Port Allegany School District

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
***Regular Meeting***

October 12, 2026
High School Library
7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Ernst called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library with a moment of silence and the flag salute. Ms. Plumstead called the roll.

**Board Present:** Mrs. Erica Babcock, Mr. Christopher Ernst, Mr. Justin Fillhart, Mr. Alex Johnson, Mr. Sean Lathrop, Mr. Jason Stake, Dr. Ink Young and Mr. Marc Budd

**Board Absent:** Mrs. Barbara Delacour, and Mrs. Erica Petruzzi

**Others Present:** Business Manager Adam Moate, Jeremy Morey, Jason Okerlund, Crystal Drew, Amanda Priest and Bethany Mealy

Public Comment

No public comment.

Minutes of Proceeding Meetings

Approved the minutes from the October 5, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Motion: Mr. Johnson; Second: Mrs. Babcock. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Approved the Treasurer's Report for the period ending September 30, 2026 as presented by Mr. Johnson. Motion: Mr. Stake; Second: Mrs. Young. The motion was carried unanimously.

Bill Lists and Payrolls

General Fund investments on September 30, 2026 were as follows: Juniata Valley Bank (JVB) Investment Savings - $6,968,656.34 and JVB Now Account - $29,745.91. Motion: Mr. Stake; Second: Mr. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

September 30, 2026 balance for various accounts were reported as follows: Capital Reserve Fund - $1,811,793.53; Student Activities Account - $123,591.08; Cafeteria Account - $416,737.65; PLGIT Class Amount: $826.37; and PLGIT Prime Amount: $5,907,222.73. Motion: Mr. Stake; Second: Mr. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Approved the General Fund Bill List of October 12, 2026 - $148,728.67 and payrolls of September 10, 2026 - $283,318.01, and September 24, 2026 - $312,801.97. Motion: Mr. Stake; Second: Mr. Lathrop. The motion was carried unanimously.

Communication

Mr. Ernst stated there was a Food Service Report from The Nutrition Group for the month of September in the board members packets for review. There was no discussion.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Budd allowed Jeremy Morey and Jason Okerlund to address the board to discuss the possibility of establishing junior high baseball and softball programs for the 2027-2028 school year. Discussion included estimated startup costs, fundraising opportunities, available equipment, scheduling, coaching stipends, and potential participation from neighboring school districts. Board members expressed support for the programs, noting the benefits of providing additional athletic opportunities, strengthening student involvement, and reducing the financial and scheduling burdens associated with travel sports. The possibility of a shortened pilot season in the spring of 2027 was also discussed, pending further review of costs and feasibility. Additional information will be provided for consideration in the future.

Mr. Budd informed the Board of ongoing issues with the District's phone system, including dropped calls, delays when transferring calls, and difficulty reaching staff members. The current phone system has reached the end of its life cycle. UDNI will be on-site to install a $900 module in an effort to improve service and extend the system's use through the remainder of the school year. He stated the District will also explore the cost of a complete phone system upgrade, with the goal of addressing the replacement in next year's budget, potentially over the summer.

Mr. Budd informed the board that Pittsburgh Stage would be here from October 13th through October 16, 2026 to finish the curtain jobs at both the high school and the elementary.

Mr. Budd discussed with the Board issues with the 3D printer in the STEM lab and the laser engraver, both of which are currently not operational. The estimated cost to have the 3D printer evaluated ranges from $150 to $500 for potential repairs, while replacing it could cost approximately $1,600 to $2,000. Concerns were raised regarding the age and reliability of the equipment, as well as the previous repair costs associated with the laser engraver. Additional information and cost estimates will be gathered before determining how to proceed.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel

Approved the addition of Ms. Madelynn Triplett to the teacher substitute list. Motion: Mr. Stake; Second: Mrs. Babcock. The motion passed unanimously.

Approved the employment contracts for Officer John Pascuzzi and Officer Ray Jones through June 30, 2029, establishing an hourly rate of $46 per hour for the life of the contract. Discussion

included the proposed 7% pay increase, previous wage increases, the officers' experience and performance, and the District's ability to retain qualified officers. Board members also discussed available grant funding and other potential safety-related uses for those funds. Motion: Mr. Lathrop; Second: Mr. Stake. The motion passed, Mr. Johnson opposed.

Buildings & Grounds

Approved the quote from the IU9 for auditorium sound system upgrades, not to exceed $36,000. This will be paid from the Capital Reserve fund. Motion: Mr. Stake; Second: Mr. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Ernst expressed his appreciation to Mr. Budd and Mr. Moate for their time and efforts working with the IU9 to complete the project in a more cost-effective manner.

Board

Approved the purchase of a 2026 Chevrolet Trax from Kightlinger Motors, Inc. as the new drivers education vehicle, in the amount of $26,439.62. This is to be paid out of the general fund account. Motion: Mr. Stake; Second: Mrs. Young. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The PASD Board of Directors adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm. Motion: Mrs. Babcock; Second: Mr. Lathrop. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Plumstead
Secretary to the Board of School Directors

Next Scheduled Meeting

*November 9, 2026 - Regular Meeting*