

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
NOVEMBER 19, 2019, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of November 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, Illinois, by Board Vice President Patti Leynaud, on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President Leynaud led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Members Josanne Bruins, Simon Kampwerth, C.G. Pillai, Austin Taylor, and Vice President Patti Leynaud.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Kim Vezzetti, Brandi Anderson Maier, Sara McDonald, Walt Zukowski, Abby Holman, Carol Happ, Cinnamon Bosnich, and Lisa Goddard.

ABSENT: Member Rob Ankiewicz and President Mark Lamboley.

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the meeting agenda of November 19, 2019. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Bruins, Kampwerth, Pillai, Taylor, and Leynaud. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Ankiewicz and Lamboley. **The motion carried 5-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

School district attorney Walt Zukowski was in attendance to give a brief overview of some recent law changes and their impact on Illinois public schools. After answering a few questions, Mr. Zukowski thanked the Board of Education for their continued relationship with his law firm.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- October 23, 2019 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- November 15, 2019 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Taylor, Leynaud, Bruins, and Pillai. **NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Ankiewicz and Lamboley. **The motion carried 5-0.**

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Administrative Reports

Northview School

Mrs. McDonald reported:

- Parent-Teacher conferences will be held Wednesday, November 20, Thursday, November 21 and Monday, November 25. There have been 1,236 parent-teacher conferences scheduled through PTCFast.com, the district's on-line scheduling site for parents. This is the fourth year the district has used PTCFast.com and it has proven to be very successful.
- Over 100 veterans were present for the district's annual Veterans Day Program at Northview School. Mrs. McDonald commended music teacher Chris Kelsey and her student teacher Emily Schaumberg for their hard work. In addition, 48 Hero boxes were mailed off to an Army Medical Unit in the Persian Gulf thanks to the leadership of kindergarten teacher Chris Goodman.
- Superintendent Mark Cross and Board member Rob Ankiewicz delivered dictionaries to third grade students on behalf of the Peru Rotary Club. Member Kampwerth, who is in charge of the dictionary drive, stated that there have been 5,482 dictionaries delivered to 13 area schools in the past 12 years.

Parkside School

Mrs. Anderson Maier reported:

- Parkside School will host the annual winter concerts on Monday, December 9. The fifth and sixth grade band and choir students will be performing at 6:15 p.m. and seventh and eighth grade students will perform at 7:30 p.m.
- Parkside School was very well represented at the ILMEA Festival held on Saturday, November 9, 2019, at Augustana College. Congratulations to those students who qualified as well as Mrs. Verucchi and Mr. Whaley for preparing our students for the event.
- American Education Week is being celebrated the week of November 18. The staff is very appreciative to the Board of Education, PTC, and Student Council for providing treats to staff during the week.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross reported:

- This week celebrates American Education Week as well as Illinois School Board Members Day. Mr. Cross thanked the Board of Education for their ongoing support and service to the students, our dedicated faculty and staff, and community of Peru Elementary.
- Mr. Cross reported that he was able to secure Dr. Rich Voltz and Dr. Don White for the Evidence Based Leadership administrator academy workshop for decision making with district data and effect. After sharing the information with Starved Rock Region districts, 43 area superintendents and administrators will be attending the workshop at the LEASE office on December 5.
- Mr. Cross, leadership team members, and Illinois Central School Bus have been discussing the possible implementation of one hour late school starts for questionable morning weather. All staff and student schedules would run exactly one hour late and dismissal times would remain the same. It would still count as a full day of school and the team feels this would be less disruptive to student learning than taking a full day off and making that up at the end of the year.

Presentation of the Tentative 2019 Tax Levy

Mr. Cross presented the Tentative 2019 Tax Levy which he previously presented and discussed with the Finance Committee at its November 15, 2019 meeting. The tentative 2019 tax levy is based on a net assessed valuation of \$191,500,000 and an estimated overall tax rate of \$3.23 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Mr. Cross noted that the net assessed taxable valuation grew about four percent this year. He stated that there could be adjustments necessary for the final tax levy, but that it would not be necessary to hold a Truth-in-Taxation hearing since the final levy will be under the 105 percent threshold which requires a hearing.

Review of District Risk Management Program

Mr. Cross reviewed the district's Risk Management Program, which was included in the Board packet for their review. The program allows for certain expenditures and prorated salary allocations to be payable with Tort Immunity funds. Mr. Cross itemized allowable expenditures for the Board's approval later in the meeting, and stated that the district only levies a fraction of what it could for this purpose, and is very conservative with the use of these funds.

Member Ankiewicz joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Presentation of the 2019 Illinois Report Card

The administrators reviewed key data from the 2019 Illinois School Report Card. This included changes over time in demographics of the student population, as well as a review of the district's IAR scores, formerly known as PARCC. Mr. Cross pointed out a discrepancy in the low income population as reported by ISBE, which ISBE said could not be changed. Superintendent Cross and the administration team answered several questions from the Board regarding math scores and discussed the direction the district will be taking moving forward to improve on those scores.

Strategic Plan Performance Monitoring and Implementation Report (Focus – Goal 2)

Mr. Cross briefly reviewed the Dashboard Goal 2 strategies as they pertain to the discussion of the school report card and test scores. His intent is to give a brief update monthly on the Dashboard goals at regular Board of Education meetings, or via email as needed.

Presentation of Recommended Additions, Deletions and Modifications of Board of Education Policy

Numbers: 2:20; 2:70; 2:100; 2:105; 2:110; 2:200; 2:220; 2:260; 4:15; 4:30; 4:60; 4:80; 4:150; 5:10; 5:20; 5:30; 5:50; 5:90; 5:100; 5:120; 5:200; 5:220; 5:250; 5:290; 5:330; 6:20; 6:60; 7:20; 7:150; 7:180; 7:270; 8:30

Mr. Cross reported that this was the largest policy revision packet that IASB has distributed to date. He invited policy committee members to notify him know if they wish to meet prior to final approval of the revisions at the regular December Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of the Tentative 2019 Tax Levy

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the tentative 2019 Tax Levy as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Ankiewicz, Bruins, Pillai, Taylor, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Lamboley. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the District Risk Management Program

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the District Risk Management Program. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Pillai, Taylor, Leynaud, Ankiewicz, Bruins, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Lamboley. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of 2020-21 Contract Extension with Illinois Central School Bus

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the 2020-21 contract extension with Illinois Central School Bus. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Taylor, Leynaud, Bruins, Kampwerth, and Pillai. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Lamboley. **The motion carried 6-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. for the discussion of information regarding the employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel; and for the discussion of information related to employee salaries, benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining. ROLL CALL, VOTING

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

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Taylor, to return to Regular Session at 8:36 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Taylor, Leynaud, Ankiewicz, Bruins, and Pillai. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Lamboley. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Employment of Recommended Personnel

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to employ Abby Schenck as 8th grade language arts teacher at Parkside School. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins, to employ Kyle Kiesewetter as a custodian at Parkside School. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Employment of Extracurricular Staff

MOTION: Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the extracurricular staff as presented. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of Recommended Job Descriptions

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

Approval of the Updated 2019-20 Substitute Pay Schedule

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the 2019-20 substitute pay schedule. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Taylor, Leynaud, Bruins, Kampwerth, and Pillai. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Lamboley. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Mark Lamboley, Board President

Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary