

**PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER

Monday, February 12, 2024; 5:30 P.M.

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*Streaming link*

[Pleasant Valley Community School District School Board Meeting February 12, 2024](#)

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ayers, Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Smith, Wheeler. Absent - Wagle. Also present: Brian Strusz, Bernadette Brustkern, Mike Clingingsmith, Tony Hiatt, Jill Kenyon, Heather Larson, Kevin Pennekamp, Leland Zenk, Deborah Dayman and others.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Vice President Brockmann 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 wished the wrestlers and bowlers heading to state competitions good luck.

Director Kanwischer congratulated PVHS Choral Director Meg Byrne and the *Leading Tones* upon their invitation to perform on February 10 at the Mid West American Choral Directors Association convention in Omaha NE.

In recognition of National School Counseling Week 2024, “*School Counseling: Standards-Based, Student-Focused*”, Director Wheeler thanked district counselors for their impact on helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

Director of Secondary Education Bernadette Brustkern shared the following recognition:

Girl’s State Wrestling: Congratulations to Caitlin Reiter, Abigail Meyrer, and Cassi Paustian who wrestled at the girls State tournament last week. Caitlin placed 5th and Abigail placed 4th.

State Speech: On February 3, PVHS hosted the SE District Large Group Speech Contest - over 3,000 participants. Spartan Coffee served and the drama boosters hosted the concessions. Over 100 volunteers- students and parents- helped to make the event run smoothly.

The PVHS large group speech team received 5 Division 1 ratings and 2 Division 2 ratings. Zack Guest and Elly Huhn were invited to perform their piece “Ordinary Days” at All State in the Group Musical Category.



Superintendent Strusz extended condolences on behalf of the district to the family of Dennis Boyd, teacher at Pleasant Valley Junior High for 37 years. Mr. Boyd passed away February 6, 2024.

Vice President Brockmann recognized winter sports athletes entering into post season play and wished them the best of luck - stay safe and do well.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

The February 12, 2024 consent agenda consists of the following:

- **MINUTES:** The approval of minutes of the January 22, 2024 Regular Meeting.
- **PERSONNEL:**

#### **CERTIFIED:**

TJ Gertson is recommended for employment as a Physical Education Teacher at Pleasant View Elementary School starting the 2024-25 school year. Monique Gomez is recommended for employment as a Special Education Teacher at Forest Grove Elementary School starting the 2024-25 school year. Aaron Sass is recommended for employment as a Physical Education Teacher at Riverdale Heights Elementary School starting the 2024-25 school year.

#### **CERTIFIED: (information only)**

Jacob Ridenour is recommended for employment as a Social Studies Teacher at Pleasant Valley High School starting the 2024-25 school year. This appointment is an internal transfer. Jessica Werderman is recommended for employment as a Teacher Librarian at Pleasant Valley Junior High School starting the 2024-25 school year. This appointment is an internal transfer.

#### **CLASSIFIED:**

Allison Brown, part time Custodian at Pleasant Valley High School, is nearing the end of her probationary period and is recommended for regular employment starting February 16, 2024.

Kaitlyn Burch, Special Education Paraeducator at Hopewell Elementary, has submitted her resignation effective February 2, 2024. Swathi Inturi is recommended for regular employment as a ESL (English as a Second Language) Paraeducator at Hopewell Elementary starting February 1, 2024. Probationary period is waived as she is a food service worker in the district. Caitlin Simon, Special Education Paraeducator at Pleasant Valley High School, is nearing the end of her probationary period and is recommended for regular employment starting February 16, 2024. Terri White, part time Custodian at Pleasant Valley High School, has submitted notice of her resignation effective February 15, 2024. Alison Young, Special Education Paraeducator at Pleasant Valley High School, is nearing the end of her probationary period and is recommended for regular employment starting February 16, 2024.

#### **CLASSIFIED: (information only)**

Karen Gorsline is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Paraeducator at Pleasant Valley Junior High starting February 12, 2024. Robin Olsen is recommended for probationary employment as a Food Service Worker at Pleasant View Elementary starting February 16, 2024.



**EXTRA-CURRICULAR:**

**ADD:**

Cassidy Peterson  
Amanda Ray  
Erica Sherman  
Justin Wiese

PVJH Assistant Track Coach (23-24)  
PVHS Interim Head Softball Coach (23-24)  
PVJH Assistant Girls Basketball Coach (24-25)  
PVJH Assistant Wrestling Coach (24-25)

**DROP:**

Amanda Ray  
Justin Thompson

PVHS Assistant Varsity Softball Coach (23-24)  
PVJH Assistant Wrestling Coach (24-25)

- OPEN ENROLLMENT: IN from Bettendorf (continuations) one kindergarten, one grade 2, two grade 3, one grade 5, one grade 9. IN from Bettendorf (new) one kindergarten. IN from Davenport (continuations) one kindergarten, one grade 2, one grade 4. IN from Davenport (new) one grade 11 (returning PV student). All 2023-24.
- Financial Services Agreement with Piper Sandler & Co.
- Dissemination Agent Agreement with Piper Sandler & Co.
- Engagement Letter with Bond Counsel (Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.)

Motion by Kanwischer, second by Ayers that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**EXPENSES APPROVED:**

General Fund: Motion by Ayers second by Smith that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$638,414.25 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Nutrition Fund: Motion by Kunkel second by Ayers that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$143,083.74 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund: Motion by Ayers second by Wheeler that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$7,007.68 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

High School Activity Fund: Motion by Ayers second by Smith that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$47,302.52 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Management Fund: Motion by Kunkel second by Ayers that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$12,270.00 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Capital Projects Fund: Motion by Kanwischer second by Smith that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$916,946.63 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PPEL (Physical, Plant and Equipment Levy) Fund: Motion by Smith second by Ayers that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$80,322.60 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.



Student Construction Fund: Motion by Ayers second by Smith that Student Construction Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$15.20 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Internal Service Fund: Motion by Kanwischer second by Ayers that Internal Service Fund warrants 6574 to 6577 be issued in the total amount of \$42,310.43 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Trust Fund: Motion by Ayers second by Wheeler that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$1,999.64 in payment of invoices presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**BOARD POLICY UPDATES - 603.13 AND 603.13(R):** Based upon discussion and recommendations made at the January 8, 2024 board meeting, revisions to Board Policy 603.13 and 603.13(R) are presented for a second reading and approval.

603.13            *Internet - appropriate use*  
603.13(R)        *Internet - appropriate use - Regulation*

Motion by Kunkel, second by Wheeler that the board approve the revisions to Board Policies 603.13 and 603.13(R) as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes - Ayers, Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Smith, Wheeler. Nays - none. Motion carried.

**BOARD POLICY UPDATE - 502.1:** Upon Recommendation from the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) and in response to recent legislative changes, the following board policy update was presented for a first reading at the January 22, 2024 board meeting and is presented for approval this evening.

502.1            *Student Conduct*

Motion by Ayers, second by Wheeler that the board approve the revisions to Board Policy 502.1 *Student Conduct* as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes - Ayers, Brockmann, Kanwischer, Kunkel, Smith, Wheeler. Nays - none. Motion carried.

**BOARD POLICY UPDATES - SERIES 800:** Upon Recommendation from the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) and in response to recent legislative changes, the following board policies were presented for a first reading at the January 22, 2024 board meeting. Since these policies are new, an initial and two additional readings are required. The policies will be brought before the board for approval on February 26th.

The proposed policies to be added are:

808.01            *Purchasing - Bidding*  
808.01R1        *Purchasing - Bidding - Suspension and Debarment of Vendors and Contractors Procedure*  
808.01R2        *Purchasing - Bidding - Using Federal Funds in Procurement Contracts*  
808.02            *Expenditures for a Public Purpose*  
809.01            *Internal Controls*  
809.R1            *Internal Controls - Procedures*

No required motion.





**PLEASANT VALLEY - NORTH SCOTT - BETTENDORF AVIATION CLUB:** Aviation Club advisors Jenny Wilson (PVJH School Counselor) and Zach Miller (PVHS Science Teacher) as well as student members of the club Bennett Teitle, Jorge Azuela, Laura Azuela and Experimental Aircraft Association #75 member and student mentor Craig Olsen shared an update on the status of the airplane construction. Pleasant Valley, Bettendorf and North Scott students participate in the construction project and North Scott Community School District has provided space in their transportation center to house the project. Students and advisors gather three times per week for two hours/session to work on the plane, which was purchased as a kit. In compliance with FAA regulations, a detailed log is maintained detailing tasks completed and by whom. The students discussed the many hands-on skills they have acquired and proficiency in the use of a variety of tools. It is estimated the plane will be complete eighteen months from now and upon completion it will be inspected and flown by FAA approved pilots to obtain certification for sale. The board thanked the advisors for helping provide this unique opportunity for students.

No required motion.

Directors Kunkel and Ayers exited the meeting at 6:25 to attend a PVHS music event.

**PVHS CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT AND PATHWAYS OPPORTUNITIES:** Bernie Brustkern, Director of Secondary Education, Mary Johnson, PVHS Career Coordinator, Scott Rice, PVHS Counselor and Nikki Gullion, Eastern Iowa Community College Dean of Curriculum and Concurrent Enrollment presented information regarding concurrent enrollment through EICC and post-secondary education and career pathway opportunities available at PVHS. The pathways offered by Concurrent Enrollment include (1) Continuing college education (2) Internships, Pre-apprenticeships and Apprenticeships and (3) entering the workforce. It was noted that the transfer of credits to a bachelor's program depends upon the courses taken - for example, most certificate program courses do not transfer but many dual enrollment courses will transfer. It is important for the student to plan ahead and consider their end goal. High School counselors and PVHS Career Coordinator Mary Johnson, as well as college admission offices will help guide students through the many opportunities available to them.

No required motion.

**ELEMENTARY PLAYGROUND PROJECT:** IMEG Engineers Scott Schulte and Bob Jurkowski were present to go over preliminary plans for elementary playgrounds. Included in the presentation were project timelines and cost estimates as the district proceeds in the request for proposal process. During the summer of 2024, Riverdale Heights, Pleasant View and Bridgeview Elementary playgrounds will be rebuilt, and Hopewell, Cody and Forest Grove will follow during the summer of 2025. The playgrounds will feature poured in place rubber surfacing and new equipment. The timeline is as follows:

February 12, 2024	Board Action: Approve project plans
February 14, 2024	Advertise for Specification-based Bids, including equipment
March 7, 2024	Bid Opening
March 18, 2024	School Board Action: Public Hearing and Awarding of Contract
May 1, 2024	Begin demolition / construction

Motion by Kanwischer, second by Wheeler that the board approve the elementary playground project documents as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes - Brockmann, Kanwischer, Smith, Wheeler. Nays - none. Motion carried.

**FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROJECTS PLAN:** Mike Clingingsmith, Brian Strusz and Leland Zenk guided the board through the updated Five Year Capital Projects Plan. Projects planned for the current year include completion of the Forest Grove and PVJH building expansion, classroom modernization at buildings,



playground reconstruction, PVHS partial roof replacement, PVJH outdoor athletic facilities improvements, and district-wide safety and security improvements. Looking ahead, major projects include the PVHS building expansion, playground reconstruction, classroom modernizations and partial roof replacement at Pleasant View.

No required motion.

**RESOLUTION FIXING DATE FOR A HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF APPROXIMATELY \$27,180,000 SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE SALES, SERVICES AND USE TAX REVENUE BONDS:** In order to borrow money from future SAVE revenue (issuance of Sales Tax Revenue Bonds) to help pay for the upcoming PVHS building addition and renovation, a public hearing must be held. CFO Mike Clingingsmith explained the resolution required to set the date of the public hearing for February 26th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and to authorize publication of the *Notice of Public Hearing* by the *Quad City Times* as required by law.

Motion by Kanwischer, second by Smith that the Board approve the Resolution Fixing the Date (February 26, 2024) for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Issuance of Approximately \$27,180,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Bonds as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes -Brockmann, Kanwischer, Smith, Wheeler. Nays - none. Motion carried.

**ESTABLISH NEW BOARD POLICY REGARDING SOLVENCY RATIO:** As part of the proposed high school expansion project and borrowing against future local SAVE revenues, the district recommends adopting two board policies which will explain how the district uses school district funds in keeping with the school district vision, mission and goals. To achieve this purpose, policies 810.01 and 810.01R1 outline how the district will engage the board in learning about the financial needs, operations and requirements of the district as necessary for the board’s understanding of the district financial position. Since these policies are new, an initial reading and two additional readings are required so the policies will be brought before the board for approval on March 18th.

No required motion.

**2024-25 CERTIFIED BUDGET PROCEDURAL CHANGES AND PROPERTY TAX LEVY RATE DISCUSSION:** HF 718, passed during the 2023 legislative session, made significant changes to the certified budget process for school districts. CFO Mike Clingingsmith discussed with the board the significant changes for school districts and also presented the recommendation that the district’s property tax levy rate for the 2024-25 fiscal year remain the same as the 2023-24 school year. The Budget Planning Calendar was introduced. Due to the timelines required by HF 718, it is necessary that the Board come to consensus on the 2024-25 property tax levy rate no later than the February 26th board meeting. Two property tax hearings will be held in April.

No required motion.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**FUTURE DATES:**

- Monday, February 26, 2024; 6:00 p.m. - Board of Education meeting
- Monday, March 18, 2024; 6:00 p.m. - Board of Education meeting (one March board meeting)



## Legislative Contact Information:

### Senators:

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JULY 2023

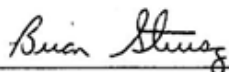
### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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

