Mrs. Susan Berardinelli 2027\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Jason Corte 2025\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Matthew Decort, Secretary 2025\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Kathy Hough 2027\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Jacob Myers 2027\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. John Jubina, Treasurer 2025\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Nancy Sherbine 2027\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Brian Shope 2027\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Pete Noel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Troy Eppley \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Director of Special Education

Mr. Jeff Vasilko \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Business Manager

Mr. Jeremy Burkett \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Junior-Senior High School Principal

Mrs. Jennifer Pisarski \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Elementary School Principal

Law Office Dennis M. McGlynn \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Solicitor

Mrs. Denise Moschgat \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Recording Secretary

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Portage Area Board of School Directors will please come to order. Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence will be led by the board President.

**II. ROLL CALL**

The Recording Secretary will please call the roll.

**III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Those who wish to speak should limit their remarks to three but no longer than five minutes.

Wessel and Company will present the annual audit review.

**IV. NOTICE TO PERSONNEL**

There may be reductions and/or reassignments of personnel due to fiscal circumstances.

**VI. INFORMATION ONLY**

1. Len Chappell Gymnasium sound system.
2. Custodial contract.

**VII. INTERVIEW OF APPLICANTS FOR SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTOR**

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL IF NECESSARY**

**VIII. ROUTINE MATTERS**

 **1. NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting will be held **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,** beginning at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. in the elementary school auditorium, 84 Mountain Avenue, Portage, PA with the Regular Meeting immediately following.

**2. APPROVING THE MINUTES**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Administration recommends approving the November meeting minutes. A copy of the minutes was distributed with the advance agenda.

**3. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Board moves to approve the written agenda with any noted additions, deletions or corrections as discussed.

**4. APPOINTING A SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Board moves to appoint \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a school board director to fill the remainder of Mr. Smith’s term, which expires the first Monday of December, 2025. Mr. McGlynn will swear in the appointee.

**5. REPORTS**

Vo-Tech Operating Committee representative **Mr. Jason Corte**

Superintendent **Mr. Pete Noel**

Director of Special Education **Mr. Troy Eppley**

High School Principal **Mr. Jeremy Burkett**

Elementary School Principal **Mrs. Jennifer Pisarski**

School Solicitor **Dennis McGlynn, Esquire**

Business Administrator **Mr. Jeff Vasilko**

**6. APPROVING ACCELERATED BUDGET OPT OUT RESOLUTION**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of School Directors of Portage Area School District, makes the following unconditional certifications:

1. The school district’s various tax levies and other revenue sources will be sufficient to balance the school district final budget for the next fiscal year (2025-2026) based on maintaining current tax rates or increasing tax rates by an amount less than or equal to the Act 1 index applicable to the school district as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This conclusion is based on the school district preliminary budget or other information available to the School Board.

2. The applicable adjusted index for the next fiscal year is 6%, and the School Board will not for the next fiscal year increase the rate of its real estate tax, or any other tax for the support of public education, by an amount that exceeds the applicable index.

3. The School Board has to date and, in the future, will comply with the rules set forth in School Code §687 for adoption of the school district proposed and final budgets for the next fiscal year.

4. The School Board understands that the school district will not be eligible to use Act 1 referendum exceptions for the next fiscal year.

**7. AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS PROCESS**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

Resolved: The board of School Directors of the Portage Area School District does hereby authorize the Administration to work with PFM Financial Advisors, as Financial Advisor, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC as Bond Counsel, and the local solicitor in conjunctions with the issuance of the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2025, for the purpose of financing various capital project including but not limited to boiler replacement, via a competitive sale, in an approximate amount of $1,500,000 as structured in Option 2a.

**8. APPROVING PERFORMANCE BASED ENERGY SAVINGS AGREEMENT**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

The Administration recommends approving The Performance Based Energy Savings Agreement (guaranteed energy savings contract) with the McClure Company to achieve reductions in energy consumption or demand. The amount of this contract is $1,382,513.

**9. APPROVING SOLAR SITE LEASE AGREEMENT**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

The Administration recommends approving the Solar Site Lease Agreement with the McClure Company through PASD Solar, LLC to install, maintain and operate a solar energy generating system on district property as described within the Agreement.

**10. APPROVING SOLAR POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

The Administration recommends approving the Solar Purchase Agreement with the McClure Company through PASD Solar, LLC to purchase energy per the terms as set forth within the Agreement.

**11. APPROVING PUBLIC WATER LINE EASEMENT/RIGHT-OF-WAY**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

The Solicitor recommends approving a Public Water Line Easement/Right-of-Way Agreement between the District and the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Portage on property located at 1510 Caldwell Avenue, Portage Township, for the installation, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, repair, operation and inspection of water lines and necessary appurtenances on the land of the Grantor.

**12. APPROVING SALE OF CAFETERIA EQUIPMENT**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

The Administration recommends approving the winning bid from Joseph Tackett of $726 for the Southbend stove/griddle/oven.

**13. APPROVING WEBSITE HOSTING AGREEMENT**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

The Administration recommends approving an agreement with ParentSquare to provide website hosting and mobile app services to the district for the three-year period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028 at a cost of $4,640.25 annually.

**14. APPROVING REQUEST TO HOST SNOWBALL DANCE**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Cheer boosters request permission to advertise and promote the Snowball dance being held on Saturday, February 22, 2025 at the Royal Ballroom.

**15. APPROVING STUDENT TEACHER PLACEMENTS**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Administration recommends approving the following student teaching assignments:

Keegan Shannon (UPJ) with Tyler Johnson Jan-Apr 2025

Julie Rainer (UPJ) with Bryan Jubina Jan-Apr 2025

Ben Cotchen (UPJ) with Josh Burkett Jan-Apr 2025

**16. APPROVING COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH MOUNT ALOYSIUS COLLEGE**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Administration recommends approving a cooperative agreement with Mount Aloysius College to participate in the “College to High School: program in order to provide course for which student may earn college credit. This Agreement is for the 2024-2025 school year.

**16. ADOPTING DISTRICT POLICY**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Administration recommends adopting Policy 104 Discrimination/ Harassment Affecting Staff which has been read at three public meetings.

**VII. PERSONNEL MATTERS**

**1. ADDING VOLUNTEER COACH**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Administration recommends adding the following volunteer coaches:

Koby Kargo Boys Basketball

**VIII. BOARD REQUESTS / USE OF FACILITIES**

Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Roll Call Vote)

Request for Approved Field Trips:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Requester** | **Destination** | **Date(s)** | **Approximate Cost** | **Budgeted****Y/N** |
| Mary Ann George | Take 9th grade students to tour Admiral Peary Vo Tech | January 24, 2025 | $281.38 | Yes |
| Addison Holyfield | Two students to participate in PMEA District BandBellwood HS | January 22-24, 2025 | $360.00 | Yes |

Requests for Use of Facilities:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Requester** | **Purpose** | **Facility** | **Date(s)** | **Rental Fee/ Amount** |
| Jennifer Pisarski | Mustang Family Fun Night | HS Cafeteria | Jan. 7, 8, 14,15, 21, 22 & 28, 2025 | No Charge |
| Matthew Hill, Elementary Wrestling program | Wrestling Practice | ES Wrestling Room | Dec – MarchMon through Thursday 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. | No Charge |
| Matthew Hill, Elementary Wrestling program | Wrestling Meets | Elementary Gymnasium | A schedule will be provided | No Charge |
| Tina Lutz, Wrestling Boosters | Booster Meetings | Elementary Cafeteria | December 5, 2024 and other dates TBD | No Charge |

IX. MOTION TO MAKE THE AGENDA PART OF THE MINUTES

 Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

X. MOTION SHOULD BE MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING

 Motion\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Second\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Vote\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_