

Minutes, Regular Meeting, September 7, 2021, 6:30 P.M., Piketon High School

Roll Call:       Cutler,           Present  
                  Fuller,           Present  
                  Shaw,            Present  
                  Smith,           Present  
                  Wooldridge,    Present

**Public Concerns**

Aaron Lapp addressed the Board and Mr. Hairston regarding the factors that impacted the decision to require masks in school. Mr. Hairston replied that high absenteeism due to quarantines and positive Covid-19 cases was the main factor in his decision. 426 students were absent on Friday, September 3 and 272 were absent today. Mr. Cutler stated that it is most important to keep students in school for in person learning.

Parents addressed the Board with concerns about assignments being provided to students that are under quarantine. Parents expressed frustration that chrome books weren't sent home with students and their students were at risk of falling behind. Some parents weren't aware that their student could return to school sooner with a negative Covid test. Andrew Williams expressed that the teachers all care about their students and the pandemic has been difficult on everyone. Mr. Cutler stated that the Board will address the concerns that were raised tonight. Mr. Hairston stated that the absence data due to Covid cases and quarantines will be posted daily on the school website.

Amanda Gaines addressed the Board regarding measures that need to be taken to prevent the spread of Covid. Mrs. Gaines sent her daughters to school in masks and they heard negative comments from teachers regarding masks. She wants to see all preventions from last year back in the schools this year including the Plexiglas dividers and social distancing.

**021-109 EXECUTIVE SESSION** Mr. Smith motioned to enter into executive session to consider the employment of public employees. Seconded by Mrs. Shaw, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

Upon return to open session:

**21-110 OPEN SESSION** Mrs. Shaw motioned to return to open session. Seconded by Mr. Smith, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

**021-111 ADOPT AGENDA** Mr. Smith motioned to adopt the agenda with an addition to personnel as presented by the superintendent. Seconded by Mr. Fuller, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

**21-112 TREASURER ITEMS BY CONSENT** Mrs. Shaw motioned to approve the following items by consent:

1. Approve minutes August 2021
2. Financial reports for August 2021
3. Payment of bills for August 2021

Seconded by Mr. Smith, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

**21-113 SUPERINTENDENT ITEMS BY CONSENT** Mr. Smith motioned to approve the following items by consent:

1. Resignation – Heather Schuler – basketball cheerleading advisor
2. Create 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher
3. Employ – Cassie Jones – long-term substitute teacher
4. Approve additions to the supplemental list
5. Approve additions to the substitute teacher list
6. Approve ESD classified substitute list
7. Approve classified substitute list
8. Approve student transportation contracts

Seconded by Mrs. Shaw, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

Mr. Hairston explained the creation of the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade math position. Block scheduling has resulted in large class sizes in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade math test is especially difficult and Mr. Hairston wants to reduce the class sizes. Darrell Reno asked how the classes were divided because not all of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade blocks were reduced. Mr. Hairston asked Mr. Reuter to discuss his decision.

Mrs. Brust discussed PBIS and High 5 expectations at Jasper Elementary. Jasper teachers have started their TBT meetings and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are being trained to open the student run credit union at Jasper.

Mr. Reuter discussed the positives of having grades 5 and 6 at Piketon HS. He praised Jazz Lamerson and Sage Rider for coordinating the pep section. PHS also recently held a safety drill.

Mr. Roberts stated that district enrollment has increased by 40 to 50 students from last year.

Mrs. Conley is working on district curriculum goals for the year.

Mr. Hairston provided an update on the DOE/Zahns Middle School situation.

Mrs. Williams discussed proposals for an asbestos survey at old Piketon HS. In order to get an accurate demolition quote, it is important to know how much asbestos will need to be abated.

**21-114 ASBESTOS SURVEY** Mr. Smith motioned to approve a proposal from Pinnacle Environmental to provide asbestos survey services. Seconded by Mr. Fuller, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

**21-115 COMMUNICATION CONTRACT** Mr. Smith motioned to approve a proposal from Jenergy Consulting to provide strategic communication services. Seconded by Mrs. Shaw, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

**21-116 TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANT** Mrs. Shaw motioned to approve an agreement with South Central Ohio ESC for technology assistant services. Seconded by Mr. Fuller, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

**21-117 RENEW DEPOSITORY AGREEMENT** Mr. Smith motioned to renew a depository agreement with Ohio Valley Bank effective 10/01/2021 for a period of 5 years. Seconded by Mrs. Shaw, and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

**21-118 EXECUTIVE SESSION** Mrs. Shaw motioned to enter into executive session to consider the employment of public employees. Seconded by Mr. Smith and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge YEA.

**21-119 OPEN SESSION** Mr. Smith motioned to return to open session. Seconded by Mr. Fuller and upon a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge ABSENT.

**21-120 ADJOURN** Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Fuller, and on a roll call vote: Mr. Cutler YEA, Mr. Fuller YEA, Mrs. Shaw YEA, Mr. Smith YEA, and Mr. Wooldridge ABSENT.