

# PELLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Minutes

**Regular Board of Education Meeting  
Board of Education Conference Room  
7:30 p.m.**

**Monday, July 13, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Pellston Public Schools was held in the Gerald E. Mallory Board of Education Conference Room on Monday, July 13, 2009, immediately following the annual reorganizational meeting. President Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Members present: Connie Dzedzie, Kathy Smith, Jim Milbrandt, John Ritter, Chris Rybinski, Sheri Kindell, and Ronald Wolford.

Member(s) absent: None

The *Pledge of Allegiance* and prayer were led by Connie Dzedzie.

It was moved by Connie Dzedzie and supported by Ron Wolford to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on Monday, June 29, 2009. The motion carried 7-0.

It was moved by Connie Dzedzie and supported by Jim Milbrandt to approve payment of the bills for the months of June and July, 2009 in the amount of \$116,096.03 with payment being made from the following funds: General Fund, \$107,533.97; Athletics, \$7,735.48; and Food Service, \$826.58 and the ACH transfers in the amount of \$96,422.08. The motion carried 7-0.

It was moved by Connie Dzedzie supported by Sheri Kindell to approve the payrolls for the dates of July 17 and July 31, 2009 and payment of the benefits and utilities from July 14 through August 9, 2009. The motion carried 7-0.

### **Public Petitions**

Mrs. Jane Sundmacher, NW Mich. Health Dept. reported on the results of the Needs Assessment, which has been done to determine whether or not a Health Clinic is needed at Pellston Public Schools. A Health Clinic would be an overwhelming success here based upon the surveys and input from students, staff and community. Focus for the Clinic would include primary care, as well as alcohol, tobacco and other drug awareness and intervention and mental health counseling. Jane noted that it has been a real pleasure working with staff, students and parents in the Pellston community. Everyone has been very helpful. Planning meetings will continue and in spite of the funding cuts, she is very optimistic that the clinic will become a reality in one form or another. The Board thanked Jane for all of her hard work and reiterated their commitment to the Clinic becoming a reality at Pellston Public Schools.

### **Principals' Reports**

Principal Basanese reported that the Middle/High School enrollment is continuing its downward trend. The Junior class has been especially hard hit and is down to 39 students. There are

currently 372 students, in grades 6-12.

### **New Business**

It was moved by Connie Dzedzie and supported by Chris Rybinski to approve the resolutions authorizing our Cooperative Agreements for our participation in the Charlevoix-Emmet ISD, operated Midtown Academic Program, Crooked Tree Academic Program, Lakeview Academy, and the Alternative Program for School-Age Parents (New Horizons) for the 2009-10 school year. The motion carried 7-0.

It was moved by Connie Dzedzie and supported by Sheri Kindell to approve the low bid of \$8,768 from Van's Business Machines for a Ricoh MP 5550sp with Finisher/Stapler and a maintenance agreement for all parts, labor, toner, developer and black drum at .0005 per copy. The motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent Tebbe requested and received approval from the Board members that funds be used from the Char-Em Technology budget to purchase 25 computers for the BST lab. Four have already been purchased from 2008-09 funds and 21 additional computers will be ordered.

### **Personnel**

It was moved by Jim Milbrandt and supported by Chris Rybinski to approve the superintendent's salary at \$102,500 for the 2009-10 fiscal year, which represents no change from 2008-09. The motion carried 7-0.

It was moved by John Ritter and supported by Jim Milbrandt to lay off one section of 1<sup>st</sup> grade for the 2009-10 school year. The motion carried 7-0.

It was moved by Chris Rybinski and supported by Jim Milbrandt to accept the resignation of Mr. Frank Schneider, Pellston Elementary School Principal. The motion carried 4 – 3.

### **Curriculum Report**

Principal Tony Basanese presented proposed changes to the Student Handbook for 2009-10. The Board chose to discuss various changes separately and vote accordingly.

Concerning change number four it was moved by Connie Dzedzie and supported by John Ritter to limit sports teams' buses from leaving school before 2:15 P.M. Athletic Director may make two (2) exceptions to this rule for any one sport. The motion carried 7-0.

Concerning change number twelve it was moved by Connie Dzedzie and supported by Ron Wolford to accept the elimination of the language which states, "...having to pass 2 out of 3..." The motion carried 7-0.

Concerning changes 1-3, 5-11, & 13 it was moved by Ron Wolford and supported by Sheri Kindell to approve the changes for the Middle/High School Student Handbook, as submitted by

Mr. Basanese. (See below)

### **Possible Additions to Student Handbook**

1. High School Science Elective Credit will be given to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for successful completion of Earth Science. This class must be taught by a Highly Qualified teacher. This is credit ONLY. This does not affect high school GPA.
2. High School Health/Physical Education credit will be granted to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students if:  
a.) class is taught by Highly Qualified teacher, b.) Health Class is semester in length, c.) Physical Education class is semester in length. This is credit ONLY. This does not affect high school GPA.
3. High School Algebra credit will be given to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students if the class is: a.) taught by a Highly Qualified teacher, b.) course content aligns with High School Content Expectations for Algebra I. This is credit ONLY. This does not affect high school GPA.
4. School Sanctioned Absence Policy. If a student has to miss school due to his/her participation in a school sanctioned absence (sports, field trips, S.A.F.E., National Honor Society, etc.) then the following will occur: a.) students should make arrangements with the teacher to take tests and quizzes, b.) projects and homework must be turned in the day of the absence, c.) all assignments/homework must be obtained before departure to event, d.) students who do not prearrange will make up tests and quizzes the next day they are in school at 3:15 p.m. (Practice is not an excuse to miss make-up sessions, e.) failure to make up tests and quizzes during this time frame will result in the student receiving a “0” (zero).
5. Late Home Policy. Daily homework (twice during the nine weeks) may be turned in one (1) day late for ½ credit. Large projects (once during the nine weeks) will be accepted one (1) day late with a 20% deduction of earned points.
6. Food or Drink in the Hallway: Ask student to throw away or be written up for one (1) point. Food must remain in the Commons.
7. Remove: Points will be reduced by three (3) for no infractions during a nine week period. Points will be reduced through community service at the rate of one (1) point per three hours of service. Sites must be approved in advance. (List will be created.)
8. Discipline Points Appeal Process: If a student/parent feels that the total amount of discipline points is incorrect they should: a.) contact secretary for a print-out of discipline. If this does not remedy the issue, b.) contact the principal and set up an appointment to meet with the student and parent to review discipline points assessed.
9. Saturday School will be dropped from the handbook and replaced with a two (2) hour after school session.

10. Change Hat Policy to coincide with common practice: No hats in building from 8:10-3:15.
11. Reward for NO Discipline points during any nine (9) week grading period. Students without discipline points for an entire nine (9) week grading period will be brought to the auditorium with names being draw for prizes. This will be held at the end of each nine (9) week period.
12. Change Semester Grading to the following: The 40-40-20 split would stay in place. However, the language of stating the need to pass 2 out of 3 would be removed. This would be replaced with language stating that students need to pass the semester with a sixty (60) percent or higher average.
13. Students who are suspended for more than ten (10) days would be allowed to take books/materials home. Students would take any test given at 3:30 p.m. in the cafeteria, during the two hour after school detention period.

Mrs. Kim Wagenschutz, Elementary Teacher reported that there was overwhelming support for the Positive Behavior Plan from staff. This will be a continually changing plan due to the needs and experience with it. There are a few remaining questions and potentially small glitches but overall everyone is "on board" and ready to begin! As soon as a new principal is selected discussions regarding final details will be held. In the meantime, the staff is approved to move forward with this plan.

It was moved by Chris Rybinski and supported by Jim Milbrandt to accept the elementary positive behavior plan, as written. The motion carried 7-0.

### **Committee Reports/Assignments**

Building and Grounds committee has finalized the bids and ordered the new fencing for the playground. Bruce Ferris and Jerry Mallory will do the installation and thereby save considerable money. Renovations on the BST Computer lab are being completed with the aid of money from the Vocational Ed. Budget through Char-Em paying for the purchase of some of the new furnishings.

There being no further business, it was moved by Ron Wolford and supported by Sheri Kindell to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 10:05 P.M.