

PENN
BOARD REPORT
CAMBRIA

Volume 43 No. 4 October 2021

This report summarizes the actions taken by the Penn Cambria Board of Education at its regular meeting, October 19, 2021. Routine business, such as approval of minutes, treasurer’s report, payment of bills, and financial reports was accomplished. The Board also took the following actions:

I. HEARING OF VISITORS - There were no questions, concerns, comments, related to school business.

II. STUDENT REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Mrs. Kaitlyn Kalwanaski, High School Principal, introduced Aaron Duke and Mason McCarthy as the two student representatives reporting to the Board of Directors.

Aaron Duke reported to the Board of Directors that there has been a good amount of school spirit at the high school. Trivia Fridays have been integrated back into lunches and students are really enjoying it. Aaron recommended the creation of posters to show students that may not have had the opportunity to hear the announcements, how they can join school clubs and activities. The main concern at the high school is regarding COVID-19 related quarantines; students and teachers that are quarantined are struggling to get caught up, causing high stress levels.

Mason McCarthy informed the Board of Directors that there was a big turnout of students who participated in and loved the first school spirit week and are looking forward to Red Ribbon week. Mason also stated that there has been a vast improvement to school lunches and recognized Mrs. Focht, Food Service Director, for her efforts. He suggested having pep rallies for all high school activities, not just sports, so that all students can be recognized. Mason asked permission from the Board for the Spanish Club to attend Fright Night at Kennywood, following COVID-19 protocols.

Mr. William Marshall thanked the students for reporting school climate and added that the Leadership Team will be meeting this week to review the students’ requests. Mr. Marshall noted that Fright Night at Kennywood this year will be held during the day and that there are concerns of student commitments to clubs and extracurriculars.

III. ANNOUNCEMENT - *Erin Eckerd*, PSBA Representative, recognized School Directors Patricia Pyo, George Pyo, Terry Krug, and Patrick Albright for their years of service on the Penn Cambria School Board. Ms. Eckerd presented two School Directors with plaques: Patricia Pyo for thirty-two years of service and George Pyo for twenty-four years of service. She also presented two School Directors with certificates: Terry Krug and Patrick Albright, both for sixteen years of service.

IV. SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Penn Cambria Girls Golf Team who placed 2nd at PIAA District VI Golf Championships. Individual golfers were *Alyssa Mostick, Isabella Spahr, Marlana Krug, and Kylee Marshall*.

Congratulations to individual golf champions who took 4th place and will advance to PIAA State Championship at Heritage Hills York, PA:

Kyle Reese – Boys Golf and *Alyssa Mostick* – Girls Golf

V. APPROVED the Superintendent’s recommendations as follows:

A. PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Accept Resignations

Edward Swope, Middle School Custodian, effective October 1, 2021

Brittany Barnes, Gallitzin, Food Service Worker, effective September 21, 2021

Sarah Moyer, Duncansville, Substitute Teacher, effective September 23, 2021

Approve Appointments

Amy Farabaugh, Loretto, IU08 Substitute, effective pending documentation

Ryan Niklaus, Gallitzin, IU08 Substitute, effective pending documentation

Joseph Storm, Cresson, High School 2nd Shift Custodian, retroactive to October 11, 2021

Paul David Myers, Cresson, Volunteer Wrestling Coach, effective pending documentation

Mark Mardula, Lilly, High School BCIT Teacher, Bachelors Step 1, salary \$38,301, effective October 20, 2021

Kenneth Lenz, Gallitzin, Van Driver at 4 hours a day, starting rate of \$10.05/hour per Employment Agreement, effective pending documentation.

Approve Mellwain School Bus Lines, Inc. Drivers

Kayla Grossen, Ashville, pending documentation

Approve Leave

Employee #015458, Teacher, effective on or about December 8, 2021 through on or about January 14, 2022

- VI. Approved the participation in the 2022 Sea, Air, Land Challenge sponsored by the Office of Naval Research and PSU, at a cost of \$100 per team plus the cost of transportation.
- VII. Approved the formation of a new Clay Target Club at Penn Cambria High School.
- VIII. Approved *Joseph Ryan* and *Makaela Stanek* as Volunteer Clay Target Club Advisors, effective immediately.
- IX. Approved a Junior High Baseball program beginning with the 2021-2022 season.
- X. Deemed Junior High Baseball and Junior High Softball as Penn Cambria School District sports, with district paid stipends of up to \$3,370 for head coach positions, all other costs incurred will be the responsibility of each team's respective booster club.
- XI. Approved a contract renewal for Business Administrator, *Jill Francisco*, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027.
- XII. Approved *Kayla Galebach*, Loretto, as ESSER Grant Funded School Social Worker, salary and benefits as per the district collective bargaining agreement for professional staff, effective November 1, 2021 and anticipated through the 2023-2024 school years.
- XIII. The award for the proposal to provide and install interior camera systems on school buses will be made at the November Board of Directors meeting due to the number of responses and the vast information that was included therein.
- XIV. **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**
Mr. Dane Harrold, Principal grades 5-8, provided middle school updates to the Board of Directors regarding the new school year, including: 102 out of 107 families participated in the 5th grade back to school night; information provided by the PA Youth Survey on school climate, academics, and resources; Panther PAWS Rewards given to students that go above and beyond; the popcorn fundraiser raised over \$22,000 and those

funds will be used for field trips and activities, any excess funds will stay with each grade level until funds are depleted; theme days and pep rallies are helping to improve school climate; thanked Mrs. Kalwanaski and Mr. Shingle for allowing the high school band to perform at their pep rally; Positively P.C. Proud Mural that Mrs. Weakland and students completed in the cafeteria that includes pictures and newspaper clippings of student recognitions; and the usage of Canvas for quarantines due to COVID-19 has made it less challenging for students due to the opportunity to interact with teachers. Mr. Harrold concluded that middle school students and staff are doing a really great job and that he is extremely proud of all of them.