

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
OCTOBER 23, 2019, 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 Conference Room at Parkside School, 1800 Church Street, Peru, IL, by Board President Mark Lambole, on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Members Rob Ankiewicz, Josanne Bruins, Simon Kampwerth, C.G. Pillai, Austin Taylor, and President Mark Lambole.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Kim Vezzetti, Sara McDonald, Brandi Anderson Maier, Eric Heagy, and Dinelle Freschi.

ABSENT: Vice President Patti Leynaud.

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the meeting agenda of October 23, 2019. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Kampwerth, Ankiewicz, Pillai, Taylor, Lambole, and Bruins. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Leynaud. **The motion carried 6-0.**

RECOGNITION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION, FACULTY AND STAFF

Mr. Cross was pleased to share the Illinois Association of School Boards member training and recognition. Mr. Cross reported that Members Bruins and Leynaud have reached LeaderShop Member I status, Member Ankiewicz has reached LeaderShop Member status and Members Kampwerth, Pillai, and Lambole have maintained Master Board Member Status. Simon Kampwerth also serves on the IASB Board of Directors, representing the Starved Rock Region and is soon to become Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Association of School Boards. Mr. Cross and Member Kampwerth commended the entire Board for their on-going dedication and commitment to their positions and to their involvement with the Illinois Association of School Boards.

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Cross introduced fifth grade teacher, Dinelle Freschi, who is attending this evening's meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the following items in the Consent Agenda:

- September 18, 2019 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Taylor, Lamboley, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, and Pillai. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leynaud. **The motion carried 6-0.**

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Quarterly Treasurer's Report

District Treasurer Eric Heagy presented the quarterly report. He reported the weighted average rate of return on all deposit accounts yields of 0.53 percent. The roughly \$6.9 million in brokered accounts with Vezzetti Capital Management have a net return of 0.53 percent year to date, while the roughly \$2.3 million in the cash management accounts with Peru Federal Savings Bank have a rate of return of 0.54 percent. The total investment concentration in both accounts is roughly \$9.3 million dollars at the end of the first quarter of FY20.

Administrative Reports

Northview School

Mrs. McDonald reported:

- Kindergarten through second grade teachers participated in a five hour professional development program on Institute Day. "Math for All" was presented by teachers Abby Kotecki, Tara Backes and Cindy Vaske who were trained this summer along with Mrs. McDonald and Mrs. Anderson Maier. Staff were trained on the program which is designed to enhance teachers' preparation to teach high-quality mathematics to students with different strengths and needs, including those with disabilities. Mrs. McDonald commended the presenters on an excellent job of training.
- There are two student teachers working at Northview School this fall. Emily Schaumberg is student teaching with music teacher Chris Kelsey and Sam Gondolfi, former teacher aide, is with third grade teacher Cinnamon Bosnich. In addition, there are pre-student teachers in the building.

Parkside School

Mrs. Anderson Maier reported:

- The Building Leadership Team met recently to discuss school improvement goals. The team will be focusing on Response to Intervention and options for intervention scheduling at the middle school level.
- The annual Veterans Day Program will be held on Monday, November 11, at 2:15 p.m. Mrs. Verucchi and Mr. Whaley have been preparing band and choral students for the event. Students will also present poems and speeches to honor our veterans. As always, the public is encouraged to attend the program.
- Mrs. Verucchi will be showcasing Parkside School student talent this Thursday, October 24, at 7:00 p.m. Talents range from comedy, singing, speed painting and much more.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross reported:

- Mr. Cross updated the Board on the three work items as a result of the 10-year health life safety survey at Parkside School. He said the cost of these items is minimal and believes the work should be completed before school opens in the fall of 2020. In addition, the district will have its annual Health Life Safety visit from the Regional Office of Education on October 29 at both Northview and Parkside Schools.
- The new PTC Fundraiser, Step It Up! brought a profit of \$35,000 from its online donation system. A "Day of Awesomeness" for all students will be provided by the PTC on Thursday, October 24, at Northview School to celebrate the fundraising success and reward the students.
- After meeting with Sean Baron and Sherri Pannier, Mr. Cross would like to utilize the services of Derek Benning on an as needed basis to assist Mr. Baron with some routine technology issues.

Mr. Benning has assisted Mr. Baron with wiring for the district's new camera system. Mr. Cross originally had discussed with the Board the idea of hiring part-time for this position, however, they agree the as needed position will work best for Mr. Baron's additional technology assistance needs and that Mr. Benning is the right fit for the position for now. Mr. Cross will keep the Board updated on how this is working.

2019-20 Fall Enrollment Report

Mr. Cross presented the official fall enrollment report as of October 1, 2019 as 963 students. The largest class sizes are in first and seventh grades. He reminded the Board that Mrs. Urbanc looped from kindergarten to first grade this year in anticipation of the class size remaining large. Mr. Cross feels the district enrollment trend has crept back up in the past few years and is now remaining steady.

Report Regarding Tentative 2019 Tax Levy

Mr. Cross presented a report regarding the tentative 2019 tax levy. Preliminary information he has received from the County Assessor's office shows a little over a 3 percent increase in taxable assessed valuation from last year. He said that overall this is good news, but he will need more information from the assessor's office. He will arrange to meet with the Finance Committee in early November in preparation for the tentative tax levy presented at the regular November Board meeting. The final tax levy for Board approval will be presented at the December meeting.

Presentation of New District Strategic Dashboard

Mr. Cross was excited to share the new Peru Elementary School District 124 Strategic Dashboard. There is a link on the district homepage which includes data under the Indicators tab with the categories of District Characteristics and Culture, Student Growth and Success, District Achievements and Recognition, and Business, Finance and Operations. The Strategy tab includes information from the district's Strategic Plan. In the future, specific documents will be provided under the items within those categories. Mr. Cross explained that this tool was no cost to the district and will be a continuous work in progress as it develops. His goal is to provide this as the Board's tool for monitoring progress toward district goals.

ACTION ITEMS

Adoption of Resolution Regarding Implementation of District Employee 403(b) Plan

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adopt a resolution regarding implementation of district employee 403(b) plan. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Pillai, Kampwerth, Taylor, Lamboley, Ankiewicz, and Bruins. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leynaud. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of Recommended Updates to Job Descriptions and Evaluation Plans

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the recommended updates to job descriptions and evaluation plans. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Taylor, Lamboley, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, and Pillai. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leynaud. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of Recommended Contract Extension for Snow Removal Services

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the recommended contract extension for snow removal services. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Pillai, Taylor, Lamboley, and Bruins. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Leynaud. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of Request for Retirement

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve a request for retirement from Debra Erlenborn effective January 6, 2020. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Mark Lamboley, Board President

Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary