

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
DECEMBER 18, 2019, 5:30 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 Learning Resource Center at Parkside School, 1800 Church Street, Peru, IL, by Board President Mark Lamboley, on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Lamboley 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 Lamboley.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Mark Cross, Kim Vezzetti, Brandi Anderson Maier, Sara McDonald, Rachel Pett, Dawn Ladzinski, Al Molby, Dawn Green, Glenn Schlichting, Thomas Madden, Cathie Pezanoski, and Matt Seaton.

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Vice President Leynaud, to approve the meeting agenda of December 18, 2019. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Leynaud, Lamboley, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Pillai, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Several thank you notes were received from district staff for the lunch the Board provided to the staff during American Education Week.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- November 19, 2019 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- November 19, 2019 Executive Session Minutes
- December 9, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
- December 9, 2019 Executive Session Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

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

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Presentations Regarding Prospective Executive Search Services

The Board heard presentations from three prospective firms regarding their services for the search of a new superintendent to replace Mark Cross, who is leaving the district after 15 years to serve as the next

superintendent at Cass School District 63 in DuPage County. Presenters included Al Molby from IASB, Dawn Green and Glenn Schlichting from BWP & Associates, and Thomas Madden, Cathie Pezanoski, and Matt Seaton from School Exec Connect. Each group reviewed processes and timelines for the selection of candidates. The Board asked several questions during and after the presentations and thanked all of the members of the firms for their presentations.

Presentation of the Recommended 2019 Tax Levy

Mr. Cross presented the 2019 Tax Levy which is slightly higher than the November 19, 2019 tentative levy due to an increase in monies from Peru TIF I, including HyVee, Buffalo Wild Wings and Pizza Hut, which was not counted in the tentative levy. The 2019 tax levy is based on a net assessed valuation of \$192,500,000 and an estimated overall tax rate of \$3.23 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Mr. Cross noted that with the TIF change, the net assessed taxable valuation grew about four percent this year.

Administrative Reports

Written reports were provided to the Board of Education by Principals McDonald and Anderson Maier this month.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross reported:

- Peru Elementary School district has been busy with our annual food drive with holiday baskets. Staff and students have been donating non-perishable items all month and HyVee has generously donated over \$2,000 worth of perishable items. A total of 52 families participated this year.
- Winter concerts were enjoyed throughout the district the week of December 9-13. Mr. Whaley, Mrs. Verucchi, Mrs. Kelsey and her student teacher Ms. Schaumberg did an excellent job of preparing students for the events. Mr. Cross added that this was the final year Mrs. Kelsey prepared students as she will be retiring at the conclusion of the school year.
- Mr. Cross reported that districts are once again able to apply for the School Maintenance Grant. The dollar for dollar state matching grant program can award up to \$50,000 to a school district. Mr. Cross reminded members that the district was awarded funds from this grant in the spring of 2012. Mr. Cross will be meeting with custodians and administrators to best determine the needs of the district in preparation of the grant whenever it rolls out.

Reports and Information from the 2019 Joint Annual Conference

Board members shared information from the 2019 Joint Annual Conference they attended this past November. Member Kampwerth thanked Mr. Cross and the Board for their support as he became the Vice President of the Illinois Association of School Boards. He also references a survey he has asked Board members to complete for feedback and direction for future conferences.

Final Presentation of Recommended Board of Education Policy Changes

Mr. Cross explained that the majority of the changes in the updated policies were minor, although a couple of the policies include the management of the medical use of cannabis related products if so prescribed by a physician. He recommends the Board approve the changes to the policies as presented.

ACTION ITEMS

Adoption of Resolution for Approval of the 2019 Tax Levy

MOTION: Moved by Member Pillai, seconded by Member Bruins, to adopt a resolution for approval of the 2019 Tax Levy as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Pillai, Bruins, Kampwerth, Taylor, Leynaud, Lamboley, and Ankiewicz. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Recommended Safety and Crisis Communication Application

Mr. Cross reviewed the benefits and uses for Crisis Go, a safety application for staff phones for emergency events. The Board and Mr. Cross agreed they would like some additional pricing information before approving the application. Therefore, this item is tabled until a later Board meeting date.

Adoption of Recommended Board Policies as Presented for 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

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adopt the recommended board policies as presented for 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. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Kampwerth, Pillai, Taylor, Leynaud, Lamboley, and Ankiewicz. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:46 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: Bruins, Kampwerth, Pillai, Taylor, Leynaud, Lamboley, and Ankiewicz. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to return to Regular Session at 9:55 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Pillai, Taylor, Leynaud, Lamboley, and Bruins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Resignations

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Vice President Leynaud, to accept the resignation of Mark Cross as superintendent of Peru Elementary School District 124 effective June 30, 2020. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Vice President Leynaud, to accept the resignation of Julie Jenkins as art teacher at Parkside School effective at the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Employment of Recommended Personnel

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the employment of Michele Meyer as special education teacher at Northview School for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Proposal for Executive Search Services

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Vice President Leynaud, to approve the proposal for executive search services as presented by the Illinois Association of School Boards. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Leynaud, Lamboley, Kampwerth, Pillai, and Taylor. NAYS: Bruins. **The motion carried 6-1.**

Approval of Recommended Updates to Job Descriptions and Evaluation Plans

This item is tabled until a future Board of Education meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Vice President Leynaud, to adjourn at 9:58 p.m.
AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Mark Lamboley, Board President

Kim Vezzetti, Board Secretary