

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
FEBRUARY 16, 2011, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of February 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 Board President Jyll Leonatti, on Wednesday, February 16, 2011, 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, Board Secretary Kim Vezzetti, Lori Madden, Sara McDonald, Melissa Bosnich, Cindy Vaske, Tracey Jaegle, Dana Dawson, Gillie Ocepeck, Jennifer McCollum, Shelley May, Jane Charbonneau, and Jeff Dankert.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the meeting agenda of February 16, 2011. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Gustat, Pillai, Kampwerth, Lamboley, Sheppard, Renk, and Leonatti. **NAYS:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There was no correspondence this month.

COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY MODEL PRESENTATION

The Board enjoyed hearing a presentation by several district teachers on the Comprehensive Literacy Model. Principal Sara McDonald introduced Comprehensive Literacy team members Cindy Vaske, Tracey Jaegle, Dana Dawson, Jennifer McCollum, Shelley May, and Jane Charbonneau. Each of these team members gave a verbal presentation of different aspects of this tool used to help struggling readers. The model provides whole group, small group and one-on-one instruction for students. Classroom teachers, special education teachers and reading teachers collaborate on a daily basis to provide the best instruction for students. Assessments drive and inform instruction. Assessments are completed on a daily basis, as are running records. Assessment binders are being used this year and will be helpful when passed along to the next year's teachers. Progress reports are shared with parents to show what reading level students are on. Books regarding literacy and RTI have been purchased by the district for a professional library where faculty members are able to check them out. The team believes more staff need to be trained on this valuable tool which involves reading and writing in many subject areas. The staff showed several videos of school district staff utilizing the comprehensive literacy model in action.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- January 19, 2011 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- January 19, 2011 Board of Education Executive Session Minutes
- Financial Reports

- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills

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

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Principals' Reports

Mrs. McDonald reported the 5th Annual Starved Rock Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Breakfast will be held on Thursday, February 17. Two students from exiting grade levels at each of our buildings are chosen to participate in this event. First grade students Trevon C. and Kasi G. will receive the honor this year. Students are recognized because they are good citizens, treat others with respect, perform well in the classroom, and lead by example. She also informed the Board on the Northview School reading incentive program. Those students reaching their goals were treated to a special guest reader, Peru Police Chief Doug Bernabei.

Mrs. Bosnich reported the two students from 4th grade at Washington School attending the IPA Student Recognition Breakfast are Jobany G. and Araceli A. Students were selected for being respectful, responsible, hard working, setting a good example for others, being polite, being kind, etc. Chemistry Club students from IVCC will be presenting a 45 minute chemistry show to students on Friday, February 25.

Ms. Madden also reported on the two eighth grade students attending the IPA Student Recognition Breakfast. She explained the event is in honor of John Ourth, the late Past President of the Illinois Principals Association. Brett K. and Teagan P. are the 8th grade students being recognized this year. Students are recognized for their excellence in citizenship, the classroom and the community. Students in grades 5-8 at Parkside School enjoyed a school-wide positive behavior program recently. The Jabali African Acrobats entertained the students with their tumbling and dancing. The all-school spelling bee was recently held. The top three spellers in grades 6 – 8, Ross B., Karlee S. and Emily S. move on to the LaSalle County Bee.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross reported the Project Success bus began running the after school route for students at Washington and Parkside schools. In the initial days of the route, we have provided a monitor on the bus daily to ensure students are getting off safely and at the right stops.

The Illinois Association of School Boards Starved Rock Spring Division Meeting will be Tuesday, March 1 at Celebrations. Guest speakers scheduled to attend include Lt. Governor Sheila Simon, Senator Sue Rezin and Representative Frank Mautino.

Governor Pat Quinn has announced his proposed state budget. Mr. Cross said we can expect an increase in general state aid and a decrease in transportation funds if the budget holds true. He also reported the Governor is proposing to do away with Regional Offices of Education throughout the state and force more local school district consolidation.

A School Improvement Day will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 18. Teachers will meet at their respective buildings for curriculum mapping or writing scope and sequence. Teacher Aides will be in attendance that afternoon to meet with district administrators regarding the district-wide positive behavior program.

The PTC will host a Spaghetti Dinner and Family Bingo Night at Northview School on Friday, February 18, at 5:30 p.m. Board member Simon Kampwerth will be the bingo caller.

Presentation of Recommended 2011-12 School Calendar

Mr. Cross presented a final recommended 2011-12 school calendar. Changes from the proposed calendar include building release times for 2:00 p.m. dismissals. After receiving feedback from parents and staff, it was determined to stagger 2:00 p.m. dismissals (2:00 p.m. at Parkside, 2:05 p.m. at Washington, and 2:15 p.m. at Northview) to allow parents more time to pick-up their children at multiple buildings. Mr. Cross said he appreciated hearing the feedback from parents and staff and reminded the Board that the success of the early dismissals will be monitored before recommendations are made for the 2012-13 school year.

Update and Discussion Regarding Final Revised Project Design, Estimated Budget and Bid Documents for Parkside School Storage Facility

Mr. Cross reviewed a summary listing of 13 changes to the original design of the Parkside storage building after bids the previous month came back too high and were rejected. Some of these changes include removal of the brick exterior, block windows, the metal roof, as well as changes to the electrical system. The Board discussed the pros and cons of a James Hardie type siding compared to vinyl siding. The Board agreed to have the project go out for bid again with the changed specifications as presented.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of the Recommended 2011-12 School District Calendar

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Sheppard, to approve the 2011-12 school district calendar as presented. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Final Project Design, Estimated Budget and Bid Documents for Parkside School Storage Facility

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Vice President Renk, to approve the final project design, estimated budget and bid documents for Parkside School storage facility. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Pillai, Renk, Sheppard, Leonatti, Gustat, Kampwerth, and Lamboley. **NAYS:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Revised Date and Time for the 2011 8th Grade Graduation

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the revision of Tuesday, May 31, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at Parkside School as the date, time, and location for the 2011 8th Grade Graduation. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

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

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Vice President Renk, to approve the intergovernmental agreement with Tonica Grade School for the provision of shared school psychologist services for the 2011-12 school term. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of 2011 Mowing and Trimming Services Contract

MOTION: Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Lamboley, to approve the mowing and trimming services contract for 2011 with King Landcare. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Sheppard, Lamboley, Renk, Leonatti, Gustat, Kampwerth, and Pillai. **NAYS:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

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

MOTION: Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to establish Wednesday, March 2 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 Sheppard, seconded by Member Pillai, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:38 p.m. to discuss information regarding the appointment, employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel; and to discuss information related to employee salaries, benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Sheppard, Pillai, Renk, Leonatti, Gustat, Kampwerth, and Lamboley. **NAYS: None. The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting returned to Open Session at 8:24 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Approval of Request for Early Retirement

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. **Aye 7, Nay 0. The motion carried 7-0.**

Jyll Leonatti, Board President

Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary