

**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124**  
**OCTOBER 12, 2016, 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Peru Elementary School District 124, LaSalle County, Illinois, was called to order in the Library at Parkside School, 1800 Church Street, Peru, IL, by Board President Jim Renk, on Wednesday, October 12, 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, Simon Kampwerth, C.G. Pillai, Jeff Sheppard, Vice President Mark Lamboley and President Jim Renk. ABSENT: Cindy Gustat.

**APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the special meeting agenda of October 12, 2016. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Sheppard, Kampwerth, Pillai, Lamboley, Renk, and Ankiewicz. ABSENT: Gustat. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no public comments, correspondence, or announcements.

**BOARD STRATEGIC PLANNING WORK SESSION**

Mr. Cross opened the work session by asking the Board what they hoped to accomplish through the strategic planning process. As part of this discussion, the Board reviewed the previous two strategic plans for the district. Mr. Cross also shared the approach some other districts have used successfully. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Board would like to keep the plan relatively simple and focused, and would also like to get input from school district stakeholders to help guide the plan and process.

The Board discussed and identified some of the current strengths and weaknesses of the district, and agreed that surveying various stakeholders would be helpful in this process. This includes teachers, parents, perhaps community members and even students. It was also suggested and discussed that getting feedback from current high school students who attended Peru schools could be very helpful. The Board directed Mr. Cross to begin the process of developing some draft surveys for this purpose to review and discuss at a future meeting. It was also agreed that targeting current high school freshman and/or juniors would be helpful.

Mr. Cross also suggested that the Board consider gaining some of this feedback in the form of focus groups. As an example, he stated the community survey participation is usually very low, so it might be helpful to instead hold some meetings with a representative sample and simply have a back and forth discussion with these individuals to get input into the plan. Similarly, he said the administration was prepared to dedicate time with the teachers on the October 21 school improvement day for this purpose. Mr. Cross would facilitate this discussion with the staff and the Board agreed this could be a helpful to get feedback and help form the district's future direction.

The Board agreed to continue with more discussion related to strategic planning at the October 19, 2016 regular meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Moved by Vice President Lamboley, seconded by Member Sheppard, to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. Aye 6, Nay 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

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Jim Renk, Board President

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Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary