

Welcome to the Reynolds School Board Meeting

An informative guide to the meetings of the Board of School Directors of Reynolds School District
531 Reynolds Road, Greenville, PA 16125
(724) 646-5500 / Website: www.reynolds.k12.pa.us

REYNOLDS SCHOOL BOARD

Rhonda Williams, President—West Salem Twp.
Debra Wolford, Vice President—Pymatuning Twp.
James Scott, Treasurer—Pymatuning Twp.
Alana Kendall—Fredonia/Delaware Twp.
Natasha Reino—Pymatuning Twp.
Jason DeJulia—Fredonia/Delaware Twp.
Jason Irvine—West Salem Twp.
Rhonda Williams—West Salem Twp.
Ryan Miller—Fredonia/Delaware Twp.

Raymond Omer, Superintendent of Schools
Rose Lyons, Secretary to Superintendent and School Board
Michael Bonner, Special Counsel
James Nevant II, Solicitor

ADMINISTRATION

Beverly P. Morrison, Business Administrator
Lisa Brest, Supervisor of Food Service
Brian Buchman, Director of Systems/Education Technology
Casey Taylor, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
Elizabeth Diefenderfer, Confidential Asst. to Business Manager
Carrie Jackson, School Psychologist
Scott McCaskey, Director of Special Education
Amy Leczner, Elementary School Principal
Anna Wilkinson, Supervisor of Transportation and Child Accounting
Mark B. Shaffer, Asst. to Director of Systems/Education Technology
Scott Shearer, Secondary School Principal
Stevan Waleff, Athletic Director/Athletic Trainer

If You Have a Problem . . .

The Board encourages parents and other citizens who have a concern about their children's education and other school-related problems to first try to resolve them at the level most directly involved, usually the classroom teacher or the principal.

The next level would then be the Superintendent. Ultimately, if a matter can only be resolved by changing a policy or by some other action of the Board, the School Board may become involved upon receiving a letter or a phone call or listening to a speaker at a regular public Board meeting.

Personnel and Other Regular Visitors

- **Superintendent** - The Superintendent is appointed by the Board and serves as its chief executive officer in administering Board policies in the operation of our schools. The Superintendent also acts as the primary advisor in keeping the Board informed of the needs and programs of the schools. The Superintendent is available to the Board as a professional resource and his/her recommendations normally precede any Board action relating to recruitment, election and supervision of the professional staff; selection of textbooks and instructional materials; development of curriculum; school plant planning and fiscal affairs. The Superintendent is elected by the Board to a specific term of office (e.g., three, four or five years).
- **Secretary to the Board** - The School Board Secretary is elected by the Board every four years and is responsible for the correspondence and accurate recording of all Board action.
- **Solicitor** - The School Board Solicitor is an attorney retained by the School Board as a legal counselor and advisor for School Board action.
- **Administration and Staff Support** - The Superintendent's business manager, administrative assistants, principals, supervisor of buildings and grounds, director of technology and school psychologist attend the meetings when requested and advise the Superintendent and Board on various matters related to their area of supervision.
- **Reporters** - Local newspapers and radio stations send reporters to the regular and special meetings of the School Board and they occupy a special seat for the "Press."

All activities, educational programs and employment practices of the Reynolds School District are nondiscriminatory as required by Chapter VI, Title IX, and Section 504. If there are restrictions, they are based on one's ability and aptitude, not one's sex, race, color, national origin, or handicap. Additionally, handicapped students and employees may qualify for special services or instruction and equipment modifications. Complaints or questions concerning discriminatory treatment and racial or sexual harassment should be directed to the Compliance Administrator, Superintendent of Reynolds School District, Phone (724) 646-5500.

Welcome . . .

As a resident of the Reynolds School District, you have the right to provide input into your public schools. Your School Board cordially invites you to attend Board meetings and to take an active role in the educational affairs of your community.

The decisions of your elected School Board affect your child, your child's future, your tax rates, the well-being of your community and, in the long run, the well-being of your country.

There are many ways for you to participate in your schools:

- Stay informed and interested in your schools
- Appear before the Board to express your views
- Correspond with the Board
- Elect the most qualified Board members
- Participate in local parent-teacher units and on educational committees of various organizations when possible
- Stay in touch with building principals and the district Superintendent about matters that concern you and your children

Philosophy of the Board

It has always been the philosophy of the Reynolds School Board to develop and maintain the best school system possible, a system of education that is second to none.

The Board believes that superior individual scholastic achievement should be the rule rather than the exception in a program that challenges each student to achieve the maximum of his or her abilities. In addition to academic achievement, paramount importance is placed on health education, citizenship, and character development.

The School Board recognizes that funds should be administered prudently and consistently with sound principles of education and public finance.

The School Board

The Reynolds School Board is governed by a nine-member Board. Three members are elected from each of the three regions comprising Reynolds School District. These regions are defined as follows:

- Region 1 - Delaware Township and Fredonia Borough
- Region 2 - Pymatuning Township
- Region 3 - West Salem Township

School Board members serve a four-year term of office. Normally, half of the positions are filled every two (2) years. Directors are not paid for their services.

The School Board is a policy-making body with its primary task being the formulation and evaluation of all policies necessary for the operation of the school district. The school district is managed by an administrative team which implements and works within the limits of School Board policy. The administrative team is guided by a Superintendent of Schools who is elected by the Board.

Board Meetings

The School Board meets regularly once per month on the **third Wednesday** of each month in the Board Conference Room of Reynolds Junior-Senior High School at **6:00 PM**. Committees will meet at 5:00 PM as needed. Occasionally, a holiday or other circumstances will alter this schedule. In this case, or in the event of a special meeting, public notice is given in advance of the change of date. Also, state law requires that the annual reorganization of the School Board be held during the first week of December.

Role of the School Board

The School Board sets policies within the framework of the Pennsylvania School Code. In effect, the Board is the legislative branch of the school district. It defines the policies which are carried out by the school district staff. All decisions must meet state standards. The Board can:

- Adopt textbooks and approve curriculum
- Purchase, sell, or condemn land
- Maintain school property
- Create or increase indebtedness within strict state guidelines
- Levy taxes
- Adopt an annual budget
- Appoint and dismiss personnel

The Board can close, build and/or remodel schools and change academic requirements only with the approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

The Agenda

The meetings of the School Board follow a definite plan called "The Agenda." The agenda follows guidelines which are established by the State Legislature in the Pennsylvania School Code. Items on the agenda are recommended by the administration and Board members. The president of the Board, who is elected annually by his/her fellow school directors, presides at all regular and special meetings. The vice president presides in the president's absence.

To Speak at a School Board Meeting

The Board will allow public input at the beginning of each public meeting on agenda items only, with a recommended time limit of three (3) minutes per person, fifteen (15) minutes total. The Board shall allow an additional (15) minutes (recommended three (3) minutes per person) at the end of the meeting, which is open to any pertinent topic. The Board reserves the right to extend time limits. Individuals wishing to participate in a public Board meeting are encouraged to pre-schedule a time on the agenda through the Central Office.

Charges, Complaints, or Challenges

No person may orally initiate personal charges or complaints against individual employees at a public meeting of the School Board. Any charges, complaints, or challenges should be presented to the Superintendent in writing and signed by the complainant. All such concerns, if presented to the Board directly, will be referred to the Superintendent for investigation and subsequent reporting to the Board.