

**PORTAGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 - 6:30 P.M.**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Portage Area Board of School Directors was called to order. Members and others present were: Jason Corte; Matthew Decort; Kathy Hough; John Jubina; Brian Shope; Christian Smith; Pete Noel, Superintendent of Schools; Jeff Vasilko, Business Manager; Troy Eppley, Director of Special Education; Jeremy Burkett, Junior Senior High School Principal; Jennifer Pisarski, Elementary School Principal; and Denise Moschgat, Recording Secretary. Absent were: Susan Berardinelli, Jacob Myers, Nancy Sherbine and Dennis McGlynn, Esquire.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

There were no visitors who wished to speak.

INFORMATION ONLY

1. Stadium renovation update. Mr. Noel reported that the final documents are on the agenda for approval as everything is complete. The porta-johns have been removed from the baseball field.
2. Elementary natural gas regulator. Mr. Noel reported that the regulator at the elementary school was not working and that meant that the kitchen could not use the ovens/ranges. People's Natural Gas took care of the issue. Moving forward, there will be regular maintenance.

ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Payment application. These are the final payment applications from some of the contractors as the project is now complete.
2. Certificate of Substantial Completion. This is final documents since the project is now completed.
3. Request for Proposal on Qualifications. Mr. Noel explained to the board that this is the next step in the GESA project. We will advertise for an ESCO to do the project.
4. Privacy pods bids. Approving the bids is on the regular agenda for consideration. The cost will be paid from last year mental health grant. One pod will be in each building.
5. Letter of Authorization (PPA). Mr. Noel stated that the purpose of this letter is to show our interest in pursuing the GESA project and will lock us in to \$135,000 in savings by doing it now.
6. Contribution to the Ambulance Association. Mr. Noel discussed with the board that the ambulance association is running a fund drive. He noted that the district gives the fire company \$200 each year.
7. PHEAA Participation Agreement. Mr. Noel noted that this is a great opportunity for student teachers and staff who work with them. It will provide a stipend to qualifying participants.

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8. Cambria County Association for the Blind Agreement. Mr. Noel noted that this is a standard renewal agreement that provide job training for qualified students.
9. New policy and policy revisions. The new policies and policy revisions deal
10. Updating school vehicle list. Mr. Noel advised that Tri-County has updated some of their vans. They are on the regular agenda for board approval.

PERSONNEL MATTERS (Executive Session 6:37 p.m. to 7:16 p.m.)

1. Personnel matters as listed on the regular agenda
2. Student issues

BOARD AGENDA REQUEST/USE OF FACILITIES

POINTS OF DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD

Time: 7:16 p.m.