

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
JANUARY 20, 2016, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of January 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 Jim Renk, on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Members Rob Ankiewicz, Cynthia Gustat, Simon Kampwerth, C.G. Pillai, Jeff Sheppard, Vice President Mark Lamboley, and President Jim Renk.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Board Secretary Kim Vezzetti, Lori Madden, Sara McDonald, Melissa Bosnich, Eric Heagy, and Ben Hohenstatt.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Gustat, to approve the meeting agenda of January 20, 2016. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Pillai, Gustat, Kampwerth, Sheppard, Lamboley, Renk, and Ankiewicz. **NAYS:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no public comments, correspondence or announcements this month.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- December 16, 2015 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- January 14, 2016 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
- Financial Report
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills

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

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Quarterly Treasurer's Report

District Treasurer Eric Heagy reported for the end of the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2016. The district's cash management and money market funds with Peru Federal Savings hold roughly \$623,000 with a weighted average return of .13 percent. The brokered accounts at Vezzetti Capital Management are \$5.9 million with a net yield of .31 percent. The district's total cash and investments at the end of the fourth quarter are approximately \$6.5 million dollars with a weighted average return of .29 percent. Mr. Heagy said the district will likely continue to see some minor returns but nothing significant so long as rates remain at these levels.

Principals' Reports

Northview School

Mrs. McDonald reported:

- Problem Solving teams are meeting with parents of at risk students who are not making progress academically, socially, behaviorally or emotionally. The team puts a plan together which includes giving parents suggestions on how to help the student at home. The team meets again 6-8 weeks later to see how much progress has been made.

Parkside School

Ms. Madden reported:

- January is a busy month for assessments, as AIMSweb, MAP and ACCESS tests will all be administered. Ms. Madden said the ACCESS test is particularly difficult and that all eighth grade students are required to take an English Proficiency test also prior to entering high school.

Curriculum Director's Report

Mrs. Bosnich reported:

- Mrs. Bosnich and Ms. Madden met with teachers who will be administering the ACCESS test which is now online. The training will be on how to administer the test to students. The main goal is to make staff and students feel comfortable while administering and taking the test.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross reported:

- The IASB Spring Division meeting will be held on March 10, 2016 at Senica's Oak Ridge. The featured speaker is Ralph Martire whose presentation will be "The Future of Illinois and State Funding".
- The demolition of Washington School is moving quickly. Mr. Cross said the building will most likely be completely down by the end of January. The bulk of the remaining work will be the extensive clean up on the site.
- Some final items with the HVAC system at Northview are being addressed and resolved.
- The Peru Education Foundation will host the third annual Trivia Night at Celebrations in LaSalle on Saturday, March 12. The Board would like to sponsor a table and round at the event.

Presentation of Proposed 2016-17 School Calendar

Mr. Cross presented the proposed 2016-17 school calendar. Highlights include having all three Parent/Teacher Conferences in November and the extension of winter break to include the first full week of January. Although the district saw a lower than average attendance rate by remaining in session on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, after some discussion the consensus was to stay in session on that day next year as well due to the longer holiday break. Mr. Cross said the district worked closely with LaSalle-Peru Township High School and other local districts to develop the proposed 2016-17 calendar.

Presentation and Discussion Regarding Proposal for Students to Earn Algebra Credit at LaSalle-Peru Township High School

Area elementary school districts have been meeting with the administration and math department of LaSalle-Peru Township High School to discuss how students can earn high school credit for taking algebra in eighth grade. Currently, there are 28 eighth grade students at Parkside taking algebra. Students must earn at least 70 percent on both the coursework and the final test to pass the class. Ms. Madden explained that only about five of the students who pass the class will be eligible to take Geometry I their freshman year, per the high school requirements. The rest of the students who pass the class will likely be put into Honors Algebra. There was some discussion regarding the different passing standards at the grade school and high school level, as well as the question for need for parents to pay a fee if we are

teaching the class at Parkside. Mr. Cross and Ms. Madden will continue to communicate and work with the high school and will develop a recommendation possibly as soon as the February Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Certified Seniority List for 2015-16

MOTION: Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the 2015-16 Certified Staff Seniority List as presented. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Non-Certified Staff Seniority List for 2015-16

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the 2015-16 Non-Certified Staff Seniority List as presented. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Date and Time for the 2016 8th Grade Graduation

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve Thursday, May 26, at 7:00 p.m. at Parkside School as the date, time, and location for the 2016 8th Grade Graduation. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of the 2015 Annual Disclosure Report for the Series 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2015A Bonds for Peru Elementary School District 124

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Vice President Lamboley, to approve the 2015 Annual Disclosure Report for the Series 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2015A Bonds for Peru Elementary School District 124. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Adoption of Resolution Providing for the Abatement of Certain Taxes Levied for the Payment of the Principal of and Interest on General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2009, and General Obligation Bonds Series 2015 and General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2015A of Peru Elementary School District Number 124

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Lamboley, seconded by Member Pillai, to adopt a resolution providing for the abatement of certain taxes levied for the payment of the principal of and interest on General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2009, General Obligation Bonds Series 2015 and General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2015A of Peru Elementary School District Number 124. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Lamboley, Pillai, Sheppard, Renk, Ankiewicz, Gustat, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:19 p.m. for the discussion of information regarding the appointment, employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel; for discussion of information related to employee salaries, benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining; and for the review and release of Executive Session Minutes held on the following dates, with exceptions as noted in minutes in which the need for confidentiality remains: September 16, 2015; September 30, 2015. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Pillai, Sheppard, Lamboley, Renk, Ankiewicz, and Gustat. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Member Pillai left the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

The meeting returned to Open Session at 8:40 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Authorization of Destruction of Verbatim Audio Records from Executive Sessions Held Prior to July 1, 2014 per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120

MOTION: Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Vice President Lamboley, to authorize destruction of verbatim audio records from Executive Sessions held prior to July 1, 2014 per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Consideration of Approval to Release Executive Session Minutes

MOTIO: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Sheppard, to review and release the Executive Session Minutes of meetings held on the following dates, with exceptions as noted in minutes in which the need for confidentiality remains: September 16, 2015 and September 30, 2015. AYE: 7, Nay: 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Jim Renk, Board President

Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary