

PELLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Minutes

**Regular Board of Education Meeting
Board of Education Conference Room
7:00 p.m.**

Monday, April 13, 2026

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, April 13, 2026. Members present: Jim Milbrandt, Rob Thomson, Kristen Bauer-Frye, Bryan Searles, Serenity Dankert, Kim Jutson and Amanda McCafferty. Members absent:

President Milbrandt called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm.

The *Pledge of Allegiance* and a moment of reflection were led by Rob Thomson.

Information/Presentations

Spotlight Presentation – World Culture Club: Miss Kathryn Heckman/Greece Trip

Athletic Report – Mr. Kurt Grangood (Report Enclosed)

Transportation Report – Mr. Lee Minzey

Food Service Report – Mrs. Mariah Heinz (Report Enclosed)

Elementary Report – Mrs. VanAntwerp provided a written report to the Board. Report on file.

MS/HS Principal Report – Mr. Schlappi provided a written report to the Board. Report on file.

Administrator Highlights

Public Commentary

Correspondence

Old Business

New Business

School Closures 2025-2026 – Mr. Seelye updated the Board of Education on our 13 school closures, additional forgiven days and the possibility of having to add days onto our current 2025-2026 calendar. No action was requested at this time as we wait for state legislation to vote on additional forgiven days.

Village of Pellston Municipal Well – Mr. Seelye provided the Board of Education with an update

regarding the village well project. Mr. Seelye attended a virtual meeting last week during which the company has made some new requests for the district to consider. Mr. Seelye has another meeting with them this week. No action was requested at this time.

3M Window Security Film Project – Mr. Seelye shared with the Board of Education that Michigan Glass Coating completed the installation of 3M window security film throughout the district over spring break. No action was requested at this time.

MS/HS Gym AC Project – Mr. Seelye provided the Board of Education with an update on the air conditioning project for the MS/HS gymnasium. Our HVAC provider has informed the district that we will unfortunately need additional support/bracing on the roof to support the AC units, which also means there will be additional costs to the original bid. No action was requested at this time.

Special Education Supervisor – Mr. Seelye led a discussion with the Board of Education about the posting for the shared Special Education Director position between Harbor Springs, Alanson and Pellston. Mr. Seelye is asking for approval to enter into a contract with Harbor Springs.

Motion by Rob Thomson and supported by Serenity Dankert, “that the Board of Education approve the partnership for the Special Education Supervisor position, as presented by Mr. Stephen Seelye.” Motion carried 7-0.

Operating Millage Resolution – Mr. Seelye led a discussion with the Board of Education regarding the Operating Millage Resolution for the August ballot. He also shared a copy of the proposed ballot language from Thrun Law Firm for review and approval. Mr. Seelye is asking for approval of the Operating Millage Resolution.

Motion by Serenity Dankert and supported by Bryan Searles, “that the Board of Education approve the Operating Millage Resolution for the August 2026 ballot as presented by Thrun Law Firm.” Motion carried 7-0.

School Safety Consultant, Mrs. Kathy Drenth – Mr. Seelye led a discussion with the Board of Education about entering into a contract (not to exceed \$20,000 annually) with Kathy Drenth as Pellston’s School Safety Consultant. Mr. Seelye is asking for approval to enter into a contract with Kathy Drenth.

Motion by Kim Jutson and supported by Bryan Searles, “that the Board of Education approve the School Safety Consultant contract with Kathy Drenth in the amount not to exceed \$20,000 annually, as presented by Mr. Stephen Seelye.” Motion carried 7-0.

Snow Day Practice Policy – Mr. Seelye led a discussion with the Board of Education about updating the district’s athletic snow day practice policy for the 2026-2027 school year. Mr. Grangood would like the ability to consult with Mr. Seelye before canceling practices due to school closures. Student safety will remain our top priority when assessing current road conditions. No action was requested at this time.

Drost Landscaping Proposals – Mr. Seelye led a discussion with the Board of Education about wanting the grounds in our district to look beautiful. He shared some proposals from Drost Landscaping for spring, before school starts and MS/HS front lawn beautification projects. Mr. Seelye is asking for approval to accept the Drost Landscaping proposals.

Motion by Serenity Dankert and supported by Kim Jutson, “that the Board of Education approve the contracts with Drost Landscaping for Spring and Summer maintenance at the Elementary School in the amount of \$10,205.11, Spring and Summer maintenance at the MS/HS in the amount of \$9,216.94 and MS/HS boulder installation in the amount of \$2,984.33, as presented by Mr. Stephen Seelye.” Motion carried 7-0.

Clark Hill Board Policy – Mr. Seelye provided the Board of Education with a copy of an updated Clark Hill Board Policy regarding Administrative Guidelines for Criminal Background Checks and Unprofessional Conduct Checks. This is simply an update that needs to be approved. Mr. Seelye is asking for board approval of the new Administrative Guidelines on Criminal Justice Information Security.

Motion by Bryan Searles and supported by Serenity Dankert, “that the Board of Education approve the new Clark Hill Board Policy for Administrative Guidelines on Criminal Justice Information Security, as presented by Mr. Stephen Seelye.” Motion carried 7-0.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Kim Jutson, supported by Kristen Bauer-Frye, “that the Consent Agenda Items for the April 13, 2026 meeting of the Board of Education be adopted, as presented.” The motion carried 7-0.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the Regular meeting minutes of the March 9, 2026 Board Meeting”.

Payment of the Bills

Motion: “that the Board of Education, pay Gross Payrolls for March 6, 2026 and March 20, 2026; Benefits and Utilities and ACH transfers for the month of March 2026.”

Motion: “that the Board of Education of Pellston Public Schools pay all fund bills paid by checks as listed in the enclosed board packet totaling: \$653,158.26.”

Business and Finance Items

Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the purchase of Crisis Go Panic Badges in the amount of \$11,850.00, as recommended by Mr. Stephen Seelye.”

Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the purchase of Crisis Go Visitor Management Systems in the amount of \$3,873.00, as recommended by Mr. Stephen Seelye.”

Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the quote from Wayne’s Electric for the installation of EV Bus Chargers in the amount of \$36,800.00, as recommended by Mr. Stephen Seelye.”

Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the School Safety Building Mapping in the amount of \$3,467.50, as recommended by Mr. Stephen Seelye.”

Motion: “that the Board of Education approve bringing The NED Show to Pellston Elementary School in the amount of \$2,500.00, as recommended by Mr. Stephen Seelye.”

Personnel Items

Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Mrs. Ashley Walker, as an Elementary Intervention Specialist, as recommended by Mrs. Tammy VanAntwerp.”

Motion: “that the Board of Education approve the hiring of Miss Maggee Behling, as the MS/HS PE & Health Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year., as recommended by Mr. Stephen Seelye.”

Adjournment

It was motioned by Serenity Dankert and supported by Bryan Searles to adjourn the meeting at 7:41PM. The motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned.