

March 10, 2015

The first in a series of three work sessions of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mrs. Shuey. All Board members were present. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Hall, Mr. Cary, Mr. Frye, Ms. Spiker, Mr. McClure, Mrs. Eddy, Mr. Hahn, Mrs. Watkins, Mr. Mullett, Mr. Badry, and consultant Mr. Adamson.

I. STRATEGIC PLANNING

Mr. Watkins gave a brief history of the previous Strategic Plan and introduced Mr. Adamson, ISBA Director of Board Services. Mr. Adamson stated he was familiar with Mr. Hall through IASBO. He stated he has worked with many school corporations in developing Strategic Plans. He stated School Board members have different careers during the day but are still responsible for their reactions. The Board will empower employees of the school corporation to carry out the plan. He noted the Board and administration need to be hand in hand to be successful in carrying out the strategic plan. Mr. Adamson asked the Board to think about their current vision and mission statements. He stated core beliefs change the value of education in the community. There are certain things we are not willing to give up. He added there is no room for people in this corporation who do not believe in the values of the school corporation. They should be given the opportunity to conform or should be invited to go somewhere else. He noted the criteria for employment is an important stake to drive in the ground. He stated all school corporations are different and those belief statements are ours. The mission statement is simply a statement of purpose - short, sweet, and to the point. He pointed out our current mission statement 'All employees will give 100%' is an expectation. Everyone has a job to perform their responsibility. Mr. Adamson stated everyone needs to know the Statement of Purpose for the corporation and therefore it should be simple and easy to memorize. He asked the group to think out where are we going; what is our vision statement? The current statement is 'Peru Community Schools, leader in education excellence!' He said identifying what the future state looks like can be a difficult task. He asked the group to project themselves into the future and see what it looks like.

He instructed the Board and administrators to take 15 minutes for a breakout session to brainstorm some belief and value statements. He asked them to consider, I believe, I value, or we believe, we value.

The new ideas presented were added to the already compiled list for student achievement, curriculum, personnel, community relations, budget/finance, facilities, technology, and other. Mr. Adamson noted the category placements will go away in the end but will be used for now to help organize our thoughts. Mr. Adamson stated the group will sort through each item step by step and determine which ones they like, don't like, need to reword, etc. He said this is necessary grunt work to determine what is important for education at Peru Community Schools.

II. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion for the evening, the work session ended with Mr. Adamson encouraging the Board and administrators to review what was discussed this evening and be prepared to re-evaluate the statements at the next meeting on March 18.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

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