

January 9, 2023

#### OATH OF OFFICE

The Honorable Judge David Grund was present and administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Justice, Mr. Hoover and Mr. Beattie. Judge Grund congratulated the Board members and thanked the Board for asking him to administer the Oath of Office. The Board thanked Judge Grund as well.

The Board of Finance annual meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Mr. Mullett. Indiana law requires the Board of Finance to meet annually after the first Monday in January and on or before the last day of January. Mr. Wolfe was absent. Officers stayed the same. Dr. Quin nominated Dr. Rogers to be the president of the Board of Finance, unanimously approved. Dr. Rogers nominated Mr. Mullett to be secretary of the Board of Finance, unanimously approved. Mr. Durrwachter reviewed the finances, finance indicators, and investment report as required by IC 5-13-7-7 noting the changes. There are six indicators the state monitors. The first is the average daily membership (ADM).

Mr. Durrwachter reviewed the following with the Board:

- Average Daily Membership - Peru Community Schools had an enrollment of 2,044 in 2014-15 school year. Since that point, the ADM has declined 7 of the last 8 years, an average decline of 14 students per year.
- Fund Balances - As federal stimulus funds run out, our Op./Ed. Fund balance will begin to decrease.
- Annual Deficit/Surplus - Expenditures are still exceeding revenue. With an increase to state budget and federal grant funds, we have a surplus. As grants diminish, programming and operations will need to be evaluated going into future school years.
- Fund Balances and Percent of Expenditures - An 8.3% fund balance (1 month of expenditures) is considered a minimum for financial health. A 20% balance (slightly over 2 months of expenditures) is a desired target for most districts. Mr. Durrwachter stated that he believes that PCS balance of 38.7% is considered a sign of average financial health. PCS is taking steps through maximizing federal funds and operational efficiencies to maintain a safe balance while continuing to update facilities.
- Revenue by Type - Revenue for PCS from all sources is within the expected ranges, and PCS has no operating referendum revenue.
- Operating Referendum Revenue as Percent of Total Revenue - Peru Community Schools has not sought an operating referendum; therefore, this indicator does not apply to PCS.

Mr. Mullett moved to close the Board of Finance meeting, unanimously adjourned.

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:50 p.m. by Mr. Mullett.

Mr. Mullett led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present except Chris Wolfe. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Durrwachter, Mrs. Sheets, and Mr. Morris, Brian Bohlender - Barton-Coe-Vilamaa.

#### BOARD REORGANIZATION

Mr. Watkins chaired the election of Board President. He asked for nominations for the office of president. He then opened the floor for nominations. Dr. Rogers nominated Mr. Mullett. Mr. Quin nominated Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Watkins moved to close the nominations; nominations were closed. Votes were split Mr. Mullett 3-0, Mr. Wolfe 3-0. There were no additional nominations, so a second vote was taken. Results were Mr. Mullett 3-0, Mr. Wolfe 3-0. Mr. Watkins opened the floor for nominations. Ms. Justice nominated Dr. Quin. A third vote was taken. Results were 2-2-2 - Mr. Mullett 2, Mr. Wolfe 1, Mr. Quin 2. There were no additional nominations, so a fourth vote was taken. Results were 2-1-3 - Mr. Mullett 2, Mr. Wolfe 1, Dr. Quin 3.

There were no additional nominations, so another vote was taken, and it was 1-1-4. Dr. Quin was approved as Board President by a majority vote of 4.

#### Office of Vice President

Mr. Mullett nominated Mr. Rogers. Dr. Quin moved to close nominations; nominations were closed. Mr. Rogers was unanimously approved 6-0.

#### Office of Secretary

Dr. Rogers nominated Ms. Justice. Dr. Quin moved to close nominations; nominations were closed. Ms. Justice was unanimously approved 6-0.

#### Heartland Career Center Board Representative

Dr. Rogers nominated Mr. Wolfe. Dr. Quin moved to close nominations; nominations were closed. Mr. Wolfe was unanimously approved 6-0.

#### Athletic Board Representative (2)

Dr. Rogers nominated Mr. Beattie. Mr. Mullett nominated Dr. Rogers. Dr. Quin moved to close nominations; nominations were closed. Mr. Beattie and Dr. Rogers were unanimously approved 6-0.

#### Peru Park Board Representative

Ms. Justice nominated Mr. Hoover to continue. Dr. Quin moved to close nominations; nominations were closed. Mr. Hoover was unanimously approved 6-0.

#### Art Collection Advisory Board Representative

Dr. Rogers nominated Mr. Wolfe. Dr. Quin moved to close nominations; nominations were closed. Mr. Wolfe was unanimously approved 6-0.

#### ISBA Legislative Representative

Ms. Justice nominated Mr. Mullett. Dr. Quin moved to close nominations; nominations were closed. Mr. Mullett was unanimously approved 6-0.

#### Treasurer

Dr. Quin recommended Mr. Durrwachter continue as treasurer. Approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

#### Deputy Treasurer

Dr. Quin recommended Mrs. Smith as deputy treasurer. Approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

#### Committees

At a later date, the Board President and Mr. Watkins will discuss the appointment of standing committees.

#### Schedule of Board Meetings

The School Board will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month. There will be a few different Monday meeting dates due to holidays, vacations, etc. Dr. Rogers moved to approve the board schedule, seconded by Ms. Justice, unanimously approved 6-0.

#### Acceptance of Agenda

On motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Beattie, the Board unanimously approved the public agenda.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Dr. Rogers, the Board unanimously approved the memorandum of December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, with the following changes.

\*Item 3A #2 should say use of area only with approval before each use and renewed annually.

\*Item 6D the resolution to transfer \$25,000.00 from the Operations Fund to the Rainy-Day Fund on December 21, 2022. The vote was 6-1 with Mr. Wagoner opposed.

#### I. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

## II. BLACK AND GOLD AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

## III. AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS

A. BARTON COE VILAMAA - Board members looked over the proposal. Mr. Watkins explained there will be changes made to the proposal, but he would like to start the process with Barton and Coe. Brian from Barton Coe Vilamaa answered questions from the board members.

On motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Mullett, the board voted 5-0-1 with Dr. Quin abstained, for an engagement agreement with Barton Coe Vilamaa to finalize scope of projects with clarifications of changes and move to the bidding process.

B. DOWNS, TANDY AND PETRUNIW, P.C. - Mr. Watkins recommended continuing service with Downs, Tandy and Petruniw, P.C.

On motion by Mr. Mullett, seconded by Dr. Rogers, the board voted 6-0 to continue services with Downs, Tandy and Petruniw, P.C.

## IV. PROGRAM

A. NEOLA SECOND READING - Mr. Watkins gave a second reading for the following NEOLA policies:

Po0131.1 - Bylaws and Policies

Po0142.2 - Oath

Po0167.3 - Public Participation at Board Meetings

Po1521 - Personal Background Checks, References, and Mandatory Reporting of Convictions and Substantiated Child Abuse and Arrests.

Po2435 - New Policy - Driver Education (Optional Policy)

Po2464 - Programs for High Ability Students

Po4121 - Personal Background Checks, References, and Mandatory Reporting of Convictions and Substantiated Child Abuse and Arrests

Po5420 - Revised - Reporting Student Progress

Po5610 - Suspension and Expulsion of Students

Po6250 - Required ADM Counts for The Purpose of State Funding and Verification of Residency for Membership

Po6550 - New Policy - Travel Payment and Reimbursement

Po8120 - Volunteers

Po8121 - Personal Background Check - Contracted Services

Po8220 - Revised - School Day

Po8600 - Transportation (Mr. Watkins pulled this for more discussion)

On motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Dr. Quin, the board approved 6-0 with the exception of Po8600 being pulled for further discussion.

B. RECOMMENDATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. Jenna Hayes - JSHS teacher - 04/10/2023-05/24/2023

On motion by Mr. Mullett, seconded by Dr. Rogers, the Board approved the leave of absence by a vote of 6-0.

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS

1. Richelle Weller - JSHS temporary English teacher 01/09/2023(approximately)-02/06/2023.

On motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Mullett, the Board unanimously approved the recommendation for certified positions.

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Kailee Wright - Blair Pointe SE instructional assistant
2. Permission to hire JSHS 1-on-1 SE aide

On motion by Mr. Mullett, seconded by Dr. Rogers, the Board unanimously 6-0 approved the recommendation for extra-curricular positions.

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Chris Makowski - JSHS boys' sports fitness center coordinator

On motion by Mr. Beattie, seconded by Dr. Rogers, the Board unanimously 6-0 approved the recommendation for extra-curricular positions.

F. REQUEST TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

1. Abigail Kerr - IMEA music conference on January 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, requesting registration fees, 2 meals per day, lodging (2 days), and mileage.

On motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Ms. Justice, the board unanimously approved the request to attend a conference.

G. DONATIONS

1. \$1,814.71 - PCS SE Department for general use from Knights of Columbus tootsie roll fundraiser.
2. \$3,664.23 - PCS Kicks for Kids for student footwear from multiple donations.
3. \$500.00 - Baseball Program from anonymous.

On motion by Mr. Beattie, seconded by Mr. Hoover, the board unanimously 6-0 approved the donations.

H. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE - Mr. Watkins explained anyone that has a family member who is employed with PCS or an entity we work with, the board member needs to sign a conflict of interest disclosure.

V. BUDGET

- A. CLAIMS - Mr. Durrwachter presented and reviewed the claims for Board approval. Questions were asked and answered.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Beattie, the Board approved the claims by a vote of 6-0 as follows:

AP SUMMARY	
EDUCATION FUND	295,514.91
OPERATING FUND	323,572.45
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	79,592.15
	654.52
PHI DELTA FRATERNITY DONATION	13,164.30
	1,394.65
	267.41
REIMBURSEABLE FUND	208.91
	2767.37
	52.00
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	4723.90
ADULT ED 21/22	329.73
TITLE IV-A SAFE/DRUG FREE	91,425.95
TITLE II-A	66,837.00
TITLE IIA FY 2020	192.00
TITLE VIB RLIS FFY 21-23	880,697.25
WVEC 3E GRANT	
ESSER III	
ESSER II	230,975.95
	230,975.95
BOOK RENT	
TOTAL	

B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Durrwachter reviewed the monthly fund monitoring report. Questions were asked and answered.

On motion by Dr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Beattie, the Board voted 5-0-1, Dr Quin abstained to approve the fund monitoring report.

C. RESOLUTION FOR BOARD COMPENSATION - Mr. Durrwachter presented the board compensation and per diem for the calendar 2023 school year. There was discussion between board members.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Dr. Rogers, the Board voted 5-0-1, Mr. Mullett abstained, to approve the resolution for board compensation.

D. ADMINISTRATIVE SALARY/CONTRACT ADJUSTMENT FOR 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR - Board members looked over the chart provided, discussed and asked questions.

On motion by Mr. Mullett, seconded by Dr. Rogers, the board voted 6-0 to approve the administrative salary/contract adjustment for the 2022-2023 & 2023-2024 school years.

#### VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

- a. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Watkins expressed his gratitude, gave thanks, and congratulations to the following:
  - Congratulations to Braxton Robbins on being nominated for the all-academic Hoopfest team during the Hoosier Hoopfest at Gainbridge Fieldhouse.
  - The boys' basketball team were the Holiday Tournament Champs for the 9<sup>th</sup> year in a row.

- Varsity wrestling placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Peru Quad meet Saturday. Trevi Hillman-Conley placed 6<sup>th</sup> and Cooper Baldwin placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the Al Smith Invitational on December 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Peru Jr/Sr. High school did a fantastic job in this year's Scholastic Art Awards. There were 22 winners, 4 Gold, 6 Silver, and 12 Honorable mentions. Kara Baker, Leland Brown, Esme Flores, Logan Gatliff, Chloe Holler, Mackenzie John, Emily Lewis, Emily McBride, Toby Odubena, Araya Raulerson

b. BOARD MEMBER - Dr. Quin welcomed new members and new officers.

Mr. Mullett reminded board members about the work session at 5:00 pm at the Administrative Office.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Dr. Rogers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., unanimously approved.

Secretary,

Brittany Justice

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