

1. **Call to Order**

Dr. Nugent, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:09PM. Other members present: Deborah Burke-Grabarek, Charles Raymond, Megan Gallant, Dan Harris, Courtney Ennis and Cindy Luty. Also present: Dr. Roy Seitsinger; Superintendent, Gloria Homiski; Recording Secretary, and Cindy Varricchio; Director of Finance.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Public Comment**

Kara Sawyer; parent, Miller Road, addressed the board with regard to enrichment for students. She stated that she is in full support of the budget but worries that enough enrichment is not being offered to students. Class sizes are small and therefore she expects more time and resources for advanced students. She understands a Curriculum Committee has been formed and she and her husband look forward to learning more about that.

4. **Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda was accepted as submitted.

5. **Superintendent's Report**

a. **Preston Plains Principalship**

Chris Pickett was chosen from a very competitive pool of applicants. Mary Broderick from CAFE stated that it was a pleasure to work with our community. Dr. Seitsinger looks forward to a smooth transition with Dr. Davis-Tomczuk and Mr. Pickett both in the building from now until the end of the school year.

b. **2023-2024 School Calendar**

Moved, to approve the 2023-2024 as presented. Luty/Burke-Grabarek.

Discussion followed. Cindy Luty asked that one item be added to the key.

Unanimous. Motion Carries.

c. **Capital Projects Update**

Dr. Seitsinger reviewed the revised capital project list with the Board. Reduced over \$800,000 from the original plan, the total is now 3.1 million dollars. The Board consented to return this request to the BOF. The Board is looking for their advice and guidance.

Moved, to accept the revised Capital Improvement Plan as presented. Raymond/Burke-Grabarek. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

d. **Update Mental Health Grant - Summer**

Dr. Seitsinger submitted and received a grant for the next school year. A second grant was completed for Summer School assistance. He also noted that School Safety Grants were submitted.

e. **Policy 0525: Hate Speech at 2nd Read**

Moved, to accept Policy 0525 as amended. Gallant/Luty. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

6. Principals'/Director of Special Education Reports

Mr. Chris Pickett: Interim Principal PPMS: SBAC testing went very well. Mr. Pickett thanked both Laila Griffin and Evelyn Gallegos; testing coordinators. Fifth Grade Orientation will be held on May 17th. On Thursday, May 11th, Kevin Booker Jr. will meet with PPMS staff to develop leadership with equity and inclusion. Grade 7 will be going to the Science Center. Grade 8 will be going to Lake Compounce. Band Adjudication will be held, followed by a trip to Lake Compounce. The Spring Band Concert will be held on May 31st. Grade 8 graduation will be held at 4PM on June 13th in the gymnasium at PVMS. Mr. Pickett has also been working with the Manufacturing Pipeline Initiative. This initiative provides students with hands on experience that can help them obtain employment upon graduation from high school.

Mr. Ray Bernier: Principal PVMS: He also stated that SBAC testing went very well. PVMS is still determining a location for field day. The options are Oneida Campground, Acorn Campground or onsite at PVMS. The Awards ceremony will be held on June 9th at 9:30AM. Preston Palooza will be held on June 14th. Keeping PK and K enrollment projections in mind, a PK Lottery will be held on May 31st. PVMS continues to work on NAEYC Accreditation.

Mrs. Ann Perzan: Director of Special Education: One of her goals is to increase reading skills among students. Evelyn Gallegos has become a Wilson Certified Teacher to assist with this goal. All professional development for next year is focused on students' assessments and understanding different disciplines. Mrs. Perzan is continuing to conduct virtual PPT meetings. The department continues to work with Effective School Solutions. A clinical eye is needed for assessments.

7. Committee Reports

Megan Gallant had nothing to report this month. She and Courtney Ennis plan to schedule a meeting together.

8. Financial/Capital Report

Mrs. Cindy Varricchio stated that overall, the 2022-2023 budget is tracking very well. There are no red flags. Central Office is preparing for Town Meeting on May 11th and preparing for the \$250,000 reduction in expenses and a \$50,000 adjustment in revenue for a total of \$300,000.

Upcoming Meetings:

May 11th Town Meeting PVMS

May 25th Referendum PPMS

Lease Agreement: Central Office is in the process of creating a draft lease agreement with a local property owner for a new central office location.

The lease will be reviewed in Executive Session. Central Office already looked at building a free-standing building or purchasing modular office space. Neither of those options were cost effective. Central Office plans to move in January of 2024 or Fall of 2024.

9. Adjournment

Moved, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30PM. Burke-Grabarek/Luty. Unanimous.
Motion Carries.

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2023 MAY 11 P 3:05

Joe Keith
PRESTON TOWN CLERK