

March 13, 2017

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, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Blong, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Pandey, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Black, Ms. Rusie, and a local news media representative.

On motion by Mr. Comerford, seconded by Mr. Mullett, the Board approved the public agenda with one deletion, the memorandum of February 13, and the personnel report by a 6-1 vote (Dr. Quin opposed).

Deletion:

- V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
- D. WEST CITY PARK SOFTBALL AGREEMENT

PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Nouri Marrakchi - resignation, PHS Sign Language teacher, effective end of 2016-17 school year
2. Alicia Ferre - resignation, Elmwood Title I tutor, effective March 17, 2017
3. Jennifer Lorona - resignation, varsity cheerleading coach, effective end of basketball season
4. Linda Bandekar - resignation, varsity cheerleading coach, effective end of basketball season

B. LEAVES

1. Sierra Frye - part-time custodian, beginning May 30 for six weeks

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS

1. Angela Ebert - temporary teaching contract April 4-May 16, 2017 for Elmwood Pre-school teacher.

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Teresa Lancaster - temporary special education aide at Blair Pointe through March 17, 2017
2. Joann Briscoe - temporary Title I tutor at Elmwood April 3 through end of 2016-17 school year
3. Chad Mooney - part-time SRO
4. Niki Fisher - bus monitor and Tiger bus driver
5. Heather Tyler - café sub to full time at Blair Pointe, effective immediately
6. Melissa Gentry - monitor sub to full time at Blair Pointe, effective March 2016
7. Kim Phillips - café sub to full time at PHS, effective February 2017
8. Sara James - café dinner monitor to full time at South Peru, effective December 7, 2016
9. Kordell Prescott - substitute custodian for Sierra Frye
10. Summer cleaning - due to finances only four helpers this summer - Deb Siders, Linda Bandekar, Denise Roach, and Robin Selleck.

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Mallory Beaty - PJHS volunteer soccer assistant
2. Craig Sederholm - PJHS volunteer soccer assistant
3. Frankie Wright - PJHS assistant softball (lay) coach
4. Jason Barrett - PJHS volunteer softball assistant
5. Harvey Engel - PJHS volunteer baseball assistant
6. Garrett Meives - PJHS volunteer baseball assistant
7. Permission to hire PJHS assistant track coach

F. REQUEST FOR CONFERENCE

1. Dan Durrwachter - Blair Pointe Assistant Principal, INALI (Indiana New Administrator Leadership Institute) two-year professional development program designed to address the professional needs of Indiana principals with an emphasis on student success, extensive teacher evaluation training, student performance, community involvement, and shaping a

strong school culture. Four training dates the first year: two in the summer, September 18, and February 5. Total cost is \$1,000.

G. DONATIONS - no business

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - no comments

II. RECOGNITIONS - Mr. Watkins stated due to today's weather forecast he decided to move the Black and Gold Awards (Coach Prescott and PHS wrestling team, Diane Haley and PHS ISSMA band winners, Jason Gornto and PHS ISSMA choir winners, Mike Applegate, Adam Zwiebel, and PHS Art Scholastic winners, and Bailey Maverick for his state bowling championship) to the April meeting.

III. PROGRAM

A. PHS ART GALLERY PRESENTATION - Alexandria Blong, Art Curator, informed the Board she offers educational tours for schools. She stated the Blair Pointe students have visited the Gallery. Many students have not experienced a gallery and do not know the proper etiquette. She also noted the Gallery hosts Sundays at the Gallery typically May through September. She noted on February 25 she hosted an Indiana Plein Air Painters IPAPA with 13 painters from Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, and South Bend. They painted for several hours and then had an art showing. She stated the Gallery hosts other events such as Cookies and Canvas and is typically open for school events, concerts, and plays, and for community meetings such as Psi Iota and Tri Kappa as well as the Art Collection Advisory Board. The Gallery is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and by appointment. Mrs. Blong gave a brief tour of the PCS Art Gallery.

B. SUMMER SCHOOL PROPOSAL - Mr. Hanson reviewed the 2017 summer school proposal which he noted is very similar to last summer's proposal. He stated IRead is a three-week program for third graders who do not pass IRead in March. This class requires one teacher and one aide. The summer reading program at Elmwood is in its third year and will start June 6 through July 19. The program is offered to kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students in small groups to encourage them to read throughout the summer and increase their Lexile score. The program is offered on Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon and the students are fed lunch. He noted he has budgeted for nine teachers, nine aides, a secretary, and administrator. He added what the state does not cover is budgeted into the Title I grant. Mr. Hanson stated our Jump Start program for incoming 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders continues to be successful and starts two weeks before the beginning of the school year. He proposed twelve teachers, four aides, and a technology aide. This program is reimbursable by the state as well. The secretaries and principals at Blair Pointe and PJHS are already back for the school year when this program is in session. Transportation is provided for all of the elementary and JHS programs. He stated the format at the high school changed last year. We have offered more options and choose the classes based on what the students sign up for. If approved tonight, he stated a posting will be sent to the staff, students will sign up for classes, and the appropriate staff will be hired. The state requires we stay in a ratio of 1:15 to be reimbursed. He stated the budget is \$84,000. He added Mr. Frye has worked very hard for the Title I grant to help offset the expenses not reimbursed by the DOE. Mr. Hanson recommended continuing the Blair Pointe IREAD class, Elmwood Reading Program, Jump Start for grades 3-8, and increase credit opportunities at PHS. Mr. Mullet made the motion to approve the summer school proposal, seconded by Dr. Quin, unanimously approved.

C. NEOLA POLICIES SECOND READING - Mr. Watkins reviewed eleven policies as a second reading.  
po0120 - Powers and Philosophy  
po2271 - College and University Programs

- po2421 - Career and Technical Education Program
- po2510 - Adoption of Curricular Materials
- po5200 - Attendance
- po5460 - Graduation Requirements
- po5461 - Credit for Courses Completed Before Students Enter  
Grade 9
- po5540 - The Schools and Governmental Agencies
- po5840 - Criminal Organizations and Criminal Organization  
Activity
- po8531 - Free and Reduced-price Meals
- po8606 - Bus Drivers and Cellular Telephone Use

Mr. Comerford moved to approve the policies, seconded by Ms. Rice. Mr. Comerford asked how the graduation requirements will align with the state. Mr. Watkins and Mr. Hanson replied they align with the changes made a few months ago. Mr. Hanson added the state makes changes annually but this does make our policy up to date. The Board unanimously approved the policies as presented.

IV. BUDGET

- A. CLAIMS - Mr. Hall presented and reviewed claims. A few questions were asked and explanations and clarifications given. Mr. Comerford moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Wagner, approved 4-3 vote (Ms. Rice, Dr. Quin, and Mr. Wolfe opposed).

GENERAL FUND	185,473.66
CAPITAL PROJECTS	122,889.15
TRANSPORTATION OPERATING FUND	21.28
TRANSPORTATION BUS REPLACEMENT	222.00
POST-RETIREMENT/SEVERANCE FUND	7,675.84
CONSTRUCTION 2016 GO BOND	31,446.33
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	51,707.45
INSURANCE WELLNESS CLINIC	193.44
EARLY RETIREMENT FUND	1,118.50
DONATION/SPECIAL ED. TEACHERS	23.00
PBIS	1,206.10
PARENT/STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUND	439.02
GIFTED TALENTED FUND 2016-17	1,289.50
CAREER TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE	2,550.00
TECHNOLOGY FUND	10,038.24
TITLE I 2016-17	2,171.01
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	1,683.50
TITLE II	1,497.67
HOT LUNCH CLEARING ACCOUNT	4,452.14
GROUP INSURANCE	341.81
ANNUITIES	45.46
FRINGE BENEFITS	<u>436,873.74</u>
TOTAL	\$ 863,358.84

- B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Hall reviewed the fund monitoring report for the month of February. He stated the general fund result of operation is a positive \$78,000. He noted that looks good but reminded the Board the way we disburse money is not linear. We do spend the same amount every month. He reminded the Board we had a number of snow days in January and several hourly employees lost money they will not get back. He stated he is still working on getting the lunch program in the black. He added everything else is trending as he would expect. Mr. Comerford asked if we go into the negatives next month in the lunch fund do we need to request an additional appropriation. Mr. Hall responded the lunch fund does not have a spending limit from the DLGF. Mr. Mullett moved to approve the fund monitoring report, seconded by Mr. Wagner, unanimously approved.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. REQUESTS TO USE FACILITIES

1. Blair Pointe kitchen and cafeteria - annual Tri Kappa Easter Egg project - April 7-8, 2017 (cafeteria and custodial fees will be charged)
2. PJHS rooms, parking lot, and practice football field - YMCA Kids' Fair - annual request - Saturday, May 6, 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. also Friday, May 5, for set-up after school until 6:00 p.m.

3. Bengal Stadium track facility - EastPointe Bible Church - 5<sup>th</sup> annual Runner's Camp for children pre-school through 6<sup>th</sup> grade - June 5-9 - 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
4. Elmwood 4 classrooms, gym, & playground - Four County Summer Camp - June 7 through July 26, Mondays through Thursdays - noon - 3:00 p.m. PCS transportation will be provided to students and fully reimbursed by Four County. The students will participate in the lunch program.

On motion by Ms. Rice, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, the Board unanimously approved the requests to use the facilities with a waiver of the facility rental charge.

- B. PERU UTILITIES WATER MAIN RELOCATION AND EASEMENT - Mr. Watkins and Mr. Hall shared the discussion at a recent meeting with Peru Utilities to relocate a 16" water main that runs under PHS that was put in place in 1920. There was a major break last year. The water main was capped. Peru Utilities would like to reroute that main line from Broadway to east of PJHS, through the practice field area. Mr. Pandey, General Manager of Peru Utilities, pointed out on a map the location of the water main and the proposed new route which they would need an easement from PCS to complete. Mr. Pandey stated a failure of the current line would be a catastrophe for all of us, PCS and Peru. Mr. Pandey asked for an easement noting one access point to the schools will be open at all times. Peru Utilities would also honor the school's request to begin the construction in the spring of 2018. The area of construction would be replaced with sod rather than seed when the work is completed. He noted Peru Utilities is a municipal utility owned by the City and citizens of Peru, therefore, they are a non-for-profit. He stated the schools do have a right to ask for funds but that would simply drive the costs of the project higher and possibly delay it. He stated they are asking for a 40' right of way easement during construction to allow for movement of equipment in that area. After the project is complete, they request a permanent 20' easement to maintain the pipe in the future. Dr. Quin asked if other routes were considered. Mr. Pandey responded the Peru Utilities staff and engineers looked at other options but considering costs including back fill are \$135 per foot. He stated the route proposed is the shortest route to connect to an existing 16" main. He stated the cost for this project is estimated at \$900,000. Mr. Wagner asked about the quality of the water when the new line is connected. Mr. Pandey responded all lines will be properly flushed. The existing line will remain in place. Because of the age of the line and the fact that it runs under the high school, they do not want to remove it. He noted many lines of that age are wooden. The Board asked how long the project will take. Mr. Pandey responded they would have to take public bids but they hope the project could be completed in three months, definitely before the beginning of the 2018-19 school year since they will be restoring the sod. Mrs. Shuey asked for a motion to approve the water main relocation and easement. Mr. Wagner moved to accept the request, seconded by Mr. Comerford, unanimously approved. Mr. Pandey thanked the Board for their consideration.
- C. LAWN CARE RECOMMENDATION - Mr. Hall stated with the acquisition and development of the athletic fields, we now have 14 acres finished and needing care for the 2017 growing season. That will increase to 21 acres at the end of this year. He stated we now have two parts to the lawn care proposal. He pointed out the 'schools' column on the summary is the same as prior years. The 'athletic' column is for the new 14-acre athletic fields. He stated three quotes were received and recommended Black's Lawn and Maintenance at a bid of \$32,500 for the same areas we've had for several years (stadium, baseball and practice field, and other properties owned by PCS). He stated the second part of the bid is the new part for the athletic fields north of the Roxy. He noted Mr. Woodmansee, project engineer, wrote the proposal as it is a different level of care, knowledge, and experience for

athletic fields than regular lawns. He stated both Black's and Hunt's have serviced our lawns. He stated the athletic director's preference was for Hunt's Outdoor Upkeep and he concurs with the recommendation for \$38,225. He noted of those amounts we have \$55,000 in Capital Projects appropriated for both contracts. Mr. Comerford asked Mr. Hall to explain the athletic director's recommendation to go with the higher bid of \$825. Mr. Hall responded it has to do with the quality we have received from Hunt's versus Black's. Dr. Quin asked if the cost was the same as last year. Mr. Black was present and stated it is the same. Mrs. Shuey asked the Board's pleasure. Mr. Comerford asked if the votes could be separated. Mrs. Shuey asked for a motion for the school lawn care awarding the quote to Black's Lawn for \$32,500. Mr. Mullett moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Ms. Rice, unanimously approved. Mrs. Shuey asked for a motion to accept the recommendation of Hunt's Lawn Care at \$38,225. Mr. Wagner moved to approve the recommendation. The motion died for a lack of a second. Dr. Quin asked for a clarification of appropriations from the CPF since the quotes are higher than the appropriation. Mr. Hall replied the money can be used for both quotes and it is an operational cost. No bond money was set aside for lawn care. Mr. Wolfe asked for clarification of the specs on how the payments were made. Mr. Hall replied the quote was divided by the number of months in the mowing season and billed a flat amount per month. Mrs. Shuey asked for a motion. Mr. Wagner moved to award the quote to Black's Lawn Care, seconded by Mr. Comerford. Mrs. Shuey asked for questions. Ms. Rice asked if we will have to ask for an additional appropriation to pay the cost above the \$55,000 appropriated. Mr. Hall responded the additional money can come from another fund, possibly the general fund. Dr. Quin asked for the specs for the athletic part. Mr. Hall gave him a copy of the specs and apologized for not sending it out with the packet. Ms. Rice asked if we tabled this decision until the April meeting, would it affect the timeline? Mr. Hall stated what Mr. Woodmansee told him is the grass would be cut less often and higher at the beginning of the season anyway. The motion and second were withdrawn. Ms. Rice stated she would like more information specific to why the athletic director wanted the Board to go with the higher bid. Dr. Quin agreed and wanted more time to review the specs. Mrs. Shuey stated consideration will be tabled until the next meeting. Discussion ensued if the quotes were still good or needed to be rebid. Mr. Wolfe made a recommendation to table the vote until the April meeting, unanimously approved. Mrs. Shuey requested the specs be forwarded to the Board members.

~~D. WEST CITY PARK SOFTBALL AGREEMENT~~

- E. PERMISSION TO BID BUS - Mr. Hall stated we have an appropriation in the bus replacement fund of \$153,420. He added we have \$131,133 in cash so we can buy a bus before we get the June distribution of taxes. He requested permission to bid a new bus. He stated bus 17 is a 2003 International and will be traded in. Ms. Rice motioned to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Comerford. Mr. Comerford asked how many entities he will be sending the specs to bid. Mr. Hall replied we will be using the state cooperative, WVEC, who has already received bids and is the state contractor. Dr. Quin asked if this will be the only purchase for this year. Mr. Hall responded one for this year and likely two next year. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
- F. RECOMMENDATION FOR LUNCH PRICE INCREASE - Mr. Hall stated the food service program is funded through Federal funds. Section 205 of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 requires increases in the paid lunch price to eventually get to the free reimbursement rate of \$3.40. He recommended to increase the student lunch price to \$2.45, effective April 3. The price is currently \$2.35. He also made a second recommendation to set the 2017-18 student lunch price to \$2.55. He noted this will only impact the high school students due to grades kdg through 8<sup>th</sup> participating in the CEP and they receive free meals. Mr. Mullett motioned to

approve both recommendations, seconded by Mr. Comerford. Mr. Wolfe stated it was unfair to increase the prices during the school year. The motion passed by a 4-3 vote (Dr. Quin, Mr. Wagner, and Mr. Wolfe opposed).

#### VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Watkins informed the Board about several accomplishments within the corporation.

- Science Olympiad team with coaches Valerie Doud, Yvonne Bertke, and Tim Klammo qualified for state competition on March 18 at IU Bloomington for the 27<sup>th</sup> time in the 31 years of competition.
- PCS choral festival 5<sup>th</sup> annual, including students from Blair Pointe, PJHS, and PHS with choir directors Jason Gornto, Ellen Terry, and Alisha Reeve, along with Manchester University singers packed the auditorium last week with a wonderful performance.
- PCS band festival will be this Wednesday in the auditorium.
- Drew Thompson, PHS girls' basketball senior, was named the Peru Tribune Player of the Year.
- ISTEP and ECAs finished Friday. Mr. Watkins stated he cannot stress the amount of work that our tech crew, counselors, administrators, teachers, aides, students, and Mr. Hanson, Director of Testing, put into insuring testing goes well. He expressed his gratitude. He stated IRead testing begins now.
- A big shout out to ARISS, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station, and Bill McAlpin for their expertise and help in making it possible for the students at Blair Pointe to talk with Commander Shane Kimbrough, an astronaut on the International Space Station, last Thursday at PHS for about 12 minutes as the space station passed over Peru. He thanked the tech crew (George, Justin, and Dave), administrators, and teachers Terri McCain and David Weeks, and Mr. Frushour for making this possible. He stated it was covered by Kokomo Tribune and Channel 59. He stated this was an unbelievable, fantastic experience. Mr. Hanson shared the clip of the video posted on our website of the moment when the connection began. He stated he spoke with Bill a couple days later and it had already been viewed 2,500 times. It was amazing the clarity of the Ham radio connection with the space station. We were one of 12 recipients who were chosen to make contact. The space station was talking with Greece after passing over Indiana.
- Promise Indiana is a College Choice 529 plan the Miami County Community Foundation, Miami County United Way, Miami County Economic Development, and the three Miami County school corporations collaborated together to submit a grant. More information will be forthcoming.
- Mr. Watkins thanked Mr. Miller and Mrs. Blong for hosting this evenings meeting.
- He wished everyone a relaxing two-week spring break which starts next week.

B. BOARD -

Mr. Wagner stated he really enjoyed the Irene Miller Holocaust presentation at Blair Pointe.

Mr. Wagner stated on April 28 the 9<sup>th</sup> graders will be bussed to HCC for a job fair. He stated at the next meeting he will have a list of the Miami County employers.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Dr. Quin moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

/mm