

PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER

Monday, December 18, 2023; 5:30 P.M.

Streaming link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJH-jF4RjYU>

CALL TO ORDER: President Wagle called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ayers, Brockmann, Kanwischer (remotely), Kunkel, Wagle, Smith, Wheeler. Absent: none. Also present: Brian Strusz, Bernadette Brustkern, Mike Clingingsmith, Tony Hiatt, Jill Kenyon, Heather Larson, Leland Zenk, Deborah Dayman and others.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVED: Motion by Ayers, second by Brockmann that the agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Wagle welcomed everyone to the meeting and read the vision of the District: It is the vision of the Pleasant Valley Community School District that we shall provide the finest academic and extra-curricular programs in the state – not in some things, but in everything; not for some students, but for every student.

Director Smith thanked Pleasant View students for assembling welcome kits for One Eighty residents.

Director Kanwischer extended warm wishes to students and staff for a healthy and restful holiday.

Director Wheeler congratulated the Platinum Dancers for their success at state and thanked them for offering a clinic to young dancers from the district that very same weekend.

Director Kunkel echoed Mr. Kanwischer’s holiday wishes to all.

Director of Secondary Education Bernie Brustkern congratulated the following students:

- The artwork of Carter Ahnquist, Savanna Schieffer and Sherry Tang was recognized in the Quad City Arts Festival of Trees High School Art Exhibit.
- Pleasant Valley Platinum Dance Team won state titles in Class 14 Pom and Class 7 Jazz.
- Platinum Dancer Maci Quam placed 2nd in state in Class 11 Solo.
- PVHS Director of Vocal Music Meg Byrne has been named one of ten finalists for the 2024 GRAMMY Music Educator Award. The winner will be announced in January and recognized during GRAMMY Week 2024.
- Five students competed in the ABC Building Trades Carpentry Competition in Des Moines. 25 teams of five from across the state worked to fabricate a floor system, walls, roof system and build stairs - all within a four hour timeframe. The team received very positive feedback for their efforts.
- Two students competed in the Iowa Dealers Association Automotive Technology Competition held at the DMACC Ankeny campus. The competition included a written exam and a hands-on section

in which they rotated among eight ASE certification areas to diagnose electrical and mechanical faults. The students worked in teams of two. The students placed 4th overall and were awarded a tool cart, tools, and a DMACC scholarship.

Superintendent Strusz welcomed Jared Kerr and his father Josh Kerr. Jared is working on a Boy Scout badge.

Mr. Strusz also shared *Pathways to Excellence*, five district priorities he shared with legislators - teacher salaries, growing General Fund expenses, challenges presented by new open enrollment legislation, ongoing support of local AEAs and at-risk and drop out programming.

Mr. Strusz expressed gratitude on behalf of the district to Frank McNeil, Head Building Custodian at Cody Elementary, who has announced his retirement after 31 years of service to children and families of Cody.

President Wagle expressed concern over the number of paraeducator resignations. Mr. Strusz and Mrs. Kenyon shared ideas under consideration for improved training and retention.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The December 18, 2023 consent agenda consists of the following:

- MINUTES: The approval of minutes of the November 27, 2023 Regular Meeting.
- PERSONNEL:

CERTIFIED:

Rebecca Dicus, Pleasant Valley High School Special Education Teacher, has submitted her resignation pending the hiring of a suitable replacement. Anita Roche, Pleasant Valley Junior High Librarian, has submitted notice of her retirement effective January 12, 2024 after 30 years of service to education, 15 years at Pleasant Valley.

CLASSIFIED:

Jennifer Brooks, Print Shop Coordinator at Pleasant Valley High School, has submitted notice of her resignation effective December 15, 2023. Anna Dana, Special Education Paraeducator at Pleasant Valley Junior High, has submitted her resignation effective December 15, 2023. Loretta Hoxie, Special Education Paraeducator at Riverdale Heights Elementary, is nearing the end of her probationary period and is recommended for regular employment starting January 3, 2024. Michelle Lastine is recommended for regular employment as the Pleasant Valley High School Print Shop Coordinator starting January 3, 2024. Probationary period is waived as she is a current district employee. Jie Li is recommended for regular employment as a Food Service Worker at Cody Elementary starting December 18, 2023. Probationary period is waived as she was previously employed by the District. Barrett Lindmark, Special Education Paraeducator at Pleasant Valley High School, has submitted his resignation effective December 21, 2023. Aimee Lohf, Special Education Paraeducator at Pleasant View Elementary, has submitted her resignation effective January 5, 2024. Sai Manogna Sombhatla, Food Service Worker at Riverdale Heights Elementary, has submitted notice of her resignation effective December 21, 2023. Frank McNeil, Head Building Custodian at Cody Elementary, has submitted notice of his retirement effective June 28, 2024 after 31 years' service to the district.

In Nam (Sunny Jackson) is recommended for regular employment as an ESL Paraeducator at Riverdale Heights Elementary starting December 12, 2023. Probationary period is waived as she currently serves as a Special Education Paraeducator at Forest Grove Elementary. Jack Pagett, Campus Monitor at Pleasant Valley High School, has submitted his resignation effective December 21, 2023. Dana Steinhart, Food Service Worker at Pleasant Valley High School, is recommended for an increase in hours from 3 hours/day to 4 hours/day effective December 4, 2023. Rebecca Woods, Special Education Paraeducator at Pleasant Valley High School, has submitted her resignation effective November 29, 2023.

CLASSIFIED: (information only)

Scott Burmahl is recommended for probationary employment as a Campus Monitor at Pleasant Valley High School starting January 3, 2024. Latisha Delgado is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Paraeducator at Forest Grove Elementary starting December 18, 2023. Sydney Freeman is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Paraeducator at Cody Elementary starting December 19, 2023. Randa Karadsheh is recommended for probationary employment as a Food Service Worker at Pleasant Valley High School starting December 12, 2023.

- OPEN ENROLLMENT: Once grade 4 and one grade 8 IN from Davenport; one grade 3 IN from Bettendorf (all continuations).

Motion by Ayers, second by Kunkel that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

EXPENSES APPROVED:

Motion by Brockmann, second by Ayers that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$822,442.13 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Kunkel that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$129,289.13 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kunkel, second by Ayers that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$1,638.71 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Brockmann that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$26,788.03 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brockmann, second by Ayers that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$17,270.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Smith recused. Motion carried.

Motion by Kunkel, second by Ayers that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$1,372,309.95 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brockmann second by Ayers that Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PEEL) Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$182,217.03 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Kunkel that Debt Service Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$230,345.07 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brockmann, second by Ayers that Student Construction Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$775.72 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kunkel, second by Ayers that Internal Service Fund warrants 6566 through 6568 be issued in the total amount of \$17,014.03 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Ayers, second by Kunkel that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$2,025.09 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL 2024-25 NEW COURSE OFFERINGS: At the November 27 meeting, three new high school courses were presented for Board consideration - English 105 - Composition I (single semester course), AP Pre-Calculus (full year course) and AP Microeconomics (single semester course). Director of Secondary Education Bernie Brustkern answered questions from the board.

Motion by Kunkel, second by Ayers that the board approve the following high school new course offerings for the 2024-25 school year: English 105 - Composition I, AP Pre-Calculus and AP Microeconomics. Roll call vote. Ayes - Ayers, Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Wagle, Smith, Wheeler. Nays - none. Motion carried.

2024-25 SCHOOL CALENDAR: The board had an initial look at the 2024-25 school calendar on November 13, 2023. Since then the calendar has been discussed by the PVEA (Pleasant Valley Education Association) at Interest Based Problem Solving (IBPS) meetings, by PTA Presidents and by the administrative team. Mr. Strusz shared comments from those groups. Items of note: Because Iowa law prohibits school starting prior to August 23, the first day of school falls on a Friday. Winter break will be a full two weeks. Spring break corresponds to spring break in the North Scott, Davenport and Bettendorf school districts, but not to the Regent Universities. The calendar will be presented for Public Hearing and approval at the January 8, 2024 meeting.

Key 2024-25 dates:

First Day of School:	August 23, 2024
Fall Break:	October 25,28 (No school)
Thanksgiving:	November 27, 28, 29 (No School)
Winter Break:	December 23 - January 3 (school resumes January 6)
Martin Luther King Day:	January 20 (No school)
Presidents Day Weekend:	February 14,17 (No school/Feb 14th tentative snow make up)
Spring Break:	March 17-21 (No school)
No School:	April 18
Memorial Day:	May 26 (No school)
Last Day of School:	June 6, 2025

No required motion.

MID AMERICAN OVERHANG AND ACCESS EASEMENT: Mid American is rebuilding the electric lines which run along the south side of 205th St., which is the north side of the Pleasant Valley Junior High property. The installation of new poles and lines will increase reliability in the area. As part of the project, the Distribution Underbuild (the cross arm on the pole) will be a little longer and therefore overhang the school property by about 2 feet, although the poles will remain in the ditch. Mid American is requesting an Overhang and Access Easement for the north 10 feet of the property. The easement allows for the overhang of the distribution lines, access (this work will be done from the road), and tree control (there are none in the north 10 feet). The District will be paid \$720 for the easement.

Motion by Kunkel, second by Ayers that the board approve the Overhang and Access Easement and the \$720 remittance. Ayes - Ayers, Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Wagle, Smith, Wheeler. Nays - none. Motion carried.

Director Ayers exited the meeting at 6:20 p.m. for the high school choir concert.

REVIEW OF 2022-23 AT-RISK DATA, 2023-24 BUDGET and 2024-25 AT-RISK DROPOUT PREVENTION PROGRAM PROPOSAL: The Pleasant Valley School District provides a continuum of support to advance the academic achievement and overall development of all students. This support includes alternative educational opportunities for “at risk” programming. The board reviewed the 2022-23 year end budget numbers and the new At-Risk/Dropout application and budget for the 2024-25 school year. Director of Student Services Jill Kenyon explained how the services in the proposal are designed to be responsive to the needs of our students.

Superintendent Strusz reviewed the Modified Supplemental Amount Application for At Risk services. The MSA for 2024-25 is \$1,113,439 as compared to \$1,085,165 in 2023-24. Mr. Strusz briefly reviewed how the district is disadvantaged by a legislative funding cap put in place several years ago and its impact on the general fund.

Motion by Kunkel, second by Brockmann that the Board approve the At-Risk/Dropout Prevention Application and the Request for Modified Supplemental Amount in the amount of \$1,113,439 or as adjusted by the Iowa Department of Education. Roll call vote. Ayes - Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Wagle, Smith, Wheeler. Nays - none. Motion carried.

PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL SOUTHWEST ADDITION AND RENOVATION DOCUMENTS UPDATE: Tom Wollan from FRK architects + engineers was present to update the board on the development of the high school project. The update reviewed the latest construction drawings, documents, cost estimates and project timelines.

The project includes twenty-two new classrooms with five new science labs, conference and resource space, additional theater storage, a 5,500 square foot cafeteria expansion, kitchen extension, new restrooms, and realignment of corridors. Below the main level addition, storage, locker rooms, concession space and restrooms will be added. Fire alarm systems will be updated throughout the building and a sprinkler system added to the theater.

Bids will be received in January 2024, construction is slated to begin in February or March of 2024 and the expanded and renovated space will serve students starting the 2025-26 school year. Estimated construction cost is \$35.3 million, including a contingency of \$1.05 million. It is not anticipated that a bond issuance will be required as the District intends to borrow against future sales tax revenue/ SAVE (*Secure an Advanced Vision for Education*) funds.

Director Wheeler exited the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

Motion by Brockmann, second by Kunkel that the Board approve construction documents for the Pleasant Valley High School Expansion and Renovation project as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes - Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Wagle, Smith. Nays - none. Motion carried.

2022-23 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT (ACFR): District Chief Financial Officer Mike Clingingsmith reviewed the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the year ended June 30, 2023. This is the eighth year in a row that the district has issued an ACFR instead of the less detailed standard audit report.

Mr. Clingingsmith provided a summary of the ACFR. Items of note:

- An *Unmodified Opinion* was issued on the financial statements. An unmodified opinion, the most desired outcome of an audit, is issued by the auditor to indicate that the financial statements appear to have been presented in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).
- The total Governmental Funds balance at June 30, 2023 increased by 3.6% over the previous year.
- No instances of noncompliance, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal controls were identified.
- Two findings were noted in the “Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs” - one involved variances in certified enrollment, which are being corrected with the state and the second identified an outdated depository resolution which will be brought to the board for updating as we establish borrowing for the PVHS expansion project.

Once again, the ACFR will be submitted to the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) and Governmental Finance Officers Association (GFOA) to apply for the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting awards from each of those organizations.

Mr. Clingingsmith recognized the business office team - Lorrie Wakeland, District Accountant, Kelly Hatler, Payroll, Kim Meyer, Bookkeeper/Accounts Payable as well as Corie Gamble, Director of Food Service, for their assistance during the audit and their good work throughout the year. Director Smith thanked and congratulated Mr. Clingingsmith and business office staff for their successful efforts.

Motion by Kunkel, second by Brockmann that the board accept the Pleasant Valley Community School District Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2023 as issued by Bohnsack & Frommelt LLP. Roll call vote. Ayes - Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Wagle, Smith. Nays - none. Motion carried.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mr. Clingingsmith presented the monthly financial reports for November 2023. Through November, General Fund revenue totaled \$25,778,857 and expenses totaled \$19,024,499. The fund balance in the General Fund at November 30, 2023 was \$18,899,218. Also presented were Management, PPEL, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Nutrition, Student Construction, Internal Service, and Activity Funds reports. No significant variances from projections were noted.

Motion by Brockmann, second by Kunkel that the Board approve the monthly financial reports for November, 2023 as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes - Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Wagle, Smith. Nays - none. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:

January 8, 2024
January 22, 2024

Regular School Board Meeting; 6:00 p.m.
Regular School Board Meeting; 6:00 p.m.

JULY 2023

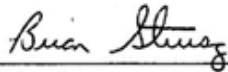
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Pleasant Valley Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

The district requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

The district is committed to the policy that no otherwise qualified person will be excluded on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, or age. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

Inquiries concerning the application of federal and state nondiscrimination statutes and the implementing regulations to the district may be referred to the Director of Secondary Education, who has been designated by the district as Educational Equity Coordinator, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of HEW, and Washington, D.C. The Director of Secondary Education's office is at Pleasant Valley Administration Center, 525 Belmont Rd., Bettendorf, Iowa 52722; telephone (563) 332-5550.



Brian Strusz
Superintendent