

MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 124
JUNE 3, 2009, 5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of Peru Public Schools District 124, LaSalle County, Illinois, was called to order in the Conference Room at Washington School, 1325 Park Road, Peru, IL, by Board President Jyll Leonatti, on Wednesday, June 3, 2009, at 5:35 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, and Jeff Dankert.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve the special meeting agenda of June 3, 2009. **ROLL CALL:** Kampwerth, Gustat, Lamboley, Pillai, Sheppard, Renk, and Leonatti voted Aye. No Nays. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Lori Madden reported that she received a letter from the IESA recognizing Washington School for receiving the 2008-09 Division E Sportsmanship Award. The award is presented annually to a school in each of the 15 IESA divisions to recognize outstanding behavior and sportsmanship. Sportsmanship Award Winners are selected by schools in their own division.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING RECOMMENDED 2009-10 STUDENT HANDBOOK REVISIONS

Board members were provided with copies of all changes recommended for the handbooks for Parkside Middle School and Northview and Washington Elementary Schools, and the principals reviewed some of the major revisions for 2009-10. Parents will now be asked to prearrange student absences by submitting a vacation request form no later than seven days prior to taking their children out of school. Lori Madden also pointed out a change in Scholastic Honors criteria for 2009-10. Scholastic Honors will be based on a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 in all subjects and citizenship will no longer be a part of the award. Citizenship grades will be replaced by teacher comments on the report card. Ms. Madden also said that the annual Scholastic Honors Banquet will be held in May and grades will be cut off at midterm so that honors can be presented for the entire year.

Ms. Madden presented a grading scale analysis which showed slight differences in the current Washington, Northview, and Roosevelt grading scales. A standardized district-wide grading scale was proposed and approved by the Board to be included in the revised student handbooks.

Melissa Bosnich reported that Northview School currently has intramural competition for fourth and fifth grade students. She asked the Board's preference for including intramural competition for third grade in 2009-10

since fifth grade will be moving to Parkside. It was decided that intramural competition at Washington School in 2009-10 would be for fourth grade students only and that the issue would be reviewed again in another year for the 2010-11 school term.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING PARKSIDE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PLANNING AND PROGRESS

Mr. Cross presented a rendering of the gymnasium floor plan by the architects showing the placement of lines for the basketball court, volleyball court, and practice courts for volleyball and basketball. Discussion followed regarding which of the practice court lines could be eliminated from the gym floor while keeping the floor aesthetically pleasing and at the same time functional for physical education, volleyball, and basketball practices. It was previously decided to eliminate pickle ball courts from the gym floor, but there was no final consensus as to what exact gym floor lines should be included. Ideas were discussed, and Mr. Cross will ask the architects to provide additional renderings of the gym floor, one with some of the practice lines taken out of the plan and the other left as is with the lines drawn in thinner and lighter colors so that final direction can be determined. The Board also decided not to add the Raider mascot to the wall pads on the north and south ends of the gymnasium and leave the pattern as previously suggested by the architects.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING NORTHVIEW AND WASHINGTON SCHOOLS RENOVATION PLANNING AND PROGRESS

Samples for the renovation at Northview and Washington Schools were presented to the Board, including brick for Washington, classroom doors, tile for Northview, quarry tile for the kitchen, tackboard for Northview's display case, boys' bathroom tile, carpet for the library and music room at Washington and the library and computer lab at Northview. The committee in charge of selecting materials for Northview and Washington renovation projects includes Member Gustat, Mr. Cross, Mrs. McDonald, and Mrs. Bosnich.

Mr. Cross also presented to the Board a proposal to remove the science tables from the science labs at Washington School in order to make the classrooms more functional for the elementary grades. This would require checking for asbestos and the removal and replacement of tiles under the tables. Sickley Construction will provide a proposal for a change order for the Board's consideration of the additional work at Washington.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE SELECTION AND PURCHASE OF NORTHVIEW AND WASHINGTON PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Mr. Cross presented a Playground Installation Proposal from Parkreation for Northview and Washington Schools which, in addition to equipment, included site preparation by Pohar & Sons and fencing installed by Illinois Valley Fence, for a grand total of \$103,708.27. Mr. Cross said that we would probably have our own employees install the wood chips which would bring the total cost around \$100,000.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE SELECTION AND PURCHASE OF PARKSIDE PHYSICAL FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Mr. Cross presented proposals for Parkside physical fitness equipment from Momentum Fitness in the amount of \$29,646 and from Magnum Fitness in the amount of \$36,747. Mr. Cross pointed out that one piece of equipment, an elliptical machine, was missing from the Momentum quote, but both proposals are well below the budgeted estimate of \$60,000. Member Pillai asked what types of warranties and maintenance would be included with the proposal. Mr. Cross asked the Board's authorization to make a selection not to exceed the amount of \$36,747 after checking references on both vendors. The final recommendation for the purchase of physical fitness equipment will be presented to the Board of Education for their approval at a future meeting.

Member Kampwerth left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Recommended 2009-10 Student Handbook Revisions

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the student handbooks revisions as presented. Aye 6, Nay 0, Absent 1. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of Agreement for 2009-10 Physical and Occupational Therapy Services

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Renk, to approve the 2009-10 contract with Hillman Pediatric Therapy, P.C. for physical and occupational therapy services. Aye 6, Nay 0, Absent 1. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of Recommended Northview and Washington Equipment Proposal

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Sheppard, to approve the Northview and Washington playground equipment at a cost not to exceed \$103,708.27, which is the amount presented in the proposal, with the decision of the installation of the wood chips to be determined. ROLL CALL: Pillai, Sheppard, Lamboley, Renk, Leonatti, and Gustat voted Aye. No Nays. Absent: Kampwerth. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of Recommended Parkside Physical Fitness Equipment Proposal

Action on approval of Parkside physical fitness equipment was tabled until Mr. Cross has checked references on the two vendors that submitted proposals.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Motion by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Lamboley, to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:33 p.m. to discuss information regarding the appointment, employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel; to discuss the potential purchase, sale, or lease of real estate, including establishment of price for sale or lease of real estate; and to discuss information related to employee salaries benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining. ROLL CALL: Gustat, Lamboley, Pillai, Sheppard, Renk, and Leonatti voted Aye. No Nays. Absent: Kampwerth. **The motion carried 6-0.**

The meeting returned to Open Session at 7:26 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Employment of Recommended Personnel

MOTION: Moved by Lamboley, seconded by Member Renk, to approve the employment of Mary Covert as a gifted education teacher for Washington and Parkside Schools for the 2009-10 school term. Aye 6, Nay 0, Absent 1. **The motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Lamboley, to approve the employment of Jeanine Kellen as technology teacher for Parkside School for the 2009-10 school term. Aye 6, Nay 0, Absent 1. **The motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve the employment of Jennifer McCollum as a Title I/Reading Recovery Teacher for Washington and Northview Schools for the 2009-10 School Term. Aye 6, Nay 0, Absent 1. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Sheppard, to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Aye: 6, Nay 0, Absent 1. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Jyll Leonatti, Board President

Julie Brown, Board Secretary