Date: August 17, 2026

To: Pana CUSD Board of Education

From: Jessica Miller, Superintendent

Subject: Superintendent's Report and Board Actions for August 17, 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 - July 20, 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 July as of August 10, 2026.
        1. Accounts Payable and Payroll Report
    C. Treasurer's Report (July)
        1. Financial Reports
        2. Other Financial Information
            a. Donation Approvals - None to report this month.
    D. FOIA Requests - We received a FOIA request from SmartProcure requesting general purchasing records from January 6, 2026 to July 20, 2026. Our response is in your packet.

Action: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda inclusive of payables totaling $662,006.23 and payrolls totaling $1,184,453.59 for a total payables and payroll of $1,846,459.82

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

    A. **Allison Trelz** - Allison Trelz has asked to speak to the Board on the construction and operation of the school's new softball diamond, with a focus on the following:
        The use of right of way land located between our properties.
        The school district's long-term plans for parking and foot traffic associated with the softball diamond.
        The school district's short-term plans for parking, access, traffic, and use of the right of way for the current Jr High Softball season and until long term plans are in place.

Establishing a communication channel with the district as these plans are implemented, should further communication or coordination be needed.

B. **Booster Organizations' FY27 Budgets** - I have invited Music Boosters to present their budget for FY27.

4. **Committee Reports**

A. **Facilities** - Did not meet this month. Next meeting: TBD.

B. **Finance** - James Moon and I will provide an overview of the Finance Committee meeting held on Tuesday, August 11th at 6:30 am. The presentation of the FY27 tentative budget will appear under the Superintendent's report. Next meeting: TBD.

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

D. **Policy** - I will provide an overview of the Policy Committee meeting held on Tuesday, August 11th at 4:30 pm. Next meeting TBD.

1. **1st Reading of IASB PRESS Policy updates** - Mrs. Miller reviewed the IASB PRESS Policy updates with the Policy Committee from the month of June. The Policy Committee is recommending to the full Board to approve the 1st reading of those reviewed policies.

   Key changes included updates to extracurricular activities, emphasizing reasonable participation fees and clarifying student eligibility requirements; revisions to the Equal Access policy to ensure student-led clubs are treated fairly regardless of viewpoint; guidance reinforcing that schools may teach about religion without promoting religion and establishing expectations for addressing controversial topics in an age-appropriate, balanced, and respectful manner; clarification of students' constitutional rights, including student-led prayer and religious meetings consistent with federal law.

Action: Motion to approve the 1st reading of the IASB PRESS Policy updates from June 2026 as reviewed by the Policy Committee.

The Committee reviewed a **local policy** to transfer inactive staff and student meal account balances after 12 months of inactivity to the Food Service Fund to help offset unpaid meal balances and support the nonprofit meal program. The policy reads as follows: *A staff/student meal account shall be considered inactive when there has been no meal purchase, deposit, or other account activity for a period of twelve (12)* *consecutive months. Funds transferred from inactive accounts shall be used solely to support the nonprofit school meal program. The District may use these funds to offset unpaid student meal account balances or for other allowable food service program purposes in accordance with federal and state regulations.*

Action: Motion to approve the local Inactive Meal Account Balances policy as reviewed by the Policy Committee.

The Committee reviewed **PRESS Policy 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment**. ISBE requires school districts to review and update this policy every 2 years.

Action: Motion to approve PRESS Policy 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment as reviewed by the Policy Committee.

E. **Pana Education Foundation** - Mrs. Miller will provide an overview of the meeting held on July 22, 2026 at 4:15 pm. Next meeting: August 19, 2026 at 7:00 am.

The Board approved this year's mini grants and will provide each new teacher with $200 to purchase classroom supplies.

The Board discussed ordering materials for the upcoming Labor Day Parade and reviewed proposed updates to the organization's bylaws.

The annual Wall of Fame ceremony will be held on September 27 during Homecoming weekend.

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

G. **Insurance** - I will provide the Board an overview of our Insurance Committee meeting held on August 11, 2026 at 12:00 pm. Next meeting TBD.

The Health Insurance Committee met to review the district's health insurance coverage and upcoming renewal with the Egyptian Trust. TJ Ervin from Bushue HR reviewed the 2026-27 renewal rates, while Kari Medler assisted the committee in understanding changes to the available plans.

The committee also reviewed several health insurance concepts to help members better understand available options, including in-network versus out-of-network coverage, deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums, co-insurance, copays, PPO plans, and high-deductible health plans with Health Savings Accounts (HSAs). Committee and union representatives were asked to share information about the plans, renewal rates, and

HSAs with staff during building meetings. TJ and Kari also introduced the committee to the Hinge Health, BCBS, and Delta Dental apps available to employees.

5. **Administrative Reports**

   A. **Principals** - Building principals will highlight an item from their submitted reports.

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

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

   D. **Superintendent**

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

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

2. **Consideration to approve the OKAW Area Vocational Center Joint Agreement Resolution** - This is an agreement that must be approved annually for us to remain a member school district of the OKAW Area Vocational Center in Vandalia. This fall we will be sending 23 students to OKAW.

Action: Motion to approve the OKAW Area Vocational Center Joint Agreement Resolution.

3. **Intergovernmental Agreement between Pana CUSD 8 and the City of Pana for use of the North Diamond at Kitchell Park -** The Board will consider an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Pana allowing Pana CUSD 8 to use the North Diamond at Kitchell Park as the home field for the junior high baseball program. Under the agreement, the City will provide the field at no cost and continue mowing, while the District will be responsible for routine field maintenance (excluding mowing), provide concession stand staff and supplies, and maintain appropriate insurance coverage.

Action: Motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Pana CUSD 8 and the City of Pana for use of the North Diamond at Kitchell Park.

4. **Mileage Reimbursement Rate Increase** - The Internal Revenue Service updated the standard mileage rates for 2026 with a mid-year increase due to rising fuel

costs. For the second half of the year (July 1 – December 31, 2026), the business rate is 76 cents per mile.

Action: No action required.

5. **Presentation of FY27 Tentative Budget** - The tentative budget was reviewed with the Finance Committee. There will be some adjustments made to the budget over the next 30 days before the final version is presented at the budget hearing next month. We will hold a Budget Hearing at 6:15 pm prior to our September 21st Regular Board Meeting.

Action: Motion to approve FY27 Tentative Budget Resolution.

6. **NPT Special Education Cooperative Report** - I will provide an overview of the budget hearing held on August 6, 2026 at 1:45 pm and the regular meeting held on August 6, 2026 at 2:00 pm. Next meeting will be September 10, 2026 at 2:00 pm.

   D. Tarter presented the FY27 budget during the scheduled budget hearing. During the regular meeting, the Board approved the FY27 budget as presented.

   The Board also approved the renewal of health insurance with BCBS, which reflects a 15.8% premium increase, and renewed dental insurance with Principal Insurance, which increased by $3 per employee. NPT will contribute $685.08 toward each eligible employee's individual health insurance premium.

   The Board accepted the resignation of Eddie Green and approved the hiring of Jerrica Barnes as a paraprofessional. Staff will begin working in the new NPT facility on August 10.

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**

   A. **FY27 Budget Hearing** - Reminder that our budget hearing will take place at 6:15 pm on Monday, September 21, 2026 just prior to our regular board meeting.

9. **Adjournment**