

**PORTAGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
JULY 20, 2022 - 6:30 P.M.**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Portage Area Board of School Directors was called to order. Kathy Hough, board president, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Members and others present were: Susan Berardinelli; Jason Corte; Kathy Hough; John Jubina; Tina Latoche; Christian Smith; Dennis Squillario; Dr. Todd Dishong, Superintendent of Schools; Ralph J. Cecere, Jr., Junior Senior High School Principal; Jeff Vasilko, Business Manager; Dennis McGlynn, Esquire and Denise Moschgat, Recording Secretary. Absent was Matt Decort.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

There were no visitors who wished to speak.

**INFORMATION ONLY**

**ROUTINE MATTERS**

1. Additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda. Mrs. Moschgat briefly discussed the changes to the regular agenda since it was distributed to board members and published on the district's webpage. These items are listed on the regular agenda.
2. Insurance coverages. Mr. Vasilko noted that our insurance broker had re-bid our insurances to find the best rates and overall the district will save about \$22,000 on its general liability and \$9,000 on the workers' compensation coverage. The insurance coverages and rates are on the regular agenda for board consideration.
3. Football stadium renovations. The board was discussing the options for the stadium as to replace or repair the concrete portions of the grandstands and certain board members had recollected that this had already been decided and they were moving forward with replacing them. Mr. Vasilko then telephoned Kyle Fritz from The EADS Group who talked with the board. Mr. Squillario then asked if there were other options. Mr. Fritz replied that Stadium Solutions would need to do a structural analysis if the district wanted to consider a rehabilitation of the sections. Mr. Squillario asked the other board members if they had any interest in having the firm come in for a structural analysis as the cost could be substantially less. Mrs. Hough then stated that she believed that this had already been decided at previous board meetings and that the board wanted to replace the sections. She further noted that it is on the regular agenda as replacing the concrete. The board concurred and the matter will be considered during the regular meeting.
4. Fee increase for game workers. Mr. Burkett advised the board that these increases will keep our workers equal with the Heritage Conference officials and game works to insure that we will be able to find people to work the games.
5. Valley Network. Dr. Dishong explained to the board that this is online professional development for staff and the annual cost is \$8,500. He added that the administrators would like to replace this with other ways that could provide more meaningful learning.
6. Drivers education vehicle. Mr. Vasilko reported that he spoke with the salesman at Portage Chevrolet and they do not participate in the CoStars program and they could not meet the price offered through it for a driver's ed car. He had a price from Laure Ford for a 2022 Ford Escape that would be purchased through CoStars at a cost of \$27,555. Mr. Smith asked what the wait time would be and Mr. Vasilko said that the

**PORTAGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
JULY 20, 2022 - 6:30 P.M.**

vehicle is on their lot right now and we could take delivery as soon as possible. Mr. Squillario asked for a cost analysis of what the expense of having a driver's ed car was beyond the original sticker price. He asked if it was feasible to continue to have a car. The board further discussed this matter with Dr. Dishong noting that the driver's ed program is of value to the district and the community and that the vehicle could be used for other purposes. The board will consider this item during the regular meeting.

7. Fund transfer. Mr. Vasilko explained to the board that the state requires that school districts keep a certain percentage of their funds in an unassigned account and any amount above that be moved to assigned fund accounts such as capital projects. He added that the district will most likely have to move additional money to an assigned fund after the audit.
8. Special education plan. Mr. Noel reported that the plan has been prepared and has been available for public inspection and comment and now is with the board for approval. The district has until July 28 to submit the plan to the PDE.
9. Agreement renewals. Dr. Dishong noted that these are outside facilities that the district sometimes uses for student placement.
10. ATSI non-Title Plan. Mr. Cecere reported to the board that this is the Assisted Targeted Support Intervention plan that the district has compiled to address certain matters relating to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> students and learning support students specifically. The IU has reviewed it as well as the state. He asked that the board consider approving the plan during the regular agenda so it may be submitted to the state for approval.

**PERSONNEL MATTERS (Executive Session 6:47 p.m. to 6:58 p.m.)**

1. Personnel matters as listed on the regular agenda.

**BOARD AGENDA REQUEST/USE OF FACILITIES**

**POINTS OF DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD**

Time: 6:58 p.m.