

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124**  
**DECEMBER 16, 2020, 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 person and via zoom in the gymnasium at Parkside School by Board President Mark Lambole, on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 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, Vice President Patti Leynaud, and President Mark Lambole.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Jamie Craven, Kim Vezzetti, Sara McDonald, Brandi Anderson Maier, Melissa Bosnich, and Katie Budnick.

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the meeting agenda of December 16, 2020. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Pillai, Taylor, Leynaud, and Lambole. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Several thank you notes were received from staff members for the HyVee gift card they received for American Education Week.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- November 17, 2020 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- November 17, 2020 Executive Session Minutes
- December 3, 2020 Special Board Meeting Minutes
- December 3, 2020 Executive Session Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Leynaud, Kampwerth, Pillai, Taylor, Lambole, Ankiewicz, and Bruins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**Presentation of the Recommended 2020 Tax Levy**

Mr. Craven reported that there are no changes to the recommended 2020 tax levy from the tentative tax levy presented in November. The 2020 tax levy is based on a net assessed valuation of \$195,566,751 and an estimated overall tax rate of \$3.23 per \$100 of assessed valuation. He explained

that because the aggregate levy is below 105 percent of the prior year's extension, there is no need for a public tax levy hearing.

### **Administrative Reports:**

#### **Northview School**

Mrs. McDonald reported:

- A family fun night was held virtually on December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> for preschool students. Approximately fifteen students were entertained by their teachers with singing and stories.
- Mrs. McDonald updated the Board on the preschool compliance audit. While there is no on-site visit this year, there are numerous components to be completed, uploaded and scanned to ISBE for the audit. The district's preschool parent coordinator, Jennifer Znaniecki has been assisting Mrs. McDonald through this process.

#### **Parkside School**

Mrs. Anderson Maier reported:

- Mrs. Anderson Maier reported that attendance check-in for remote students is going fairly well. A select group of students have been learning at school during the past two weeks. It was also reported that there is a definite increase in students struggling with engagement and homework completion.

### **Report on Student Data Testing Assessments**

Assistant Principal, Melissa Bosnich reported on student data testing assessments. She explained that it is difficult to pinpoint what impact the lack of learning last spring has had on students. In addition, the full-remote learners, comprised of 20% of the enrollment, were not tested at all this fall; therefore, it is difficult to know how they would have tested. Mr. Craven added that it is not certain if state-wide testing will be done this year.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Craven reported:

- The Peru Education Foundation awarded a grant to the Parkside Math department for four graphics tablets totaling \$196 at its December meeting. The committee has also officially cancelled the annual March trivia night. They will be hosting a virtual fundraiser on the district's website in lieu of trivia night.
- Mr. Craven reported that the district's transition committee will be meeting tomorrow afternoon. The group will reflect on the first half of the year and consider future return to learn plans. Parents will be emailed a survey regarding choices for a return to learn plan for the third trimester.
- There was much discussion regarding when to return to in-person blended learning after the holiday break. Ultimately, it was decided to stay with the original schedule of full remote learning one week after the holiday break, and returning to in-person blended learning beginning January 11, 2021.

### **Transportation Bid Package**

Mr. Craven shared the request for proposal for transportation bids which will be out for advertisement December 21. A pre-bid meeting will be held on December 29, followed by a bid

opening on February 2, 2021. The bids will be subject for consideration by the school board at the regular February Board meeting. There are 14 school boards included in the consortium. Mr. Craven explained that 85% of the consortium must have Board approval in order to proceed with the bid and no district will be allowed to bargain on their own with the bid winner. The remaining 15% of the districts would then be able to pursue other options.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### **Adoption of a Resolution for Approval of the 2020 Tax Levy**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Vice President Leynaud, to adopt a resolution for approval of the 2020 Tax Levy as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Leynaud, Lamboley, Ankiewicz, Bruins, Pillai, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

##### **Approval of Let Bids for Transportation of Students**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the proposed bid package for transportation of students. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Pillai, Taylor, Leynaud, and Lamboley. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

##### **Approval of Recommended Updates to Job Descriptions**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Vice President Leynaud, to approve the recommended updates to job descriptions as presented. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:14 p.m. for the discussion of information regarding the employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel; and discussion of information related to employee salaries, benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Pillai, Kampwerth, Taylor, Leynaud, Lamboley, Ankiewicz, and Bruins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

#### **RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to return to Regular Session at 7:29 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Taylor, Leynaud, Lamboley, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, and Pillai. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

#### **ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

##### **Approval of Resignation**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the resignation of Shannon Turczyn as a paraprofessional at Parkside School effective December 18, 2020. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

##### **Employment of Recommended Personnel**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Bruins, to approve the employment of Katie Lester as a paraprofessional at Parkside School for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Vice President Leynaud, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the employment of Gwen Hanford as a paraprofessional at Parkside School for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Bruins, to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

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Mark Lamboley, Board President

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Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary