

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**PERU PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 124**  
**FEBRUARY 17, 2010, 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting for the month of January of the Board of Education of Peru Public Schools District 124, LaSalle County, Illinois, was called to order in the Choral Room at Parkside School, 1800 Church Street, Peru, IL, by Board President Jyll Leonatti, on Wednesday, February 17, 2010, at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Members Cynthia Gustat, Simon Kampwerth, Mark Lamboley, C. G. Pillai, Jeff Sheppard, Vice President Jim Renk, and President Jyll Leonatti.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Superintendent Mark Cross, District Secretary Kim Vezzetti, Lori Madden, Sara McDonald, Melissa Bosnich, and Jeff Dankert.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Vice President Renk, to approve the meeting agenda of February 17, 2010. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Sheppard, Renk, Gustat, Kampwerth, Lamboley and Pillai. **NAYS:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SMART BOARD TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION**

The Board convened to the classroom of teacher Katie Budnick. Sherri Pannier, Technology Coordinator, began the Smart Board presentation by explaining the physical set-up of the boards. There are two Smart Boards per grade level and they were put into the rooms of those teachers most interested in utilizing the boards with their curriculum this year. However, it appears that more and more teachers will swap rooms to use the Smart Board. Parkside teachers Justin Sullivan and Katie Budnick gave demonstrations of how they integrate the Smart Board with their daily lessons. Mr. Sullivan likes that he is able to be at the back of the room with the wireless keyboard and also being able to have a constant view of the students. Mrs. Budnick uses an "airliner" device in place of a keyboard to write on the Smart Board. She also has the freedom to move about the classroom. This hands-on, fun-learning technology tool has not only reduced tremendous paper costs, it has, more importantly, increased student participation and engagement in the classroom to a very high degree.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- January 20, 2010 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- January 20, 2010 Board of Education Executive Session Minutes
- January 20, 2010 Building and Grounds Committee Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Lamboley, Kampwerth, Pillai, Sheppard, Renk, Leonatti and Gustat.  
NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

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

### **Principals' Reports**

Northview Principal Sara McDonald report that Drew Lane and Amanda Burkart, two 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will be recognized at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Starved Rock Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Breakfast on Thursday, February 18. Two children from the exiting grade of each school are selected, so this is the first year 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will be recognized. Students were selected because they are good citizens, treat others with respect, perform well in the classroom and lead by example. Mrs. McDonald also reported that ACCESS testing for English Language Learners in grades K-8 was recently administered. Results of this testing will be received sometime this summer.

Melissa Bosnich reported that AIMSweb was recently administered to students. Fall and Winter Benchmarks were reviewed by teachers and results will be sent home with progress reports on February 24. ISAT testing will begin March 1 and continue through March 12. Fourth grade students Michael Schmidt and Samantha Rimmele will represent Washington School at the IPA Breakfast.

At Parkside School, two eighth grade students will receive recognition at the IPA Breakfast. They are Greg Goodman and Meiya Carter. The second and final round of MAP testing was completed in January. Teachers analyzed results at the recent staff development. This information will be used to address individual needs and differentiate instruction.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Cross distributed IASB Constitution and Position Statements resulting from the Joint Annual Conference held last November.

Business cards and name badges were presented to the Board. Mr. Cross thanked Jeff Sheppard and Illinois Office Supply for their generous donation.

Mr. Cross reported that the Board Policy Manual should be updated by the end of this fiscal year. All updates will be made through PRESS, a service of the Illinois Association of School Boards. A Policy Committee meeting will be held to review updates which are made.

City of Peru Treasurer Gary Hylla sent the district a letter stating that the city still owes Peru Public Schools \$21,000 for the 2010 bond payments and that amount will be forwarded to the district in March.

The Peru CSO has asked to use the Washington School gymnasium the weekend of June 26 and 27 in conjunction with Peru's 175<sup>th</sup> Celebration. They will be displaying memorabilia of the City of Peru.

### **Update and Discussion Regarding Project Schematic Design and Budget for Summer 2010 Construction and Renovation Work for Northview and Washington Schools**

Mr. Cross reviewed with the Board the recommended construction budget received from Healy Bender. Total project costs for Northview and Washington Schools would be \$102,000 and \$166,000 respectively. Due to lack of state funding, Mr. Cross expressed some concern for going ahead with these projects at this time. A Health Life Safety fund amendment may allow the district to review these projects next year. Rather, other smaller preventative maintenance projects including refinishing the gym floor at Washington School and parking lots will be focused on this summer. A Building and Grounds Committee meeting will be scheduled to move review other summer maintenance projects.

## **Presentation and Discussion on Bright Futures Preschool Program Financial Report and Cost Recovery Recommendations**

Mr. Cross and Mrs. McDonald reviewed with the Board the current preschool program and gave some recommendations for its future. Mrs. McDonald highlighted on the successes of the program's first year. A comparison study showed what other area preschool programs charge for tuition. Lack of state preschool grant monies are forcing the district to consider charging tuition next year. This year, one time AARA funds of a little over \$80,000 helped to reduce some of the costs for this program. The Illinois State Board of Education is not accepting any new grants at this time. If funds would become available, Mrs. McDonald will be able to submit the grant that was prepared last year.

Three "Tiered Tuition" proposals based on the eligibility guidelines of the National School Lunch Program were presented to the Board. Proposal A would provide free tuition and registration fees to tier one students. Those children in tier two would pay \$100 for tuition quarterly along with a registration fee of \$25 annually. Full rate tuition would be for those children in the tier three category. Fees include a \$225 quarterly tuition along with an annual registration fee of \$50. Proposal B consists of the same three tiers with tier one paying a \$25 quarterly tuition and an annual registration fee of \$25. Tier two would pay \$125 quarterly and a \$50 registration fee. Tier three tuition would be \$250 quarterly with a \$75 annual registration fee. Lastly, tier one students in Proposal C would have free tuition with an annual registration fee of \$75. Tier two students would pay \$150 quarterly with a \$100 registration fee. A \$300 quarterly tuition and \$150 annual registration fee would be for those students in tier three.

After much discussion, a fourth proposal was decided upon. Quarterly tuition charges would be \$25 for tier one, \$100 for tier two, and \$225 for tier three. The annual registration fee would be \$50 for all students. Mr. Cross estimated that this will generate approximately \$40,000 to \$45,000 in revenue to help offset the cost of the program, while still providing a high quality, low cost program for parents. The district will also continue to provide transportation for the preschool program next year.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Approval of Recommended Tentative Budget for Summer 2010 Construction and Renovation Work For Northview and Washington Schools**

Mr. Cross recommended that the Board table the approval of the recommended tentative budget for summer 2010 construction and renovation work for Northview and Washington schools at this time while perhaps considering a scaled down version at next month's meeting.

### **Approval of Recommended 2010-11 Cost Recovery Plan for the Bright Futures Preschool Program**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Renk, to approve the recommended 2010-11 cost recovery plan for the Bright Futures preschool program. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Gustat, Renk, Lambole, Pillai, Sheppard, Leonatti and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

### **Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement for the Provision of Shared School Psychologist Services**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Lambole, to approve the intergovernmental agreement with Tonica Grade School for the provision of shared school psychologist services for the 2010-11 school term. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

### **Approval of the Proposed 2010-11 School District Calendar**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the 2010-11 school district calendar as presented. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**Approval of 2010 Mowing and Trimming Services Contract**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Sheppard, to approve the mowing and trimming services contract for 2010 with King Landcare Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**Establishment of Date, Time and Location for Board of Education Strategic Planning Session**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Vice President Renk, to establish Wednesday, March 24 at 6:00 p.m. at Parkside School as the date, time and location for a Board of Education strategic planning session. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Member Sheppard, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:42 p.m. to discuss information regarding the appointment, employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Lamboley, Sheppard, Kampwerth, Pillai, Renk, Leonatti, and Gustat. **NAYS:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting returned to Open Session at 8:59 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Approval of Request for Early Retirement**

Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Vice President Renk, to approve the request for early retirement from Parkside teacher Kay Brannon, effective at the conclusion of the 2012-13 school year. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Sheppard, Renk, Lamboley, Pillai, Leonatti, Gustat and Kampwerth. **NAYS:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Vice President Renk, to adjourn at 9:04 p.m. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

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Jyll Leonatti, Board President

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Kim Vezzetti, District Secretary