



Growing Together • Learning Together

# NORTHMEN FOREVER

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF PETOSKEY

Regular School Board Meeting

Thursday, August 15, 2024, 7:00 PM

Spitler Administration Building, 1130 Howard Street, Petoskey, MI 49770

Mark Ashley: Present  
Jenni Attie: Present  
Beth Flynn: Present  
Denise Petoskey: Present  
Kathy Reed: Present

1. Call to Order and Roll Call  
Called to order at 7:00PM.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance  
President Ashley led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Presentation: Sheridan Playwrights  
Ann Chatterson presented an update to the Board on the Sheridan Playwrights.

When Ann was a volunteer at Sheridan Elementary, Joel Donaldson, former Sheridan Principal, helped Ann set up a club called the Sheridan Playwrights. The students wrote and produced several plays. About seven years ago, the plays were submitted to an online resource for teachers called The Drama Notebook. They were looking for fresh material and trying to build a library of plays. Two of the three plays submitted by the Sheridan Playwrights were accepted for publication and in the summer of 2020, the first notification was received that a neighborhood group in Denver wanted to produce "The Legend of the Blue Sapphire"!

The list has now grown to five groups in three countries who have loved the plays the kids wrote and are putting them on with their own students! The list includes Denver, CO; Front Royal, VA; Burnsville, NC; Sri Lanka and Vancouver, BC!

The teachers wrote to ask if there are royalties (no) and for permission to slightly adapt the scripts to their purposes (yes). For example, the 5th grade class in Vancouver wanted to change the gold rush setting to a Canadian city.

One of the main reasons the club was started was to show kids that they could bring their ideas to life and could make an impact. These shows have now traveled to something like 17 states and appeared in seven (7) countries on four (4) continents.

This is a truly inspiring example of what can happen with kids and the arts.

4. Audience Participation

There was no audience participation.

5. Resolution: Approval - Minutes

Dr. Leslie recommended the Board's approval of the minutes below.

Regular Meeting Minutes, July 18, 2024

Closed Session Meeting Minutes, July 18, 2024

Moved that the written minutes be approved as recorded. This motion, made by Denise Petoskey and seconded by Jenni Attie, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea

Jenni Attie: Yea

Beth Flynn: Yea

Denise Petoskey: Yea

Kathy Reed: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

6. Resolution: Approval - Warrants

Dr. Leslie recommended the Board's approval.

Moved that the warrants paid, as submitted by the administration, be approved in the amount of \$3,615,787.87. This motion, made by Jenni Attie and seconded by Beth Flynn, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea

Jenni Attie: Yea

Beth Flynn: Yea

Denise Petoskey: Yea

Kathy Reed: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

7. Resolution: Approval - Change in Regular Meeting Date

Dr. Leslie recommended the Board's approval.

Moved to change the date of the September Regular Board Meeting from Thursday, September 19, 2024, to Tuesday, September 17, 2024. This motion, made by Beth Flynn and seconded by Denise Petoskey, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea

Jenni Attie: Yea

Beth Flynn: Yea

Denise Petoskey: Yea

Kathy Reed: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

8. Resolution: Approval - Adult Breakfast Meal Prices for 2024-25

The Board approved adult meal prices in May. However, due to a change in the adult meal pricing tool provided by MDE, the district must adjust our adult breakfast meal price. The previously approved adult breakfast price is \$3.00. The new minimum price, based on the MDE tool is \$3.01. We would like to increase the price to \$3.25. All other meal prices will remain at the levels approved by the Board in May. Dr. Leslie recommended the Board's approval.

Moved to approve the revised adult breakfast meal price of \$3.25 for the 2024-25 school year. This motion, made by Jenni Attie and seconded by Kathy Reed, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea

Jenni Attie: Yea

Beth Flynn: Yea

Denise Petoskey: Yea

Kathy Reed: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

9. Resolution: Approval - Food Service Bids – Cafeteria Tables

At the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year the Food Service Fund had a fund balance in excess of the amount allowed by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). MDE requested that Public Schools of Petoskey develop a fund balance spend down plan and submit it to MDE for approval. MDE approved our plan which includes the purchase of cafeteria tables for Ottawa and Sheridan.

Three bids were received as follows:

- Global Industrial \$61,804.55
- Schools IN \$56,065.60
- Webstaurant Store \$37,896.00

Dr. Leslie recommended the Board's approval.

Moved to approve the bid from Webstaurant Store in the amount of \$37,896.00. This motion, made by Kathy Reed and seconded by Jenni Attie, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea

Jenni Attie: Yea

Beth Flynn: Yea

Denise Petoskey: Yea

Kathy Reed: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

10. Resolution: Approval - Revised Salary Schedule - Admin

The Board of Education, at the July 18, 2024, meeting, approved the Administrative Staff three-year salary schedules. The District asked to revise the schedules. The revised schedules remove the longevity steps and convert them to annual salary steps. The District feels this change is needed as this group also has longevity payments as part of their employment contracts. The change will help ensure that these steps are not questioned by ORS and reflect a salary schedule that is similar to the PEA contract. Dr. Leslie recommended the Board's approval.

Moved that the revised wage schedules for the Administrative staff be approved as presented. This motion, made by Denise Petoskey and seconded by Beth Flynn, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea

Jenni Attie: Yea

Beth Flynn: Yea

Denise Petoskey: Yea

Kathy Reed: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

11. Resolution: Approval - Revised Wage Schedules - Central Office/Technology

The Board of Education, at the July 18, 2024, meeting approved the Central Office/Technology Staff three-year wage schedules. The District asked to revise the schedules. The revised schedules remove the longevity steps and convert them to annual wage steps. The District feels this change is needed as this group also has longevity payments as part of their employment agreements. The change will help ensure that these steps are not questioned by ORS and reflect a wage schedule that is similar to the PEA contract. Dr. Leslie recommended the Board's approval.

Moved that the revised wage schedules for the Central Office/Technology staff be approved as presented. This motion, made by Jenni Attie and seconded by Kathy Reed, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea

Jenni Attie: Yea  
Beth Flynn: Yea  
Denise Petoskey: Yea  
Kathy Reed: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

#### 12. Resolution: Approval - Transportation Contract

In August of 2023, the District and Johnson's Buses Inc. signed a contract document for transportation services. The contract automatically renews annually unless terminated by either party. Annually, the District and Johnson's Buses Inc. must agree to the compensation amount of the contract. Johnson's Buses Inc. proposed pricing as follows:

- Special Needs Transportation - \$90,636
- Regular Transportation - \$1,559,036
- Total Contract Amount - \$1,649,672

The pricing includes an increase of 3.4% over the 2023-24 pricing. Dr. Leslie recommended the Board's approval of the proposed pricing.

Moved to approve the 2024-25 contract amount of \$1,649,672 with Johnson's Buses Inc. for student transportation services as presented. This motion, made by Beth Flynn and seconded by Kathy Reed, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea  
Jenni Attie: Yea  
Beth Flynn: Yea  
Denise Petoskey: Yea  
Kathy Reed: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

#### 13. Educational Reports

Elementary Updates provided by Jason Latz:

- Shout out to the construction crews, the custodial staff and the technology staff
- Thank you to Katie, HR, and Nicole, Registrar, for all their work with new hires and new enrollments
- Camp Daggett Team Building was a success
- Thank you to Dr. Harris for organizing the Safety Meeting
- New secretary at Lincoln and Central
- Thank you to Becky and Literacy coaches for their work this summer
- Thank you to summer school staff
- Elementary Open House, 8/28/24, 4:00-5:30
- Welcome to Jennifer Perreault, new Central principal
- Therapy dog update

Middle School Updates provided by Jon Wilcox:

- Welcome to Taylor Golding, new assistant principal
- Academic Learning Camp (summer school) update
- Thank you to Dana Pinney and Becky Smith for organizing summer school
- PowerSchool opens soon
- Open House, 8/27/24, 4:30-6:00
- Athletics update
- Shout out to the custodial staff and the technology staff
- Need aides and a secretary

High School Updates provided by Rob Harris:

- Thank you to the custodial staff and the technology staff
- Summer school update
- Polaris is getting ready to roll, 27 students
- Freshmen and new student orientation
- Welcome to Mindy Horn, new assistant principal
- Open House, 8/27/24, 5:00-6:30
- Athletics update

Teaching and Learning Updates provided by Becky Smith:

- Data presentation

#### 14. Board of Education Reports

Trustee Flynn

- Learners Academy at PMS

Trustee Attie

- Superintendent Evaluation Training
- High school soccer

Trustee Petoskey

- Odawa Homecoming Pow Wow
- Thank you to the staff and students who attended

Trustee Reed

- Superintendent Evaluation Training
- Progress on the parking lots

Trustee Ashley

- Superintendent Evaluation Training
- The training was required
- New turf looks great
- Camp Daggett team building

#### 15. Financial Report

Mr. Melching provided updates from the business office.

- Liz Nortley, Accounts Payable, is retiring
- Kathy Culbertson, Payroll, is replacing Liz
- The new payroll person will start in two weeks
- Closed out of the fiscal year

#### 16. Superintendent's Report

- Free athletic passes for senior citizens
  - 109 seniors have received a new pass since Monday
  - Received an email from the Friendship Center thanking the district for providing this to senior citizens in the community
- Student Accident Insurance
- Construction update
- Technology update
- Helene Ivie, Ottawa teacher, submitted a letter of resignation
- Superintendent Evaluation Training
- Annual Report calendar
- Department of Education school budget
- Radio update
- Reunification training

#### 17. Audience Participation

Leah Matelski, Petoskey

- Alumni, small business owner, mom
- Expressed concern over a staff member/former coach calling a current college athlete that is on the team that is actively recruiting her daughter.
  - This staff member/former coach asked this current player to tell her college coach to stop recruiting their daughter
  - This staff member/former coach should have been their daughter's, and other PHS athlete's, greatest advocate
  - This staff member/former coach is trying to emotionally and financially ruin their daughter's athletic future
- Told that nothing can be done by the school district

- How can a staff member who is intentionally trying to sabotage a PHS athlete's future not be held accountable?
- Who is going to protect our child and the other children?
- If the school district cannot do anything, who is going to help us?

18. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Moved to adjourn the meeting. This motion, made by Jenni Attie and seconded by Beth Flynn, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea

Jenni Attie: Yea

Beth Flynn: Yea

Denise Petoskey: Yea

Kathy Reed: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0