

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
OCTOBER 21, 2015, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of October 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, October 21, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

President Renk administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Board Member, Mr. Rob Ankiewicz.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Members Rob Ankiewicz, Simon Kampwerth, C.G. Pillai, and President Jim Renk.

ABSENT: Members Cindy Gustat, Mark Lamboley, and Jeff Sheppard.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Board Secretary Kim Vezzetti, Melissa Bosnich, Lori Madden, Sara McDonald, Eric Heagy, Dave Wilcoxson, Garret Beamer, Dawn Beamer, Ronda Iossi, Kelli Funfsinn, Melissa Cassidy, Katie Budnik, Steve Wasmer, Heather Smigel, Chris Bjork, Wes Miller, and Ben Hohenstatt.

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to approve the meeting agenda of October 21, 2015. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Pillai, Renk, and Ankiewicz.

ABSENT: Gustat, Lamboley, and Sheppard. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Cross acknowledged that Garrett Beamer, a fourth grade student at Northview School is attending tonight's meeting because he is interested in observing what take place at school board meetings. Garrett is accompanied at the meeting by his mother, Dawn Beamer.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF

Mr. Cross reported that there are four new faculty members for the 2015-16 school term, along with one support staff member. Those present for recognition included Melissa Cassidy, Steve Wasmer, Ronda Iossi and Chris Bjork. Each of them were given introductions by their principal and mentor. New staff members briefly shared their background information with the Board. New food service employee, Karen Leonard was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- September 16, 2015 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- September 16, 2015 Board of Education Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- September 30, 2015 Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- September 30, 2015 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

- Financial Reports
- Treasurer’s Report
- District Bills

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Pillai, Kampwerth, Renk, and Ankiewicz. ABSENT: Gustat, Lamboley, and Sheppard. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Quarterly Treasurer’s Report

Eric Heagy, the district’s school treasurer presented the quarterly treasurer’s report ending September 30, 2015. The district’s cash management and money market funds hold \$1.9 million with an average weighted yield of 26 basis points. The brokered accounts under management are a total of \$8.3 million with a net yield of .23 basis points.

Presentation of Fiscal Year 2015 District Financial Statements, Independent Audit and Annual Financial Report and Shared Services and Outsourcing Report

Dave Wilcoxson presented the Fiscal Year 2015 Audit Report for Peru Elementary School District 124. He provided an overview of the Financial Statements and Independent Certified Public Accountants’ Reports as prepared by Wilcoxson & Associates, Ltd. Mr. Wilcoxson reviewed revenues, expenditures and fund balances for fiscal year 2015 and reported that all of the numbers are the same as reported by the district at the end of June 30, 2015. He reviewed the estimated 2016 Financial Profile Summary which is the State report card for the district. The district remains designated as “Review”. Cash on hand is 152 days while the previous year’s cash on hand was 195 days. The district once again had a clean audit with no findings or errors.

Vice President Lamboley joined the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Official Fall 2015-16 Enrollment Report

Mr. Cross reported the official Fall Housing enrollment is 931 students, including 846 in kindergarten through 8th grade and 85 preschoolers. He noted that enrollment at each grade level is unique and different. Students who attend a full-day preschool at another school may continue on to kindergarten at that school, but Mr. Cross believes there is a trend for students to move over to Parkside by the time they reach middle school age. This may account for the trend of grade level growth by the time the class graduates from Parkside.

Principals’ Reports

Northview School

Mrs. McDonald reported:

- Open House had a 58% attendance rate. Mrs. McDonald believes this is a good number considering the Grand Opening was held at the beginning of September and the kindergarten parents have the opportunity to visit the classroom and teachers when they drop off supplies at the beginning of the school year.
- An Active Shooter Drill was held with the Peru Police Department at both Parkside and Northview. The drills were held on two different Fridays after early student dismissal. Staff met after the drill for a debriefing to review the procedures.

Parkside School

Ms. Madden reported:

- A \$100 check was received from a drawing held by the LaSalle County Retired Teachers Association. The money will be spent on books for the Learning Resource Center at Parkside.

Curriculum and Assessment Director's Report

Mrs. Bosnich reported:

- Although cursive writing is not a part of the Illinois State Standards or Core Curriculum, Mrs. Bosnich explained that student in grades K-4 are being exposed to it. The focus is on exposing and knowing, and learning the skills to write legibly.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross reported:

- Mrs. McDonald was formally recognized by her peers as Principal of the Year at the Illinois Principals Association Conference this past Monday. She was presented the award by State Superintendent Tony Smith.
- Veterans Day programs will be held at both Northview and Parkside Schools on November 11. A final program will also be held at Washington Park by local Veterans groups.
- Mr. Cross explained that seven of our district students attend the Circuit Breaker School which has been housed at the former Roosevelt School for the past six years. Tuition for the program is \$16,625 per year per student. He noted that while some students are not there the entire year, this is the most students we have had in the program at one time. He wanted to share the information about the cost as it relates to budget changes.

Update on Northview Construction Completion and Washington Demolition

Mr. Cross reported the asbestos abatement at Washington is on schedule. He showed pictures of the plaster removal in the gymnasium and the cafeteria floor.

At Northview, items which remain on the punch list include reapplying adhesive on the floor in the music room and some painting throughout the building. Mr. Cross reported that inside the building remote doors and the sound system are both working well. Outside, there are covers on the large drains in the retention pond and students are now able to play on the sod. The district will be buying new volleyball sleeves and net systems at Parkside and bringing the existing equipment over to Northview.

Update and Discussion Regarding Board Development and Strategic Planning

Mr. Cross shared Board Development opportunities and trainings offered by the Illinois Association of School Boards. The Board's most current Strategic Plan is expired and he is seeking input for future plans. The Board would like to take the next month to consider their options.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of the Fiscal Year 2015 District Financial Statements, Independent Audit and Annual Financial Report and Shared Services and Outsourcing Report

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Lamboley, seconded by Member Pillai, to appoint approve Fiscal Year 2015 District Financial Statements, Independent Audit and Annual Financial Report and Shared Services and Outsourcing Report. AYE 4, NAY 0. **The motion carried 4-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Pillai, to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Aye 4, Nay 0. **The motion carried 4-0.**

Jim Renk, Board President

Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary