

**Potterville Board of Education
Meeting of the Board – October 17, 2016
Board Meeting Room – 6:00pm**

Minutes

- 1) Call to Order at 6:00pm
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call: Hampton; Lehman; Robertson; Schmalbach; Sipes; Smalley; Temsey Absent: Lehman
- 4) Approval of Consent Agenda
 - Minutes of September 19, 2016 and October 12, 2016 meetings
 - Personnel Action ReportMotion by: Smalley Support by: Schmalbach Y- 6, N-0
- 5) Public Input: *Please use Public Input Form (available near the door) and present to Superintendent at any time before Public Input is concluded.*
 - Holly VanSickle, current PPS teacher and president of the Potterville Education Association, disperses packets to the board in regards to current concerns from teachers in the district. First, she wanted to advise the board on the amount of teachers who have left the district since 2010-2011 which is 33 people who have left since that school year. She also advises that the teaching staff is at 56 or 57 at this time. She feels that morale is a big factor and the new evaluation in regards to the turnaround is an issue. In her packet she has added her own evaluations to show the board some of the things she is highlighting. Hampton asks her why her list of teachers leaving is missing certain information such as why they left and she states that she could likely get more honest information than administration on those reasons. Secondly, she highlights a posting from the end of the 15-16 year for the 4th grade opening that was posted through the district's subbing contractor, EDUStaff. VanSickle informs the board that there was an internal candidate who would have been interested but wasn't given consideration since the job was posted as a long-term substitute. This is an example of the morale she feels the district is lacking. Lastly, she highlights concerns about the Student Support Network. She is concerned about the district hiring an administrator for the SSN when the district only has 3 buildings. VanSickle shows the posting for the behavior interventionist position to the board and is concerned that the new staff member may not be qualified to help the students of PPS with mental health issues/needs. She states that the position received applicants who had background with mental health but to her knowledge they weren't interviewed and she feels that the position was created for a specific person.
- 6) Presentation of 2015-2016 Audit Report
 - Cindy Scott, manager at Stephenson Gracik, goes over the audit results for the district. The opinion letter was unmodified, which is the highest level you can receive. This information is available in the full audit report provided by Stephenson Gracik. The ending unassigned fund balance for general fund is 2.93%. There was about a half percent decrease from last year's ending unassigned fund balance.
- 7) Resolutions for Action:

- None

8) Superintendent Report

- Superintendent Donahue updates the board on current legislation in the works such as bills on reading assessment. He passes out the document prepared to advise the community on the logistics of the sinking fund renewal along with the district's first installment of the Monthly Money Matters Memo (September 2016) which details the district's expenses and revenue. The sinking fund renewal is dropping from 5 mills to 3.5 mills. Donahue advises the board there will be a student discipline issue to review at the November work session. Homecoming, this Friday, is looking positive and he hopes for a great turnout to show the community the district's thanks. Donahue advises the board that he has sent out letters welcoming meetings with the potential school board members and has met with one prior to the letters being sent but has not received interest from the others.

9) Adjourn at 6:46pm