

Panhandle Community Unit District No. Two Board of Education

Regular Session Minutes July 24, 2023

The Panhandle Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, July 24, 2023, at the Panhandle Learning Center in Raymond at 7:00 p.m. Board President Teresa Payne called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and roll call was taken.

Board Members Present: Teresa Payne, President; Dana Pitchford, Vice-President; Gabe Pope, Secretary; Scott Cowdrey Darrin Daugherty, Heather Millburg

Board Members Absent: Gretchen Rovey

Also in attendance: Aaron Hopper, Superintendent; Ken Schuster, Principal; Isaiah Atkins

Community Comments

None

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of minutes of June, 2023, policy meeting, budget hearing, regular and executive sessions
- B. Approval of July bills, June 2023 disbursements, Treasurer's Report and Activity Accounts
- C. Approve the 2023-2024 vocational mileage reimbursement contract
- D. Annual approval of the District Affirmation of Assignments
- E. Approve disposal of closed-session recordings over 24 months old

It was moved by Pope and seconded by Pitchford to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

Old Business Items

Solar Presentation and Discussion

Lauralyn Farwell from Keystone presented information to the board regarding solar options within the school district. Ms. Farwell shared the potential location and output of the fields and what the process would be if the board considered pursuing the option. The board continued their discussion regarding the long term impact to the district. Ms. Farewell shared what to expect from Keystone through the term of the lease. The lease would be thirty year term.

The board requested more information from a solar firm that provided a different pathway for development in order to gain perspective on the board's options moving forward.

Building repair and maintenance update.

Mr. Hopper reported on summer progress within the school district and thanked staff for the work that had been completed.

Second reading of board policies

The board will need to consider the following board policies and adopt the second reading:

- 2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers
- 3:40 Superintendent
- 4:60 Purchases
- 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria
- 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- 5:125 Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct
- 5:150 Personnel Records
- 5:170 Copyright
- 5:260 Student Teachers
- 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program
- 6:230 Library Media Program
- 8:20 Community Use of School Facilities

It was moved by Millburg and seconded by Pitchford to approve the second reading of board policies as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

Board Development

Mr. Hopper updated the board regarding the reimagining of the district mission statement. The board reviewed the district's current goals and indicated that there was no need to change them moving forward.

The board continued by discussing other rebranding options for the district including updating the district's motto. Mr. Hopper would survey staff, students, and families as part of the process in selecting a new motto for the school district.

The administration will work with staff to update the district's history this school year as well.

New Business Items

*Approval of the tentative FY24 Tentative Budget**

Mr. Hopper presented estimates for revenue and expenses for the FY24 school year. Revenues are estimated to remain flat and expenses are expected to increase approximately 4% this fiscal year. Final budget numbers will be presented in September.

It was moved by Pitchford and seconded by Pope to approve the FY24 Tentative Budget as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

Golf Course Plan

Mr. Hopper reviewed the use of the golf course with the board and a recent meeting that was held with members of the village board. The school and village will review activity and numbers this year to better understand where the needs are and how we can continue to work cooperatively together to meet the needs of the students.

Activity Bus Driver Development Plan

The board discussed a plan to promote the addition of more activity bus drivers within the school district. Mr. Hopper will work with transportation and post the opportunity within the school district.

Approval of surplus Items

The submitted list was reviewed by the board and a motion was made on the matter. It was moved by Millburg and seconded by Pitchford to approve the surplus list as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

Saddle Club Discussion

Mr. Hopper reviewed with the school board the history of the land which was donated by the Saddle Club. The board discussed possible options and directed Mr. Hopper to reach out to a member of the club regarding possible options for future use of the district's land.

*Approval of the 2023-2024 Faculty Handbook**

Administration presented the updated handbook for the board's review.

It was moved by Pitchford and seconded by Daugherty to approve the 2023-2024 faculty handbook as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

*Approval of the 2023-2024 Before/After School rates**

Mr. Hopper shared with the board that rates in the before and after school program had not increased since it was started in 2010. The program ran at a deficit last fiscal year and an increase in prices was needed to assist with the continued operation of the program.

It was moved by Pope and seconded by Pitchford to approve the 2023-2024 before and after school rates as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

*Consideration and Approval of a golf cooperative agreement with the Pawnee School District**

Mr. Hopper shared with the board that Pawnee had asked to COOP with Lincolnwood for golf as they did not have an option for golf for the students. Mr. Hopper shared information that Mr. Stone had collected with the board regarding the request.

It was moved by Pitchford and seconded by Daugherty to approve the golf cooperative with Pawnee agreement as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

Community Comments

Executive Session

It was moved by Millburg and seconded by Pitchford to enter into closed session at 8:45 p.m. for the following purposes as allowed under the Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2(c): Appointment, employment and/or dismissal of employees of the District. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

It was moved by Cowdrey and seconded by Pitchford to reconvene into open session at 9:03 p.m. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

Executive Session Action

It was moved by Pitchford and seconded by Pope to accept the resignation of Monica Ortega effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey Absent.

It was moved by Millburg and seconded by Daugherty to approve Sara Jenkins as an assistant volleyball for the 2023-2024 school year pending successful completion of all state and local employment requirements. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

It was moved by Cowdrey and seconded by Millburg to approve Kimberly Steward as district custodian for the 2023-2024 school year pending successful completion of all state and local employment requirements. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.

Adjournment

It was moved by Pope and seconded by Millburg to adjourn at 9:04 p.m. Motion carried 6-0 with Rovey absent.



Teresa Payne, President



Gabe Pope, Secretary