

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman School Board Meeting Date: 9 December 2020

Observer Reporting: Ndambuki Length of Meeting: 1 hour 25 minutes

Members Present: Jim Evermann, Allison Munch-Rotolo, Susan Weed, Amanda Tanner, Nathan Roberts, Bob Maxwell, Roberta Kramer, Diane Hodge, Joe Thornton, Juston Pollestad (PHS Principal), Ms. Dissmore (Lincoln Middle School Math Teacher), Natalie Fisher, Tawnie, Sarah Roberts, Erica Offerdahl, Colin Master (PHS student), Beth Header, Whalen Zafranski

Members Absent: none

Others Present (e.g., media, public): No public joined [via zoom](#) as previously signed up; held over zoom

Business pertaining to League Positions or topics of interest:

Responsible Use of Public Funds:

- Improving the process of **inventory loss write off**, Mr. Thornton shared how he repurposes inventory and also to have a record of what is in each room in case of fire damage for insurance purposes.
- **Two driver vacancies** trying to fill, but have a pool of five substitutes so hanging in there
 - **Bus fleet** has gotten significantly younger so in a great position, not caught up yet—8 of 16 buses off the depreciation schedule, need to keep momentum going
 - Co-op building and plans to purchase **electric bus** and charging station through grant
 - Used in town as a route bus and short trips only due to necessity to charge
 - **State assured funding levels** for first semester but for second semester a lot of lobbying with the legislature to ensure funding not reduced
- Approved the **purchase of land parcel for future schools** site (60 acre purchase)

Quality of Instruction:

- Letters went out to **Elementary K-1 families with new class lists** based upon family requests to continue distance learning; adjustments had to be made to create all on-line classes for those children whose families wish to keep them home for now
- Next week teachers and students will have activities to community build in their new class groups. They will meet in their new groups for some icebreakers so they will feel comfortable on January 4th when they return to school in person.
- **Covid testing for staff** December 30th, K-1 staff and transportation who have direct contact with students, all other staff will be tested every other week for monitoring; toured Schweitzer testing facility for ideas. PRH is lead partner with the school district- paid for by CARES Act at no out-of-pocket cost for staff; testing is voluntary
- **Human Resources Dashboard** including substitutes, second year of the dashboard
 - Doing a lot of **emergency certifications of teachers** to increase the availability of substitutes especially in light of the possible need to quarantine as students begin to return to school in person
 - Lots of **training and support for new staff**

Your additional comments/opinions:

- District is doing a great job of making the zoom board meetings smooth, it is actually easier to see materials from the board packet in the zoom format.