

**PORTAGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2018 6:30 P.M.**

The Committee of the Whole meeting of the Portage Area Board of School Directors was called to order. Kathy Hough, board vice president, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Members and others present were: JT Bandzuh; Susan Berardinelli; Jason Corte; Kathy Hough; John Jubina; Christian Smith; Dennis Squillario; Eric A. Zelanko, Superintendent of Schools; Ralph J. Cecere, Jr., Junior-Senior High School Principal; Christian Serenko, Elementary School Principal; Pete Noel, Supervisor of Special Education; Jeff Vasilko, Business Manager; Dennis McGlynn, Esquire, Solicitor and Denise Moschgat, Recording Secretary. Absent was Matthew Decort and Erik Thrower.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Sherry Sossong and Kristi Kargo, both of Portage Township, addressed the board as members of the cheer booster organization. They requested that the board provide new uniforms for the cheerleaders and noted that it had been since 2010 since new uniforms had been purchased. She stated that the girls are cheering for teams all year long and want to look their best for sports events and for competition events. Mr. Zelanko noted that the cheerleaders held an unapproved car wash recently the purpose of which was for new uniforms. He also stated that the district has a cycle for uniforms which it adheres to. Mrs. Price then addressed Mr. Zelanko by stating that the cheerleaders never put in for junior high uniforms and that she was told there was a freeze on uniforms due to budget constraints. Mr. Zelanko stated that January is budgeting time and this request should have been made then, not two weeks before the start of school. Mrs. Price replied that she was merely going on those above her told her and did not question it out of respect. Mr. Squillario added that it appears that the cheerleaders received new uniforms during the 2013-2014 school year but that he does not remember if in fact they were purchased. Mrs. Price then stated that those uniforms that were purchased in 2013-2014 were cheaply made and did not last. Mr. Zelanko said that the district will need to look at the budget to make any decisions.

DISCUSSION

1. Summer cleaning. Mr. Zelanko reported that this is best the buildings have looked as long as he can remember. He said that even with less staff, the buildings are immaculate.
2. Vending machine agreement. Mr. Zelanko reported that A-1 Vending will be removing some vending machines and updating others if the board moves to renew its contract with them.
3. Administration office entrance. Mr. Zelanko stated that the district may need a permit to do the renovations as discussed. He further reported that he'd very much like to see this accomplished because the current entry is a hazard especially in the winter months.
4. Away Football Games. Mr. Zelanko reported that it is the administration position that a paid staff member should be on the school bus to accompany the band instead of driving the truck carrying equipment. He proposed having one of our staff members, such as a custodian, drive the equipment to away football games so Mr. Gossard can be on the bus.
5. Preventative Maintenance Agreement. Mr. Zelanko reported that the contractor who put the roof on at the high school offers a preventative maintenance agreement that

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would cover both roofs and could extend the life of the roof by 10 years. The cost would be \$1,700 for the high school and \$1,388 for the elementary. He will check the references for this service and return with more information.

ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Renewing agreements with IU 08. This is a routine matter and the board will consider these items during the regular meeting.
2. Quote for office renovations. The board discussed this item and will consider it during the regular meeting.
3. A-1 Vending Company agreement. This is a routine matter which the board discussed during the discussion portion of the meeting. They will consider this item during the regular meeting.
4. Agreement with Extended Family Programs, Inc. Mr. Zelanko noted that his service is for alternative placements and the district would only incur costs if a child is placed in the program. The board will consider this item during the regular meeting.
5. Bond amounts. This is a routine matter to be considered during the regular meeting.
6. Bus routes, runs and stops; drivers and vehicles. This is a routine matter to be discussed during the regular meeting.
7. District policy revisions. Mr. Zelanko noted that there are new and revised policies for board consideration.

PERSONNEL MATTERS (Executive Session 6:48 p.m. to 7:12 p.m.)

1. Staff hires/letters of resignation
2. FMLA requests/request for unpaid leave of absence

POINTS OF DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD

Time: 7:12 p.m.