

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
DECEMBER 16, 2015, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of December 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, December 16, 2015, 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, Melissa Bosnich, Sara McDonald, Lori Madden, and Ben Hohenstatt.

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the meeting agenda of December 16, 2015. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Pillai, Kampwerth, Sheppard, Lamboley, Renk, Ankiewicz, and Gustat. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you notes were received from several staff members for the recent luncheon provided by the Board of Education in recognition of American Education Week.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- November 17, 2015 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills

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

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Presentation of the Recommended 2015 Tax Levy

Mr. Cross presented the final 2015 Tax Levy which is unchanged from the presentation of the November 17, 2015 tentative levy. The overall tax base is estimated to have increased slightly after dropping 13 percent over the six previous years. The final 2015 tax levy is based on a net assessed valuation of \$168,000,000 and an estimated overall increase in the tax rate of three cents. Mr. Cross noted again that there is no net increase in construction-related taxes after the completion of the two building projects.

Reports and Information from the 2015 Joint Annual Conference

Board members discussed the recent Chicago Schools Tour they participated in at the 2015 Joint Annual Conference. The group enjoyed a tour of the Chavez Multicultural Language Academy. The school is located in a poor, crime infested community comprised of a mostly Hispanic population. The Board members were impressed with how well the students perform academically. The elementary students are primarily bilingual and aspire to attend prominent high schools in the Chicago area. Mr. Cross reviewed a couple of other topics of interest from the convention.

Principals' Reports

Northview School

Mrs. McDonald reported:

- Although the new gym at Northview does not have a stage, the annual winter concert went very well with risers on the gym floor. The seating worked out very well with each performance, although some adjustments will be made for next year. Mrs. McDonald commended Mrs. Kelsey with this year's program which include more singing.

Parkside School

Ms. Madden reported:

- Singing Raiders and Jazz Band members enjoyed their annual area Christmas Tour which included a stop at Northview School.
- For the third year, choral students and staff traveled to Chicago for a performance of The Lion King at the Cadillac Palace Theater. The group also visited Millennium Park and enjoyed lunch downtown at The Rain Forest Café.

Curriculum Director's Report

Mrs. Bosnich reported:

- Mrs. Bosnich discussed some changes on the PARCC Assessment for this year including the amount of time for test administration and the number of units per subject area. Teachers will utilize the toolkit to prepare the students for the test. The test will be administered between March 7 and April 26 which complies with the required 30 day window of consecutive school days. Mrs. Bosnich believes that scores will be more justified after two to three years of testing as students become more familiar with the test.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross reported:

- Mr. Cross shared the Illinois School Report Card. He also shared a link to an article regarding how local students and school personnel view the testing.
- The Teacher Evaluation Committee continues to meet to develop the 30 percent student growth model which will be implemented by the start of the 2016-17 school year. This will be presented to staff on the district institute day on January 4.
- The district had a recent Health/Life Safety and Risk Management visit from the Regional Office of Education. The district received nearly perfect reports.
- Mr. Cross reported the district has not received any of the mandated categorical payments outside of general state aid this fiscal year.

Update and Discussion Regarding Long-Term Strategic Planning

The Board will have further discussion regarding Long-Term Strategic Planning at a future Board meeting.

Update and Discussion Regarding Final Washington School Demolition Plans

There will be a pre-demolition meeting on January 5. Washington School demolition will begin soon after and the contract calls for 75 days for completion. Mr. Cross continues to have utilities disconnected and is working on the permit. The old boiler is in the process of being removed.

At Northview, the volleyball standards have been installed and are working great. There will be an HVAC meeting this Friday to discuss resolutions for current issues with the system. Mr. Cross was approached by the City of Peru Police Department about having two concrete pads poured for the crossing guards' cars. He reminded the Board that prior to the parking lot renovation there was a concrete pad which served this purpose. Finally, Mr. Cross reported the total cost of window shades and installation will be between \$23,000 and \$24,000. The Board would like Mr. Cross to get one more bid for the shades.

Final Presentation of Recommended Board of Education Policy Changes and Opportunity for Public Input

Mr. Cross presented the final recommended Board of Education Policy changes for policy numbers: 2:150, 2:200, 4:170, 5:90, 5:100, 6:15, 6:60, 6:160, 6:270, 6:280, 7:50, 7:100, 7:130, 7:140, 7:300, 7:305, 7:340, and 8:30. There was some discussion regarding policy 7:305, Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries. Mr. Cross will discuss this policy with the administrative team, Athletic Director and coaches to clarify some of the wording in the policy before putting a committee together.

ACTION ITEMS

Adoption of Resolution for Approval of the 2015 Tax Levy

MOTION: Moved by Member Gustat, seconded by Vice President Lamboley, to adopt a resolution for approval of the 2015 Tax Levy. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Gustat, Lamboley, Renk, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Pillai, and Sheppard. **NAY:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Adoption of Recommended Board Policies as Presented for Policy Numbers: 2:150, 2:200, 4:170, 5:90, 5:100, 6:15, 6:60, 6:160, 6:270, 6:280, 7:50, 7:100, 7:130, 7:140, 7:300, 7:340, and 8:30

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adopt the recommended Board policies as presented for policy numbers: 2:150, 2:200, 4:170, 5:90, 5:100, 6:15, 6:60, 6:160, 6:270, 6:280, 7:50, 7:100, 7:130, 7:140, 7:300, 7:305, 7:340, and 8:30. **ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE:** Pillai, Kampwerth, Sheppard, Lamboley, Renk, Ankiewicz, and Gustat. **NAY:** None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Gustat, to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. **Aye 7, Nay 0. The motion carried 7-0.**

Jim Renk, Board President

Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary