

MINUTES OF PHILLIPS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Monday, April 24, 2023

- I. Opening Items.
  - A. The Phillips Board of Education regular meeting was called to order by President Pesko at 6:00 p.m. in the PHS Performing Arts Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
  - B. Present: Bilgrien, Denzine, Halmstad, Hueckman, Krog, Lund, Pesko, and Van De Voort and Student Liaison Bjork. Absent: Rose. Administration present: Superintendent Morgan, Principals Scholz and Wellman, and Pupil Services Director Peterson. Others: Staff, students, and community members. The meeting was available through the District Livestream station.
  - C. 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.
- II. Public Participation
  - A. Justin Lindgren requested that the Board not accept his resignation and reinstate his position as the 6-12 band teacher.
  - B. Members of the community spoke in favor of Mr. Lindgren as a teacher.
- III. Elected Officials
  - A. All newly elected Board members completed their Oath of Office prior to the meeting.
  - B. Joe Fox (six years) and Anne Baxter (three years) were recognized for their service on the Board of Education with a certificate from Wisconsin Association of School Boards.
- IV. Recognition of Donations - President Pesko read the list of donations made to the School District of Phillips from October 2022 through March 2023.
- V. Administrative Report - Elementary Principal Dave Scholz
  - A. Grades three through five completed their Forward testing.
  - B. Principal Scholz attended the Title I conference and brought back ideas to share with the intervention program.
  - C. Upcoming events include the spring program on May 11th, Grandparents day on May 12th, and the Wax Museum on May 18th.
  - D. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 7-13th.
- VI. Administrative Report - Middle/High School Principal Kevin Wellman
  - A. Marc Peterson announced that five students have been accepted to a summer science camp through UW-Madison for four days, all expenses paid.
  - B. The Junior Prom was held this past weekend and Jennie Kleinhans was recognized for her work in this event.
  - C. The Student Council held their spring blood drive.
  - D. Hayden Sokolowski qualified for Nationals at the state FBLA meet. Mason Novak qualified as an alternate.
  - E. Caitlin Pesko qualified for the Wisconsin Leadership Seminar this summer.
  - F. Students of the month for Phillips Middle School: Chase Schmidt (6), Caleb Baker (7), Addy Gabay (8) & Jonathan Parker (8)
  - G. Students of the quarter for Phillips High School: Macy Hertlein (8), BJ Lowary (10), Hayden Sokowloski (11), Kyle Lasky (12)

- VII. Administrative Report - Pupil Services Director Kate Peterson reported that the SOAR contract is up for renewal and requests approval. This group works with 19-21 year olds and has been an effective program for students.
  
- VIII. Administrative Report - Superintendent Rick Morgan
  - A. A summer school project with students working on landscaping projects has been proposed by Becky Schilling. The landscape team would include four paid high school students who will be working to complete the project. The Board gave verbal approval.
  
- IX. Administrative Report -Student Liaison Alec Bjork updated the Board on the results from solo and ensemble contests, spring sports, and State FBLA results
  
- X. Board Committee Reports
  - A. The school forest committee met on April 5, 2023 and discussed preliminary plans for the building and the PATH group fundraising plan.
  - B. The curriculum committee met on April 12, 2023 and discussed:
    - 1. Results of the staff survey. English/language arts will be looked at schoolwide and the 6-12 science curriculum should be addressed as there are many changes in that area.
    - 2. A curriculum rotation will be mapped out as soon as possible. Staff will be directed to use online lesson planning so the curriculum being mapped through the 2023-2024 school year will be ready for review in the summer of 2024.
  - B. Revenue committee met on April 13, 2023 and discussed the PATH fundraising for the school forest and reviewed the ESSER fund timeline.
  - D. Facilities and transportation committee met on April 13th, 2023, and discussed:
    - 1) Maintenance update included resignation of the groundskeeper, review of the need for a scrubber, and air handlers at the pool.
    - 2) Transportation update included annual mileage and cost for servicing vehicles, availability of a new sub driver, specific bus maintenance, and roof gutter bids and quotes.
  - E. Business services committee met on April 13th and discussed the following:
    - 1) Review options for remaining referendum funds.
    - 2) Reviewed current staffing vacancies
    - 3) No update on FEMA grant until July.
    - 4) Quotes were reviewed for doors for auditorium and choir room hallway, and sound system upgrade at Logger Camp and high school gym.
    - 5) Reviewed health insurance quotes from Security Health (15% increase) and Aspirus (4% decrease).
    - 6) Heard plans for an out-of-state trip for girls basketball in December.
    - 7) Reviewed proposal for lifeguard wage increase.
    - 8) Discussed SOAR consortium agreement for special education for 2023-2024.
    - 9) High school course handbook revisions were presented.
    - 10) The regular meeting agenda and March bills were reviewed.
  
- XI. Items for Discussion and Possible Action
  - A. The 2022-2023 staffing report was covered by the business services committee report.
  - B. The meeting with CESA #12 was rescheduled. The contract will be ready for approval in May.

- C. Approximately \$375,000 remains from the referendum project. Interest rates on this account will change on July 1st. Options available are to use the amount for debt reduction or demolition of the old elementary school. The FEMA grant results will have a bearing on the use of these funds.
  - D. Motion (Denzine/Krog) to approve the revisions to the high school course handbook as presented. Motion carried 8-0.
  - E. Motion (Krog/Bilgrien) to move second readings of Policy 830.1 Exhibit 2 and Policy 342 Exhibit to the May meeting. Motion carried 8-0.
  - F. Motion (Van De Voort/Halmstad) to approve the 2023-2024 SOAR consortium contract. Motion carried 8-0.
  - G. Motion (Krog/Denzine) to change health insurance carriers from Security Health Plan to Aspirus Health Plan. Motion carried 8-0.
  - H. Motion (Denzine/Van De Voort) to approve the lifeguard wage increase effective April 30, 2023. Motion carried 8-0.
- XII. Consent Agenda Items - Motion (Krog/Halmstad) to approve minutes from March 20, 2023 Board meeting and approve bills from March 2023 (#351332-351425 and wires) for a total of \$678,483.70. Motion carried 8-0.
- XI. The next regular board meeting is on May 15, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the Phillips High School Performing Arts Center with the Board reorganization meeting being held prior to the regular meeting.
- XII. Motion (Denzine/Krog) to convene into executive session at the conclusion of open session pursuant to 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. Motion carried with roll call 8-0 at 7:00 PM
- Issue Preliminary Notices of Contract Renewal and Non-Renewal for 2023-2024
- XIII. Motion (Krog/Van De Vort) to reconvene into open session. Motion carried 8-0.
- XIV. Action Items
- A. Motion (Denzien/Bilgrien) to approve personnel report. Motion carried 8-0.
    - 1) Approved hiring of Stephanie Roy, Anna Tilhlarik and Maria del Carmen Perez Villegas, paraprofessionals; Amy Edwards, MS softball coach; Nikki Hertlein, MS softball asst. Coach; Scott Hueckman, MS baseball coach.
    - 2) Accepted resignation from Justin Lindgren, 6-12 band teacher (11 years), Justin Lindgren, asst track coach (11 years), Justin Lindgren, National Honor Society advisor (4 years), Jason Lazar, JV football coach (6 years), Andra Nelsen, IMC aide (2.5 years), Caitlin Vyskocil, elementary teacher (4 years), Kelly Lind, special education teacher (6 years), Patrick Croy, groundskeeper (4 years), Joan Drexler, paraprofessional (37 years), and Courtney Shipley, JV volleyball coach (1 year).
- XV. Motion (Krog/Van De Voort) to adjourn at 8:15 PM. Motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Pesko  
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  
April 24, 2023  
6:00 PM

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Jon Pesko, President  
Board of Education