

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 124
APRIL 23, 2009, 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of April 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 Leonatti, on Thursday, April 23, 2009, 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, Jim Renk, Vice President Bob Etheridge, and President Jyll Leonatti. ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Board Secretary Julie Brown, Jeff Sheppard, and Jeff Dankert.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the meeting agenda of April 23, 2009. **ROLL CALL:** Gustat, Kampwerth, Lamboley, Pillai, Renk, Etheridge, and Leonatti voted Aye. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Etheridge, seconded by Member Lamboley, to approve the following items listed in the Consent Agenda:

- March 18, 2009 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- March 18, 2009 Board of Education Executive Session Minutes
- April 1, 2009 Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes
- Financial Report
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills

ROLL CALL: Etheridge, Lamboley, Kampwerth, Pillai, Renk, Leonatti, and Gustat voted Aye. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Treasurer's Report

District Treasurer reported the cash management accounts showed a big decrease in the average interest rate due to Centruie Bank adjusting the rate on the district's checking account from 4% to 0.5%. A money market was opened at Centruie at a better interest rate of 2.54% to shift some of the checking account deposits. The mutual fund account with Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund is currently

yielding 0.62%, for a total weighted average rate of return on all cash management accounts of 1.04%. The district currently has \$6.5 million dollars invested in certificates of deposit with an average rate of return of 3.17%. Mr. Heagy reported the weighted average rate of return on all deposit accounts, including the bond proceeds account, is 2.15% which is still above average for these types of investments. Mr. Heagy projected the interest rates will be in the low to mid 2% range in the next fiscal year or about a \$40,000 difference in interest income for FY2010.

Principals' Reports

Mr. Cross announced the principals were not present for the meeting due to attending an event commemorating Administrative Professionals Day with their secretaries sponsored by the Illinois Principals Association.

In Mrs. McDonald's absence, Mr. Cross updated the Board on the progress of the Bright Futures preschool program. Screening for three and four-year olds in the district has been proceeding at St. John's Lutheran Church. Mrs. McDonald did an outstanding job in completing the grant and drove to Springfield to deliver it by its due date. Also, Mrs. McDonald is proceeding with the hiring of the office staff and hopes to have recommendations for hiring two teachers and two aides at the May board meeting. Mr. Cross stated we don't want to be overstaffed in the program if the numbers aren't there, but a third teacher and a third aide will be hired later if necessary. The grant was written for three teachers and 120 students, however, at \$3,000 per student for a total of \$360,000. Mr. Cross also reported that Roosevelt's Final Fling Committee is planning celebrations for the community, staff, and former staff members to end the school's 83 years in Peru.

On behalf of Melissa Bosnich, Mr. Cross thanked the Peru Rotarians for once again participating in the Dictionary Project and distributing a dictionary to every third grade student in the district.

In Lori Madden's absence, Mr. Cross reported that the Band-O-Rama will be held at Washington School on April 24-25 and thanked Band Instructor Phil Whaley for organizing and hosting the event for six other area schools and over 150 students.

Mr. Cross also reported that lunch will be provided for all staff members on Teacher Institute Day, Friday, April 24. Retirees and staff members will be honored for every five years of service to the district.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING PARKSIDE SCHOOL PROJECT DESIGN

Mr. Cross reported he recently did four tours at Parkside including staff members, a photographer from the NewsTribune, and a reporter from WLPO. Mr. Cross also reported the following:

- The prairie stone has been installed on the front of the building and all of the brick work will be finished very soon.
- The installers of the terrazzo flooring want to put expansion joints in the floor to prevent the terrazzo from cracking. Mr. Cross said the biggest area of concern was in the triangle on the north side of the library, but everything would be done to save aesthetics. All other areas where the joints will be used should be largely unnoticeable. Although there is no way to guarantee that 100% of the terrazzo will not crack, Mr. Cross was told that using the expansion joints will prevent 95% of cracking. The Board agreed that the expansive joints should be installed as recommended.
- The painting of lane lines in the gymnasium was discussed and will be reviewed again by the Board before a final decision is made.

- Two of the trees that were to be located are too large to be relocated and will need to be destroyed. The others can be relocated as originally planned.
- Bid specs are being prepared for the fitness equipment and will hopefully be ready for the May Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2009-10 Student Registration Fees

Mr. Cross presented the proposed 2009-10 student registration fees. He pointed out an increase in the student book fee at Northview and Washington from \$40 to \$50, which is the same as Parkside's book fee. Student breakfast has been added at \$1.25. Student lunch will remain the same at \$2.00, but adult lunch will increase from \$2.25 to \$2.50.

MOTION: Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Vice President Etheridge, to approve the 2009-10 student registration fees as presented. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Parkside Construction Change Orders

Mr. Cross presented Parkside Change Order No. 4 for a total of \$31,066.20 for the Board's approval. The change order includes relocation of site sign and landscaping and modifications to electrical and low voltage systems. Mr. Cross said most of the changes are at the recommendation of the technology consultant to make sure Parkside is ready for the technology components. Mr. Cross stated that we still should be getting a suitable soil credit of up to \$80,000.

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the Parkside Construction Change Orders in the amount of \$31,066.20. ROLL CALL: Kampwerth, Pillai, Lamboley, Renk, Etheridge, Leonatti, and Gustat voted Aye. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of IESA Membership and Fee Payments

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by member Gustat, to approve the IESA membership and fee payments for 2009-10. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Psychologist Services

Mr. Cross presented the agreement with Tonica District 79 for shared psychologist services for 2009-2010. Like this year, Tonica will reimburse the district for 15% of all costs, including salary, benefits, travel, and training.

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Renk, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Psychologist Services. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was not adjourned to Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Member Pillai, to adjourn at 7:03 p.m. Aye: 7, Nay: 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Jyll Leonatti, Board President

Julie Brown, Board Secretary