22<sup>nd</sup>. (*See Addendum "E"*)

**Roll Call:** Yes: Mrs. Guzic, Mr. Krug, Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Monica, Miss Pyo, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Sheehan, Mr. Albright, and Mr. Pyo

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Mr. Pyo thanked the administrators for their hard work and for keeping up with all of the statistics that are constantly coming from the Department of Health and CDC, let alone what's happening in the District itself.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Reorganization Meeting of the Board of School Directors is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria of the Penn Cambria High School for the following purposes:

- Elect a President
- Elect a Vice-President
- Select a Solicitor
- Designate time and place for committee and regular monthly meetings for 2021
- Conduct any other business to come before the Board

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

*Mrs. Jeanette Black*, Director of Curriculum and Instruction/Technology Coach, informed the Board of Directors on curriculum and COVID related topics.

“As teachers, we talk a lot about what we learned about in our insight classes in college such as Bloom’s Taxonomy which involves how to try to get kids to higher level thinking. However, in Ed Psych class we also learned about Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs that says you can’t focus on a higher level of thinking until a student’s basic needs are met, such as food, shelter, and safety. Maslow’s Hierarchy trumps Bloom’s Taxonomy every time.

The Altoona Mirror did a great article about schools and suddenly trying to assume a role that they have never been asked to assume before, with things like quarantines, isolations, and the process for determining how that works. Outside of school, if a student is reported to be positive or to have been quarantined due to close contact, our nursing office handles that. Our five nursing offices have been very busy taking calls from parents reporting things that happen outside of school. However, if it is a student that has been in school, or if it is a staff member, then it comes to me. Basically, we gather the information and contact the Rapid Response Center. The center takes the preliminary information and then I go back and do the leg work

within the district. I work with building principals, contact the person individually, try to get as much information as possible regarding dates, where they might have been, and who they might have been in contact with. Then we get a contact back from the Department of Health. It is rare that we get that call back within 24 hours as they are swamped right now. The community nurses give us a little bit of guidance and more than that, they try to gather information to determine whether anything more than just those close contacts need to be identified. They take that information and make a recommendation and ask that we send them a spreadsheet of those close contacts. Then they are supposed to contact those close contacts to let them know that they are quarantining. Sometimes the contacts from the Department of Health are not happening for days and so our building principles have been doing a great job making sure that we reach out to families to let them know, especially if they would have somebody that might have special health needs at home. Right now, we have fifteen employees on quarantine and five in isolation, which means that there are five positive employees. We also have eight employees currently reporting experiencing COVID like symptoms and awaiting a medical diagnosis. This afternoon alone we had two positive student results and three positive staff results. It has been time consuming. People have been wonderfully cooperative and the families that we have called whenever we have had to identify close contacts have been very gracious. Sometimes they have questions, and we can provide them with handouts that the Department of Health has provided us.

Ironically, before all the shutdowns happened, we were offered to join a grant program to develop trauma skilled networks in school through IU08 and Penn Cambria decided to join. We have a trauma skilled team that is currently being trained and will be able to then train our faculty and staff to help our students and staff deal with trauma. Our team consists of Courtney Kuncelman, Kelly Mignogna, Adam Smearman, Lisa Prebish, Ashley Madison, and myself. So far it has proven to be very valuable and we actually just met this morning to begin making plans to roll out information for our teachers regarding purposeful practices and self-care. This includes easy things they can do with their students to try to mitigate the impact of the chronic stress.

Instructionally, as we move to full remote learning, we are adding live opportunities for our students every day, so students will have the opportunity to interact daily with each of their teachers.

It is difficult sometimes to keep it in perspective, because at the same time we're on the phone with the Department of Health, talking to someone who is ill, and dealing with students that are struggling, then we get an email about Keystone Exams or something that seems so normal. Right now, the Keystone Exams are still scheduled. However, it is going to come in question as we rapidly approach January. We have a very flexible testing window. Normally we begin testing the first week in January. We will have through the end of March to administer those assessments. As usual, we're able to administer them in multiple groups and sessions, to best accommodate our students. We are still watching Senate bill 1216, as of today and it looks like it's still sitting in the Senate Rules Committee and we will continue to keep our eye on that."

Mr. Pyo expressed his appreciation for Mrs. Black, Mr. Marshall, and the faculty and thanked the parents and students for their patience.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was offered by Mr. Krug, seconded by Mr. Roberts, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That there being no further business, this meeting is adjourned at 7:46 P.M.