

PUTNAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

SECRETARY'S REPORT

April 18, 2023

The Putnam Board of Education met in regular session on April 18, 2023, in the Joseph V. Pempek Memorial Conference Room at 7:00 PM.

Attendance: Tabetha Babcock (7:23), Michael Morrill (7:34), Chad Neal, James Purdon, Carolyn Riendeau, Christopher Steinbrick, and Jill Zangerl

Absent: Jamie Heath and Laure LaBonte

Others: Steven R. Rioux, Superintendent of Schools and Nancy T. Cole, Business Administrator

Jill Zangerl called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Christopher Steinbrick made a motion to add the Walk-in Freezer as a business item after Board Committee Assignments. The motion was seconded by James Purdon and passed unanimously.

Student Representatives

Enrico Ong and Guinevere Weiker reported on events happening in the schools.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chad Neal made a motion to approve the March 21, 2023, regular meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Christopher Steinbrick and passed unanimously.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

There were two generic emails and one email from a parent that was forwarded to the Superintendent. The board chair received an email regarding the discussion of the school psychologist program and that email will be forwarded to the other board members.

3. PRESENTATIONS

a. Pride of Putnam Awards: Putnam Middle School

The Pride of Putnam March Awards were presented by the board. Putnam Middle School student Owen Abram was recognized for his volunteerism and commitment to collecting socks for the sock drive that our Student Council did for the Curt D. Heath Memorial Sock Drive. Putnam Middle School students Lucas Belske, Jeff Flagg, Elieana Ionkin, Aiden Kilmer, Oliver Paine, Mya Smith, Rockford Snow, Jillian Spalding, Logan Walker, and their teacher, Stephen Crosby were recognized for their enthusiasm and effort in our Film Studies class

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no citizens comments.

5. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

a. Committee Reports

1) Policy Committee Report

No report

2) Facilities Committee Report

The repairs to the Putnam Middle School gymnasium floor started over April break and will be finished during the summer break.

3) Curriculum Committee Report

No report

4) Communications Committee Report

No report

5) CAFE Events Update

No report

b. Financial Report

Nancy Cole updated the board on the projected year-end expenditure report for FY 2022-2023. An Excess Cost Report and the Family Resource Center Report were also included.

c. Superintendent's Report, Steven R. Rioux

1) District Update

Superintendent Rioux reported that he has visited the schools and is meeting the staff.

2) Science of Reading

Superintendent Rioux shared resources regarding the Science of Reading.

3) Budget Update FY 2023-2024

There will be a town meeting on May 10, 2023 to vote on the budget.

4) Annual Town Meeting (May 10, 2023)

5) Students at Risk of Retention

Superintendent Rioux shared information with the board listing the number of students at risk of retention.

6) Staff Appreciation Week (May 8-12, 2023)

Superintendent Rioux shared that the district, schools, and PES PTO are planning events for staff appreciation week.

7) Summer Programs

Superintendent Rioux shared that the district is in the planning stages for the ESY, summer enrichment, and credit recovery programs.

8) Personnel Report

An updated personnel report was included in the packet.

9) School Monthly Board Reports

School monthly reports were included in the packet.

d. Board Chair Report, Jill Zangerl

6. BUSINESS

a. Board Committee Assignments

Board members will volunteer for open committee slots for the May meeting.

b. Walk-in Freezer

James Purdon made a motion to accept the bid presented for the walk-in freezer and cooler at Putnam Elementary School. The motion was seconded by Christopher Steinbrick and passed unanimously.

c. Authorized Signatures Change Form for Child Nutrition Programs

James Purdon made a motion to revise the authorized signers of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs as presented. The motion was seconded by Tabettha Babcock and passed unanimously.

d. Proposal of Putnam Middle School 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony Date (Thursday, June 8, 2023)

The board received the proposal for Thursday, June 8, 2023, as the date for Putnam Middle School moving up ceremony. The date was accepted by the board.

e. Request for Release of Funds from the Gate Receipt Account in the amount of \$5,000 for Repairs to the Track at the St. Marie Greenhalgh Complex

James Purdon made a motion to request the release of funds from the gate receipt account in the amount of \$5,000 for repairs to the track at the St. Marie Greenhalgh Complex. The motion was seconded by Chad Neal and passed unanimously.

f. Proposal for Putnam High School to co-op with Ellis Tech for Girls Soccer

Christopher Steinbrick made a motion for Putnam High School to co-op with Ellis Tech for Girls Soccer. The motion was seconded by Tabettha Babcock and passed unanimously.

g. Superintendent and Board Communication Priorities

Superintendent Rioux shared his plans for communication with the board.

h. Executive Session for the Purpose of Litigation and Negotiations

Tabetha Babcock made a motion to enter executive session at 8:35 PM for the purpose of litigation and negotiations. The motion was seconded by James Purdon and passed unanimously. Superintendent Rioux, Nancy Cole, and Attorney David S. Monastersky were invited to attend.

Executive session ended at 8:57 PM.

Carolyn Riendeau made a motion to approve the settlement including the Board's contribution of \$75,000 and to authorize the Superintendent to sign the settlement documents. The motion was seconded by Tabettha Babcock and passed unanimously.

7. ADJOURNMENT

James Purdon made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Christopher Steinbrick and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Reindeau
Board Secretary