

A Nice Place To Visit



A Better Place To Live

PARDEEVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS



Bulldog Country

www.pardeeville.k12.wi.us

DECEMBER 2020/JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER
VOL. 27 No. 3

Art Club Sponsors Christmas Tree Extravaganza!

The Pardeeville Art Club organized a new activity for clubs and organizations to get involved in this Holiday season. We call it "The Christmas Tree Extravaganza". Our goal was to get lots of students participating in an activity that would build community, create a warm and welcoming space as they entered the school, and celebrate all of the wonderful clubs and organizations that students are involved in here at PHS.

The task for each organization was to create a Christmas Tree like display that celebrates their

organization in a creative way. One of the rules stated that each tree had to have at least one handmade ornament that was created by members of the organization. Wow, they really turned out great! The trees look amazing and they really brighten up our entryway. Clubs participating included NHS, FBLA, Drama Club, Spanish Club, Skills USA, Key Club, FFA, Cheer & Dance, Art Club and Student Council. Thank you to all of the advisers and students that participated! Happy Holidays to you all.



Ten beautiful Christmas trees were decorated and put on display by students in various clubs.



The Skills USA tree was made of wood.



The Art Club Tree

2020 Property Taxes

The final 2020-21 budget passed by the Board of Education had a decrease in property taxes of \$164,321 or 2.84 percent compared to 2019-20. Every municipality in the Pardeeville Area School District received a lower property tax bill for 2020-21 than the bill they received in 2019-20. The major reason for the property tax decrease was an increase in state aid from the State of Wisconsin.

Besides the lower property tax bill, the Pardeeville Area School District had property growth of 4.9 percent during the past year. Between the decrease in property taxes and the increase in property growth the mill rate for the School District dropped from \$10.00 per thousand dollars of property value in 2019-20 to \$9.26 per thousand dollars of property value in 2020-21. This is a 7.38 percent decrease. What does this mean for a property tax payer in the Pardeeville Area School District?

In 2019-20 if you had a piece of property worth \$150,000 you paid \$1,500 in school taxes. This year based on the growth in property, that property is now worth \$157,350 and you will pay \$1,457 in school taxes, a decrease of \$43. Please realize that this is an average for the entire school district and the impact on property taxes will be different in each municipality.

The last time the mill rate was this low was in the 2008-2009 school year when the mill rate was \$8.45.

In the Spring of 2017 when the Pardeeville Area School District asked the taxpayers of the School District to approve the referendum for the auditorium and renovation of areas in Pardeeville High School, the mill rate predicted at that time for 2020-21 was projected to be \$11.05. Unexpected increases in state aid and property values since the referendum was approved by taxpayers have caused the actual mill rate to be significantly lower than what had been predicted.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Margo Pufahl, President
Becky Lezvow, Vice President
Karla Walker, Treasurer
Lynette Ives, Clerk
Daniel Pulver, Director
Tim Kath, Director
Bret Achterberg, Director

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

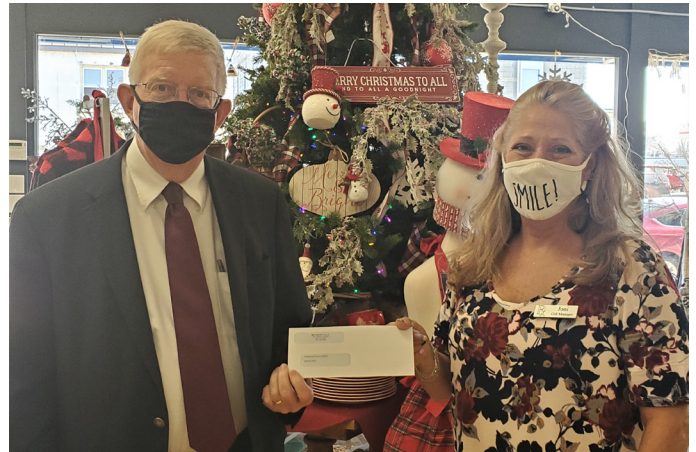
Gus Knitt

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Jane S. Clemmons

- This newsletter is an official bi-
- monthly publication of the Pardeeville
- School District designed primarily to
- inform parents and other district resi-
- dents interested in their public school
- system. It is designed to supplement
- the fine coverage and reporting of
- our local news media, other school
- publications and general or more
- personalized communications.
- We are striving to develop a more
- comprehensive school/community
- system of communications.

Thank You to Local Businesses



Gus Knitt, Superintendent, accepts a check for \$183.70 from Joni Busse at Hometown Pharmacy. The donation is to be used for PPE supplies for the school.



Shane Reitzner, Assistant Vice President of Hometown Bank, presents Gus Knitt, Superintendent, with a \$500 donation for the school to use for PPE (personal protective equipment) supplies.

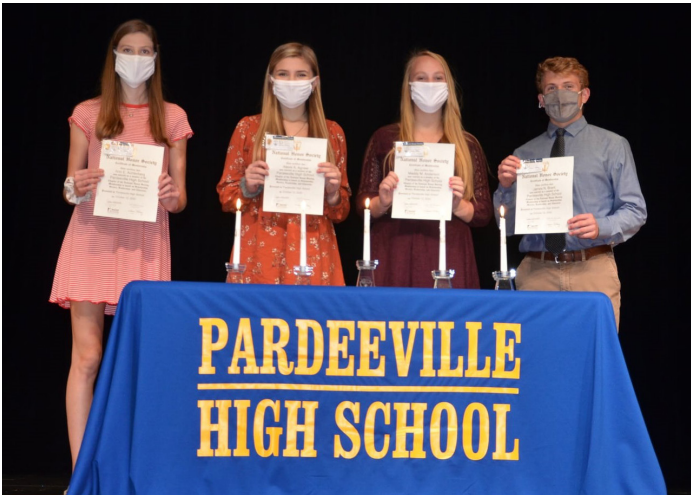
**HELP US BY
BEING WELL
INFORMED**

Mission Statement

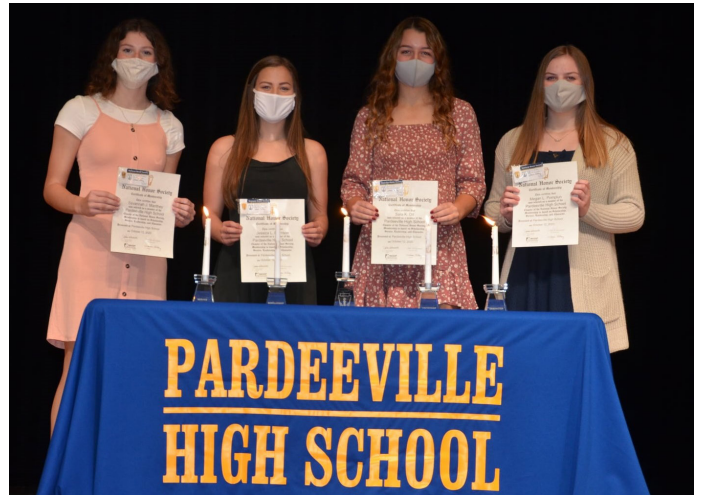
The Pardeeville Area School District, a caring, community-based learning organization, will provide all students an education that is a lifelong asset through active participation with family, business and community in a positive and challenging environment.

2020 NHS Inductees

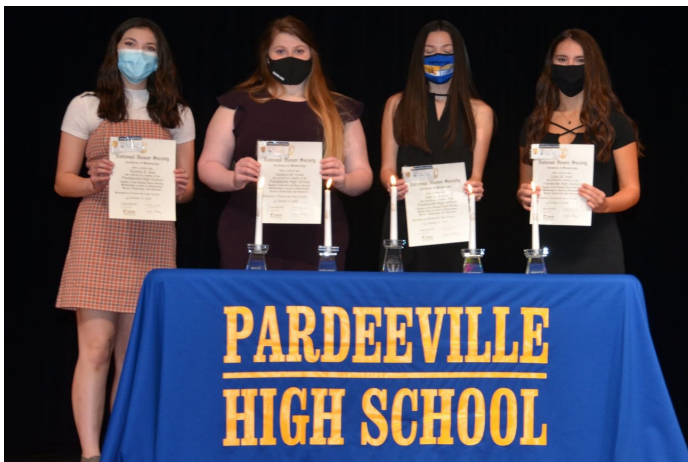
Twenty students were inducted into the Pardeeville Chapter of National Honor Society. It was a nice socially-distanced ceremony and the students inducted are an excellent addition to the organization.



Ann Achterberg, Alexis Agnew, Maddy Anderson and James "Nate" Brant



Savannah Manthey, Jessica Morrison, Sara Ott and Megan Pomplun



Sydney Bue, Katelyn Cook, Dani Edgar and Carly Hebl



Jayden Price, Katherine Shogren, Emma Trahms and Sydnie Wheeler



Abigail Kaiser, Alexander Kuhn, Chase Lynch and Alexis Maass

Free Breakfast and Lunch Program for All Students

On October 9, 2020, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) extended the nationwide waivers to continue the use of the National School Lunch Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) through June 30, 2021. These waivers allow school food authorities (SFAs) to continue to serve free meals to all students. It is not a requirement to use these programs to serve meals. SFAs can operate the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs if they choose to do so. The Pardeeville Area School District has made the choice to continue this program and offer free breakfast and lunch to all students for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

Elementary Snowy Playground



2nd graders really enjoyed our first snowfall playing outside and making snow angels and snowmen!

A Visit from Barney the Bulldog!

Elementary classes took advantage of the beautiful warm day during recesses on November 19th and some even ventured over to the track. Who did they see while going there? BARNEY, the Bulldog! Barney made a surprise visit to see them and let them know how proud he was of them for all their hard work this school year. Way to go elementary students!!!! We are so proud of each and every one of you for working and trying so hard this year. We know it has been a very challenging Covid school year, but you still continue to shine and be awesome! Keep it up! Pardeeville Proud!



Barney the Bulldog

Virtual Veterans Day Program and Veterans Day Meal

Our MS/HS Veterans Day Program on Nov. 11 was virtual this year. This meant no in-person ceremony or annual Veterans Day meal. However, that didn't stop us from showing our appreciation for our veterans. In lieu of a formal program we created a virtual program that featured performances by our high school choir and band, along with a speech by Mr. Evans, Pardeeville Band Director and Retired Sgt. National Guard. It can be viewed on the district Facebook page, or by going to our website. It is under "Announcements" on the main page, or it can be accessed on the high school homepage.

We did provide a contactless, curbside meal pick up for our veterans. We served just short of 100 meals this year! National Honor Society members helped bring the meals prepared by the food service staff to the cars and handed out cards created by the sixth grade and elementary students. We felt this event was a great success and we hope our veterans enjoyed it.



Helping Hands Food Pantry

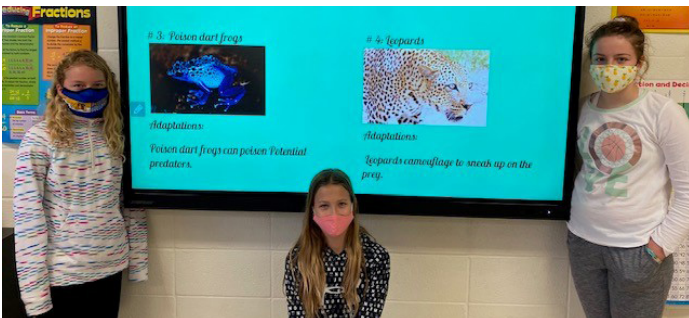
The Helping Hands Food Pantry, located at 165 E. Dodge Street, Wyocena, WI 53969 services residents of the Pardeeville Area School District based on income eligibility; Hours: The first three Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays of each month, 10 AM - Noon. The Pantry is closed most holidays and anytime the Pardeeville School District is closed due to inclement weather.

Did you know, if you are unable to pick up items, but know someone who could pick up for you, you can do that too? The Food Pantry also has some people who are available to deliver if you are working or have COVID.

If you have questions for the food pantry, their email address is: hhands652@gmail.com

Fifth Grade Life Science Project

At the end of our Life Science unit, students in fifth grade created a Google Slide presentation about a biome. They researched their biome's climate and locations around the world. They also researched plants and animals found in their biome along with adaptations they have to help them survive. Then the students presented their projects and taught their classmates about their biome.



Counselors Looking for Your Input

Throughout the months of November and December our Pardeeville School Counselors hosted virtual parent information sessions about anxiety, understanding our brain, relationships and mindfulness. Our counselors are now looking for new topics that parents and community members are interested in learning more about. Please email Courtney Sturtevant at sturco@pasdwi.org with your ideas. Thank you!

7th Grade Math Challenge of the Week Winners

Congratulations to Taylor Luedtke and Joe Dosemagen who were the 7th Grade Math Challenge of the Week winners. Each week, a very challenging problem is shared and students can choose to solve it. Points are tallied all trimester to determine our overall winner! Mrs. Bell is very proud of both Taylor and Joe for the hard work and perseverance they put forth to complete each challenge. For their efforts and leading in points, both students received a Subway lunch from their teacher! Great Work!



Taylor Luedtke



Joe Dosemagen

Student Council Activities

Student Council has been super busy this year even though our year hasn't looked quite the same as years past. This year we started the school year by kicking off homecoming with socially distanced activities, then started a fundraising campaign called "You've been Flocked." Our students had a great time flocking houses in the Pardeeville area to support all of the work they do throughout the year. After our flock few South, we were able to help out at Chandler Park putting up the Christmas lights, and are now working diligently to help families in the community provide presents for Christmas through our Christmas Wishes program. We've been lucky to have help from businesses in the community this year, and would like to thank Hometown Bank, National Exchange Bank and Trust, North Scott Baptist Church, St. Faustina Catholic Church, and Craig's Popcorn Corner for their generosity and willingness to help us provide a happy Christmas holiday for students in our schools and community!

Key Club is Finding Ways to Serve

Key Club has been lucky enough to accomplish a Highway Cleanup and make dog toys for the Columbia County Humane Society this fall. The Key Club is glad that we were able to do projects where we could work together, while socially distanced, to help our community. Both events had a great turnout. We made a big box full of dog toys from donated t-shirts. The toys were delivered to the Humane Society, and they loved them! For our Highway Cleanup we were able to pick up our whole two-mile span and cleaned up 12 big bags of trash. Both events were a lot of fun. If you are interested in helping our community, please join the Key Club because we are always looking for new members.



Great job Key Club members, front row (left to right): Gracie Krueger, Alexis Agnew, Abby Kaiser, Alexis Maass and Brooke Luedtke. Back row: Natalie Olson, Annie Achterberg, Sydnie Wheeler, Savannah Manthey, Devin Seth and Peter Freye.

FFA Finds Ways to Stay Busy

By Mya Noyons

Since the start of school, the Pardeeville FFA has been able to participate in a few events. It's not our normal busy start of the school year, but we are doing all we can to still be an active chapter. One of these was our newest event, the Backyard Bash, where we had yard games and a bonfire on October 27th. This allowed us to be outside while still social distancing and have fun bonding with some new members. It was a very successful and fun-filled night. We played corn-hole and ladder golf, stood around the fire and made new friends. Then we started our annual fruit sale in October as well. Although the order form was a little different this year, with online ordering and drive-thru pickup, it was still very successful. We appreciate all the support from the community for our annual fundraiser.

Another new event we were able to participate in this fall was the holiday tree decoration contest at school, hosted by Art Club. We created our own ornaments using clear plastic balls and members filled them with something that represents themselves. Then we decorated the tree with cow and corn lights, blue garland and our newly designed ornaments. To top it off, we added a red tractor on the top and a tree skirt with cows wearing Christmas hats. Overall, we felt the tree really represented our group!

Finally, the FFA helped set up lights to prepare for the Holiday Lights in the Park displays in Chandler Park. Besides the two light displays constructed by the FFA - A Country Christmas and Hooked on the Holidays - members volunteered their time on a Saturday to wrap trees and decorate one of the shelters at the park. We hope everyone comes out to enjoy the lights this winter. More community groups get involved each year!



FFA students Isabelle Hineman, Katie Shogren & Lauryn Engelhart string lights around trees at Chandler Park.

Have you checked out the Chandler Park lights yet?

In addition to all of the community displays, the Pardeeville High School has four displays in the park for you to check out. Our high school students had fun helping put up lights and setting up displays this year, assisting on two different weekends to help the crew with set-up. There is a Skills USA display, which features our homemade Christmas Trees and Snowman. In past years we have had these for sale, but due to Covid we couldn't this year. Look for them in the future. Student Council has a flamingo display highlighting their "You've been Flocked" campaign this year. Right now, most of our flock has flown south for the Winter, but in spring they will be back and you can support Student Council by having your own yard flocked, or by flocking someone else's yard! FFA has a beautiful country Christmas display featuring a classic Santa's sleigh, but instead of a sleigh it has a farm wagon, and instead of reindeer, you'll find cows! On the other side of the pond, the FFA set up a fishing display titled "Hooked on the Holidays" where Santa is fishing with two FFA members. We are so happy to be a part of the amazing Chandler Park lights! Come on down to the park to help us all celebrate the holidays.



Flamingo display by High School Student Council.



Happy Holidays from Skills USA.



Hooked on Fishing by Pardeeville FFA.



A Country Christmas display by FFA

Supporting Children and Teens During the Holiday Season

With the holiday season here, Hope House recognizes that this can be both a joyous time and a difficult time for some individuals. With the added layer of the pandemic, some children are experiencing new or enhanced stressors that they might not understand how to cope with. Below we share some thoughts and ideas on how to support your child during this unique holiday season.

- Be as honest as you can with your child/teen about why things might be different this year. If you are celebrating the holiday away from extended family, let them know it comes from a place of caring and wanting loved ones to be safe. Also, don't hesitate to be honest about your feelings as well. It might help them to see that they aren't alone in their feelings and validate how they feel.
- Focus on the meaning of the holiday for your family; the way you celebrate this year may be different but the meaning and values are not.
- If you have access to technology, try zoom calls and group chats! While it isn't the same as being in person, this connection can be extremely meaningful for not only your child, but the whole family. As a family, you can make the virtual visit interesting by eating a meal while each of you plays your favorite holiday song for everyone to listen to, do a scavenger hunt online, playing charades or having a dance party!
- If possible, find a way to make this year new and different, maybe coming up with a new tradition. Volunteer somewhere, wrap donated toys, help shovel a neighbor's driveway or send a card to someone you know who may be spending the holidays alone.
- The lack of control can be really hard so asking your child or teen one thing they might like to do can be a fun activity for you to brainstorm together.

For more helpful tips on supporting your child and yourself during this holiday season, you can visit The National Child Traumatic Stress Network at www.nctsn.org. Also remember that Hope House is here for you if you or your child would like to talk to a Hope House advocate about not feeling safe, experiencing trauma, or about our services. The Hope House 24/7 confidential helpline is 1-800-584-6790. Learn more at www.hopchousescw.org or on Facebook and Instagram @hopchousescw.

2020-21 Pardeeville Area School District Accountability and Educational Options Notice

The Pardeeville Area School District offers students a variety of educational options to children who reside in the District.

The District's primary educational pathway and instructional program for students involves a progression from 4-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade, leading to a high school diploma.

The full version of the District's most recent school and school district accountability report, as issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction under section 115.385 of the state statutes, can be accessed via the following page (and on the District's website): <https://apps2.dpi.wi.gov/reportcards/> Select Pardeeville from the pull down menu.

Some of the specific education programs offered to eligible students who are enrolled in and attending the District's schools include the following:

- Early Childhood special education (for students who are at least 3 years old but not yet school-age)
- Special education for students with disabilities
- Gifted and talented programming
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs
- Individualized program and curriculum modifications
- Alternative education program(s)
- At-risk education (e.g., for students identified as being at-risk of not graduating from high school)
- Summer school programming

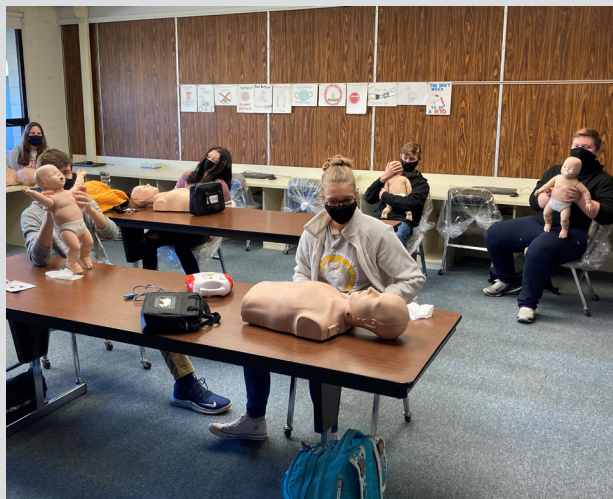
Educational options available to all students who are at least 3 years old but not yet 18 years old residing in the Pardeeville Area School District include:

- Public School
- Private School
- Special Needs Scholarship Program
- Open Enrollment
- Start College Now & Early College Credit Programs
- Course Options
- Home-based private education

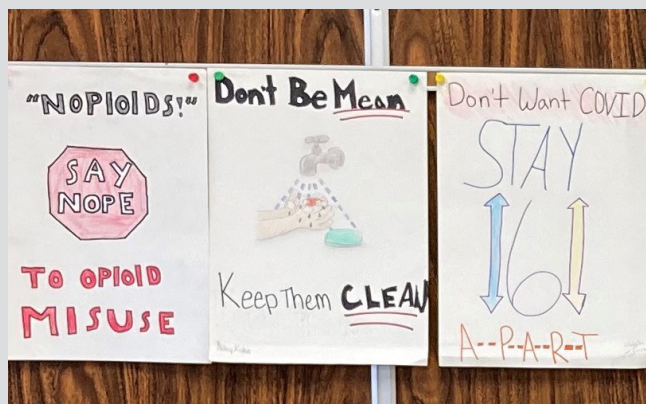
More information about these programs can be found at <http://dpi.wi.gov/cd-options>

Health 10 Class

Students in the Health 10 class have been learning about many aspects of health. One project the class did during our lesson on alcohol and other drugs was to make a poster with facts related to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Students also made posters for their safety chapter. They learned about fire extinguishers and the acronym PASS-Pull, AIM, Squeeze, and Sweep! In regards to fire safety, they also learned about the acronym RACE-Rescue, Alarm, Contain, and Extinguish! Most students were surprised by the information they learned. The class has also discussed aspects of healthy eating, mental and emotional health, morals and values, sexual health, and first aid/CPR/AED.



Health CPR



Health Posters

WINTER CONCERT RECORDING

For our Winter Concert this year, the bands and choirs will be doing a video recording and sharing it with the public online for a limited amount of time. More details to follow on the release date of the concert recording. In order to make this happen, administration has allowed us to bring ALL members of each group together on a Wednesday (remote day) to have them record as a complete ensemble. All members should wear concert attire for these recordings: MS (grade 6-8) black and white attire, HS all black attire. The schedule will look as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 9 - MS groups will record (5th grade band and choir will record during a normal class day)

10-10:45am= 6th-8th grade band rehearsal and concert filming in HS gym

BAND STUDENTS NOT NEEDING A BUS RIDE HOME MAY LEAVE AFTER THE FILMING.

10:45-11:30am= 6th-8th grade choir rehearsal and filming in the auditorium.

CHOIR STUDENTS NOT NEEDING A BUS DO NOT NEED TO GET HERE UNTIL APPROXIMATELY 10:30.

*Those students needing bus transportation this day MUST CONTACT Mr. Evans or Mrs. Larson in order to get picked up! An email was sent to all parents regarding this.

Wednesday, Dec. 16 - HS groups will record

10-10:45 am - Jazz Band members rehearse/record in HS gym.

10:45-11:30 - High School Band members rehearse/record in HS gym.

THOSE IN BAND ONLY MAY LEAVE AFTER RECORDING.

THOSE IN CHOIR ONLY SHOULD REPORT AROUND 11:00 to the HS gym.

11:15-11:30 High School Choir members will rehearse/record Christmas Sing Along with the Band in HS gym.

11:30-12:00 High School Choir members rehearse/record remaining songs in the auditorium.

THOSE IN CHOIR ONLY MAY LEAVE AFTER RECORDING.

12:00-12:45 - Show Choir rehearse/record in the auditorium.

WINTER SPORTS UPDATE

With all winter sports occurring indoors, and local municipalities and counties still seeing high COVID-19 levels, there are additional precautions and procedures that are being implemented. The Trailways Conference has discussed the best ways to keep our winter athletic season going and one of the main topics was the amount of people in our facilities for competitions. With this in mind, the Trailways voted to limit the number of spectators at events to **TWO per team member**. It is the hope that through this measure, among others, we are able to keep the season going and our teams healthy.

Unfortunately, this means there will be no on-site ticket sales or walk-in option.

The guidelines listed below have been implemented by the Trailways Conferences for all schools who wish to participate in conference competitions. Furthermore, these guidelines are designed to protect the teams and the spectators. Your willingness and cooperation to follow these guidelines is appreciated. Additionally, to offer those who cannot attend in-person as an option, the school district is using a streaming platform that allows you to watch the games for free thanks to generous donations by the Pardeeville Bulldog Support Foundation and private donors. Details on how to watch the live stream are below.

Games and schedule of events are subject to change due to COVID-19, so double check the calendar of events before tuning in. If you have specific questions regarding winter athletics you can contact Alex Hammerschmidt, Activities Director, at hammal@pasdwi.org, or by calling 608-429-2153 ext. 246.

HOME EVENTS: JVII games will begin at 4:30 pm; JV games will begin at 6:00 pm; Varsity games will begin no earlier than 7:15 pm.

LIVE STREAMING OF EVENTS

The School District will make all efforts to live stream all middle and high school Pardeeville athletic events held in the high school gym. Please visit the following link to view our live events: <https://justagamelive.com/clients/pardeeville-high-school>. Thanks to generous donations the events are being streamed at no cost to the viewers.

FEEL FREE TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

How it works:

1. Go to <https://justagamelive.com/clients/>

[pardeeville-high-school](https://www.pardeeville.k12.wi.us/hs/athletics.cfm) OR go to the Pardeeville website and click on the athletics homepage. <https://www.pardeeville.k12.wi.us/hs/athletics.cfm>

2. Select the event you wish to view and click on "View Matchup."
3. You will be taken to a new screen where you can view the event. The events will start streaming 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.
4. Full screen and audio controls can be found inside the video player. ENJOY WATCHING THE LIVE STREAM!
5. Missed the game? The video is available with on demand playback after the event is completed.

Most schools are offering on-line viewing options through a variety of streaming services. Spectators should check each school's website for availability.

GUIDELINES FOR SPECTATORS (BASKETBALL & WRESTLING)

- Face coverings are required at **all times** for all spectators. Upon entering the building face coverings should be on and remain on during the duration of the event.
- The maximum number of spectators per team member is two (2). "Team member" includes athletes, coaches, managers/statisticians, etc.
 - In cases of separated families, those families may get four (4) slots for admission.
 - Each spectator must register with the activities director at hammal@pasdwi.org, or by calling 608-429-2153 ext. 246, **by noon on the day of the home event** to be given entry.
 - There will be no student section. Students who are registered must sit with their families. There is no loitering in the hallways.
- **There will be no on-site ticket sales or walk-in option.**
- Spectators should enter and exit through the high school main entrance (DOOR 14).
- Spectators must sit in designated areas and remain in the gym during competition unless using restroom facilities or visiting concessions.
- Social distancing, which is keeping a minimum of 6 feet between individuals, should be followed.
- The gym will be cleared after each level of competition is complete. All non-essential people are asked to leave immediately at the conclusion of the event.

Maass Named “Best Cheer Teammate”

The Football Cheerleading team, despite being limited to cheering at just the three home games, enjoyed a very successful season as it adjusted to the COVID restrictions that were in place. The team’s first appearance was at Homecoming where they did their halftime dance to “I’ll Be There” by Jess Glynne which they learned at summer camp. This dance routine in keeping with the song’s positive message incorporated positive signs: “Believe,” “Stay Positive,” “Make A Difference,” “Never Give Up,” “You Are Enough,” “Keep Smiling,” “In This Together,” “Be Strong,” and “Be the Change.”

In October the team initiated its first-ever community service project. All team members videoed themselves reading children’s books to post in Google Classroom for elementary teachers to use with their students. Thus far the team has done two recording sessions featuring holiday books and intend to continue this initiative for the remainder of the cheerleading season.

The team celebrated its accomplishments with an awards event featuring team games and contests in lieu of the traditional potluck banquet. This awards format with only team members and coaches present, featured seven games and prizes for all game winners. After the games and contests, the team enjoyed sandwiches from Subway, received their letters and the coaches presented Lexi Maass with the “Best Cheer Teammate” plaque. Coaches Garcia and Waldinger thank the team for their positive attitudes and dedication.



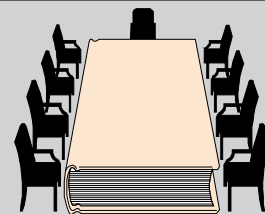
Lexi Maass – Best Cheer Teammate



Football Cheerleading Team - Front: Sydney Bue and Lexi Maass. Back: Laurny Engelhart, Jessica Morrison, Hannah Heil, Taylor Stolas.



Pardeeville Board of Education



REGULAR BOARD MEETING October 5, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Margo Pufahl, Board President. Roll call was taken with the following board members present: Mr. Bret Achterberg, Ms. Lynette Ives, Mr. Tim Kath, Mr. Dan Pulver, and Ms. Margo Pufahl. Ms. Karla Walker participated via teleconference. Ms. Becky Levzow arrived at 7:02 p.m. Also present were Mr. Gus Knitt, Ms. Mary Kamrath, Mr. David Bell, Mr. Jason LeMay, and Ms. Jane Clemmons.

Motion to Approve Agenda

Motion by Mr. Kath/seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

Coronavirus Update

Mr. Knitt gave an explanation as to what led up to the decision to close schools. The closings were due to an increase in positive COVID-19 cases in Columbia County and an increase in individuals getting tested for COVID-19 who either attend or work at the school. Students and staff who interacted closely with these individuals were contacted by the school nurses in conjunction with the health department. Many other schools are closing too, we are not unique. The goal is to reopen as many grades as we can. Athletic events are trying to reschedule. There has been good cooperation with students in school. Outside of school students have not been as careful as they are in school. The school is providing free meals as approved by the USDA's national program. Mr. Knitt said a parent questioned why the school couldn't livestream classes. He said the internet survey conducted by the school showed that 40% of our parents don't have the internet capability to livestream or view a lot of video.

Report on Third Friday Count and Summer School Report

The 9/18/2020 pupil count showed that 718 students are attending Pardeeville Schools and 118 students are attending via the 100% virtual option for a total of 836 students. The resident count for the district which includes students living in the district but attending elsewhere came to 881. The 2020 summer school report showed 2 for equalized aid and 1 for the revenue limit count which is less this year because enrichment summer school and the summer park program were not held.

Discuss Search Process for Superintendent

Ms. Pufahl handed out information from CESA 5 and Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) which both do superintendent searches. Ms. Pufahl said she wants the Board members to give her their thoughts on the search and a list of their 3-4 most important points in looking for a superintendent. It was decided that the Board would like to interview representatives from CESA 5 and WASB at their meeting on 10/19/20. A decision should be made soon because there will most likely be a lot of schools looking for superintendents next year.

Board Development Exercise #28 – Radiate Negative Energy

The Board discussed "Terrible Habit #28: "Radiate Negative Energy" taken from the book, How Not to be a Terrible School Board Member. This was the last section of this book.

Board Comments and Questions

Mr. Kath asked the principals what a teacher's day looks like right now. Mr. LeMay, High School Principal, said teachers make videos, do Google meets, they get their lessons uploaded, etc. Teachers put items that they want students to pick up in the vestibule. Students are able to remote in to do CAD, Adobe, Microsoft Suite. They are trying to keep things as normal as possible. Mr. Bell, Middle School Principal, said they have kept a similar schedule going. Teachers and students email back and forth to get answers to questions. Teachers post their lessons by 7:30 or 8:00 a.m. Students who do not show participation are contacted by the school. Ms. Kamrath, Elementary School Principal, asked her teachers to keep as normal a schedule as possible. Some lessons are videotaped so children can work on in the evening if they need help. Lessons and work are also posted for students. Mr. Kath said he can't say enough about how administrators have helped to make this all work. Mr. Knitt said connectivity is a statewide issue. Some discussions have been held that some churches or libraries may be able to help students with providing internet access.

Approval of Minutes Dated 9/21/2020

Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Ms. Ives to approve the minutes dated 9/21/2020. Motion passed 6-0-1. Mr. Pulver abstained.

Approval of Additional Co-Curricular Advisor

Motion by Ms. Ives/seconded by Mr. Kath to approve Ms. Tara Runaas as the Elementary Student Council Advisor. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of closing the FFA Leadership Scholarship Activity Account
Money in memory of Walter Krueger was originally put into this activity account but was then moved to the Fund 72 Scholarship account so there is no need for this account. Motion by Ms. Ives/seconded by Ms. Walker to close the FFA Leadership Scholarship activity account. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Middle School Interventionist
Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Mr. Kath to approve hiring Ms. Jennifer Fitzgerald for the middle school interventionist position. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Donations

There were no donations submitted for approval.

Approval of First Reading of NEOLA Policies
Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Mr. Achterberg to approve first reading of NEOLA policies listed as 1-15 on the agenda. Motion passed 7-0. Some discussion was held regarding the wording in Policy 8660 which may need to be looked at further.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The next regular school board meeting will be held on Monday, October 19, 2020. Agenda items will include Motion to Approve Agenda, Open Forum, Administrative Team Reports, Committee Reports, WASB Virtual State Convention on January 20-22, 2021, Coronavirus Update, Interview Superintendent Search Firms, Board Comments and Questions, Approval of Minutes Dated 10/5/2020, Approval of Receipts/Expenditures, Approval of Short-Term Borrowing, Approval of Resignation from Head Softball Coach, Approval of Winter Coaches, Approval of Additional Co-Curricular Advisor/Mentor, Approval of 2020-2021 Budget, Approval of 2020-2021 Tax Levy, Approval of Superintendent Search Firm, Approval of Start College Now Applications, Approval of Donations, and Approval of Second Reading of NEOLA Policies.

Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Mr. Achterberg to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0. The meeting

adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Lynette Ives, Clerk

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES October 19, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Pufahl, Board President. Roll call was taken with the following board members present: Mr. Tim Kath, Mr. Dan Pulver, Ms. Karla Walker, and Ms. Margo Pufahl. Ms. Lynette Ives attended via teleconference. Mr. Bret Achterberg arrived at 7:03 p.m. and Ms. Becky Levzow arrived at 8:00 p.m. Also present were Mr. Gus Knitt, Mr. David Bell, Mr. Jason LeMay, Mr. Alex Hammerschmidt, Ms. Jane Clemmons, Ms. Tara Runaas, Mr. Judd Becker, and Mr. Jeremy Biehl from CESA 5. Ms. Louise Blankenheim and Mr. Francis Finco from WASB attended the meeting via telephone during the superintendent search item on the agenda.

Motion to Approve Agenda

Motion by Mr. Kath/seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

Open Forum

There were no open forum items.

Administrative Team Reports

Ms. Kamrath submitted a report on the Elementary School. The Elementary School went virtual from 9/30/20 to 10/9/20 due to positive COVID cases in our school and there would not be enough support staff and substitute teachers to cover classes. Fire Prevention Week was October 5-9. October is National Bullying Prevention Month and Ms. Dietzenbach has been working with students in guidance classes regarding this. Ms. Kamrath will be meeting with her summary teachers on their Student Learning Objectives (SLO's) and Professional Practice Goals (PPG's). Virtual parent teacher conferences are set for 10/29/20. Ms. Kamrath is allowing 100% virtual students who are using Lincoln Learning to join back face to face after the first quarter on 11/9/20 if they feel the program is not a good fit for their families.

Mr. Bell provided a report on the Middle School. The transition to district-wide closures this past week tested the preparedness of staff and students. The special ed department set a schedule for all students to have multiple times throughout the day to meet with aides and teachers to get needed support. Regular ed teachers created interactive lessons, provided Google Meet times, and were available throughout the day for their students. Continued communication between the school and parents/families was key to keeping students on track. Over the past week the 100% virtual students using Lincoln Learning received a progress report from Mr. Bell or Ms. Denure. Virtual parent teacher conferences will be held on 10/29/20.

Mr. LeMay provided a report on the High School. The music department is trying to work out a way to perform a concert virtually. Due to COVID-19, our annual MS/HS Veteran's Day ceremony will not be held this year. Instead a prerecorded program will be presented for community members and veterans to view online. The high school will be hosting a contactless, curbside pick-up Veteran's Day Dinner for veterans and their families. Homecoming Week was well received overall considering all the limitations that we had. The staff continue to work

very hard at providing the best education possible to students despite the lack of daily contact. On Wednesdays, staff have been holding Google Meets with students, arranging for 1 on 1 support, or taking the time to develop online instructional pieces. They have also been contacting students and parents if students are not being successful in their classes. High School clubs and organizations continue to work on ways to keep students actively engaged in their groups, but also follow safety precautions. Twenty students were inducted into National Honor Society. Ms. McElroy submitted a Technology report. The student/parent tech ticket is working well to take care of Chromebook issues. Hotspots are available for checkout to families in need. The tech department worked on 121 MOJO tickets during the past 30 days with 99 solved. Most days Ms. McElroy's time is spent coordinating the Chromebook fleet, work tickets and questions. Door system schedules have to be readjusted every time we open or close the buildings for a period of time. Software projects included: reviewed and trained other staff about recent state reporting changes; worked with elementary and middle school to resolve Lincoln Learning virtual software issues; replaced Chromebooks with laptops in food service until issues are resolved with the lunch plugin and PowerSchool; helped revise software request procedures with Ms. Houslet to include more clearly defined steps to obtain student data privacy agreements from vendors; and need to set up Fitnessgram, Aimsweb plus app update, and set up server for ELL testing.

Mr. Housner submitted a Buildings and Grounds report listing work done in the custodial/maintenance department, some of which included: preventive maintenance on air conditioner, mowers, boilers, etc., cleaned hallway air returns, bathroom exhausts, track, etc., painted ball fields, installed shields at elementary school, put up Cleaned/Needs Cleaning signs on classroom doors, and completed other repairs throughout the school. The custodial/maintenance department completed 49 work orders. Mr. Hammerschmidt, Activities Director, submitted a report. Fall sports are nearing the end of their seasons. Overall due to COVID there were a lot of ups and downs. Athletic schedules will most likely continue to change often throughout the winter. We plan to continue with the 25% seating capacity at all home athletic events. Pardeeville has appealed again to the WIAA for a football only conference realignment to be moved from the East Suburban Conference into the Trailways Conference. WIAA has sent out their new COVID guidelines for winter sports. The Buildings and Grounds Committee will need to discuss the possibility of extending/ changing their contract for the spring of 2021 season at their next meeting. Mr. Hammerschmidt will start running orientation sessions for the Fitness Center. Projects to work on include updating the school athletic website, resolving the rain water issue with the football/track scoreboard—still waiting to have this replaced, and the athletic record boards and display cases have been put on hold.

Ms. Houslet submitted a Library and Technology Report. The library and technology department has been a busy place since we went virtual last spring and getting ready for a school year that is in a state of fluctuation. August inservice training with staff was run differently this year and received largely positive feedback. Tech professional development from A to Z is continuing this year. Ms. Houslet created helpful digital newsletters for staff and parents. Wisconsin DPI focused on connectivity for the month of September and we surveyed our families to get an updated idea on connectivity in the area. While the internet is available to many of our families, video streaming is spotty at times which can make Google Meets and streaming of live events difficult. For the library, students have been checking out and reserving books through the Online Catalog. When books are returned, they are quarantined for 4 days, following the public library protocol. Magazine and newspaper subscriptions have been halted during this time as they cannot be sanitized between uses.

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee—met on 9/28/20 to Tour the Middle School Gym, Tour the Buildings for Modifications Due to COVID-19, and to Discuss a Request for Fill Near the Softball Field. The committee toured the middle school gym and discussed the slippery floor issue. Mr. Housner will be looking into bids to remedy this problem and will have someone look at the HVAC system in that room. Two requests were received to remove fill dirt from district property. The group toured the middle school and high school to see modifications due to COVID-19 which included plexiglass in areas, covered water fountains, plastic seat covers in the auditorium for social distancing, cleaning supplies in rooms, and various protocols used for cleaning, social distancing, etc.

Curriculum Committee—met on 10/15/20 to discuss Virtual Learning Platforms, Grading Virtual Students, and Movement from Virtual to Face-to-Face Instruction. The Edgenuity and Lincoln Learning virtual companies the school is using for 100% virtual students is going fairly well. School mentors are monitoring these students to ensure that they are getting an education and are contacting parents as necessary. Having companies dedicated to handle the 100% virtual students has helped because trying to teach both in school and virtual is hard. Grading 100% virtual students was discussed. Some students have expressed an interest to go from virtual to inhouse and some vice versa.

Finance Committee—met on 10/12/20 to discuss the 2020-2021 Budget.

Policy Committee—met on 9/28/20 to discuss the policies that are on tonight's agenda for approval.

WASB Virtual State Convention on January 20-22, 2021

The WASB State Convention will be held virtually this year. Registrations for the meeting will still need to be made. More information will be coming by November 1 when registration begins.

Coronavirus Update

Mr. Knitt gave an update on Coronavirus. School reopened on Monday, 10/12/20, for grades 4K-4 and 6-12. Fifth grade students resumed school on 10/15/20. A crucial issue is with teachers being out, there may not be enough substitute teachers to keep school open. Meals were delivered during shutdown and are now offered for pickup. A number of individuals at the school have tested positive for COVID. Mr. Knitt meets at least twice daily with the nurses for updates. Counts statewide have been very high. A lot of contacts have been occurring outside the school, not inside the school. Staff should be commended for the job they have done. We ordered technology and PPE supplies early which was good.

Interview Superintendent Search Firms

The Board interviewed two firms tonight for consideration of hiring to conduct the search process for the school's next superintendent. They interviewed people from CESA5 and from Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB).

Mr. Jeremy Biehl, Agency Administrator for CESA 5, provided information and a timeline about how CESA 5 would conduct a superintendent search for our school. Search activities would include advertisement for the position, collection of applications and initial screening, coordinating interview logistics, facilitating Board and staff/ community interview teams, and assistance with contract development. Their standard fee is \$5,000. Representing WASB were Ms. Louise Blankenheim and Mr. Francis Finco. They were interviewed by the Board via teleconference. Their search would include the initial planning meeting, determine board/ community focus groups and community survey to develop leadership profile, develop vacancy announcement and essay questions, post vacancy, review applications and choose interviewees, scheduling of initial interviews, reference and background checks, schedule final interviews, negotiation of contract, etc. A fee schedule was included. We would pay for the services that they

do for us, not to exceed \$8,500.

Board Comments and Questions

Mr. Achterberg asked about paying support staff aides for days they didn't work. Mr. Knitt said the school kept most aides working with various jobs while shut down. For times they were not working, they could apply for unemployment. Mr. Achterberg asked if there would be two teams for 7th and 8th grade basketball if there is a high enough number of students signed up. Mr. Hammerschmidt said he would have to see what the numbers are. Mr. Achterberg said he heard comments that people liked the cross country meets that were held at home.

Approval of Minutes Dated 10/5/2020 Motion by Ms. Ives/seconded by Mr. Kath to approve the minutes dated 10/5/2020. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Receipts/Expenditures

Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Ms. Ives to approve the receipts/expenditures as presented. Motion passed 6-0. Checks submitted and approved included #63148-63184, 11203-11212, 011020ACHF, 011020DDFE, 62991-63011, 63014-63016, 63086-63122, and 01AMEX0962-01AMEX0969. General fund revenues were \$786,699.73 and total disbursements were \$847,684.27.

Approval of Short-Term Borrowing

Bids for short-term borrowing of \$1,400,000 were received from National Exchange Bank and Hometown Bank. Mr. Knitt recommended approving the bid from Hometown Bank at 0.595%. Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Ms. Levzow to approve short-term borrowing in the amount of \$1,400,000 from Hometown Bank at 0.595%, adopting the resolution as set forth on Exhibit A. Motion passed 7-0. A copy of Exhibit A, Resolution for School District Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes, is attached to these minutes.

Approval of Resignation from Head Softball Coach Tabled until next meeting.

Approval of Winter Coaches

Winter Coaches submitted for approval included: Amanda Seichter-Head Curling Coach, Clay Osterhaus-Assistant Curling Coach, Andy Crotty-Curling Volunteer, Kevin Kopp-Middle School Curling Coach, Chris Lindert-Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, Mike Craig-JV Boys Basketball Coach, Al Nickel-JV2 Boys Basketball Coach, Jesse Kath-Boys Basketball Volunteer, Nicholas Henke-Boys Basketball Volunteer, Tyler Lindert-Middle School (8th Grade) Boys Basketball Coach, Greg Wagoner-Middle School Boys Basketball Coach, Joe Guenther-Varsity Girls Basketball Coach (already approved), Chris Lynch-JV Girls Basketball Coach, Laura Bell-Middle School (8th Grade) Girls Basketball Coach, Amber Houslet-Middle School Girls Basketball Coach, Jesse Huset-Varsity Wrestling Coach, David Rusher-JV Wrestling Coach, Jared Napralla-Wrestling Volunteer, Craig Crary-Wrestling Volunteer, and Judd Becker-Middle School Wrestling Coach. A discussion was held that the deadlines to apply for the 8th grade boys and girls basketball positions were still open. Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Mr. Kath to approve the list of winter coaches as submitted except for the 8th Grade Boys Basketball and 8th Grade Girls Basketball positions. Motion passed 7-0. Later in the meeting it was determined that the deadline to apply for the 8th grade boys basketball position was 10/16/20 so that could be approved, however, the 8th grade girls basketball deadline to apply is 10/30/20 so that position would have to be approved at the next meeting. Motion by Mr. Kath, seconded by Mr. Achterberg to approve Tyler Lindert as Middle School (8th Grade) Boys Basketball Coach. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Additional Co-Curricular Advisor/Mentor Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Mr. Achterberg to approve Ms. Courtney Sturtevant as a Mentor for Ms. Jennifer Fitzgerald. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of 2020-2021 Budget Motion by Mr. Kath/seconded by Mr. Achterberg to approve the 2020-2021 budget of \$11,710,318. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Achterberg-yes,

Ms. Ives-yes, Mr. Kath-yes, Ms. Levzow-yes, Mr. Pulver-yes, Ms. Walker-yes, and Ms. Pufahl-yes. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of 2020-2021 Tax Levy

Motion by Ms. Ives/seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the 2020-2021 tax levy in the amount of \$5,614,661. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Achterberg-yes, Ms. Ives-yes, Mr. Kath-yes, Ms. Levzow-yes, Mr. Pulver-yes, Ms. Walker-yes, and Ms. Pufahl-yes. Motion passed 7-0. This tax levy is down -2.84%.

Approval of Superintendent Search Firm

Motion by Mr. Kath/seconded by Ms. Levzow to approve hiring Wisconsin Association of School Boards for the superintendent search process. Motion passed 7-0. The Board would like to get started with this process in early November.

Approval of Start College Now Applications

Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Ms. Ives to approve five Start College Now applications. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Revised 2020-2021 Calendar

No revised calendar was submitted for approval.

Approval of Donations

Motion by Ms. Ives/seconded by Mr. Kath to approve a Vision S7200HRT Elliptical from Barb and Tim Sullivan and a donation of \$165 in memory of Mabel Maier. Motion approved 7-0.

The elliptical machine will be used in the fitness center and the donation in memory of Mabel Maier, a retired Home Ec teacher, will be used for the Baking and Pastry Class.

Approval of Second Reading of NEOLA Policies

A revision was made to Policy 8660 to remove the words "hands and foot". Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Ms. Ives to approve second reading of the policies listed as 1-15 on the agenda with the one revision. Motion passed 7-0.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The next regular school board meeting will be held on November 2, 2020. Agenda items will include: Motion to Approve Agenda, Coronavirus Update, Board Member Recognition from WASB, Board Comments and Questions, Approval of Minutes Dated 10/19/2020, Approval of Resignation from Head Softball Coach, Approval of Coach, Approval of School COVID-19 Plans After 11/24/2020, Approval of Revised School Calendar, Approval of Donations, Approval of First Reading of Neola Policies, and Superintendent Search – Planning Meeting with WASB.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Kath/seconded by Mr. Achterberg to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Lynette Ives, Clerk

REGULAR BOARD MEETING November 2, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Margo Pufahl, Board President. Roll call was taken with the following board members present: Mr. Tim Kath, Mr. Dan Pulver, Ms. Karla Walker, and Ms. Margo Pufahl. Ms. Lynette Ives participated via teleconference. Mr. Bret Achterberg arrived at 7:05 p.m. Ms. Becky Levzow was absent. Also present were Mr. Gus Knitt, Mr. David Bell, Mr. Jason LeMay, Ms. Jane Clemmons, Mr. Chris Lynch, Ms. Tara Runaas, and Ms. Michelle Ernst.

Mr. Francis Finco from WASB attended the meeting via Zoom during the superintendent search planning portion of the meeting.

Motion to Approve Agenda

Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Mr. Kath to approve the agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

Coronavirus Update

Mr. Knitt gave a coronavirus update. The Elementary School reopened today after being

closed for two weeks. School closings may be necessary if we are short staff. Fewer substitute teachers are available. Nurses are concerned with recent student gatherings outside of school. We are continuing to follow the coronavirus guidelines. Football, volleyball and cross-country teams got some games in this fall.

Board Member Recognition from WASB Board member Dan Pulver was given a pin and certificate from Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) in recognition for his work as a Board member and participation in WASB activities.

Board Comments and Questions

Mr. Kath said volleyball and football games are being streamed at other schools and he asked the status of that being available at Pardeeville. Mr. Knitt responded the issue is getting wiring and cabling to the locations and we would not be able to get a camera for a few months due to a shortage of those items. Mr. Hammerschmidt, Activities Director, has looked into this and it probably would not be until the end of winter sports before we could do this. Mr. Kath asked whether teachers are being asked to teach full virtual to any students. Parents were told we weren't doing this and it could create a snowball effect. Mr. Bell said Lincoln Learning has allowed us to substitute some students in and out for the virtual learning. Some students are home quarantined for a period of time and have to be taught virtually.

Approval of Minutes Dated 10/19/2020

Motion by Mr. Pulver/seconded by Ms. Ives to approve the minutes dated 10/19/2020. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Resignation from Head Softball Coach

Motion by Mr. Kath/seconded by Ms. Walker to approve a resignation from Ms. Heather Falkner from the head softball coaching position. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Middle School Girls Basketball Coach (8th Grade)

Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Mr. Achterberg to approve Ms. Laura Bell for the middle school girls basketball coach position. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of School COVID-19 Plans After 11/24/2020

The Board approved an instruction plan in August that ran through November 24, 2020. The administration is recommending that the current plan be continued through January 22, 2021 which would be the end of the first semester at the Elementary School and roughly the middle of the second trimester at the Middle School and High School. Administration is also recommending that the mandatory facial covering be continued for the same time period. A complete list of revisions to the Bulldog Blueprint was given to the Board. These revisions will be in effect from 11/30/2020 to 1/22/2021. Motion by Mr. Kath/seconded by Mr. Achterberg to approve the COVID-19 plans as presented until 1/22/2021 including mandatory facial covering. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Revised School Calendar

The school calendar was revised to coincide with the approval above through 1/22/2021. Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Mr. Kath to approve the revised calendar. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Donations

Motion by Mr. Pulver/seconded by Ms. Ives to approve a \$500 donation from Hometown Bank. Motion passed 6-0. The donation is to be used to help cover the cost of PPE that the school district has had to purchase.

Approval of First Reading of NEOLA Policies

One revision was recommended to Policy 1662, page 9, second paragraph, to select Board President and cross off Board Attorney. Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Mr. Kath to approve first reading of NEOLA policies listed as 1-23 on the agenda with one revision to Policy 1662. Motion passed 6-0.

Superintendent Search – Planning Meeting with WASB

Mr. Francis Finco attended the meeting via Zoom to discuss the process and timeline for

the superintendent search. A news release announcement should be sent right away to the local newspapers and it should be posted on our school website. This announcement will invite community members to complete a community survey from November 16-23. The survey should be put on our school website and paper copies should also be available. WASB will post the vacancy notice by 11/9/20. WASB has the ability to post the vacancy in 40 different states, through WASDA, WASB, etc. The three focus groups that will be used will be: Staff, Administrators, and School Board. The staff focus group should be limited to 15-20 people. The staff and administrators focus groups will meet with Mr. Finco on 11/23/20. School Board members will receive focus group questions to complete and return to Mr. Finco by 11/20/20. School Board members will then meet on 11/30/20 to review focus group responses, review community survey results, review board member responses to the focus group questions, and then determine first round application questions for the superintendent interviews. Following the 11/30/20 meeting, WASB will post the application and brochure for the superintendent position. The application deadline will be 12/21/20. The first round of interviews will be held on January 6 and 7, 2021 (3 interviews each night). Finalists will then be determined with the final round of interviews set for 1/19/21. Final selection will be made on 1/20/21. Negotiation of a contract will be done the week of 1/25/21. Announcement of the new superintendent will be on 2/1/21 with a start date of 7/1/21. These dates may be adjusted as needed. It was the consensus of the board members that they would prefer in person interviews rather than virtual if possible. Any internal candidates that may apply should also go through the full process of applying.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The next regular school board meeting will be held on Monday, November 16, 2020. Agenda items will include Motion to Approve Agenda, Distribution and Training of Chromebooks for School Board Members, Open Forum, Administrative Team Reports, Committee Reports, Coronavirus Update, Board Comments and Questions, Approval of Minutes Dated 11/2/2020, Approval of Receipts/Expenditures, Approval of Support Staff, Approval of 2021 Contract with Tri-City Bulldogs, Approval of Donations, and Approval of Second Reading of NEOLA Policies.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Achterberg/seconded by Mr. Kath to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Lynette Ives, Clerk

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES November 16, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Margo Pufahl, Board President. Roll call was taken with the following board members present: Mr. Bret Achterberg, Ms. Becky Levzow, Mr. Dan Pulver, Ms. Karla Walker, and Ms. Margo Pufahl. Ms. Lynette Ives and Mr. Tim Kath were absent. Also present were Mr. Gus Knitt, Mr. David Bell, Mr. Jason LeMay, Mr. Alex Hammerschmidt, Ms. Jane Clemmons, Ms. Amber Houslet, Mr. Jesse Huset, Mr. James McConnell, Ms. Judy Roth, Mr. Judd Becker, Mr. Matt Wade, Mr. Ben Kenevan, Mr. Jack Kenevan, and Ms. Nicole Schoemann.

Motion to Approve Agenda

Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

Distribution and Training of Chromebooks for School Board Members

Chromebooks were distributed to each board member and Ms. Amber Houslet did a training session with the Board on how to use the

Chromebooks.

Open Forum

Mr. Judd Becker and Mr. Matt Wade asked the school to allow the Boys Club youth wrestling to use the school facilities the same as school sports at this time. They said the Boys Club donated the wrestling mats that the school's wrestling team uses but the wrestling club was told they can't use the school facilities at this time due to COVID-19. They are willing to work with the school and they feel that the school facilities are the safest place for the youth to practice. Mr. Becker also asked the Board to look at the three options he presented earlier for moving the middle school lunch program out of the multi-purpose room so that the middle school/high school wrestlers don't have to set up and take down the mats each time.

Administrative Team Reports

Ms. Kamrath submitted a report on the Elementary School. The Elementary Veterans program was cancelled; however, the students did make cards for the veterans which were handed out during the high school drive through Veterans luncheon. Ms. Kamrath is working on conducting mini observations for all of her summary teachers this month and providing them feedback. Wednesdays have been spent meeting with staff to talk about literacy and math curriculum. Virtual parent-teacher conferences were held on 10/29/20 with 89% participation. Ms. Kamrath also provided a list of staff comments to the Board about how the virtual parent teacher conferences went.

Mr. Bell provided a report on the Middle School. Virtual parent-teacher conferences were held on 10/29/20. Plans are being made to help transition students that are returning from Lincoln Learning (100% virtual) back to in-person learning (about 13 students). Six students will be transitioning from in-person learning to Lincoln Learning (100% virtual). As of 11/5/20, all students have been assigned a locker. The lockers are alternated between grade levels and cohort groups to provide for space between students while in the hallway. Middle school basketball games will be played in the high school gym to allow for spectators to social distance. Mr. LeMay provided a report on the High School. The middle school/high school Veterans Day program on 11/11/20 was virtual this year. A curbside meal pickup was held for veterans with about 100 meals being picked up. Wednesdays in the high school have been utilized for Google Meets with students, contacting families and working on lessons. Virtual parent-teacher conferences were held on 10/29/20 and participation was good overall. The high school is in the process of getting their hybrid and 100% virtual students finalized for second trimester. Two students are opting to go from hybrid to 100% virtual and seven students are leaving 100% virtual to come back to hybrid at this time. The ACT is being offered online this year and planning has begun to have that occur here in March. The three counselors held their first out of four mental health sessions that they have planned for parents this year. The sessions are held virtually.

Ms. McElroy gave a Technology Department update. A network engineer was onsite for fall network maintenance and planning which included review of Windows server updates, setting up an ACT test server, firewall setting review, and future plans for server updates during spring break. About 35 student Chromebook repair tickets have been received since the start of the school year. Mr. Guenther provides the student with a loaner until a repair is made. Some Chromebooks are fixed inhouse and others are sent in for repair. There were 122 tech MOJO tickets during the past 30 days. State report program review and error corrections need to be complete before 12/8/20. Complete GoGuardian settings were reviewed for our student Chromebook filtering. Mr. Hammerschmidt set up a meeting to review different sporting events streaming solutions that he has been researching with other school districts and he will send in a tech work ticket to test out his recommended choice to

see if the software works with the equipment the athletic department presently has.

Mr. Housner submitted a Buildings and Grounds report listing work done in the custodial/maintenance department, some of which included: Gappa replaced a faulty power supply board in Door 14 at the high school. Automatic Entrances of Wisconsin fixed a faulty handicap door opener on Door 14 at the high school. Mr. Housner had Envirox come to do a CDC cleaning training for his Buildings and Grounds department. Sixty work orders were completed along with taking care of school grounds, painting of football fields, other equipment maintenance and repairs.

Mr. Hammerschmidt, Activities Director, submitted a report. Fall sports are nearly finished. MS boys basketball and MS wrestling have started their seasons and the rest of the winter sports will start soon. Mr. Hammerschmidt has ironed out our spectator policies and will share them on our website and social media. Coaching positions will be posted for Varsity Baseball and Varsity Softball openings. WIAA will review our football conference realignment this winter. The Buildings and Grounds Committee met to discuss a contract with the Tri City Bulldogs for spring of 2021. The school athletic website has been getting updated but more updating is needed. The football/track scoreboard made it through another season with replacing parts. Athletic record board and display cases are on hold.

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee—met on 10/26/20 to discuss the Tri-City Bulldog contract, the football/track scoreboard, and to tour the Elementary School for modifications due to COVID-19. The committee discussed that the actual costs to the district for the Tri-City Bulldogs use of facilities was less than the \$500 per game rental fee that was charged. The committee would like board feedback at lowering the cost next spring to \$350 per game and to consider a rebate from this year's cost. Mr. Pulver and a crew of people repaired the football/track scoreboard at no charge with new PC boards, etc. Mr. Housner lead a tour to several rooms in the elementary school and highlighted changes due to COVID-19.

Curriculum Committee—met on 11/12/20 to discuss a purchase for math intervention, a purchase of instruments for the Elementary music program, and to discuss face-to-face learning. Ms. Runaas presented a Bridges Math Intervention program for assistance with students in grades K-5. The committee recommended approval of one set of the program for a cost of approximately \$2,100. Mr. Jim McConnell proposed a purchase of 14 instruments for a cost of approximately \$11,317.50. The committee requested that Mr. Knitt further evaluate this instrument request along with other equipment requests this year for the district. The three building principals presented findings to the committee about their students attending school face-to-face.

Policy Committee—met on 10/26/20 to review the policies that are on tonight's agenda to approve the second reading.

Coronavirus Update

Mr. Knitt gave an update on Coronavirus. The Columbia County Department of Health and State Department of Health have warned about the possibility of a major increase in cases after Thanksgiving and Christmas. Some schools have decided to close and go virtual over the holiday time. Mr. Knitt said that we have found over the past several weeks that for anyone who tested positive, it is coming from outside of our buildings. Contact tracing is the driving force and if enough of our staff fall in the contacts and we don't have enough substitutes, we may end up closing. Mr. Knitt learned during a recent Trailways Conference meeting that many schools have cancelled their winter sports.

Board Comments and Questions

Mr. Achterberg asked about elementary students eating lunch in their classrooms. Mr. Knitt said the Elementary School opened up their cafeteria now for lunches with rules in place for social distancing. Mr. Achterberg asked about the youth sports using our facilities. Mr. Knitt said that Columbia County is very concerned about the upcoming holidays. We want to make sure we're not creating a situation where some of these activities might create COVID situations. The number one goal is trying to keep school open. Mr. Knitt said we can put this back on the agenda for discussion in December.

Approval of Minutes Dated 11/2/2020
Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the minutes dated 11/2/2020. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Receipts/Expenditures

Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Ms. Levzow to approve the receipts/expenditures as presented. Motion passed 5-0. Checks submitted and approved included #63385-63414, 11213-11222, 01103020AC, 01103020DD, 63123-63147, 63185-63353, 01AMEX0970-01AMEX0976, and 39W0101201-39W0101202. General fund revenues were \$734,920.49 and total disbursements were \$881,220.67.

Approval of Support Staff

Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Mr. Pulver to approve hiring Ms. Sally Olson for the food service position. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of 2021 Contract with Tri-City Bulldogs
The Buildings and Grounds Committee recommended approving a contract with the Tri-City Bulldogs for 2021 with the rental fee modified to \$350 per game rather than \$500 per game based on the fact that actual costs to prepare the field were not as high as projected. Motion by Mr. Pulver/seconded by Ms. Levzow to approve the 2021 Tri-City Bulldogs one-year contract with a rental fee of \$350 per game. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Elementary Math Intervention Program
The Curriculum Committee recommended approving the purchase of a Bridges Math intervention program for assistance with grade K-5 math needs. The cost is \$2,086.50 which includes materials, license and apps. Motion by Ms. Levzow/seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the elementary math intervention program as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Donations

Motion by Mr. Achterberg/seconded by Mr. Pulver to approve a \$100 donation from Susan Berg for the Elementary Student Council. Motion passed 5-0.

Approval of Second Reading of NEOLA Policies
Motion by Ms. Walker/seconded by Ms. Levzow to approve second reading of the policies listed as 1-23 on the agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The next regular school board meeting will be held on December 7, 2020. Agenda items will include: Motion to Approve Agenda, Coronavirus Update, Board Member Recognition from WASB, Board Member Registration for Virtual WASB Convention on January 20-22, 2020, Trailways Winter Sports Season/Spectator Guidelines, Board Comments and Questions, Approval of Minutes Dated 11/16/2020, Approval of Special Meeting Minutes Dated 11/30/2020, Approval of Additional Coaches/Volunteers, Approval to Refund Some of the Costs from this Fall's Season for the Tri-City Bulldogs, Approval of Support Staff Resignation, Approval of Additional Co-Curricular Advisor, Approval of Donations, Approval of First Reading of Neola Policies, and a closed session to determine first round application questions for the superintendent interviews.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Achterberg/seconded by Ms. Levzow to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Lynette Ives, Clerk

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Upcoming Events

December 7	School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
December 21	School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
December 23-Jan. 1	No School
January 4.....	School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
January 18.....	School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
February 1.....	School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
February 15.....	School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
February 18.....	Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 18-19.....	No School