

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124**  
**December 20, 2023, 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Truth in Taxation Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Year 2023 Levy for School Year 2024-2025, was called to order in the Learning Resource Center at Parkside School by Board President Patti Leynaud, on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Members Josanne Bruins, Alison Goode, Simon Kampwerth, Austin Taylor, Vice-President Rob Ankiewicz, and President Patti Leynaud.

**TRUTH IN TAXATION LEVY HEARING AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Moved by Simon Kampwerth, seconded by Josanne Bruins, to approve the Truth in Taxation Levy Hearing Agenda. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Bruins, Ankiewicz, Taylor, Goode, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**TRUTH IN TAXATION LEVY HEARING IN THE YEAR 2023 FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2024-2025**

**MOTION:** Moved by Josanne Bruins, seconded by Rob Ankiewicz, to enter the Truth in Taxation Levy Hearing in the year 2023 for school year 2024-2025 at 6:01 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Ankiewicz, Leynaud, Goode, Taylor, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There was no public comment, correspondence, and announcements at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Taylor, to exit the Truth in Taxation Levy Hearing at 6:03 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Taylor, Kampwerth, Bruins, Leynaud, and Goode. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

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Patti Leynaud, Board President

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Megan Baltikauski, Board Secretary

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124**  
**December 20, 2023, 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 Learning Resource Center at Parkside School by Board President Patti Leynaud, on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Members Josanne Bruins, Alison Goode, Simon Kampwerth, Austin Taylor, Vice-President Rob Ankiewicz and President PattiLeynaud..

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Jamie Craven, Megan Baltikauski and Brent Ziegler

**MOTION:** Moved by Rob Ankiewicz, seconded by Alison Goode, to approve the meeting agenda of December 20, 2023. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Goode, Leynaud, Kampwerth, Bruins, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There was no public comment, correspondence, or announcements at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- November 14, 2023 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- November 14, 2023 Executive Session Minutes
- November 29, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Goode, Bruins, Taylor, Leynaud, and Ankiewicz. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**IASB Joint Conference Updates**

The Board of Education shared their thoughts and experiences regarding the 2023 Joint Annual Conference. Collectively, the Board agreed that there was a variety of sessions with three great keynote speakers. Member Kampwerth stated that there were over 9,000 people in attendance for the 90<sup>th</sup> conference.

**Administrative Reports:**

**Northview School**

- Parent Teacher Conferences held a 93% attendance rate by parents.

- Northview Winter Concert sessions are scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Santa is coming to visit Northview on December 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Mid-term Progress Reports will be going out the Friday when we return from Winter Break.

### **Parkside School**

Mr. Ziegler reported:

- Student attendance is at 95.3% daily attendance. Parkside will continue to make parental contacts with excessive absences, as well as celebrate our positive attendance with monthly incentives.
- Parkside has joined the SEL HUB and is creating an action plan, with the assistance of the Regional Office of Education. The plan explores the needs of our students and staff, as determined by a committee working to provide the best support in our school community.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Craven reported:

- On Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Craven attended the Prairie State Insurance Cooperative (PSIC) full membership mid-year meeting. A few takeaways from the meeting are as follows: the co-op experienced a positive year regarding loss control, especially in the area of workers' compensation, cyber threats directed at school continue to be a focus and use of the company nurse and timing.
- The Peru Education Foundation meeting was held on December 6<sup>th</sup>. The total of approved grants was \$3,946.00. Trivia Night will be held on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Senica's Oak Ridge in LaSalle.
- On December 19<sup>th</sup>, the Building & Grounds Committee met to review with District Architect, Jacob Been the most current Northview Addition plan and consider other possible options.
- The Strategic Planning Retreat will be held on January 13, 2024 at Senica's Oak Ridge, to review and update the current district goals and strategies.
- The proposed tax levy was presented and discussed at the November 14, 2023 Regular Board Meeting. The Truth in Taxation Notice was legally published on Monday, December 11, 2023, and a Public Levy Hearing was held on December 20, 2023. If there are no further questions, the Levy is ready to be adopted as presented.
- The 2024-2025 School District Calendar was presented which reflects a start date of August 15, 2024, and an end date of May 22, 2025.
- The recommendation for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation is to be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parkside Middle School Gymnasium.
- Review and recommendation to approve the Issue 113 October PRESS updated policies was presented. For policy 7:160, the recommendation is not to add the suggested PRESS language, rather leave the policy as it is currently written.
- Johannes Bus Service, Inc., has agreed to a two-year extension for our contract with a proposal of an 8% increase in year 1 and a 7% increase in year 2.
- Thompson Electronics Company performs our annual fire alarm device inspections for both buildings. They are proposing a 3-year contract of \$1,500.00 annually. Our current contract with them is \$1,485.00.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Adoption of the Resolution for Approval of the 2023 Tax Levy**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Bruins, to approve the adoption of the resolution for the 2023 tax levy as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Bruins, Kampwerth, Taylor, Goode, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**Approval of the Recommended 2024-2025 School District Calendar**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Goode, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the recommended 2024-2025 School District Calendar as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Goode, Taylor, Leynaud, Ankiewicz, Bruins, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**Approval of the Date, Time and Location for the 2024 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Commencement Ceremonies**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Parkside Middle School Gymnasium to host the 2024 8<sup>th</sup> grade commencement ceremonies. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Ankiewicz, Bruins, Taylor, Goode, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**Approval of Issue 113 October 2023 PRESS Updated Policies**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Goode to approve the Issue 113 October Press Policies as presented with the exception of policy 7:160. For that policy, it is recommended to not add the suggested PRESS language, rather leave the policy as it is currently written. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Goode, Leynaud, Ankiewicz, Bruins, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**Approval of Two-Year Transportation Contract**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Bruins to approve a two-year extension of our contract with Johannes Bus Service, Inc., with a proposal of an 8% increase in year one and a 7% increase in year two. ROLL CALL VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Bruins, Kampwerth, Taylor, Goode, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**Approval of Annual Fire Inspection Three-Year Contract**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins to approve a three-year contract of \$1,500.00 annually with Thompson Electronics Company. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Bruins, Ankiewicz, Leynaud Goode, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:01 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: Bruins, Taylor, Goode, Kampwerth, Leynaud, and Ankiewicz. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to return to Regular Session at 7:14 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Ankiewicz, Bruins, Kampwerth, Leynaud, and Goode. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Approval of Employment Recommendations**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Goode, to approve the activity request from Melissa Olivero, parent to Andrew Olivero, to register Andrew as an individual bowler from Parkside for Sectionals and State this year. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Goode, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the recommendation to employCarolynn Freed as a paraprofessional at Northview Elementary for the 2023-2024 school year. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Bruins, to approve the recommendation to employ Kathy Sramek as a paraprofessional at Northview Elementary for the 2023-2024 school year. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the recommendation to employ Mandi Cofoid as a paraprofessional at Northview Elementary for the 2023-2024 school year. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Goode, to approve the recommendation to employ Rosio Serna as a paraprofessional at Northview Elementary for the 2023-2024 school year. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the recommendation to employ Madison Pearson as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Teacher at Parkside Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

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

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the resignation of Deborah Demattia as a food service employee at Parkside Middle School. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Goode, to approve the resignation of Tanya Knowles, media center clerk at Northview Elementary at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school term. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

#### **Approval of FMLA Request**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Goode, to approve the FMLA request from Holly Buczkowski effective November 20, 2023 with a tentative return date of January 29, 2024. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins, to adjourn at 7:17p.m. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

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Patti Leynaud, Board President

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Megan Baltikauski, Board Secretary