



# Public Schools of Petoskey

Every Opportunity.

Regular School Board Meeting  
Thursday, June 16, 2022 7:00 PM Eastern

Middle School Media Center  
801 Northmen Drive  
Petoskey, MI 49770

Mark Ashley: Present  
Mary Ling: Present  
Denise Petoskey: Present  
Kathy Reed: Present  
Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Present  
Present: 5.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call  
Called to order at 7:00PM.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance  
President Ling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Audience Participation  
Zach Jonker, Petoskey

- Drove past a billboard put up by St. Michael Academy regarding Critical Race Theory.
  - Worried about the implications of what the billboard is saying.
  - Do we want to partner with them in the future?
  - They are undermining our integrity and mission with identity politics.
  - There are two billboards - one north of town by Pellston referring to Critical Race Theory and one south of town about gender identity.
- Thank you to the Board for everything they have done the last two years.

Mike Atchison, Petoskey

- Agrees with Mr. Jonker's statement regarding the billboard.
- He is a parent that supports the teachers.
- There are a lot of parents that are falsely villifying teachers.
- Parents are not supportive of the schools.
- Teachers are viewed as promoting left-wing ideas.
- St. Michael has gone too far with this.

4. Resolution: Approval of Minutes

Moved that the written minutes be approved as recorded. This motion, made by Denise Petoskey and seconded by Mark Ashley, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wilcox recommended the Board's approval.

5. Resolution: Approval of Warrants

Moved that the warrants paid, as submitted by the administration, be approved in the amount of \$4,941,715.49. This motion, made by Jessica Shaw-Nolff and seconded by Kathy Reed, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wilcox recommended the Board's approval.

6. Presentation: Staff Recognition

Mr. Oberman spoke briefly about Miss Snedden and what a wonderful job she does as a teacher. Miss Snedden was recognized in North Central Michigan College's Aspire magazine. Each Board member received a copy of the magazine.

7. Recognition: Acknowledgement of Retirees and Resignations

Mr. Wilcox presented a list of staff resignations and retirements.

- He noted that Mr. Wheeler, Director of Finance and HR, has created an exit survey that is emailed out to staff that are leaving.
- Will use this information to help the District continuously improve.
- Per Board policy, this information will become a yearly agenda item.

8. Resolution: 2022-2023 Employment Recommendations

Moved that the listed candidates be appointed to their corresponding position for the 2022-2023 school year. This motion, made by Mark Ashley and seconded by Denise Petoskey, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wilcox recommended the Board's approval of the listed candidates for the corresponding positions.

- Katherine Barbour - Elementary Physical Education
- Robin Greene - Elementary Student Support Specialist
- Laci Muszynski - Lincoln Second Grade
- Liz Southwell - Central Fourth Grade
- Joseph Sturm - High School Math
- Jared Webb - High School Physical Education

9. Resolution: Administrative Contract Extension

Moved to accept the recommendations as to the extension of the administrative contracts. This motion, made by Kathy Reed and seconded by Jessica Shaw-Nolff, Passed.  
Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wheeler recommended the Board's approval to extend the contracts of the following listed administrators.

- Branden Wheeler, Director of Finance & Human Resources
- Mark Oberman, Sheridan Elementary Principal
- Jonathon Wilcox, Middle School Principal
- Jason Purcell, Middle School Assistant Principal
- Deidra Gamble, High School Principal
- Joel Dohm, High School Assistant Principal / Athletic Director

10. Resolution: Purcell / Dionne Contract and Addendum

Moved that Jason Purcell and Ami Dionne be compensated for their re-assignment as noted in the attached contract addendums. This motion, made by Jessica Shaw-Nolff and seconded by Mark Ashley, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wheeler recommended the Board's approval.

11. Resolution: Wilcox Contract Addendum

Moved that Jonathon Wilcox be appointed to the position of Interim Superintendent during the Superintendent search process, beginning July 1, 2022, as noted in the attached contract. This motion, made by Kathy Reed and seconded by Denise Petoskey, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

President Ling recommended the Board's approval. Mr. Wilcox's position will change from Acting Superintendent to Interim Superintendent starting July 1, 2022. Trustee Reed noted that the contract should read "per working day" not "per calendar day" for the amount paid.

12. Resolution: Section 98B Goal Progress Report

Moved to accept the 2021-2022 Learning Goals and Benchmark Report in accordance with PA 48 sections 98b(1)(a-c). This motion, made by Kathy Reed and seconded by Mark Ashley, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea  
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wilcox gave a brief explanation of the 98B Goal Progress report. He passed out an additional growth report stating that this graph is easier to read and to see the actual growth of students.

Mr. Wilcox recommended the Board's approval.

13. Resolution: Award Middle School Boilers

Moved to award the middle school boiler replacement bid to Ballard's Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$251,400. This motion, made by Mark Ashley and seconded by Kathy Reed, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wheeler gave a brief update, fielded questions from the Board and recommended their approval.

14. Resolution: Bid Award – PHS Signage & Wayfinding

Moved to award the PHS sign & wayfinding bid to CKI in the amount of \$64,759. This motion, made by Jessica Shaw-Nolff and seconded by Denise Petoskey, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wheeler gave a brief update, fielded questions from the Board and recommended their approval.

15. Resolution: Foster Property Easements

Moved to authorize the Superintendent, or designee, to sign the attached grading and sanitary sewer easements from the Borland Group. This motion, made by Kathy Reed and seconded by Denise Petoskey, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wheeler gave a brief update, fielded questions from the Board and recommended their approval.

16. Resolution: 2021-22 Final Amended Budgets

Moved that this resolution shall be the appropriations for the Public Schools of Petoskey for fiscal year 2021-22: A resolution to make appropriations for expenditures and provide for the disposition of their fund incomes received by the Public Schools of Petoskey, per the enclosure: General Fund \$ 34,251,557 Food Service Fund \$ 1,367,567 School Activity Fund \$ 825,000 Debt Service Fund \$ 1,690,779 Capital Projects Fund \$ 1,850,591 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby charged with the general supervision of the execution of the budgets, and shall hold the appropriate administrators and/or supervisors responsible for the performance of their responsibilities within the amounts appropriated by the Board of Education and in keeping with the budgetary statements adopted by the Board. This act is to take effect on June 17, 2022. This motion, made by Jessica Shaw-Nolff and seconded by Kathy Reed, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

Mr. Wheeler gave a budget hearing presentation that included information on both the 21/22 Final Budget and the 22/23 Initial Budget. He fielded questions from the Board and recommended their approval.

17. Resolution: 2022-23 Initial Budgets

Moved that this resolution shall be the appropriations for the Public Schools of Petoskey for fiscal year 2022-23: A resolution to make appropriations for expenditures and provide for the disposition of their fund incomes received by the Public Schools of Petoskey, per the enclosure: General Fund \$ 36,280,075 Food Service Fund \$ 1,439,419 School Activity Fund \$ 800,000 Debt Service Fund \$ 1,687,900 Capital Projects Fund \$ 3,953,710 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby charged with the general supervision of the execution of the budgets, and shall hold the appropriate administrators and/or supervisors responsible for the performance of their responsibilities within the amounts appropriated by the Board of Education and in keeping with the budgetary statements adopted by the Board. This act is to take effect on July 1, 2022. This motion, made by Denise Petoskey and seconded by Mark Ashley, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

The Boards approval was recommended.

#### 18. Discussion: Codenity Update

Mr. Wilcox gave a brief Codenity update. Codenity will review provided information and then give the school a recommendation. The schools and Petoskey Public Safety have a very good relationship. The hope is to have the recommendation in August so that there is time to discuss with and train staff.

Trustee Ashley wondered if there was any funding that could be provided so that School Safety Officer, Ben Carlson, could be in schools more often.

#### 19. Discussion: Board Goals 2022

President Ling stated that the Board is obligated to approve the Board Goals each year. She noted that the goals are not appropriately titled. Board goals are goals for the district that the Board uses to guide the superintendent. The goals will be renamed *Five-Year District Goals and Strategic Plan*. The Board and Acting Superintendent, Mr. Wilcox discussed the goals and determined the needed changes. Once changes have been made, the goals will be brought for approval at a future Board meeting.

#### 20. Discussion: Board Work Groups Update

Mr. Wilcox reviewed the four work groups.

### Job Description & Contracts

- Realigned the Director of Teaching and Learning and the Director of Special Education positions.
  - The Director of Special Education position was renamed Director of Student Support Services.
  - Both are on an equal hierarchy with the Director of Finance position.

### Continuum of Services

- Meets Tuesday June 21, 2022.
- What is our continuum of services?

- How do we fill the gaps?
- Would like changes in place for the start of the school year.
- This is the next priority.

### Academic Programming

- The next meeting is June 22, 2022.
- Are we meeting the needs of all our students?
- Need to identify a process to follow when a change is taking place.
- Need to make sure a change is vetted before the change is made.

### Mission and Vision

- Will wait until August to meet.
- Who are we and what do we stand for?
- What changes are needed?
- Set up a process if changes are needed.

## 21. Educational Reports

### Elementary Updates:

- Proud of how staff, students and families ended the year
- Eight months of fun in eight weeks of time
- Summer school is up and running
- Staff hiring is finishing up
- We are hiring great quality people
- Thanks to PYSA for the donation of nets and balls
- Sinking fund projects will take place in the buildings
- Will miss Cal and Mike - strong teamwork and trust
- Met with Jason Latz and Jodi Schreiber, our two new elementary principals - they were able to join the team for the admin meetings - great new people
- Encouraging and positive to see Lynn, Amy and Becky at Spitler
- Thank you to the board for their leadership, teamwork and trust

### Middle School Updates:

- Busy final four weeks to end the year
- Middle school patch and pin - 167 students received an award
- 41 activities available for students to experience
- Test scores are in
  - Lots to celebrate with NWEA scores - students met or exceeded in all 9 areas
- The students were very excited about attending field trips again
  - 8th grade went rafting on the Sturgeon River
  - 7th grade went to the movies and then to the State Park to swim
  - 6th grade went to Northern Lights
- The 8th grade award assembly was the last day of school

- Parents and grandparents were able to attend and enjoy refreshments after the program
- Many parents came up to say thank you
- Received a positive email from a parent - great way to end the school year
- Staffing notes
  - We have a verbal commitment for the band position
  - Good applicants for the art position

### High School Updates:

- Four students chosen to be published in a creative writing book
- 70 students in summer school
  - Two sessions - three hours long for three weeks
  - 23 students have completed credit recovery
- Reach Higher teachers met to review data from the survey
  - Met every Thursday
  - Students enjoyed the conversations with teachers
  - Decision Day - seniors made 57 different choices
  - Excited to continue the exposure
  - New next year - three student ambassadors that will do interviews with local community members
- Beautiful day for graduation in the stadium

## 22. Board of Education Reports

### Trustee Reed

- Attended the District TLC meeting with Trustees Petoskey and Shaw-Nolff
- Great to see Lynn Slanec back
- Add to District Goals - focus on student behavior

### Trustee Ashley

- Attended the 4th grade bike ride with Trustee Reed
- The students remembered Trustee Ashley from Try-it Tuesday
- PEF update
  - Awarded a scholarship to a 6th and a 7th grader
    - Presented scholarships to the students in their classrooms
    - Cool experience
  - The PEF golf outing is on July 14, 2022
    - Raises money for scholarships and grants
- Four CTE students are interning at Birchwood

### Trustee Petoskey

- Attended the Title VI meeting

- Students voted to change the group's name from *Indian Education* to *Indigenous Education*
- I would like to see more parents attend
- Attended the PEA and PESPA retirement get-togethers
- Working with Job Description work group

Trustee Shaw Nolff

- Attended the District TLC meeting
- I will be attending the two work group meetings next week

Trustee Ling

- Public comment
  - If a concern is brought up about something at a building, a building administrator will follow up
- Superintendent Search update
  - Dr. Scholten has received the survey results
  - The position is posted until June 30, 2022
  - The Board does not see applications as they come in
  - Dr. Scholten receives all applications through MLI
  - The Board will review applications on July 12, 2022 in a closed session
  - First round interviews
    - July 18 and 20, 2022
    - Middle School Media Center
    - Open to the public
  - Second round interviews will be the following week
- Thank you to Lynn, Becky and Amy for helping out the District
- Glad to see people excited about moving the district forward
- Thank you to Jon for filling in and doing an awesome job
- Attended the retirement get-togethers
- Kayak for a Cause in 4 weeks - all monies go towards Petoseky Schools Full Value Agreement

23. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Update:

- Even though school is out, we are still very busy
- Thank you to Branden Wheeler for preparing the budget
- Introduced the interim team at spitler
  - Lynn Slanec - Interim Director of Teaching and Learning
  - Amy McMullen - Interim Director of Student Support Services
  - Becky Smith - Interim Data Specialist
- Bullying Report
  - PHS
    - Physical - 3



- Verbal - 9
    - Cyber - 2
  - PMS
    - Physical - 4
    - Verbal - 11
    - Cyber - 0
  - Elementary
    - Physical - 3
    - Verbal - 1
    - Cyber - 0
  - This is an increase from years past
  - Try to be proactive, not reactive
- District TLC spoke about getting back to the Full Value Agreement - focus as a priority
- Thanks to Cal Prins and Mike Frampus for their service to Petoskey Schools
  - Will miss working with both of them
- Gaylord Community Schools
  - Tornado relief fund
  - \$2,784.71 was raised
  - Gift bags will be given to Gaylord
- Thank you to Mrs. Gamble and the high school counselors for putting together graduation

#### Mr. Wheeler gave an update on the construction projects

- Curtis Field
  - Frustrated that it is moving so slowly
  - Fencing will arrive this month
- Front entrance at the high school - starts next Monday
- The weight room at the high school is a little behind schedule
- Elementary
  - Lockers in all buildings will be touched up in August
  - Lincoln's basketball court will be resurfaced
  - High school bathrooms are receiving warranty work
  - Unisex and staff bathrooms will start next week
  - Central school had a tree limb fall
    - Firman came out and looked
    - The tree is rotted
    - This is a safety issue and we will remove it as soon as possible

#### 24. Audience Participation

Joel Kato, Petoskey

- Board goals
  - Five years is a great way to look at the overarching, long-range planning
  - Maybe put the document in excel and add tabs for each goal and the year it would need to be addressed
- A very good decision to enlist Mr. Washburn in the district climate research

- Good and bad data was received
- Very transparent
- "Engagement Opportunity"
  - Possibly 12 months from now to see how we are doing,
  - Note the progress that has been made.

Jodi Adams, Petoksey

- Reiterated what Trustee Ashley said about Ben Carlson
  - He had many interactions in her classroom
  - Such an asset to our school
  - It all comes down to relationships
  - Safety, bullying concerns -
  - Help find a way to get him into our buildings full time
- Codenity - we need a sense of urgency

Melanie Meengs, Petoskey

- College readiness - board goals - Reach Higher program
- Filled out the Covid survey - her number one request was to use monies for public safety in the schools
- Add signs for parking lots at the high school
- Loss of students
  - The Chamber Board was recently a part of a study
  - 9% of the workforce has left the area
  - Need to find ways to bring families back to the area

Laura Lamp, Petoskey

- When is the tree coming down at Central?
- This is a liability concern

Erika Leppien, Petoskey

- School safety is an urgent need
- Make it a priority to keep kids safe
- Proud to be a Petoskey teacher, even more proud if we make this a priority
- Are we doing everything possible?

Amy Salfi, Petoskey

- Has a child that is moving from 5th to 6th
- The child did not receive a science or social studies grade
- These subjects are important to all kids K-12
- We need to look at this

25. Adjournment

Moved to adjourn the meeting. This motion, made by Mark Ashley and seconded by Denise Petoskey, Passed.

Mark Ashley: Yea, Mary Ling: Yea, Denise Petoskey: Yea, Kathy Reed: Yea, Jessica Shaw-Nolff: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:18PM.