

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**PERU PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 124**  
**August 15, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the month of August of the Board of Education of Peru Public Schools District 124, LaSalle County, Illinois, was called to order in the Library at Washington School, 1325 Park Road, Peru, IL, by Board President Jyll Humpage, on Wednesday, August 15, 2007, at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Humpage led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Members Cynthia Gustat, Simon Kampwerth, Mark Lamboley, Jim Renk, Vice President Bob Etheridge, and President Jyll Humpage. ABSENT: Member C. G. Pillai.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Secretary Julie Brown, Lori Madden, Sara McDonald, Mary Ann Redshaw, and Jeff Dankert.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Vice President Etheridge, to approve the meeting agenda of August 15, 2007. ROLL CALL VOTE – AYE: Lamboley, Etheridge, Renk, Humpage, Gustat, and Kampwerth. ABSENT: Pillai. NAY: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Secretary Brown thanked the Board for the plant sent in memory of her mother, Bette Wright.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the following items listed in the Consent Agenda:

- Board of Education Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2007
- Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2007
- Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2007
- Financial Report
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills

ROLL CALL VOTE – AYE: Gustat, Kampwerth, Lamboley, Renk, Etheridge, and Humpage. ABSENT: Pillai. NAY: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**PRESENTATION OF THE PERU DISTRICT 124 FISCAL YEAR 2008 TENTATIVE BUDGET**

In his presentation of the Fiscal Year 2008 Tentative Budget, Mr. Cross reported the budget shows a minor increase in revenues in the Education Fund over FY07, however, it is difficult to predict what the district will be receiving from General State Aid in FY08 because the Illinois State Budget has not yet been approved. In the Operations and Maintenance Fund, \$250,000 from General State Aid has been budgeted for FY08. This is an increase of \$100,000 over what was used from General State Aid in the

O&M Fund in FY07. Mr. Cross noted that the Education Fund is in great shape, revenues are strong, and now is the time to build up the O&M Fund to help cover some of the extra expenses expected over the next couple of years. Mr. Cross reported that an eighth fund, the Site and Construction Fund, has been added for FY08. The construction project will greatly increase budget expenditures for the next two to three fiscal years. All proceeds from bonds issued for the construction of the new middle school will be placed in the Site and Construction Fund, and all expenditures for the new middle school that would normally come from the Education Fund and the Operations and Maintenance Fund will be charged to the Site and Construction Fund. Mr. Cross noted the budget is still very tentative at this time and there could be some changes before the final budget is presented for approval at the September 19, 2007 Board of Education Meeting.

## **REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **Building and Grounds Committee Report**

Member Kampwerth reported the summer projects are coming together at all three buildings. The work is completed at Roosevelt, and the air conditioning work and new teachers lounge is completed at Northview. At Washington, the asbestos project went well, the tile is down and the painting is done. The Jump Start Summer School program was moved to Roosevelt this year to accommodate all of the work being done at Northview. Overall, Member Kampwerth and Mr. Cross reported the buildings are in good shape and ready for the start of the new school year.

### **Principals' Reports**

Lori Madden reported there are several new initiatives this summer, including the new web-based Student Management Program. While the program still has several glitches to be worked out, secretaries and teachers have been trained and are ready to go in the new program. The four new teachers at Washington have been assigned mentors and have begun training in classroom and building procedures.

Sara McDonald reported the district is holding a walk-through for new students and their parents to tour the buildings on Friday, August 17. Mrs. McDonald noted this day is especially important for kindergarten students and their parents to come and meet the teachers. Mrs. McDonald commended 28 district teachers who attended an all-day training session at no pay on the new web-based MAP Assessment. This group of teachers will train the rest of the staff after the school year begins.

Mary Ann Redshaw reported that the Jump Start summer school program was relocated to Roosevelt School due to the construction work at Northview. Mrs. Redshaw reported that 51% of the recommended students attended the program. Eighteen students used the bus that was provided, or 32% of those in the program. Although the teachers and principals continually strive for better attendance in Jump Start, all of the principals felt that the 51% attendance rate is satisfactory due to the many activities and family vacations that conflict with the program.

### **Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent's Report included the following:

- The Opening Institute Day Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, August 21, at 8:00 a.m. at The Maple's Restaurant.
- An Estimated 2007-08 Enrollment summary showing a total enrollment of 925 is still tentative as families are still moving in and some residency issues are still being checked.
- Mr. Cross commended secretaries, principals, and volunteers for a successful registration day in spite of the heat and problems with the new web-based Student Management Program.
- The IASB Starved Rock Division Fall Meeting will be held at Celebrations on Tuesday, September 18.

- Congratulations to Member Simon Kampwerth for being asked to serve on the Illinois Association of School Board's Executive Committee.

### **Discussion on Plans for Naming the New Middle School**

Mr. Cross led a short discussion on plans for naming the new middle school. Mr. Cross and Ms. Madden recommended developing a form to be set forth with certain criteria and distributed to students, parents and citizens of Peru asking for recommendations for the school name, mascot, and school colors. It was also discussed whether a committee should be formed and how committee members should be chosen. It was felt that the Board of Education should ultimately make the final decision on naming the new middle school.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Approval of the Peru District 124 Fiscal Year 2008 Tentative Budget**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Vice President Etheridge, to approve the Fiscal Year 2008 Tentative Budget. ROLL CALL VOTE – AYE: Gustat, Etheridge, Kampwerth, Lamboley, Renk, and Humpage. ABSENT: Pillai. NAY: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

#### **Establishment of Date, Time, and Location for the Fiscal Year 2008 Public Budget Hearing**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Lamboley, to establish Wednesday, September 19, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. in the Washington School Library for the Fiscal Year 2008 Public Budget Hearing. AYE: 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

#### **Authorization to Terminate Farm Lease Agreement**

Mr. Cross explained the necessity to terminate the district's Farm Lease Agreement so that crops will not be planted on the district's property before construction begins on the new middle school in the spring of 2008.

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Renk, to terminate the Farm Lease Agreement with Mr. Bill Henkel. AYE: 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

#### **Approval of Proposal to Provide Topographical Survey Services for Construction Site**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Member Renk, to approve Advanced Engineering Associates, Inc. to provide topographical survey services to the new middle school construction site. ROLL CALL VOTE – AYE: Lamboley, Renk, Etheridge, Humpage, Gustat, and Kampwerth. ABSENT: Pillai. NAY: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

#### **Approval of Peru Public Schools Teacher Evaluation Plan**

Mr. Cross noted that the district's Teacher Evaluation Plan will be completely updated for the 2008-09 school year, but it is still necessary to approve the plan on a yearly basis.

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve the Peru Public Schools Teacher Evaluation Plan for the 2007-08 School Term. AYE: 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Vice President Etheridge, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss information regarding the appointment, employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel and for the discussion of information related to employee salaries benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining. ROLL CALL VOTE – AYE: Lamboley, Etheridge, Humpage, Gustat, Kampwerth, and Renk. ABSENT: Pillai. NAY: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

## **RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Renk, to return to Regular Session at 8:00 p.m. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

## **ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **Employment**

**MOTION:** Moved by Vice President Etheridge, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to employ Roberta Bland as a Teacher Aide for the 2007-08 School Term. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Vice President Etheridge, seconded by Member Gustat, to employ April Medley as a Part-Time Teacher Aide for the 2007-08 School Term. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Moved by Vice President Etheridge, seconded by Vice President Kampwerth, to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

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Jyll Humpage, Board President

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Julie Brown, Board Secretary