

February 2021 Regular Board of Education Meeting

Pioneer Career and Technology Center Board of Education Meeting

Held Remotely

Monday, February 15, 2021

7:00pm

Present: Mrs. Robyn Almanson, Board Member; Mrs. Mary Dixon, Board Member; Mr. Mike Grady, Board Member; Mr. Bill Hope, Board Member; Mr. John Kime, Board Member; Mr. Dennis Long, Board Member; Mrs. Margie Prater, Board Member; Mr. Richard Prater, Board Vice-President; Mr. Royden Smith, Board Member; Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President; Mrs. Mary Jean Theaker, Board Member; Gregory Nickoli, Superintendent; Linda Schumacher, Treasurer; Kowalski Kris, Director of Operations, High School; Mary Lee Barr, Interim Administrator; Jim Calhoun, Assistant Director, High School

Absent: Sandy Grau, EAP President

1 ROLL CALL

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
Mrs. Robyn Almanson, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Mary Dixon, Board Member	X		
Mr. Mike Grady, Board Member	X		
Mr. Bill Hope, Board Member	X		
Mr. John Kime, Board Member	X		
Mr. Dennis Long, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Margie Prater, Board Member	X		
Mr. Richard Prater, Board Vice-President	X		
Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President	X		
Mrs. Mary Jean Theaker, Board Member	X		

2 PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

3 MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

4 CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Minutes:

Royden Smith arrived late at 7:03 pm

No questions or discussion. Sent to vote.

Motioned: Mrs. Margie Prater

Seconded: Mrs. Robyn Almanson

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
Mrs. Robyn Almanson, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Mary Dixon, Board Member	X		
Mr. Mike Grady, Board Member	X		
Mr. Bill Hope, Board Member	X		
Mr. John Kime, Board Member	X		
Mr. Dennis Long, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Margie Prater, Board Member	X		
Mr. Richard Prater, Board Vice-President	X		
Mr. Royden Smith, Board Member	X		
Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President	X		
Mrs. Mary Jean Theaker, Board Member	X		

4.1 Approve January, 2021 Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Attachments:

[Jan. 2021 Org. Board Mtg Minutes.pdf](#)

[Jan.2021 Reg. Board Mtg. Minutes.pdf](#)

4.2 Approve Appointment to Richland County Tax Incentive Review Council

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Recommendation of Superintendent Gregory D. Nickoli that Linda Schumacher be appointed to the Richland County Tax Incentive Review Committee.

4.3 APPROVE REVISIONS TO POLICY

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Recommendation of Superintendent Gregory D. Nickoli that the revisions to PO 3220 Standards Based Teacher Evaluation be approved.

Attachments:

[po 3220.revision Feb. 2021.pdf](#)

4.4 Approve Annual Ralph Phillips Business Partner of the Year Dinner

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Recommendation of Superintendent Gregory D. Nickoli that expenses for Pioneer Board members, Administrators and Representatives to attend the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's Ralph Phillips Business Partner of the Year Dinner meeting to be held on a date to be determined; in accordance with Section 3315.15 ORC, be approved.

4.5 Approve Annual All Board Member / Administrator Dinner

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Recommendation of Superintendent Gregory D. Nickoli that expenses for Pioneer Board member, Administrators and representatives to attend the Pioneer Career and technology Center's Annual All Board Member/Administrators Dinner Meeting to be held on a date to be determined; in accordance with Section 3315.15 ORC, be approved.

4.6 Accept Donations

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Recommendation of Superintendent Gregory D. Nickoli that the following donations be accepted:

- **The Blackbaud Giving Fund; Wells-Fargo via Dawn Wright Smith;** generous monetary match donation of \$105. This donation will be deposited into the Alumni fund which is used for annual student scholarships.

5 FINANCIAL REPORT

Linda Schumacher, Treasurer

Minutes:

Treasurer Schumacher reported as follows:

On January 22, 2021, Governor DeWine signed an executive order that formalizes the budget reductions for FY2021. We are pleased to report that the cuts to the Department of Education's budget are not as significant as the cuts in FY2020. This means schools will receive funding at levels above what they have expected for this fiscal year. The Governor's executive order releases \$152 million in funding back to traditional school districts. This lowers the reduction to the state foundation funding formula from \$277.2 million to \$125.2 million. The simulations look like the schools are getting back approximately 54% of their original cuts.

Shelby City Schools

10,481,371.72	(\$291,976.11)	\$160,130.75	(\$131,845.36)
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Lexington Local Schools

\$10,335,659.52	(\$477,811.04)	\$262,049.66	(\$215,761.38)
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- The opportunity grant amount will increase from \$5,931.24 to \$5,979.92 for Community Schools and Independent STEM schools. This is a revised reduction of \$40.08 per pupil, compared to the \$88.76 per pupil reduction executed in FY20.
- Non-public schools will see a combined \$4.9 million increase in their FY2021 non-public administrative cost reimbursement payments and Auxiliary Services payments.
- The Department will fully fund the half-mill maintenance equalization payment scheduled for June, 2021.

- Additional funding will be released to support the 22+ Adult Diploma program.

On Monday, February 1, Governor Mike DeWine released his biennial budget proposal for fiscal years (FY) 2022 and 2023. The proposal maintains foundation funding at FY19 levels and does not implement a school-funding formula. DeWine told reporters it was a “specific decision not to change the funding formula” and acknowledged the General Assembly’s efforts to develop a new formula. Right before the biennial budget was introduced, Reps. Jamie Callender (R-Concord) and Bride Rose Sweeney (D-Cleveland) introduced House Bill (HB) 1, which would enact the Fair School Funding Plan, or HB 305 from the last legislative session.

Testimony on the governor’s budget proposal began yesterday in the House Finance Committee and will continue over the next several weeks. Once the bill text becomes available, OASBO will provide a webinar to members to provide an overview of the proposal.

- Student Wellness and Success Fund – provides \$1.1 billion over the biennium with \$500 million being proposed for FY22 and \$600 million proposed for FY23. This represents a \$300 million increase over the biennium.

On February 12, we received our second installment of the Student Wellness and Success Funds (\$208,805.43). The estimates for Pioneer published by ODE for the proposed FY22-23 budget are FY22 \$541,655 and FY23 \$647,215. Estimates for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 are based on fiscal year 2020 Enrolled ADM for joint vocational school districts. Changes in Enrolled ADM in fiscal year 2022 will impact the actual payments that joint vocational school districts receive. Of course, the proposal also states that “no traditional school district, joint vocational school district, or community school will receive less than \$45,720 in fiscal year 2022 and \$56,160 in fiscal year 2023, or 100% of what they received in the prior fiscal year.” So, even if our enrollment goes down, we should still receive the same amount of Student Wellness and Success Funds we received in FY21.

The budget proposal also includes:

“Investing in Ohio” Initiative – provides \$16 million to support 70,000 students earning industry-recognized credentials and \$290 million to expand access to broadband services;

Charter Schools – \$20.6 million for charter school facilities and \$54 million per year, up from the current \$30 million per year, for an incentive fund for charter schools that meet certain quality criteria;

EdChoice Expansion (i.e., Income-based EdChoice Vouchers) – \$92.18 million per year, a \$7.1 million increase per year, for the EdChoice expansion program, which has increased from 200 percent of the federal poverty level to 250 percent. Any questions.

On Wednesday, February 10, Greg, Mary Dixon and I attended Legislative meetings with Representatives Riordan McClain and Marilyn John. In those meetings we discussed 2 fiscal matters. The first asks were in reference to CTE High School funding 1. We asked that legislators Maintain base aid for JVSDs, Comprehensives and Compacts; 2. Maintain career-technical education “weighted” funding outside the cap; and 3. Establish state programs to secure innovative approaches to career exploration.

The second ask concerned Adult Education. We asked for a restoration of OTC funding to (pre-Pandemic) levels included in the last biennial budget—which will ensure their continued ability to successfully provide in-demand adult technical training in response to the state’s diverse regional workforce needs. CTE also asks that the state enhance funding for the Adult Diploma Program, which offers much-needed financial support to adults seeking a high school diploma and technical certificate / credential. OTCs also seek to extend a (reduced) phase-in for performance funding over the biennium so that no OTC receives less than 50% of the average allocation of the past three years.

That is everything I have to discuss that has been going on in the CTE world. We have also been busy in the office.

We submitted the County budget after January’s meeting. The County will hold its budget meetings in February, so we should have that approval by the end of March.

We will be making our annual transfers to the 034 Maintenance Fund and the Permanent Improvement fund in February and March.

Food Service – I had a conversation with Mr. Fortman in which he has intentions of cutting costs by attrition, but that will not be until after next school year. One part-time position may be vacated after this year. After listening to many seminars in the past couple of weeks. I have learned that it might be a possibility that we can may be able to use come of the GEER monies to make food service whole this year. I received a call from Jason Friday that he had word he would be receiving some monies from the USDA to help cover costs this year. He is not sure how much and should be receiving it early this summer. I will keep you updated on all that is going on.

We received the second half Casino monies - \$68,370. This is up from the August distribution of \$32,767. I also learned through some of these seminars that the State General Fund budget for schools will decrease about \$29M dollars for K-12 in the second year of the biennial budget due to a forecast of increase in casino monies. I am looking into this because I also remember that those casino monies were not to be like the Lottery monies which are used to fulfill the education budget. They were originally touted to be additional monies to the schools, and if this is the case, they are being used the same way the Lottery monies are being used.

It has definitely been an interesting few weeks.

Of course, everything else is normal course of business.

Motioned: Mr. Richard Prater

Seconded: Mrs. Margie Prater

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
Mrs. Robyn Almanson, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Mary Dixon, Board Member	X		
Mr. Mike Grady, Board Member	X		
Mr. Bill Hope, Board Member	X		
Mr. John Kime, Board Member	X		
Mr. Dennis Long, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Margie Prater, Board Member	X		
Mr. Richard Prater, Board Vice-President	X		
Mr. Royden Smith, Board Member	X		
Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President	X		
Mrs. Mary Jean Theaker, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

[January 2021 Financial Report.pdf](#)

6 EAP REPRESENTATIVE

Sandy Grau, EAP President

Minutes:

None

7 CORRESPONDENCE

Gregory Nickoli, Superintendent

Minutes:

None

8 STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

Mrs. Mary Jean Theaker, Board Member

Attachments:

[February 2021 Student Achievement report.pdf](#)

9 LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Mike Grady, Board Member

Minutes:

None

10 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Gregory Nickoli, Superintendent

Minutes:

Superintendent Nickoli reported as follows:

Sophomore virtual visitations are in progress and have been going very well. Some might be missed due to full-time online learning and a solution to this problem is being sought.

Legislative Seminar went well. Mary Dixon, Linda Schumacher and I Mr.Nickoli had virtual visits with Representatives Marilyn John and Riordan McClain.

Other news in the District includes February is Career-Technical Month, the OSBA "Virtual" Spring Conference is March 10, and both the Ralph Phillips Business partner of the year Dinner and the Pioneer All-Board Dinner are postponed.

In personnel news, the retirement of Assistant Director, Jim Calhoon was announced. He will fulfill his contract up until July 31, 2021. Mr. Nickoli thanked him for all of his hard work and dedication. He will be missed.

Mr. Nickoli suggested that due to the inclement weather, they postpone the executive session.

Attachments:

[February 2021 Superintendent Report.pdf](#)

11 PERSONNEL REPORT

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Recommendation of Superintendent Gregory D. Nickoli that the following personnel recommendations be approved:

- Accept retirement resignation of Administrative personnel
- Accept resignation of Administrative personnel
- Approve employment of Substitute Instructor
- Approve employment of Student Worker

Minutes:

No questions or discussion. Sent to vote.

Motioned: Mr. Richard Prater

Seconded: Mrs. Margie Prater

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
Mrs. Robyn Almanson, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Mary Dixon, Board Member	X		
Mr. Mike Grady, Board Member	X		
Mr. Bill Hope, Board Member	X		
Mr. John Kime, Board Member	X		
Mr. Dennis Long, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Margie Prater, Board Member	X		
Mr. Richard Prater, Board Vice-President	X		
Mr. Royden Smith, Board Member	X		
Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President	X		
Mrs. Mary Jean Theaker, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

[February 2021 Personnel Recommendations.pdf](#)

12 ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER THE PROMOTION OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE

Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President

Recommendation of Superintendent Gregory D. Nickoli to enter into Executive Session to consider the promotion of a public employee or official.

Minutes:

Executive Session was canceled.

13 ADJOURN MEETING

Motioned: Mr. Richard Prater

Seconded: Mr. Mike Grady

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
Mrs. Robyn Almanson, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Mary Dixon, Board Member	X		
Mr. Mike Grady, Board Member	X		
Mr. Bill Hope, Board Member	X		
Mr. John Kime, Board Member	X		
Mr. Dennis Long, Board Member	X		
Mrs. Margie Prater, Board Member	X		
Mr. Richard Prater, Board Vice-President	X		
Mr. Royden Smith, Board Member	X		
Mr. Douglas Theaker, Board President	X		
Mrs. Mary Jean Theaker, Board Member	X		