

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 124
MAY 20, 2009, 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of May 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 Wednesday, May 20, 2009, at 6:04 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. ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Board Secretary Julie Brown, Lori Madden, Sara McDonald, Melissa Bosnich, Bob Etheridge, Paul Gozder, and Jeff Dankert.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the meeting agenda of May 20, 2009. **ROLL CALL:** Lamboley, Kampwerth, Gustat, Pillai, Sheppard, Renk, and Leonatti voted Aye. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secretary Brown read thank you notes from staff members for desk planners given during Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you notes were read from staff members Jane Charbonneau, Mary Leone, Sharon Ebener, and Kathy Heuser for gift certificates they received honoring their years of service. The Peru Fire Department sent a thank you note for allowing them to use Washington School's cafeteria and gymnasium for their community fire prevention program. The family of Alexis Smith sent a thank you note for the plant sent in her memory, after the kindergarten student passed away in April.

Member Pillai helped organize and participated in the Town Hall meeting conducted by The North Central Regional Betterment Coalition (NCRBC), a local non-profit community group, and Advance Illinois, a statewide non-partisan and non-profit organization, and addressed by Bill Daley, ex-United States Commerce Secretary. He reported that the meeting was well attended and there were good discussions about educational issues and reform in the state of Illinois.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Cross noted that the May 19, 2009 Building & Grounds Committee Minutes listed on the Agenda were not completed and would not be part of the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve the following items listed in the Consent Agenda, with the deletion of Item 6.4, the May 19, 2009 Building and Grounds Committee Minutes:

- April 23, 2009 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- April 29, 2009 Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes
- April 29, 2009 Board of Education Special Executive Session Minutes

- Financial Report
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills

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

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Principals' Reports

Lori Madden said the RtI Committee met for the final time this year and reported making a lot of progress this year, including developing a list of interventions for each building. Ms. Madden also reported that 27 students were recommended for placement in algebra in eighth grade for the 2009-10 school term. Ms. Madden said that the pre-algebra in seventh grade is being considered in the future when asked by Member Pillai how we can increase the number of students placed in eighth grade algebra.

Sara McDonald reported that we currently have 70 students on the preschool list. This number does not include several students that still need to be screened or will be turning three-years-old this summer. Mrs. McDonald said that currently 53% of the preschoolers are at-risk while 47% are not considered at-risk. In order to be in compliance with the grant, 51% of the students need to be at-risk. Mrs. McDonald commended Sara Funke and Chris Goodman for receiving minigrants for their classrooms.

Melissa Bosnich reported that the fifth grade class recently went to the Medieval Times in Schaumburg on their annual field trip. This trip is both fun and educational for the students as it serves as an extension of their social studies unit on the medieval times. Also, third grade students recently presented biography speeches and parents were invited to come in and watch.

Building and Grounds Committee Report

Mr. Cross presented a proposal from Johnson Controls to replace unit ventilators in the Art Room at Washington School for \$18,734 and two other classrooms on the north wing addition, for a total of \$54,402. The district will receive a small discount for purchasing all proposed units. Member Kampwerth reported that these units are smaller and more efficient than those that we currently have with a 15-20 life year life span. Mr. Cross said a proposal from Johnson Controls also includes the exchange of existing air compressors within the district to maximize their life at a cost of \$5,500.

Also presented was a proposal from SKI Enterprises to fill holes in Washington's parking lot and seal and stripe the lot for a total cost of \$3,800. This work will likely be done sometime in August.

Update and Discussion Regarding Parkside School Design and Construction

Mr. Cross presented an update on the Parkside construction site and the Board briefly discussed the gym floor design. It was decided to eliminate the lines on the floor for the pickle ball courts. Mr. Cross said the final design will be presented to the Board for their approval. It was also decided that the proposal for the mural in the gym was not a good location and it might be moved above the bleachers or to another location after the gym floor is finished. This work will wait until a later date.

Update and Discussion Regarding Northview and Washington Schools Building Transition Planning, Design and Renovation

Sara McDonald and Melissa Bosnich presented proposals from Parkreation for the installation of playground equipment at Northview and Washington Schools, including retrofitting of some current equipment at Northview. The proposals did not include fence that would be needed around the proposed preschool playground at Northview and along the Rock Street border at Washington. The proposals also did not include the cost of site work that would be required at the Washington location. The Board

directed the principals to submit a proposal that would include all costs for completing the installation at both Northview and Washington Schools not to exceed \$100,000.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2009-2010 Bid for Milk Products

Mr. Cross recommended the Board accept the firm bid proposal of North Central Illinois Milk Distributors at 21 cents for a half pint of white milk and 22 cents for a half pint of chocolate milk.

MOTION: Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Vice President Renk, to approve the firm bid proposal for milk products from North Central Illinois Milk Distributors for 2009-2010. **ROLL CALL:** Lamboley, Renk, Pillai, Sheppard, Leonatti, Gustat, and Kampwerth voted Aye. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of 2009-2010 Bid for Bakery Products

Mr. Cross presented the only bid the district received for bread products from Interstate Brands Corporation and recommended the Board accept their proposal.

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the proposal of Interstate Brands Corporation for bread products for 2009-2010. **ROLL CALL:** Gustat, Pillai, Sheppard, Renk, Leonatti, Kampwerth, and Lamboley voted Aye. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Adoption of Serious Safety Hazard Resolution

The Serious Safety Hazard Resolution must be adopted on an annual basis so that parents can continue to receive free bus transportation and the district can receive reimbursement when it has been determined that a safety hazard exists in certain areas that are less than 1.5 miles from school. Mr. Cross noted that another study will have to be conducted in the near future to determine serious safety hazards for Parkside School.

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by member Sheppard, to adopt the Serious Safety Hazard Resolution. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Life Safety Extension of Time Application

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Renk, seconded by Member Sheppard, to approve the Life Safety Extension of Time Application for Roosevelt School. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Extended School Year and Jump Start Summer School Program

Sara McDonald reported that 135 students have been recommended for the Jump Start Summer School program and 70-75 students have signed up for the program to date. Mrs. McDonald recommended that the district hire all six teachers who applied to teach the program, which will be held at Roosevelt School for two weeks this summer instead of three due to the moves. All parents will be personally contacted who have not responded to the letters of recommendation that were mailed home. Sharon Ebener will teach the Extended School Year Special Education Program.

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the 2009 Extended School Year and Jump Start Summer School Programs. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Food Service Agreement with Peru Catholic School

Mr. Cross reported the Food Service Agreement with Peru Catholic is the same as last year with one exception. Peru Catholic will return all transportation containers to the district by 1:00 p.m. The district will transport food to Peru Catholic from Washington School, but it will be done by the custodial staff instead of the food service staff.

MOTION: Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Vice President Renk, to approve the Food Service Agreement with Peru Catholic School for the 2009-10 School Term. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Establishment of Board of Education Committee Membership

A list of the membership of the Building and Ground, Finance, Policy, and Technology Committees as established by Board President Leonatti was included in the Board packet. Member Pillai said he would prefer to continue to serve as Chairperson of the Board Policy Committee and be taken off the Technology Committee. He requested to change those positions with Member Lamboley, who was assigned Chairperson of both the Finance and Board Policy Committees.

Member Pillai questioned President Leonatti on why these particular assignments were made. President Leonatti explained the process and her reasoning for making the assignments, and Member Lamboley said he had no preference and would serve wherever he was assigned by President Leonatti. Mr. Cross informed President Leonatti that it was not technically necessary to take formal action on committee assignments, as Board policy requires the Board President to make those assignments and it is therefore her decision.

President Leonatti decided she would not make any changes in the committee assignments she had previously established and the Board took no action.

Approval of Recommended Summer 2009 Special Maintenance Projects

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the Summer 2009 Special Maintenance Projects with Johnson Controls and SKI Enterprises as presented. ROLL CALL: Kampwerth, Pillai, Sheppard, Renk, Leonatti, Gustat, and Lamboley. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Lamboley, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:27 p.m. to discuss information regarding the appointment, employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel; to discuss information related to employee salaries, benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining; and to discuss the potential purchase, sale, or lease of real estate, including the establishment of price for sale or lease of real estate. ROLL CALL: Gustat, Lamboley, Renk, Leonatti, Kampwerth, Pillai, and Sheppard. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 9:48 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Employment of Recommended Personnel

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, Seconded by Member Sheppard, to employ Beth Derango as a special education teacher at Parkside School for the 2009-2010 school term. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Lamboley, to employ Alexis Gunderson as a preschool teacher for the 2009-2010 school term. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Vice President Renk, to employ Lindsay Ferrari as a preschool teacher for the 2009-2010 school term. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Renk, seconded by Member Pillai, to employ Julie Nelson as a reading teacher at Parkside for the 2009-2010 school term. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to employ John Tipton as a three-quarter time custodian effective July 1, 2010. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Lamboley, seconded by Member Gustat, to employ Dan Burkart as athletic director for the 2009-2010 school term. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Resignations

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve the resignation of Julie Brown as Board Secretary and bookkeeper effective June 30, 2010. Aye 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of 2009-2010 Employee Salaries

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Renk, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the Non-Union Salaries for Fiscal Year 2010 as recommended and presented by the Board Finance Committee. ROLL CALL: Renk, Kampwerth, Leonatti, Gustat, Lamboley, Pillai, and Sheppard voted Aye. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Lamboley, to adjourn at 9:52 p.m. Aye: 7, Nay: 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Jyll Leonatti, Board President

Julie Brown, Board Secretary