

April 18, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Mrs. Shuey. The meeting was held at Heartland Career Center. The Board enjoyed a meal prepared by the culinary class prior to the Board meeting. Mr. Hobbs gave the Board a tour of the facility and shared the programs offered. Mrs. Shuey led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present except Mr. Comerford. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Minard, Mr. Cary, Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Dupont, Mr. Higgins, and local news media representatives.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board unanimously approved the public agenda, the memorandum of March 14, and the personnel report.

PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Deb Fulton - retirement - PJHS Special Education teacher - effective end of the 2015-16 school year.

B. LEAVES

1. Kristin Fuller - 2nd grade teacher - August 4 - September 9, 2016

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS

1. Julie Brower - 4th grade Academy teacher - effective March 28 (hire to be determined was approved at March meeting) Mrs. Brower is an instructional assistant at Blair Pointe and has held a temporary contract.

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Summer workers: Linda Bandekar, Mary Chumbley, Ann Simbeck, Crystal Stanley, Denise Roach, Deb Siders, Robin Sellick, and Teresa McKinney. All are current PCS employees.
2. Permission to hire two aides for the expanded pre-school program.

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Josh Ulery - PHS assistant baseball volunteer
2. Pat Polk - PJHS track volunteer
3. Bob Dwyer - PJHS baseball volunteer

F. REQUEST FOR CONFERENCE

1. Mr. Cary has been accepted into the Indiana Principal Leadership Institute (IPLI) 2016-18 IPLI Cohort #4 - a two-year professional development experience. The fee is \$1,000. There will be additional travel, lodging, and meal expenses for the various seminars he must attend. Year one focuses on increasing leadership capacity. Year two focuses on the school's improvement plan. The seminars are held at ISU.

G. DONATIONS

1. \$200 - \$100 each to band and choir - anonymous donor
2. \$20 - PHS Swing Choir NYC trip - James & Linda Henry
3. \$25 - PHS Swing Choir NYC trip - Galen & Vickie Ash
4. \$200 - PHS Swing Choir NYC trip - Jim & Tyra Walker
5. \$200 - PHS Swing Choir NYC trip - Teresa Rusie
6. \$200 - PHS Swing Choir NYC trip - Elizabeth Guthrie
7. \$200 - PHS Swing Choir NYC trip - in memory Charles Thibeault
8. \$200 - PHS Swing Choir NYC trip - Eddy Funeral Home
9. \$300 - PHS Swing Choir NYC trip - Richard Zimmerman, D.D.S.
10. \$1,000 - PHS Science Club - anonymous donor

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - no comments.

II. RECOGNITIONS - Mr. Watkins announced the Peru Community School Corporation received an 'A' letter grade from the Indiana Department of Education. The school grades are: PHS - 'B', PJHS - 'A', Blair Pointe - 'A', and Elmwood - 'A'. He stated he is very proud of our corporation. The schools scored well due to hard work of teachers, students, and community.

Mr. Watkins was proud to announce Avery Jackson won the 2016 Miami County Lilly Endowment Scholarship.

Mr. Watkins also recognized Mr. Greg Badry for completing his administrative degree and receiving his administrative license.

III. PROGRAM

A. HEARTLAND CAREER CENTER PRESENTATION - Mr. Watkins thanked Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Dupont, and Mr. Higgins for welcoming the Board to HCC. He also thanked them for the wonderful dinner and tour of the facility. Mr. Hobbs stated HCC is happy to have partnered with PCS and is looking forward to a continued partnership offering students additional opportunities for hands-on experience. He added they would love to have more Peru students take advantage of the program but understands there are financial and scheduling conflicts to consider. He told the Board HCC would like to host Peru once a year for a meeting. He thanked Mr. Wagner for representing Peru Schools as a member of the HCC Board of Managers. Mr. Watkins stated we have about 70-75 students participate each year. He added HCC is an extension of the education opportunities at PHS and feels we are very fortunate to have this facility and program. Mr. Hanson stated several of the HCC staff members are from the Peru area. Mr. Hanson noted HCC has hired a staff member to help students who need remediation for English and help them pass the ECA. Mr. Hobbs also noted the dual credits students receive through the vocation school helps the high school's letter grade. Mr. Dupont remarked HCC is not in competition with PHS but offers a different kind of success for the students with the programs offered. He stated they really appreciate the PHS staff for working with them, especially the guidance counselors. Mr. Watkins stated one of our phrases is 'Graduate with Opportunities' from Peru Community Schools. He noted Heartland Career Center is one of those puzzle pieces offering opportunities with dual credits, internships, and hands-on experience.

B. APPROVAL OF THE W-MAP RE-ORGANIZATIONAL AGREEMENT - Mr. Watkins stated the agreements, Joint Service and Supply Agreement (JSS) and Reorganization Agreement are rather lengthy. He noted we have been working on the agreements for over a year. He stated in essence we are condensing the agreement to essential services and adding language to protect ourselves in finances and budget. He stated we are also taking over the teacher contracts and personnel who work in the PCS buildings but are under contract with W-MAP. Mr. Watkins stated we have already taken over the evaluations. He noted the agreements have been reviewed by the attorney. He stated the agreements are in the best interest of Peru Community Schools. He recommended the Board approved the JSS and Re-organizational agreements. Dr. Quin asked what remains. Mr. Watkins said the director, assistant director, and essential services people (speech, hearing) remain under W-MAP contracts. Dr. Quin asked what that meant and what that does for PCS. Mr. Watkins responded the essential services are still shared by the cooperative. Mr. Hanson added the director and assistant director still review and keep us in compliance with regulations and laws and they sit in on case conferences. Mr. Hanson stated at one time Peru had their own special education director. We now share with Manchester and the principals have taken over some of those responsibilities. He noted it is not the ideal situation. Mr. Watkins pointed out the Area Program will still be receiving two grants which are Part B funds which is around \$600,000 to \$650,000. He stated we will not be sending the \$150,000 plus payment. The grant will fund the rest of the program. Dr. Quin pointed out there is a cost to us because we are paying for the employees' accumulated sick leave. He also pointed out a discrepancy in the dates for taking over the contracts. Ms. Rice asked how many employees we house. The current staffing is six teachers and fourteen para-professionals. Mr. Watkins requested approval of the re-organization agreement with Wabash-Miami Area Program. Our quarterly assessment for W-MAP goes away in

exchange for taking the employees so the cost is neutral except for the sick leave time. Mr. Wolfe stated it has been a long time coming. He stated from our perspective, Peru will have more control. Mr. Hanson countered in defense of our special education department we have a lot of benefits for the students and families. Many parents bring their children to Peru because we are centrally located. Dr. Quin made the motion to approve the agreements, seconded by Mr. Stanton, unanimously approved. Signed copies of the agreements are in Supplementary Minute Book #14, page 39 and 40.

- C. RESOLUTION TO EMPLOY W-MAP TEACHERS AND AIDES/PARA PROS - Mr. Watkins stated this goes along with the agreements just approved. We will be offering employment to the six teachers and 14 aides para-professionals currently under W-MAP employment and working within the PCS buildings. He requested the Board approve employing the W-MAP employees working within the PCS buildings effective with the 2016-17 school year. This approval includes the employees' accumulated sick leave. Mr. Wolfe made the motion to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Wagner, unanimously approved.
- D. 2016-17 SCHOOL LUNCH PRICES - Mr. Hall reported he went through the lunch formula and consumer price index and reported the lunch prices will not increase for the 2016-17 school year.
- E. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR 2017 PHS NYC TRIP - Mr. Cary requested approval for the class of 2017 to take the senior honors trip to NYC next year. He stated they do not have a date yet due to the change in the calendar. Dr. Quin asked if there will be any changes in the program. Mr. Cary replied since the trip will need to be earlier, there may be some changes. Mr. Cary stated Mrs. Merrick does an outstanding job with the trip and was sure if changes needed to be made it would still be an excellent opportunity for the seniors. On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Dr. Quin, the Board unanimously approved the request. Mr. Cary stated they appreciate the Boards' support. Mr. Hanson added they completed the 911 Memorial Museum and the students commented on that part of the trip.
- F. GRADUATION CREDIT REQUIREMENT - Mr. Cary stated the only item he has to add from the discussion at the March meeting is there was a new bill that went through the House HEA 1219 which states students with an IEP or 504 would not have to meet the local requirements beyond the state requirements. Mr. Hanson further explained the credits required for the honors diploma, CORE 40, and the base (general) diploma. He stated the principals' association and superintendents' association have tabled that discussion until the data is actually analyzed to see whether the current diplomas are effective or not. He stated he foresees there to be further changes. Mr. Cary stated they are just seeing the results of the changes they made four years ago and need to decide if the students benefitted from the changes. Mr. Cary said by adopting the state requirements and not having local requirements, we do not have to continue to make changes. Mr. Hanson stated this will give our students at KEYS and the transfer in students a better opportunity to achieve the credits necessary to graduate. Dr. Quin said he is against the credit change because it does not help our students. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Wagner, approved by a 4-2 vote (Dr. Quin and Mr. Wolfe opposed).
- G. NEOLA POLICIES SECOND READING - Mr. Watkins requested approval of the six policies reviewed at the March meeting. He stated what he is adding to the policies is what the state and federal government are putting in. Mr. Watkins stated his goal is to have us updated by the end of the summer. Mr. Hanson added these are revolving policies and will continue to be updated as changes are deemed necessary.
po1521 Administration - Personal Background Checks and
Mandatory Reporting of Convictions and Arrests
po3120.04 Professional Staff - Employment of Substitutes,

- po3120.08 Professional Staff - Employment of Personnel for Extra-curricular Activities - new
- po3121 Professional Staff - Personal Background Checks and Mandatory Reporting of Convictions and Arrests
- po4120.08 Support Staff - Employment of Personnel for Extra-curricular Activities - new
- po4121 Classified Staff - Personal Background Checks and Mandatory Reporting of Convictions and Arrests.

On motion by Ms. Rice, seconded by Dr. Quin, the Board unanimously approved the second readings.

IV. BUDGET

A. CLAIMS - Mr. Hall presented and reviewed claims. Questions were asked and answered. Ms. Rice moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Stanton, unanimously approved.

GENERAL FUND	244,769.47
CAPITAL PROJECTS	80,742.59
TRANSPORTATION OPERATING FUND	661.62
TRANSPORTATION BUS REPLACEMENT	86,594.00
POST-RETIREMENT/SEVERANCE FUND	12,836.70
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	59,965.59
TEXTBOOK RENTAL FUND	200.00
INSURANCE WELLNESS CLINIC	4,727.68
EARLY INTERVENTION FUND	1,628.46
WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP	600.00
PBIS	3,072.45
PARENT/STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUND	392.31
FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT GRANT	12,329.00
STATE CONNECTIVITY FUND	1,330.00
COLLEGE SUCCESS COALITION	54.50
TITLE I 2015-16	3,188.41
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	312.00
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION FUND	219.53
TITLE II 2015-16	2,314.38
RURAL & LOW INCOME 2015-16	26.20
GROUP INSURANCE	15,392.61
ANNUITIES	45.46
RETIREEES-TERM LIFE INSURANCE	554.78
FRINGE BENEFITS	<u>618,654.34</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,150,612.08

B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Hall reviewed the fund monitoring report for the month of March. He pointed out in bus replacement we are \$97,000 year to date. He stated we paid \$10,000 for a used wheel chair bus and the other \$87,000 for the new bus. He stated we are one-fourth of the way through the year with 25.4% general fund disbursements and is well on track. He stated we are doing well in terms of appropriations in transportation. He stated we need a temporary loan because we are running out of cash, therefore, we are going to borrow from ourselves. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the fund monitoring report, seconded by Mr. Wagner, unanimously approved.

C. NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION - Mr. Hall reminded the Board we moved money from the pension debt service fund to the rainy day fund. He stated he was now asking for approval to spend that money for transportation purposes. He noted this is a two-step process with the notice in the paper and now requesting the Board's approval. He stated this will get us through the year for the transportation fund and is very much needed after spending \$26,000. Dr. Quin again pointed out why this didn't go into the general fund when the next item on the agenda is to put additional money from the general fund into the transportation fund. Mr. Hall replied technically this is authority to spend \$87,000 out of the rainy day fund. Dr. Quin questioned why we were transferring money twice. Mr. Hall replied the payroll will continue to come out of transportation. Dr. Quin pointed out we are using funds from rainy day for things other than rainy day. Mr. Hall replied this is left over money from the severance fund for transportation. Ms. Rice moved to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Mr. Stanton, approved by a 5-1 vote (Dr. Quin opposed).

D. RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS - Mr. Hall pointed out the fund monitoring report the transportation fund was down to down to \$39,000 cash. He stated that will not get us through until June when we receive our tax distribution. He requested approval to temporarily transfer \$75,000 from the general fund to the transportation fund. The funds shall be transferred back to the general fund upon distribution of the 2016 tax levy from Miami County. Mr. Wagner moved to approve the transfer, seconded by Ms. Rice, unanimously approved. A signed copy of the agreement is in Supplementary Minute Book #14, page 41.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. REQUESTS TO USE FACILITIES

1. Elmwood cafeteria - Boy Scouts of America spring recruitment - Tuesday, May 10 - 6:30 p.m.
2. PHS all practice facilities - Babe Ruth league - April 1 through August 1 as the HS schedule allows.
3. PHS - Relay for Life - Saturday, May 21, 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. - back up location if weather does not allow them to be outside at River Walk
4. Elmwood 4 classrooms, gym, & playground - Four County Summer Camp - May 31 through July 21, Mondays through Thursdays - noon - 3:00 p.m. PCS transportation will be provided to students and fully reimbursed by Four County.
5. Elmwood classroom - summer speech and hearing clinic sponsored by Psi Iota Xi Sorority - four weeks during summer school (has been held at Elmwood in the past)
6. PHS auditorium - Cole Porter Festival performance - Saturday, June 11 - 7:00 performance - will pay custodial fees
7. PHS Tig-Arena, Tiger Den, and concession stands - Bengal Backers 3-on-3 basketball tournament during Circus City Days - July 17 from 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. - fund raiser for Bengal Backers - will pay custodial fees

Mr. Watkins stated we are working with Relay for Life to get this event back to PHS at Bengal Stadium. On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Dr. Quin, the Board unanimously approved the request to use the facilities with a waiver of the facility rental charge.

B. APPROVAL OF TECHNOLOGY RESPONSIBLE USE POLICY - Mr. Hanson stated this is a very common sense document. He stated our policy for staff and students was out of date. He noted this is a new policy that has been put together using the best of what other area schools have adopted. He stated this policy will be part of our registration as we move to an online registration this summer. Parents and students will be required to sign off on this document. He said this will be crucial as we will be sending devices home next year at the secondary level. This policy takes a positive approach on technology use and covers all areas of usage including financial responsibility. He noted our administrators and students have reviewed the policy. This will be an annual document that will need to be signed when registering. Mr. Hanson requested permission to approve the student technology policy. Dr. Quin moved to approve the policy, seconded by Ms. Rice, unanimously approved.

C. AWARD BOILER REPLACEMENT BIDS - Mr. Hall stated this was previously bid and packaged with some other work and is actually a quote rather than a bid due to the cost is less than what is required for bids. He shared the bid summary noting five companies were sent the information. He stated the actual boiler is a condensate boiler which runs at lower temperature than a regular school boiler. The Elmwood boiler will run in the summer and help to dehumidify the air keeping the building cooler. He stated a Lochinvar boiler was specked noting Bryan Steam has a similar model that runs higher in price. He stated the 2014 bond issue has \$160,000 earmarked for this project. He recommended the Board award the quote to Benchmark Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$174,400. He said

the difference will be covered by savings from other projects in the bond issuance. He recommended the Board accept the Benchmark quote. Mrs. Shuey stated she was surprised Bryan Steam did not bid the project. Mr. Hall responded the contractor bids the project and installs it. They are free to get pricing from the manufacturers. Ms. Rice moved to approve the bid recommendations. Mrs. Shuey asked twice for a second before seconded by Mr. Stanton. Mr. Wagner asked the difference in cost from a Boiler at Bryan Steam and asked where the boilers that he recommended were manufactured. Mr. Hall said the boilers recommended are 2/3 the cost of the Bryan Steam boiler. He did not know the manufacturer or location. Mr. Wolfe asked who the five contractors were. Mr. Hall responded. Mr. Wolfe noted only one was local. He stated he called Bryan Steam. They are in our backyard and the only boiler manufacturer in Indiana. The gentleman he spoke with stated a boiler would be sold to Peru Schools slightly above cost. Mr. Wolfe said Bryan Steam pays taxes for Peru Schools. He said he would not vote for this as we can't support our local businesses. Mr. Watkins said we are not opposed to using local businesses; it comes down to cost. Mr. Wolfe said it is fair to the taxpayers to make the effort to support our local businesses and at least call them. Dr. Quin said if we are going to invite businesses to quote and send them the specs, he can think of five local contractors who could have been contacted first. Mr. Hall stated the notice was published in the paper. Mr. Watkins said the Board had a valid point. Ms. Rice asked if we could reject the bids tonight. Mr. Hall stated it was a project to be completed over the summer. He stated a recommendation would not be ready for the May meeting. He could not say if the quotes would be better or not. Ms. Rice withdrew her motion and Mr. Stanton withdrew his second. Dr. Quin asked Mr. Hall to be more aggressive in getting local quotes. Mr. Hall stated the architect wrote the specs. Mrs. Shuey pointed out there was an advertisement in the newspaper as has been past practice. Dr. Quin pointed out that may be the legal way to do it, but it is not effective. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Watkins recognized the spring sport coaches and teams. The track coach is Coach Malone, boys' golf is Coach Mathews, baseball is Coach Brimbury, softball is Coach Wyant, and girls' tennis is Coach Saine.

Mr. Watkins recognized Tim Klamo and the PHS Science Olympiad team for their participation in the 2016 Indiana State Olympiad tournament a couple weeks ago at IU Bloomington. They placed 24th out of 36 teams at the state level.

Mr. Watkins gave a shout out to Diane Haley, Ellen Terry, and Alisha Reeve for the spring band festival for grades 6-12. He said it was a fantastic festival.

Mr. Watkins gave a shout out to Jennifer Hopkins for the high school spring drama production of Adventures of Alice in Wonderland.

Mr. Watkins pointed out Jason Cary has been accepted into IPLI which is an intense two-year leadership program. This was approved by the Board in the consent agenda. He said it is a wonderful leadership, management, motivational program.

Mr. Watkins informed the Board the Governor is coming to PHS to visit the vocational and PLTW programs on April 28 in the afternoon.

Mr. Watkins reminded the Board of the Bengal Backer Trot this Saturday at Rails to Trails.

Mr. Watkins thanked the Board for making the journey to HCC. He also thanked Mr. Hobbs and his staff for their time. He stated he appreciates the HCC staff. He added he also appreciates the Board and their support.

Mr. Hanson commented we have a captive audience at the Roxy Theater. We have been given the opportunity to partner with the Roxy and Better One advertising. He stated the cost went up significantly for the advertising for the 30 second video so we have gone to a 15 second still picture which includes a lot of activities and students at PCS. The still image has a voice over. He shared it with the Board.

B. BOARD -

Dr. Quin stated the Park Board is moving forward with getting concrete bids for the amphitheater. They are also trying to get fencing at Davis Park. They hope to have a re-grand opening at Davis Park. He added they are also trying to get the river bank cleared near the depot.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Dr. Quin moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

/mm

