

**PIONEER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 402
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: December 14, 2021
Time of Meeting: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: Pioneer Middle School Library & Virtual Link
Board President: Mr. Kipple

Board President Kipple called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and then led the pledge of allegiance. A quorum was established.

The following community and staff members were in attendance; Trisha Amundson, Sarah Armstrong, Abbie Ashcraft, Kim Ausetz, Kathy Beaudoin, Hannah Bennett, Trish Bennett, Connie Bingham, Doris Bolender, Tami Brown, Helga Bruntsch, Kamala Budge, Lynn Chakos, Matthew Chemers, Tawnya Chemers, Geanne Clark, Cicely Conklin, James Conlon, Amy Dahlberg, Eric Dahlberg, Caroline Davenport, Dan Deacon, Katie Deacon, Jill Diehl, Thomas Diehl, Tami DuBois, Amanda Eagle, Andy Eagle, Kerry Earles, Erin Edgington, Tom Ehnat, April Gardenhire, Ronna Graham, Becky Guilford, Laura Hall, Chris Harris, Martha Hoss, Kris Jonker, Morgan Jump, Mya Keyzers, Timothy Keyzers, Amy Koster, Kenneth Latimer, Aaron Leth, Bobbi Lipke, Sara Montalto, Izzy Oleson, Hillary Paul, Joan Pauly, Hannah Pease, Deneen Phelan, Kimberly Powell, Brenda Roth, Julianne Rowan, Liz Rusher, Peggy Sanderson, Asia Schreiner, Artemia Settle, Sharon Settle, Rebecca Shipman, Christina Shook, Laura Smith, Valerie Smith, Courtney Summers, Megan Thurston, Nicole Toy, Kirsten Tratnick, Patrick Treiber, Matt Urban, Jessie VanAagten, Tricia VanMarter, John VanNeen, Susan Vincent, Cindy Waite, Katie Walter, Rick Weeden, Terry Weeden, Katie Whitehead, Cody Wilkes, Joel Williams, Laurie Williams, Tonya Youngquist, and Casandra Zyski.

Approval of Agenda - Dr. Day moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Dr. Schlitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda - Dr. Day moved to approve the consent agenda as written. Dr. Schlitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Business Operations - Finance Director Chris Bishop shared month-end financial reports for the month of November.

Discussion Items - Dr. Day moved to Resolution 4-2021 Transfer of Funds. Dr. Schlitz seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken:

Dr. Day - Aye

Mr. Kipple - Aye

Dr. Schlitz - Aye

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the need for a retreat with the purpose of establishing board goals, defining roles, and responsibilities and team building. Superintendent Diehl suggested February 22, 2021.

With Dr. Schlitz's decision to remain in School Board Position 1, Mr. Kipple reviewed the proposed schedule for the unfilled position. A Special School Board Meeting with an executive session to review the qualifications of candidates has been scheduled for January 10, 2021. Interviews for candidates will be at a Special School Board meeting scheduled for January 11, 2021.

Requests to Address the Board

After discussion between the Board of Directors and individuals in the audience, the Board agreed to hear results and comments from the *Pioneer Staff Survey* taken by 38 Pioneer Education Association (PEA) union members between December 6, 2021, and December 9, 2021.

Questions on the survey were in the following categories: Peer Relationships, Building Administration Relationships, and District Administration. Staff members sharing the result and a few comments from each category were Connie Bingham, Amy Byykkonen, Tawnya Chemers, Cicely Conklin, Caroline Davenport, Katie Deacon, Deenen Phelan, Megan Thurston, and Trisha VanMarter.

The Pioneer Education Association (PEA) Union President Dan Deacon then read a statement formally advising the Pioneer School Board of Directors that members of the PEA have No Confidence that Jill Diehl can provide the District with quality leadership and oversight that is essential for the District's health, effectiveness and safety. The Pioneer Education Association formally requested that Jill Diehl submit her resignation to the Board. If she fails to do so, PEA requests that the Board ask for her resignation.

It was noted that the Board and Superintendent Diehl will get a copy of the Pioneer Staff Survey and the letter of No Confidence.

John VanDean - In light of this announcement, it is time to start talking about the superintendent's separation package. Watch where the money goes.

Shawn Montano - Can questions asked at a board meeting be posted on the website, along with answers to the question?

Kathy Beaudoin - As a community member and educator, I am thankful the school board allowed personnel to speak.

Tami DuBois - The school board should consider a different chairman. Every time we approach, the chairman is hostile toward teachers. Not sure when the election of officers is scheduled.

Morgan Jump - Did any school board members visit the Elementary School?

Mya Keyzers - If the Board is not responding to questions now, will there be follow-up?

Andrew Wilson - If the school board president doesn't have time, perhaps he should not be in that seat. Last month I asked a couple of questions, did anyone do research? No, follow-up. Was there prior planning prior to the District deciding to surplus the module building? Do we know anything about a new building? We may want to have open conversations. Do you have grants for this or will it be something sucked out of my wallet?

Chris Harris - Did you know we lost another school bus driver? I suggest that for those kids who are causing trouble on the bus have their parents come to school and watch the video. It is the same route, same kids, we need to do something.

Helga Brunsch - Special Education bus drivers need assistance from a para while transporting. It can be unsafe and very challenging if a student tries to unbuckle their seatbelts. Bus drivers are at the low end of the pay scale.


Cindy Waite - How do discussion items get added to the agenda?

Amanda Eagle - Agreed bus drivers need to get paid more. Considered being a bus driver but has had difficulties with Dr. Diehl, and told she wouldn't get hired.

Rebecca Shipman - Resigned from Pioneer due to a hostile and unsafe health environment. Asked for a formal exit conference and interview with the Board. Would like it on record that neither has been completed and resignation was in October.

With no further public comments, Dr. Day moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 pm. Dr. Schlitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED THIS 25th DAY OF JANUARY, 2022



Dr. Susan Day

Dwayne Kipple


Dr. Stephanie Schlitz

ATTEST: _____
Jill Diehl, Secretary to the Board of Directors

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