PANA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #8
Regular Board of Education Meeting Review
October 19, 2026
Unit Office Board Room

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**
    a. Pledge of Allegiance
    b. The meeting was called to order by Board President Kyle Anderson at 6:30 pm. Anderson,Berner, Beyers, Hadowsky, Casner, Dorn, and Moon were all present.

2. **Consent Agenda Items**
    a. Reading and Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes and Special Board Meeting Minutes - September 21, 2026
    b. Approval of Monthly Bills and Payrolls
        i. 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.
        ii. Accounts Payable and Payroll Report
    c. Treasurer's Report
        i. Financial Reports
        ii. Other Financial Information
            1. 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
        i. 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 was made by Moon and seconded by Hadowsky 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. Staff: Kari Medler, Kylie Dooley, Jessica Miller, Jeff Stauder, Paul Donahue, Kevin McDonald, Adam Metzger, Angie Matthews, Serenity Eilers, Lacy Nihiser, Jeremy Nihiser, Lee Hicks
    b. Visitors: Dave Nace, Susan Hutchinson, Sheila Siegert-Class of 1984 Scholarship
    c. Media: Susan McGrath

4. **Committee Reports**
    a. Facilities
        ii. Mark Beyers and Jessica Miller will provide an overview of the meeting held on Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 @ 6:30 am.
        iii. Next meeting TBD.

b. Finance
    iv. Did not meet this month.
    v. Next meeting TBD.
c. Curriculum
    vi. Did not meet this month.
    vii. Next meeting TBD.
d. Policy
    viii. Did not meet this month.
    ix. Next meeting TBD.
e. Pana Education Foundation
    i. Did not meet this month.
    ii. Next meeting: October 21, 2026 at 7:00 am.
f. Technology
    i. Did not meet.
    ii. Next meeting TBD.

5. <u>Administrative Reports</u>

a. Principal
    i. Kevin McDonald shared 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
    i. Jeff Stauder provided highlights from his submitted report.
    ii. Ten Year Health Life Safety Report

Action: Motion was made by Hadowsky and seconded by Casner to approve the Ten Year Health Life Safety Report developed by BLDD as presented.

c. Curriculum & Instruction
    i. Mr. Donahue provided highlights from his written curriculum & grant report(s).
d. Superintendent
    i. Personnel Recommendations (Will follow Executive Session)

Action: Motion was made by Casner and seconded by Hadowsky to approve the October Employment Report as reviewed and presented in Executive Session.

iii. Accelerated Placement Program
    1. Administrators reviewed and updated the Accelerated Placement Program (APP) procedures to ensure a clear and consistent process for identifying students who may benefit from instruction above their current grade level. The revisions included adding the Kindergarten Quarterly Checklist as an assessment tool for early entrance to kindergarten, removing the IAR assessment requirement for early entrance to first grade, clarifying the IAR score terminology for whole-grade acceleration, adding a Teacher Academic Readiness Statement as a requirement for individual subject acceleration, and

aligning the evidence requirements for whole-grade and single-subject acceleration referrals with the district's current assessments.

Action: No action required.

iv. Resolution for National Principals Month
    1. October is National Principals Month. Recognition takes place throughout the state of Illinois during the week of October 19th - 23rd.

Action: Motion was Dorn made by and seconded by Hadowsky to approve the resolution recognizing October as "National Principals Month" for Pana CUSD 8.

v. FY27 (Historical) Fall Housing Report
    1. 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.

vi. 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.

vii. 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 was made by Casner and seconded by Berner to approve the 2027 School Board Regular Meeting Calendar.

viii. 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 was made by Hadowsky and seconded by Moon to approve the District submitting an application for the FY27 Secretary of State Library Per Capita Grant.

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

x. *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 was made by Beyers and seconded by Berner 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.

Time: 7:21pm

Action: Motion was made by Casner and seconded by Hadowsky to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session.

Action: Motion was made by Berner and seconded by Moon to approve Executive Session minutes as read in executive session.

7. **Communications**
    a. Capitol Watch
8. **Board Member Considerations**
9. **Adjournment**
    a. Time 9:30pm

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Board President

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Board Secretary