

January 11, 2016

The Board of Finance annual meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Mrs. Shuey. 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. Hall reviewed the finances and investment report as required by IC 5-13-7-7. He stated nothing has changed between last year and this year other than the fed fund rate went from a 0% to .25% to .5%. He stated there was no change in the policy or investment income. He drew attention to a printed table that was provided to the Board which noted the bank account, what type of account it is, and the interest rate for those that are interest bearing. He noted bank 1 is where our payroll and accounts payable goes through. He added credit similar to interest is applied to the fees so the fee charged is reduced. He stated there is a twelve-month CD at First Bank of Berne maturing this month. Mr. Hall hoped the CD rate would be higher when it matures. Mr. Hall stated the statute requires we wait two years to void checks. He stated there are seven outstanding checks from 2013 totaling \$716.23 and requested permission to void the checks. He asked for a motion to approve the report, to affirm the investment policy, and authorization to void the checks written in 2013. Mr. Stanton made such a motion, seconded by Mr. Wagner, unanimously approved. Mr. Hall stated the officers elected may stay the same (which are Mrs. Shuey as president and Mr. Stanton as secretary) until removed. Ms. Rice moved to close the Board of Finance meeting, seconded by Mr. Stanton, unanimously adjourned.

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mrs. Shuey. Mrs. Shuey led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Minard, Mrs. Mongosa, Mrs. Eddy, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Tomlison, Mr. Thompson, patrons, a student, and local news media representatives.

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Mr. Watkins chaired the meeting for the election of Board president. He opened the floor for nominations for the office of president. Mr. Stanton nominated Mrs. Shuey. Mr. Stanton moved to close nominations, nominations were closed. The motion was unanimously passed. Mr. Watkins congratulated Mrs. Shuey and turned the order of the meeting to her to continue with the election of officers. Mrs. Shuey thanked the Board for their confidence.

Office of Vice President - Mr. Comerford nominated Mr. Stanton to continue as vice president. Nominations were closed by Mr. Comerford, unanimously closed and approved.

Office of Secretary - Ms. Rice nominated Mr. Comerford. Nominations were closed by Ms. Rice, unanimously closed and approved.

Heartland Career Center Board Representative - Mr. Comerford nominated Mr. Wagner to continue. Nominations were closed by Mr. Stanton, unanimously closed and approved.

Athletic Board Representative (2) - Ms. Rice and Mr. Comerford volunteered to continue as Athletic Board representatives.

Peru Park Board Representative - Dr. Quin stated he would continue as the Park Board representative.

Art Collection Advisory Board Representative - Mr. Stanton volunteered to continue serving as the representative.

ISBA Legislative Representative - Mrs. Shuey stated she would be happy to continue as the ISBA representative.

Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer - Mr. Watkins recommended Mr. Hall continue as treasurer and Mrs. Mongosa as deputy treasurer. Mr. Stanton moved to accept the nominations, seconded by Mr. Wagner, unanimously approved.

Committees - Mrs. Shuey stated at another time she will meet with Mr. Watkins to assign committee members. She stated if anyone would like to volunteer to serve on any committee to please let her know.

School Board Attorney - Mr. Watkins recommended Mr. Stephen Downs continue as the Board attorney. He stated he is very happy with Mr. Downs' services. Dr. Quin moved to approve the continuation of Mr. Downs, Mr. Stanton seconded the motion, unanimously carried.

Schedule of Board Meetings - Mr. Watkins proposed to continue with one meeting a month, on the second Monday of each month, except for the month of April as the third Monday due to spring break. Mr. Watkins recommended a second meeting in July and December if needed. On motion by Mr. Comerford, seconded by Ms. Rice, the Board unanimously accepted the meeting calendar. Mr. Wagner stated Heartland Career Center culinary class would like for the Board to have one of their meetings at HCC.

Mr. Comerford moved to approve the agenda as presented, the memorandum of December 14, and the personnel report, seconded by Mr. Stanton. Mr. Wolfe stated he has stated for seven years that it is not fair to the public or School Board that no one knows who or what we are voting on ahead of the meeting. He stated he would like to go back to the old days. Mr. Comerford stated he did not want to be included in the statement that no one has an idea of what we (School Board) are voting on. He added the Board does know what they are voting on days before the meeting. Mr. Wolfe stated he meant the public and media doesn't know who or what is voted on the consent agenda. He stated we are probably the only government entity that has a consent agenda. There were several comments that most Boards have consent agendas. Mr. Wolfe said it still isn't right. Mr. Comerford added any Board member has a right to vote on an item separately. Mr. Wolfe stated he feels the people should know who and what are being voted on. Mrs. Shuey asked Mr. Hanson to put the consent agenda on the big screen prior to each meeting. Mr. Hanson said that would not be a problem and added Marcia sends the consent agenda to the media and staff the next day so they know what was approved. The motion was unanimously approved.

PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Laura Hochstedler - resignation, Tigerettes coach effective end of 2015-16 basketball season

B. LEAVES - no business

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS - no business

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Alexandria Blong - PCS Art Curator
2. Susan Jodry - Blair Pointe bookkeeper, effective Jan. 4, 2016
3. Julie Colwell - monitor at Elmwood
4. Ruth Harding - monitor at Elmwood
5. Kathleen Clark - Tiger 3 bus driver and a bus monitor

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Bob Prescott - 2 year head football coaching contract extension through 2017-18 season with pay increase \$9,100
2. Scott Kaufman - volunteer varsity assistant baseball coach
3. Shawn Dwyer - jr. varsity head baseball (lay) coach
4. Mason Zimmer - jr. varsity assistant baseball (lay) coach
5. Ethan Aikman - volunteer jr. varsity assistant baseball coach

F. REQUESTS TO ATTEND CONFERENCES - no business

G. DONATIONS

1. \$200 - PHS Music Dept. for music expenses - anonymous
2. \$100 - PHS Jazz Band for jazz and music expenses - anonymous
3. \$250 - PHS Band for band expenses - Peru Music Center

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - No comments.

II. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Watkins recognized the boys' varsity basketball team for winning the county holiday tourney. He also congratulated Jesse Zvers as the recipient of one of two \$500 scholarships awarded at the holiday tourney and sponsored by Comerford & Co. He thanked Mr. Comerford for his support of the students and their achievements. Mr. Watkins stated we had very good applicants for the scholarship and he campaigned hard for them.

Mr. Watkins gave a shout out to the band and choir students and directors for the Christmas programs. They did an outstanding job!

III. PROGRAM

A. KEYS ACADEMY - Mr. Watkins stated we are fortunate in this corporation to have an alternative school offered to students in grades 5-12 and a Board who supports the school. Our school does not function as other schools do, and we are very proud of our school. He noted our graduation rate and test scores are a testament to the success of the alternative school. Mrs. Eddy, Mrs. Clark, and Mrs. Tomlison were present to share a Power Point presentation of writings about what KEYS means to the jr. high KEYS students. Mrs. Eddy stated Mrs. Tomlison and Mrs. Linkenhoker are the awesome aides and are bonuses to the KEYS staff. They who work individually with the students every day and KEYS would not be successful without them. She stated Mr. Thompson starts the morning working with the jr. class, however, Mrs. Clark spends most of the day with the 6th-8th graders who happen to be all boys right now. Mrs. Eddy also introduced student Triston Powell and his parents. Triston stated there are enough girls at KEYS with the teachers and aides! Mrs. Clark reiterated we are blessed to have this alternative school. She stated these are not the students you see in the paper for athletic or academic honors or awards. She stated these students have made wrong decisions and they are working very hard to change their bad habits. They are trying to stay in school, make things right, and graduate. She stated she asked the kids to write down their thoughts about KEYS and why the school is important to them. She noted she did not prompt the students in their writings. Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Eddy, and Mrs. Tomlison read the writings from the students. Triston read his writing to the Board and added he is very appreciative of the teachers and their help and he likes to help them too. Mr. Hall asked Mrs. Eddy how many 2015 graduates had attended KEYS at some point in their academic career. Mrs. Eddy responded 24 students. She said they are expecting a bulge in that number this year. The Board thanked Triston and the teachers. Mrs. Eddy said she does ask herself how many of these kids would still be in school or graduate if it weren't for this program. Mr. Watkins stated we are one of the most progressive alternative schools he has seen. He added if we don't make these type of investments and relationship changes for these students, then we do not need to look any further than the police blotter or obituaries. He is very appreciative of the Board and their support. The Board thanked Triston and his parents for attending this evening.

B. STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVAL - Mr. Watkins highly recommended approval of the building strategic plans that were presented and discussed at the December Board meeting. He stated the intricate work of these plans will be the reasons we make gains in ISTEP, graduation rate, attendance, AP and SAT scores, and things we want for our children. He added he is proud of the work of the Board, administrators, and teachers. He stated he would keep the Board updated on the data and progress made in the goals throughout the term of the plans. Mr. Hanson stated we did not have PL221 plans to approve last September. Due to the ISTEP scores not being released, we were not able to make improvements based on that data. The State extended the due date to March 1. The state put together a new program called ASSIST with Advanced Ed. Mr. Hanson said we sent people to be trained and then the state pulled the plug on that program at the last minute. He stated the strategic plans will be a good foundation as our principals rebuild the PL221 plans. He noted those plans will be on the agenda at the February meeting for approval and then submitted in March for the current school year and then we'll turn around next September and be back on schedule with Indiana on the PL221 Plans. On motion by Mr. Comerford, seconded by Mr. Stanton, the Board unanimously approved the building strategic plans.

- C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENTS - Mr. Watkins stated as per statute any Board members or administrators who have a potential conflict of interest must complete a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement. As per annual practice it is important for PCS staff members in positions of influence to disclose potential conflicts of interest. Mr. Watkins stated he received signed forms from Mrs. Shuey, himself, Mr. Hall, Mr. Cary, Mr. Brimbury, Mr. Frye, and Mr. Badry. The forms will be filed with the Clerk of the Court and the State Department.
- D. BOARD PARTICIPATION REPORT - Mr. Watkins thanked the Board for their hours and dedication to the Board. He stated the Board spent 125 recorded hours during the 4th quarter in Board activity and committee meetings. A copy is in Supplementary Minute Book #14 page 37. Mrs. Shuey thanked the Board for their participation.

IV. BUDGET

- A. CLAIMS - Mr. Hall presented and reviewed the claims for Board approval. Dr. Quin and Mr. Comerford questioned the claim to maintain and service/repair the equipment in the fitness center and trainer's room. Mr. Comerford noted a piece of equipment in the fitness room was not useable for six months. Mr. Hall stated this contract has been in place for two or three years. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Ms. Rice, unanimously approved as follows:

GENERAL FUND	228,053.57
DEBT SERVICE	185,700.00
CAPITAL PROJECTS	101,803.37
TRANSPORTATION OPERATING FUND	21,709.61
TRANSPORTATION BUS REPLACEMENT	10,221.00
POST-RETIREMENT/SEVERANCE FUTU	11,533.22
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	20,127.85
TEXTBOOK RENTAL FUND	636.24
INSURANCE WELLNESS CLINIC	4,081.41
EARLY INTERVENTION FUND	1,530.90
PARENT/STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUND	821.05
COLLEGE SUCCESS COALITION	52.50
TITLE I 2014/15	269.64
TITLE I 2015/16	2,159.76
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	598.77
TITLE II 2015/16	9,417.36
GROUP INSURANCE	15,752.70
ANNUITIES	45.46
FRINGE BENEFITS	375,708.19
TOTAL	<u>\$ 990,222.60</u>

- B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Hall reviewed the fund monitoring report for the calendar year which is also the fiscal year. He stated the general fund is less than \$6,000 under our budgeted receipts. He stated he had to extend the decimal point over one to get it to be less than 100% received. He stated the tax funded from property tax are less than 100%. That is a function of the circuit breaker. He stated under disbursements we are at 99.5% of budget for the general fund. He noted the \$10,000 for the used bus came out of the bus replacement fund. He stated the good news is the lunch fund finished at a surplus of \$19,379. He stated the only fund he is really concerned about is transportation as \$152,000 is not enough money to get us to June when the tax distribution will come. He added there will have to be some inter fund borrowing. Ms. Rice moved to approve the fund monitoring report, seconded by Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Wolfe asked Mr. Hall to talk a little bit about the Capital Projects fund and if he is happy with the balance. Mr. Hall responded it took a little work to get the balance up to \$800,000 as there was almost nothing in that fund three to four years ago. He noted we just received our budget order and will talk more about that in February. He said we are authorized to spend \$1.5 million out of the CPF budget, but he knows we will not get that much

on the receipt side. He stated if we spend all that we will have nothing going forward into January of 2017. He stated the majority of what we spend money for in Capital Projects is utilities, technology, and insurance. Mr. Wolfe also asked about money put into the Rainy Day Fund each year. He said he noticed the fund has been on that number for a while and asked if that number was accurate. Mr. Hall responded we did not make that transfer this year. He stated it was in the budget but it is late now to make that change. He said if we moved \$140,000 from the general fund to Rainy Day we would have had a deficit in the general fund and that creates problems with our teacher contracts. Mr. Hall said the last two or three years it has been appropriated that way and normally we do it in December. Mr. Comerford stated he knows the State Board of Accounts doesn't allow us to have a deficit fund balance. He asked if that was only in the fiscal year ending in June? Mr. Hall responded they don't like December either. Mr. Comerford asked if the deficit in the transportation fund would be a problem. Mr. Hall responded we have a cash balance and that is what they are concerned about. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. REQUEST TO USE FACILITIES -

1. Tiger Den, Tig-Arena, and commons - Saturday, April 2, 2016 - HYWAY wrestling sponsored by Peru Wrestling Club - 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Annual request by Andy Hobbs.
2. PHS Auditorium - Monday, November 7, - Monday, November 14, 2016 - Quigley Jazz Festival Concerts - Friday, November 11, at 7:00 p.m. Combo night including Swing Choir and Saturday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m. Big Band night including Jazz Band. Annual request from Diane Haley.
3. Tiger Den - AAU 7th / 8th grade tryouts for areas schools in Wabash and Miami Counties - Sunday, January 31, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. - Brent Touloukian is coordinating the event.

Dr. Quin moved to approve the requests to waive facility rental fees, seconded by Mr. Comerford, unanimously approved.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

- A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Watkins encouraged the Board to attend the Black and White Unity Ball at GARB on February 27, 2016.

Mr. Watkins recognized the principals and the teachers for their work on the strategic goals.

Mr. Watkins recognized Andy Hobbs, his staff, and the wrestlers at the Super 6. He stated the kids do a nice job, are well prepared, and well mannered. He said it is unbelievable public relations for Peru.

Mr. Watkins pointed out one of our strategic goals is to become the leader in educational excellence for this region of the state. He stated our ISTEP scores compared to nine schools sighted in area papers show us as the second highest in one paper and third highest in another paper. He pointed out we are the highest in Miami County and higher than Oak Hill. He said the state sets the benchmark so our teachers are not necessarily happy with where they set the bench mark. We are doing better than 75% - 80% of the schools. He stated he is proud of what we have accomplished and we will use it as an indicator. Mr. Hanson stated we were 2% above the state average. He said there are two bills on the legislative floor which he forwarded to the Board by e-mail. He summarized Senate Bill 200 which states no school can receive a grade lower than they did the year prior. House Bill 103 reflects the performance grant which we were supposed to get December 15, and then December 31st, and then they put off until they can figure out what they are going to do legislatively. They are stating it is going to be the higher dollar amount from this year or last year. He stated using 2014-15 results will be very beneficial to our staff. He pointed out neither bill

has passed, but they seem like they have a lot of momentum and will hopefully be on the Governor's desk soon. Mr. Hanson said ISTEP scores were released publically last week. Growth model data for our teachers was released on the 15th. He said he has spent probably four hours of every day the last week and a half preparing for 2016 ISTEP. He said we have a month to turn around before we test at the end of February for part I of ISTEP 2016. He added this may very well be the last year for ISTEP.

Mr. Watkins thanked Mark Ramsey (WARU) and Daniel Herda (Peru Tribune) for their media coverage.

B. BOARD - Mrs. Shuey stated the February 8 meeting will be at Blair Pointe.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Stanton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Secretary,

/mm

Tim Comerford