Date: October 19, 2026

To: Pana CUSD Board of Education

From: Jessica Miller, Superintendent

Subject: Superintendent's Report and Board Actions for October 19, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

    A. Pledge of Allegiance

2. **Consent Agenda Items** - Please contact Kari Medler, bookkeeper, or Mrs. Miller prior to the meeting if you have any questions with any of this month's payables or financials.

    A. Reading and Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes and Special Board Meeting Minutes - September 21, 2026
    B. Approval of Monthly Bills and Payrolls - Kari has noted some of the more significant monthly bills as part of the Accounts Payable/Payroll Report. We stopped paying vendors for the month of September as of October 12, 2026.
        1. Accounts Payable and Payroll Report
    C. Treasurer's Report (September)
        1. Financial Reports
        2. Other Financial Information
            a. Donation Approvals - Pana Alum Stephen Morrison donated $1000 to be used by the Panther Pack program to purchase food items. He now runs a real estate business in Springfield called Morrison Properties LLC. Mr. Morrison saw the segment on WAND and wanted to help out his hometown.
    D. FOIA Requests - We received a request from Sunlight Access requesting an electronic summary of purchase orders (not the individual purchase orders themselves) issued by Pana Community Unit School District 8 from March 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026. Our response is in your packet.

Action: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda inclusive of payables totaling $1,485,937.54 and payrolls totaling $998,158.19 for a total payables and payroll of $2,484,095.73.

3. **Visitor, Teacher, & Support Staff Considerations**

    A. Dave Nance - Mr. Nance would like to speak to the Board about a land and water reserve grant recently awarded to Anderson Prairie through IDNR.

B. **Susan Hutchinson** - Ms. Hutchinson would like to speak to the Board about the Class of 1984 Scholarship.

4. **Committee Reports**

A. **Facilities** - Mark Beyers and Jessica Miller will provide an overview of the meeting held on Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 @ 6:30 am. Next meeting TBD.

B. **Finance** - Did not meet this month. Next meeting TBD.

C. **Curriculum** - Did not meet this month. Next meeting TBD.

D. **Policy** - Did not meet this month. Next meeting TBD.

E. **Pana Education Foundation** - Did not meet this month. Next meeting: October 21, 2026 at 7:00 am.

F. **Technology** - Did not meet. Next meeting TBD.

5. **Administrative Reports**

A. **Principals** - Kevin McDonald will share information with the Board about the Panther Pack Program at Pana High School. This program was created by Jeremy Nihiser, FACS teacher at PHS. It was featured on WAND TV. The other building principals will not be in attendance.

B. **Building & Transportation** - Jeff Stauder will provide highlights from his submitted report.

1. **Ten Year Health Life Safety Report** - Jeff Stauder will highlight items from BLDD's 10 Year HLS Report.

C. **Curriculum & Instruction** - Mr. Donahue will provide highlights from his written curriculum & grant report(s).

Action: Motion to approve the Ten Year Health Life Safety Report developed by BLDD as presented.

D. **Superintendent**

1. **Personnel Recommendations (Will follow Executive Session)**

Action: Motion to approve the October Employment Report as reviewed and presented in Executive Session.

2. **Accelerated Placement Program** - Administrators continue to review the Accelerated Placement Program and supporting procedures. The purpose in developing this program is to establish a clear and consistent process for considering students who may benefit from instruction above their current grade level. PRESS policy 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program states that the District provides an APP with the goal of providing educational programs with opportunities for each student to develop to his or her potential. The evaluation process considers multiple sources of information rather than relying on a single assessment.

   We have updated the language under "Early entrance to Kindergarten" to include the Kindergarten Quarterly Checklist as an assessment tool.

   We removed the "Score of 5 on the IAR test in Reading and/or Math where applicable" from the Early Entrance to 1st Grade assessment list. The IAR test is not administered until 3rd grade.

   We renamed the "Score of 5" under Whole Grade Acceleration to "Score of Exceeded Expectations (5)" in reference to a score on the IAR test.

   We have also added the need of a "Teacher Academic Readiness Statement" as a required criteria under "Individual Subject Acceleration."

   We have also adjusted the evidence under "whole grade or single subject referral process" to align with current assessments in the district.

Action: No action required.

3. **Resolution for National Principals Month** - October is National Principals Month. Recognition takes place throughout the state of Illinois during the week of October 19th - 23rd. Both Kyle Anderson and I will share comments about our building administrators.

Action: Motion to approve the resolution recognizing October as "National Principals Month" for Pana CUSD 8.

4. **FY27 (Historical) Fall Housing Report** - Each October we are required to submit to ISBE our Fall Housing Enrollment Report. As of September 30th our enrollment

was at 1,113 which is lower than last year's enrollment of 1,168. The loss of student enrollment in rural communities seems to be a trend across the state of Illinois. Over the last 20 years in our District we have lost 434 students from our high water mark of 1,547 students in 2006. This is a 28.05% decrease in District enrollment over that period of time.

Action: No action required.

5. **5-Year Sales Tax Revenue Report** - Included in your packet is a 5-year overview of the growth of the District's Sales Tax Revenue. There continues to be consistent steady growth of our Sales Tax Revenues to be able to support our bond obligations for the new elementary building, the bus garage, softball field, and other facilities needs.

Action: No action required.

6. **2027 School Board Regular Meeting Calendar** - We will continue the tradition of our Board of Education Regular Meetings being on the 3rd Monday of the month and starting at 6:30 pm. The notable exceptions being January and February meeting dates due to school holidays. January's meeting will be held on January 25th and February's meeting will be held on February 22nd.

Action: Motion to approve the 2027 School Board Regular Meeting Calendar.

7. **FY27 Library Per Capita Grant** - The District has typically applied for the Secretary of State's library per capita grant annually. Taylor Cothern, District Librarian, submitted an application on the District's behalf on October 7, 2026. If the grant is approved, we will receive $923.37.

Action: Motion to approve the District submitting an application for the FY27 Secretary of State Library Per Capita Grant.

8. **NPT Special Education Cooperative Report** - Jessica Miller will provide an overview of the regular meeting held on October 8, 2026 at 2:00 pm. Next meeting will be November 12, 2026 at 2:00 pm.

   NPT approved the second reading of updated PRESS Policies. Adam Mathias, from LMHN, presented the latest audit. A volunteer program was approved. Kelly Suey worked with Bushue HR to develop the program. Volunteers will read to students, assist with family days, and teach lessons. NPT approved the resignation of the school nurse,

paraprofessional, long term sub; reassigned an aide to a teaching position; and approved the hiring of two paraprofessionals.

Action: No action required.

6. **Executive Session**

   A. Discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, student discipline, litigation, the setting of price for sale or lease of property owned by the District, and collective negotiating matters.

   B. Employment/Compensation/Resignation recommendations.

Action: Motion to enter executive session for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, student discipline, litigation, the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District, and collective bargaining matters, as well as employment/compensation/resignation recommendations.

Action: Motion to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session.

Action: Motion to approve Executive Session minutes as read in executive session.

7. **Communications**

   A. Capitol Watch

8. **Board Member Considerations**

9. **Adjournment**