

PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER

Monday, November 27, 2017, 6:00 P.M. C.S.T.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ayers, Hoskins, Anderson, Wagle, Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell. Absent – none.

Also present: Jim Spelhaug, Brian Strusz, Cindy Lewis, Mike Clingingsmith, Deborah Dayman, Hannah Thomsen, Mike Zimmer, Eric Larew, Grant Ericksen, Beth Kroymann, Alex Yank, Pat Barnes, John Riches, Laura O'Brien and others.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Hopewell Elementary Webelos Troop 11 performed the flag ceremony and led the board and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

COMMUNICATIONS: President Cournoyer 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 Hoskins congratulated President Cournoyer upon her receipt of the *Women of Innovation STEM Champion Award*, presented at The Technology Association of Iowa's 10th Annual Women of Innovation Awards Banquet, and thanked her for her efforts in initiating and implementing multiple STEM activities in the district.

Mr. Strusz congratulated PV Law, the Pleasant Valley Junior High Mock Trial Team who won the regional meet and will compete at the state level. He also congratulated all fall athletes for successful seasons.

On the District's behalf, Dr. Spelhaug expressed appreciation to Bill Myatt for 28 years of service to the District. Mr. Myatt will retire at the end of the 2017-18 school year. During his tenure with the District, he served in several capacities, including English teacher, Talented and Gifted Coordinator, Librarian, and Theater Director.

RECOGNITION: President Cournoyer introduced the Hopewell Webelos Troop 11, who met with President Cournoyer and attended the board meeting in satisfaction of badge requirements. The Board welcomed scouts Muhammad Baig, Zein Brethouwer, Jack Perry, and leaders Mike and Francie Perry.

Mr. Strusz introduced Pat Barnes, representing Deere and Company and *Project Lead The Way (PLTW)*. Mr. Barnes presented a banner to each elementary school in recognition of their PLTW participation and the implementation of the *Launch* science program. The Board thanked Mr. Barnes and Deere and Company for leadership and guidance in launching and helping increase STEM opportunities in the district.

Mr. Strusz introduced members of the Pleasant Valley High School Girls STEM Club: Sara Hoskins, Jenna Aller, Abby Feldman, Olivia Lucas, Trinity Malmen, Danielle Waldron, and Ramya Subramaniam, as well as advisor and PVHS Chemistry teacher Megan Vandersee. The board recognized the group for their outstanding efforts in planning and leading *Hour of Code* events at the elementary schools held on early out days. *Hour of Code* introduces students to computer science, demystifies “code”, and aims to broaden participation in the field of computer science. The board thanked the STEM Club for their leadership, mentorship and significant contribution to fellow students. President Cournoyer congratulated two PVHS students also recognized as *Women of Innovation* finalists: sophomore Sara Hoskins and senior Ramya Banda.

John Riches, Communications and Public Affairs Manager for Arconic, was present to describe for the Board Arconic’s expansion plans and utilization of Tax Increment Financing. Arconic plans to install a new horizontal heat treat furnace to heat treat longer and thicker plate. The \$137 million investment is supported by economic development financial assistance from the Iowa Department of Economic Development and the City of Riverdale, and is expected to add 30 new jobs. Dr. Spelhaug emphasized that the Board fully supports this sort of TIF as strong schools require a vibrant local economy.

President Cournoyer and Directors Wagle and Hoskins shared impressions and information from the Iowa Association of School Boards state convention held November 16. President Cournoyer participated in the delegate assembly and informed the board that the five previously established legislative priorities were approved, and a sixth was added. The IASB Legislative Priorities for the 2018 legislative session include:

1. Continue development of rigorous content **Standards and Benchmarks** that reflect the real-world knowledge and skills students need to graduate from high school prepared for college or to enter the workforce.
2. Increase statewide access to and funding for **Mental Health** services for children.
3. Support predictable and timely state funding to serve students receiving **Special Education Services** at a level that reflects the actual costs including educational programming and health care costs.
4. Sufficient and equitable **School Funding Policy**.
5. Make decisions on growth factors in **Supplemental State Aid** on time, and at a rate that creates and sustains world-class schools.
6. Supports repeal of the December 31, 2029 sunset on the statewide penny sales tax for school infrastructure, known in law as **Secure an Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE)**.

CONSENT AGENDA, November 27, 2017: Motion by Anderson, second by Hoskins that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

The November 27, 2017 consent agenda consists of the following:

- MINUTES: The approval of minutes of the November 13, 2017 regular meeting.
- PERSONNEL:

CERTIFIED: William Myatt, English/Language Arts Teacher and Junior High Gifted-Talented Program Coordinator, has submitted his request for early retirement at the end of the 2017-18 school year after 28 years of service to the district.

CLASSIFIED: Patrick Eshelman, Assistant to Director of Operations, is nearing the end of his probationary employment period and is recommended for regular employment starting December 13, 2017. Joyce Junge, Special Education/Regular Education Aide at Pleasant Valley High School, is nearing the end of her probationary employment period and is recommended for regular employment starting December 18, 2017. Jessica White, Special Education Aide at Riverdale Heights Elementary, is nearing the end of her probationary employment period and is recommended for regular employment starting December 18, 2017.

CLASSIFIED (*information only*): Jade McWilliams is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Pleasant Valley High School starting November 27, 2017.

- OPEN ENROLLMENT: Two IN from Bettendorf for the 2017-18 school year.

EXPENSES APPROVED:

Motion by Dickson, second by Ayers that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$26,736.95 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Dickson that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$21,940.61 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Isbell, second by Hoskins that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$4,692.31 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried

Motion by Hoskins, second by Ayers that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$22,222.82 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Isbell that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$17,783.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Anderson that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$1,466,779.54 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Dickson that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$4,138.89 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Ayers that Internal Service Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$9,578.61 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Anderson that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$30.68 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

FOREST GROVE ELEMENTARY ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES: Dr. Spelhaug has met with PTA presidents and the Hopewell PTA regarding Forest Grove Elementary Attendance Boundaries. Questions regarding funding for staffing of the new building were raised. Dr. Spelhaug concurred that funding will be a challenge in the current climate of very low supplemental state aid increases, but the District does have

untapped spending authority as well as the capacity to increase the Instructional Support Levy from the current rate of 8% to 10%. He noted that both options would increase property tax, so it is most desirable that the state supports a higher level of allowable growth. Meetings with the remaining elementary PTAs are scheduled for December.

No required motion.

APPROVAL OF 2018-19 AT-RISK DROPOUT PREVENTION PROGRAM PROPOSAL: As a continuation of the at-risk report from last meeting, Mr. Strusz outlined the final budgetary numbers for the 2018-2019 application. In preparing the budget, districts are allowed to request a modified supplemental amount (MSA – formerly known as allowable growth) to receive funding for their dropout prevention services. The modified supplemental amount for 2018-19 is \$853,940 as compared to \$828,638 in 2017-18.

Motion by Anderson, second by Hoskins that the Board approve the 2018-19 At-Risk and Dropout Prevention Program Proposal as presented and approve the 2018-19 request for modified supplemental amount of \$853,940. Roll call vote. Ayes – Wagle, Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Ayers, Hoskins, Anderson. Nays – none. Motion carried.

ELEMENTARY SCIENCE PROJECT LEAD THE WAY: This fall elementary science teachers implemented *PLTW Launch* in third and fourth grade science classrooms. *Launch* contains interdisciplinary modules that bring learning to life. The program empowers students to adopt a design-thinking mindset through compelling activities, projects, and problems that build upon each other and relate to the world around them. As students engage in hands-on activities in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, they improve as creative, collaborative problem solvers. Elementary science teachers Grant Ericksen, Beth Kroymann, and Alex Yank shared their impressions of the implementation, noting the focus on problem solving, student centered labs, continuity, and literature. Students are provided the scaffolding to define and solve problems.

No required motion.

2018-19 SCHOOL CALENDAR: Dr. Spelhaug reviewed with the Board the initial draft of the 2018-19 calendar. Much of the calendar reflects past practice. New items include the addition of a school day off October 29, providing a four day weekend for families and three day weekend for faculty and staff. This day off replaces the April 27 day off in 2018 since Good Friday, a scheduled holiday, occurs on April 19, 2019. The first day of school will be August 23, as required by state statute.

Another change is calculating instructional time for seniors by hours (as is the rest of the calendar) rather than days. Seniors may attend 1,050 instead of 1,080 hours. The proposed calendar keeps seniors well ahead of the required number of hours.

A more detailed calendar draft will be presented to the Board in December; a public hearing and vote will occur in January.

No required motion.

2018-19 COURSE OF STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS: Brian Strusz and PVHS Principal Mike Zimmer provided the first overview of new courses proposed for the 2018-19 school year:

- Computer Integrated Manufacturing – full year elective for grades 10-12
- Web Design and Advertising – semester elective for grades 9-12
- Coding and Gaming – semester elective for grades 9-12
- Physical Science – full year elective for grades 11-12
- Sports Medicine – semester elective for grades 10-12

Computer Integrated Manufacturing, Web Design and Advertising, and Coding and Gaming will fulfill the expressive or technical arts/technology requirement for graduation. Final review and approval will occur at the December Board meeting.

No required motion.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mr. Clingingsmith presented the monthly financial reports for October 2017. Through October, General Fund revenue totaled \$14,972,609 and expenses totaled \$9,963,378. The fund balance in the General Fund at October 31, 2017 was \$11,448,392. Also presented were Management, PPEL, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Nutrition, Internal Service, and Activity Funds reports. No significant variances from projections were noted.

Motion by Dickson, second by Anderson that the board accept the monthly financial reports for October as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes – Isbell, Ayers, Hoskins, Anderson, Wagle, Cournoyer, Dickson. Nays – none. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION TOUR: At the conclusion of the Board Meeting, Board members traveled to Pleasant Valley High School and toured the newly constructed front entry, commons and office area until 8:15 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:

Monday, December 18, 2017	Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Belmont Administration Center
Winter Break	December 25 – January 2 (Belmont Administration Center will be closed) School resumes January 3, 2018
Monday, January 8, 2018	Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Belmont Administration Center

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

Durham School Services, located at the Pleasant Valley Community School District Maintenance Center, 4333 Devils Glen Road, Bettendorf has an immediate opening for a full time Diesel Mechanic with 3-5 years' experience. Technical knowledge of major vehicle systems and diesel equipment required. For more information see the job listing at <https://quadcities.craigslist.org/trp/d/diesel-mechanic-needed/6402622078.html> or contact: Craig Hartson at 918-202-3154. To apply go to: www.durhamschoolservices.com

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 more information on Open Enrollment, please visit the district website at www.pleasval.k12.ia.us, email or call Kelly Hatler, hatlerk@pleasval.k12.ia.us at the Administration Center at (563)332-5550.

JULY 2017

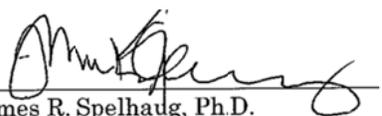
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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 Brian Strusz, who has been designated by the district as Educational Equity Coordinator, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of HEW, Washington, D.C. Mr. Strusz' office is at Pleasant Valley Administration Center, 525 Belmont Rd., Bettendorf, Iowa 52722; telephone (563) 332-5550.


James R. Spelhaug, Ph.D.
Superintendent