

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
July 16, 2025, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the month of July 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 Middle School by Board President Rob Ankiewicz, on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Members John Atkins, Justin Miller, Jessica Skolek, Austin Taylor, Vice President Simon Kampwerth, and President Rob Ankiewicz. ABSENT: Alison Goode.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Ryan Linnig, Megan Baltikauski and Eric Heagy.

MOTION: Moved by John Atkins, seconded by Jessica Skolek, to approve the regular meeting agenda of July 16, 2025, 2025. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Skolek, Kampwerth, Ankiewicz, Miller and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice President Kampwerth informed the Board that he attended a COSSBA School Safety Seminar, which focused on Threat Assessment recognition. He reported that the training was highly informative and provided valuable guidance on handling crisis situations. The seminar also offered a range of additional resources to support school safety initiatives.

Mr. Linnig provided an update on the approved FY25 Amended Budget. Following a call with Mr. Newkirk, it was confirmed that there were no additional actions required at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- June 25, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- June 25, 2025 Executive Session Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Monthly Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Kampwerth, Ankiewicz, Skolek, Atkins, and Miller. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

REPORTS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Quarterly Treasurer's Report

Eric Heagy presented the Board with an overview of the District's quarterly Treasurer's Report. He provided a summary of the cash management account and noted that the investment

portfolio is well-positioned to deliver a reasonable return. Overall, the District's funds are in good standing.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Linnig reported that the transition process is progressing well. New staff members will be welcomed at the August Board meeting. He also noted that asphalt repairs at Parkside were completed on July 15, 2025.

Additionally, Mr. Linnig provided the Board with a historical summary of federal grant allocations. He informed the Board that the Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) renewal for the upcoming year reflects a history of significant claims, which contributed to the decision to eliminate one of the more robust plans in order to reduce the renewal rate increase. The total renewal increase, with bundling the ancillary coverage will be 12%. There are no changes made to the Vision and Life rates.

An updated athletic trainer agreement was presented, which includes coverage for baseline testing of student-athletes. The costs associated with this testing will be the responsibility of the student-athletes' parents.

Mr. Linnig also presented an updated Employee Acceptable Use Policy, which includes revisions made collaboratively with Tony Carlson.

Strategic Plan Update

The Strategic Plan Progress Monitoring tracker has been updated with updates under Goal 1, Strategy 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3, Goal 2, Strategy 2.1, and goal 3, Strategy 4.1. Looking ahead, district goals may include implementing job shadowing opportunities for 8th grade students as part of a broader focus on career exploration and strengthening community partnerships.

First Reading of PRESS Issue 119 June 2025 Updated Policies

Policy updates are primarily the result of the 5-year review process and legal reference updates. Policy 4:180-AP3 is recommended for deletion as it pertains to grant flexibilities for payment of employee salaries during the pandemic and is no longer relevant. These policies will be presented for adoption in the August meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) Renewal for Peru ESD 124

MOTION: Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Skolek, to approve the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Skolek, Atkins, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, and Miller. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the 2025-26 Certified Athletic Trainer Agreement

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Kampwerth, seconded by Member Miller, to approve the 2025-26 Certified Athletic Trainer Agreement with City Center Rehabilitation and Peru ESD 124 as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Miller, Taylor, Skolek, Atkins, and Ankiewicz. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the Employee Acceptable Use Policy

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Vice President Kampwerth, to approve the updated Employee Acceptable Use Policy as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Kampwerth, Miller, Skolek, Ankiewicz, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Member Kampwerth to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. for the review and consideration of release of executive session minutes of meetings held on the following dates, with the exceptions as noted in minutes in which the need for confidentiality remains, for the discussion of information regarding the employment, performance, or dismissal of employees, discussion of litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed, and/or is probable or imminent. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Kampwerth, Miller, Skolek, Taylor, and Ankiewicz. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Member Miller, to return to Regular Session at 7:04 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Miller, Taylor, Skolek, Ankiewicz, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Authorization of Destruction of Verbatim Audio Records from Executive Sessions Held Prior to January 1, 2024, per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Kampwerth, seconded by Member Skolek, to approve the authorization of destruction of verbatim audio records. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Skolek, Atkins, Miller, Taylor, and Ankiewicz. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Consideration of Approval to Release Executive Session Minutes

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the recommendation to not release executive session minutes on the dates provided, as the need for confidentiality still remains. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Taylor, Kampwerth, Skolek, Ankiewicz, and Miller. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Employment Recommendations

MOTION: Moved by Member Miller, seconded by Member Atkins, to approve the recommendation to employ Laura Thurow as a Paraprofessional at Northview commencing the 2025-26 school term. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0**

MOTION: Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Vice President Kampwerth, to approve the recommendation to employ Alivia Resurreccion as an Autism Paraprofessional at Northview commencing the 2025-26 school term. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0**

Approval of the 2025-26 Substitute Pay Schedule

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Member Miller, to approve the 2025-26 substitute pay schedule as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Miller, Skolek, Kampwerth, Ankiewicz, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Vice President Kampwerth, seconded by Member Skolek, to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Rob Ankiewicz, Board President

Megan Baltikauski, Board Secretary