

MINUTES – Board of Education

Port Washington-Saukville School District

January 4, 2021

President Brenda Fritsch called the special meeting of the Port Washington-Saukville School District Board of Education to order at 6:03 p.m. on Monday, January 4, 2021, in the Port Washington High School Performing Arts Center. Remote audio access was also available to the public.

BOARD MEMEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly O’Connell-Perket, Yvonne Klotz, Brian McCutcheon, Aaron Paulin, Matthew Uselding, Douglas Mueller, Sara McCutcheon, Brian Stevens, Brenda Fritsch

EXCUSED: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Michael Weber, Mel Nettesheim, Duane Woelfel, Chris Surfus, Heidi Belohlav, Bryan Ryer, Dennis Gephart, Bill Schanen IV, Thad Gabrielse, Nate Hinze, Dan Solórzano, Steve Sukawaty, Jodi Swagel, John Bunyan, Jane Gennerman, Joanna Bannon, Jeff Carron, Sandy Crain, Andrea Dimmer, 110 in-person parents/community members, 93 call-in attendees, and 53 online audio livestream attendees

II. PARENT/VISITOR PARICIPATION/CONTRIBUTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

B. Fritsch invited parents and community members in attendance wishing to address the Board to do so at this time, and to limit comments to 2-3 minutes to allow time for everyone an opportunity to speak. A total of 20 adults and 2 students addressed the Board. They spoke of the challenges their children and families have faced as a result of the District’s present hybrid-model, and asked that the Board vote to allow for a return to five-days-per week in-person instruction. President Fritch thanked everyone for attending the meeting and sharing their thoughts with the Board.

III. REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE MOST RECENT PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Board members asked clarifying questions of district administrators in preparation for a January 11th vote on a plan to return to more in-person instruction at the start of second semester. Topics discussed included availability of substitutes, quarantine procedures/criteria, levels of Covid-19 spread among staff and students, social distancing capabilities, CDC guidelines, readiness for synchronized learning at all grade levels, passing times and lunch hours, feedback from surrounding districts during areas superintendent Zoom meetings, bussing, block schedules, resource periods, failing grades, increased student mental health needs, mask/handwashing protocols, and preparing for an anticipated increase in the number of full-virtual students should the District return to 5-days-per-week in-person. The Board directed the administration to prepare a recommendation to present to the Board at the January 11th meeting.

IV. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, M. Uselding, seconded by K. O’Connell-Perket, moved to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: K. O’Connell-Perket, aye; B. McCutcheon, aye; Y. Klotz, aye; A. Paulin, nay; M. Uselding, aye; D. Mueller, aye; S. McCutcheon, aye; B. Stevens, nay; B. Fritsch, aye. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly O’Connell-Perket
School District Clerk