

MINUTES OF PHILLIPS BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

Monday, December 20, 2021

- I. The Phillips Board of Education regular Board meeting was called to order by President Pesko at 6:00 p.m. in the Phillips High School Auditorium.
- II. Present: Fox, Halmstad, Houdek, Krog, Pesko, Rose, Van De Voort and Willett Absent: Baxter and Student Liaison.
- III. Administration present: Superintendent Morgan, Principals Hoogland and Scholz, Director of Pupil Services Lemke. Others: Staff and community members. The meeting was available via Zoom for online attendance.
- IV. President Pesko stated that public notice of the meeting was properly posted according to Wisconsin Statute 19.84(4). Notice was posted at all school-owned buildings, the School District of Phillips' website, and the Price County Review.
- V. Public Participation:
 - A. Joe Perkins, president of Northwoods Players updated the Board on the fundraising that has begun for the auditorium refresh project.
 - B. Tom Kaster reported on the current COVID situation and the impact on area health care facilities and encouraged the Board to maintain or increase safety measure.
 - C. Britt Bilgren encouraged the Board to look at options that will keep our community safe and keep our students in school. She also asked that the auditorium project be communicated to the public.
- VI. Administrative and Committee Reports
 - A. Heidi Halmstad spoke to the Board on behalf of Loggers United Booster Club. In the past quarter they have secured \$25,000.00 for the Logger Camp storage shed, \$2,500 toward wrestling singlets at the middle and high school level. Dan Virnig will attend the revenue committee meeting in January. She encouraged administration, parents, and coaches to join them in their efforts to support the school. The Club is starting its fifth year and have contributed \$127,000.00 to date to the District.
 - B. Dave Scholz - Elementary Principal Report
 1. The Holiday Concert was held on December 2nd with three sessions (K/1, 2/3, 4/5) and the 4K Concert was held on December 4th. Both were very well attended.
 2. December 9th was the Secret Santa Family Engagement night with 265 students and parents attending. Students were able to shop for their parents and parents picked out books for students. The staff all helped with shopping and wrapping.
 - C. Colin Hoogland
 1. The holiday season has been a challenging time for mental health concerns.
 2. Students of the month for the middle school for November are: Tana Henderson (6), Travis Tucke (7), and Leah Harper (8). And for December: Joshua Edwards (6), Addie Gabay (7), and Pavithra Kumaravel (8),
 - D. Vicki Lemke - Pupil Services Director Report
 1. The pupil services team (Vicki Lemke/District, Caroline Corbett/PES, Roni Tobias/PhMS, and Rebecca Macholl/PHS) reported on the School District Report Cards for 2021-2022 covering areas of Achievement, School Growth, Target Group Outcomes, and On-Track for Graduation. All three schools and the District earned a rating of Exceeds Expectations for the 2020-2021 Report Card year.
 2. Rebecca Macholl reported on the Post Secondary Preparation data and some reporting errors. The errors have been addressed and data for next year should be pulled correctly from PowerSchool.

3. The Team addressed questions from the Board regarding the Report Card and mental health issues in the District.
- E. Rick Morgan - Superintendent Report
1. Phase II of the construction project in the middle school will begin as soon as the middle school teachers are able to move to the high school building. The Alternate #1 parking lot project will begin the day after school is out in the spring.
 2. An open house date will be determined for late summer, prior to the start of school.
- F. Student Liaison was absent from the meeting.
- G. The policy committee met on December 15 and discussed the Staff Ethics Policy which will be on the January Board agenda. Policy 3453.4 Dispensing of Medication will be looked at after the building changes are completed. Other Series 200/300 policies are on hold until Staff Ethics policy work is completed.
- H. The revenue committee met on December 16, 2021 and discussed the auditorium refresh project update. Northwoods Players have raised 10% of the total project already. Questions regarding monetary donation amounts for naming rights were discussed and will be brought to the full board. Discussion on conflict of interest among committee members with connections to Northwoods Players. FEMA grants were discussed and more information will be provided.
- I. Facilities and transportation committee met on December 16, 2021. Facility items included roofing needs on the new portion of the elementary school, the new washer/dryer units, skid steer snowblower working well, and winterizing options for the elementary school after closure if it is not razed. Transportation items included possible addition of van route and driver. There have been no major issues with the onset of inclement weather. TJ Podmolik was present to discuss shot and discus fields being planted late which may be possible issues for the track & field season.
- J. Business services committee met on December 16, 2021 and discussed:
1. Youth softball and baseball request for middle school teams at grades 7 and 8 being added. Molly Lehman will provide costing for these programs.
 2. There are some additional compensation issues to still be addressed.
 3. Construction is still on time and issues were discussed. Shop equipment is mostly in place. High school classes will begin to take occupancy the week of January 10th. A public ESSER meeting will be held in January.
 4. The facilities/transportation and revenue committee reports were omitted as all members were present at those meetings.
 5. The governor has released extra funds (\$99,354) to be spent on non-pandemic related items. Meetings will be held to determine how best to spend these funds.
 6. Other items discussed included: purchase of commercial washer/dryer, adding pool director to facilities/transportation quarterly, Silver Sneaker program through the pool in partnership with insurance program, review of agenda items, and review of bills.
- K. CESA #12 Board of Control met on November 16th. Items included regular agenda items, superintendent search services, tour of the current building and discussion on options to remodel, build, rent, etc.. Other items included staff shortages and COVID issues. A policy committee item of interest was limiting use of hand-held devices during meetings to accessing board agenda items.

VII. Items for Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Motion (Willett/Krog) motion to continue with Return to Learn Plan A per administrative recommendation including a negative COVID test on day five after exposure. Motion carried 8-0.
- B. President Pesko reviewed the Miron Owner report for this month listing items completed on site. The delay in delivering garage doors is the key issue and temporary walls will be constructed. Fire alarms need to be installed prior to occupancy. The project is ahead of schedule and under budget.

- C. The auditorium refresh project history was reviewed for Board members and a recommendation made by President Pesko for the District to cover the seating option of the project. Discussion was held on options for funding the project, along with the Northwoods Players fundraising efforts. Motion was made and rescinded to fund the seating portion of the project over two years. The Board will revisit the project in January. Molly Lehman will contact the seating vendor to see if the pricing guarantee deadline will allow for a final decision to be made at the January meeting.
- D. No update on the dean of students and public relations positions.

VIII. Consent Items.

- A. Motion (Willett/Houdek) to approve all consent items. Motion carried 8-0.
 - 1. Approve minutes from November 15, 2021
 - 2. Approve personnel report - recruitment of elementary special education teacher only.
 - 3. Approve bills from November 2021 (#349321-349435 and wires) for a total of \$628,453.44.

IX. The next regular board meeting will be held on January 17, 2022.

X. Motion (Krog/Fox) to convene into executive session at the conclusion of the open session pursuant to:

- A. WI Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of considering the personnel history of a student.
 - Graduation Request
- B. WI Stat. Sec. 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, retirement, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.
 - Review of Personnel Issue

Motion carried 8-0 with roll call vote at 9:12 p.m.

XI. The Board may reconvene into open session pursuant to WI Stat. Sec. 19.85(1), if necessary, to act on motions made during the executive session.

XII. Motion (Krog/Halmstad) to reconvene into open session. Motion carried 8-0 with roll call vote.

XIII. Motion (Krog/Rose) to approve administration recommendations for both items from the closed session agenda. Motion carried 7-1 (Fox)

XIV. Motion (Willett/Rose) to adjourn. Motion carried 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Baxter, Clerk
Board of Education

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILLIPS

Price County Review
P.O. Box 170
Phillips, Wisconsin 54555

APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION

Minutes of School Board Meeting
December 20, 2021
6:00 PM

Anne Baxter, Clerk
Board of Education