

Draft

MINUTES
USD 325 BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

The Board of Education of Phillipsburg USD 325 met in regular session Monday, April 14, 2025 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Board of Education Office, 240 S. 7th Street, Phillipsburg. Members present when the meeting was called to order were: Shawn Hoover, President; Brock Johnson, Vice-President; Danielle Bohl, member; Rick Dusin, member; Todd Kennedy, member; Justin Taylor, member; and Tyson Wisinger, member.

Officials present: Michael Gower, Superintendent; Amanda Hudson, Treasurer; and Angela Thompson, Board Clerk.

Other interested persons: Crystal Laurin, Elementary School Principal; Nathan Strasburg, Middle School Principal; and Todd Bowman, High School Principal.

CALL TO ORDER

Shawn Hoover, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF
CONSENT AGENDA

Shawn Hoover moved the consent agenda including March 10, 2025 regular meeting minutes, treasurer's report, and warrants be approved as presented. Danielle Bohl seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS
BEFORE THE BOARD

None

REPORT TO THE BOARD
BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent presented the recommended capacity of 60 students per grade level to determine the open seats available to nonresident students for the 2025-2026 school year. Following discussion, Todd Kennedy moved the Board approve the recommended capacity of 60 students per grade level and open seats available to nonresident students based on expected enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year as presented. Tyson Wisinger seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0. The open seats available will be published on the district website by June 1st with applications accepted through June 30th.

Mr. Gower reported on planned summer projects including exterior painting and installation of new windows at the middle school, removal of asbestos and refinishing of floors in the high school science classrooms and main restrooms, and repaving of the elementary drive through, elementary parking area off of the alley, and the middle school parking area. Mr. Gower further reported a drainage issue in the elementary school kitchen; a professional will be arriving on April 25th to assess the problem.

The Superintendent discussed the "phone free schools" initiative, sharing that area schools have implemented a no cell phone policy where cell phones including smart watches must remain out of sight from the beginning bell to the last bell of the day. If any device is visible even within a pocket, consequences include in-school suspension and/or Saturday school. Schools are seeing more face-to-face interaction between students as well as creativity.

NEW BUSINESS

STUDENT ACCIDENT
INSURANCE RENEWAL

Following discussion, Todd Kennedy moved the Board accept the renewal from Health Special Risk, Inc. for student accident insurance for 2025-2026 in the amount of \$13,937.00 with a \$500 per incident deductible. Rick Dusin seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

TEXTBOOK/TECHNOLOGY/
PROGRAM SUPPORT FEES

Following discussion, Tyson Wisinger moved the Board approve the following Textbook/Technology/Program Support fees: \$40 for elementary and middle school students and \$70 for high school students. No fees will be waived. Justin Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

SCHOOL LUNCH AND BREAKFAST
PRICES FOR 2025-2026

Following discussion, Shawn Hoover moved to keep the lunch prices the same and increase breakfast prices by ten cents for the 2025-2026 school year. Danielle Bohl seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

NCKSEC INTERLOCAL
#636 REPORT

Tyson Wisinger reported on the recent interlocal meeting.

PERSONNEL

Shawn Hoover moved the Board enter into executive session for a period of 20 minutes, until 6:40 p.m., for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel, to protect the privacy interests of an identifiable individual(s). Mr. Gower and Mr. Bowman were asked to be present. Todd Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:40 p.m.

Shawn Hoover moved the Board re-enter into executive session for a period of 10 minutes, until 6:51 p.m., for the same purpose as stated above. Mr. Gower and Mr. Bowman were asked to remain. Todd Kennedy seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:51 p.m. No action taken.

RESIGNATIONS

Todd Kennedy moved the Board accept the following resignations:

Strasburg, Kylea – Elementary School Teacher effective end of 24-25 School Year
Strasburg, Nathan – Middle School Principal effective end of 24-25 School Year

Brock Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0

2024-25 TEACHER REVIEW
AND 2025-26 CONTRACTS

Todd Kennedy moved the Board renew certified staff for USD 325 for the 2025-2026 school year as recommended, noting that 2025-2026 contracts will not be offered to teachers without a professional teaching license at the middle school and high school. Justin Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0. (A list of staff is attached to, and becomes a part of, these official minutes.)

CONTRACT APPROVALS

Brock Johnson moved the Board approve the following contracts:

Keeten, Terra – Middle School Principal effective 2025-2026 School Year
Larson, Aubrey – 5-12 Vocal Music Teacher effective 2025-2026 School Year
Solida, Madison – Elementary School Teacher effective 2025-2026 School Year
Wolfe, Martha – 5-6 Math Teacher effective 2025-2026 School Year

Tyson Wisinger seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0

REQUEST FOR USE
OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Information

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, President Hoover adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED:

MINUTES RECORDED:

DATE: