

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
OCTOBER 19, 2011, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of October of the Board of Education of Peru Elementary School District 124, LaSalle County, Illinois, was called to order in the Choral Room at Parkside School, 1800 Church Street, Peru, IL, by President Jim Renk, on Wednesday, October 19, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Members Cynthia Gustat, Simon Kampwerth, C. G. Pillai, Jeff Sheppard, Vice President Mark Lambole, and President Jim Renk. ABSENT: Member Leonatti

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Board Secretary Kim Vezzetti, Lori Madden, Sara McDonald, Melissa Bosnich, Eric Heagy, Lucy Frasco, Chip Weeks, and Jeff Dankert.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Vice President Lambole, to approve the meeting agenda of October 19, 2011. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Sheppard, Lambole, Renk, Gustat, Kampwerth, and Pillai. ABSENT: Leonatti. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Pillai shared information about the Khan Academy with the Board and audience. The Khan Academy is a free on-line video service designed to help students with problem solving in different areas, but mostly in math. Ms. Madden stated that some of the Parkside teachers do utilize this site, and Mr. Cross said that he will share this with the staff.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- September 21, 2011 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Sheppard, Lambole, Renk, Gustat, and Pillai. ABSENT: Leonatti. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Member Leonatti joined the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Presentation of Fiscal Year 2011 District Financial Statements and Independent Audit

Lucy Frasco presented the Fiscal Year 2011 Audit Report for Peru Elementary School District 124. She presented an overview of the Financial Statements and Independent Certified Public Accountants'

Reports prepared by Wilcoxson & Associates, Ltd. Mrs. Frasco reviewed revenues, expenditures and fund balances for fiscal year 2011 and reported that all of the numbers are the same as reported by the district at the end of June 30, 2011. She also reviewed a ten year history of some statistical information and noted the district's assessed valuation has increased significantly in the past ten years, although it did drop off in FY11. The district maintains healthy fund balances, although the Education Fund did see a significant drop in FY11 and it will likely be larger in FY12. Mrs. Frasco stated that the district once again had a perfectly clean audit with no findings or errors.

Quarterly Treasurer's Report

District Treasurer Eric Heagy reported the district is seeing a weighted average return of 1.48 percent on the district's total deposit accounts of roughly \$11.3 million. Overall, Mr. Heagy feels the current returns are strong considering current economic conditions and when compared to the benchmarks provided. The district's investment concentration includes 22 percent of assets at Peru Federal Savings Bank and 78 percent with Vezzetti Capital Management.

Service Contract Presentation from Johnson Controls Representative

Chip Weeks of Johnson Controls reported to the Board on the annual service contract they provide for our district. This is a preventative maintenance agreement for Northview and Washington Schools for mechanical maintenance and pneumatic control. He explained the district and Johnson Controls have had a 25 year relationship and believes finding issues before they become major ones lengthens the life of equipment. This year's service contract has a three percent increase from last year.

Official Fall 2011-12 Enrollment Report

Mr. Cross reported enrollment has held steady since the beginning of the 2011-12 school year, with the official enrollment of 1,013 students, including 927 in kindergarten through 8th grade. While the district has a lower enrollment than the previous three years, it is still significantly higher than in previous years.

Principals' Reports

Northview School

Mrs. McDonald reported:

- An estimated 350 grandparents attended the recent Grandparents Day at Northview School. Preschoolers, kindergartners and first graders enjoyed having their grandparents visit the school.
- The kindergarten team (Tara Duncan, Lois Edgcomb, Chris Goodman, Debbie Pletsch, and Cassie Rissman) presented at the October 7 LaSalle County Teacher Institute Day. The theme was integrating technology while teaching with the new Common Core Standards.

Washington School

Mrs. Bosnich reported:

- McTeacher night was recently held at the Shooting Park Road McDonald's. The event was a huge success and made \$1,100 for the PBIS program. The kids were excited to have their teachers serve them.
- Grandparents Day at Washington School saw 337 visitors. Grandparents enjoyed spending time at the school. Mrs. Bosnich will look into alternate options for next year to alleviate some parking problems.

Parkside School

Ms. Madden reported:

- In conjunction with PBIS, the Raider Reward Store is officially open. The store hours will be every other Thursday during lunch periods at the concession stands. Student Council members and parent volunteers will assist in running the store.

- A reminder that the annual Veterans Day Assembly will be held on Friday, November 11, at 2:15 p.m. in the Parkside School gymnasium. The school is looking for any regular or electronic pictures of local veterans.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross reported:

- Mr. Cross reported that the Foundation planning committee has held two meetings and has completed a first draft of by-laws. Everything is moving along very well. The committee members include John McCormick, Eric Heagy, Kurt Rimmel, Bob Etheridge, Cindy Kurkowski, Cindy Gustat, C.G. Pillai and Mark Cross. The committee's third meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8.
- Mr. Cross will be testifying at a public hearing for "Classrooms First" Commission. He explained the state would like to mandate consolidation of school districts in an effort to reduce administrative costs. He feels school consolidation should be a local decision and would in fact increase transportation and teacher salary costs.
- Principal Appreciation Day is Friday, October 21. Mr. Cross congratulated the three building principals on the excellent job they do.

Presentation of 2011 School Report Cards, 2011-12 School Improvement Plans and Report on Student Achievement and Progress

The 2011 School Report Cards and School Improvement Plans were presented by the building principals. Ms. Madden reported on the success of the newly established Project Success bus route this past spring. The after school program has since seen a higher participation rate. She noted one area the school will continue to improve upon will be to better involve parents through publicizing events at Parkside more. At Washington School Mrs. Bosnich reported the new classroom Smartboards are a huge success. Teachers will continue working on the 6 Traits of Writing. Mrs. Bosnich will work to see more parent volunteers in her building. Mrs. McDonald reported on the success of the new Preschool program. Areas to work on include computerizing Preschool report cards and more parental involvement from Preschool parents. Teachers throughout the district will continue to improve on Common Core Standards. Mr. Cross provided a seven year history of the district's school report card data to the Board, noting many significant improvements over that period of time.

ACTION ITEMS

Adoption of Resolution Supporting the Regional Offices of Education

Mr. Cross reported the Illinois General Assembly Fall Veto Session will begin next Tuesday. A decision as to whether or not the state will continue to fund Regional Offices of Education is in question. This resolution is in support of all Regional Offices of Education in Illinois.

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Vice President Lamboley, to adopt a resolution supporting the Regional Offices of Education. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Lamboley, Renk, Gustat, Leonatti, Pillai, and Sheppard. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Adoption of Resolution Certifying the Local Share and Source of Funds for the Parkside Construction Project and the Illinois School Construction Grant Program

MOTION: Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Leonatti, to adopt a resolution certifying the local share of funds as \$8,239,047 for the Parkside Construction Project and the Illinois School Construction Grant Program. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Sheppard, Leonatti, Pillai, Lamboley, Renk, Gustat, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of 2011-12 Service Agreement with Johnson Controls

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve the 2011-12 Service Agreement with Johnson Controls. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Gustat, Leonatti, Pillai, Sheppard, Lamboley, and Renk. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of 2011-12 Snow Removal Contract with Stuart Tree Service

MOTION: Moved by Member Leonatti, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve Stuart Tree Service to provide snow removal services for the 2011-12 winter season as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Leonatti, Gustat, Kampwerth, Pillai, Sheppard, Lamboley, and Renk. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Employment of Recommended Extracurricular Personnel

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Sheppard, to approve Jennifer Pettinger as Scholastic Bowl Coach for the 2011-12 school year. AYE: 7, NAY: 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Leonatti, to approve Emily Graham as 5th grade girls volleyball coach for the 2011-12 school year. AYE: 7, NAY: 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Vice President Lamboley, to approve Mary Knaub as 7th grade girls volleyball coach for the 2011-12 school year. AYE: 7, NAY: 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Sheppard, to approve Wesley Miller as boys track coach for the 2011-12 school year. AYE: 7, NAY: 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Request for Leave of Absence

MOTION: Moved by Member Leonatti, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve the leave of absence request under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 for Alexis Rebholz. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Lamboley, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Jim Renk, Board President

Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary