

May 12, 2014

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 except Dr. Quin. Also present were Mr. Brimbury, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Minard, retiring teachers and families, several teachers and students, Mr. Watkins, Mrs. Watkins, Mr. Cary, Mr. Frye, Mrs. Fuller, and a news media representative.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, the Board approved the agenda, the memorandum of April 14, and the personnel report by a vote of 5-1 (Ms. Rice opposed).

PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Jenny Lane - resignation as PJHS Science teacher, effective end of 2013-14 school year
2. Anne Brown - retirement - Blair Pointe secretary, effective end of 2013-2014 school year
3. Rochelle Fakes - Reduction in Force - PJHS/PHS PE teacher, effective end of 2013-14 school year

B. LEAVES - no business

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITION

1. Summer School teaching:
  - Advanced PE - Bob Prescott
  - Basic PE - Greg Badry
  - IREAD - Mrs. Roettger
  - Elmwood Summer Reading Program
    - Kdg. - Kim Martino, Lori Mygrant, and Sheila Weeks
    - 1<sup>st</sup> - Caley Stith, Joanna Cousins, & Jeryl Buffington
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> - Jennifer Hoover, Kristin Fuller, and Krista Zimmerman

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Michelle Eisaman - PHS library assistant
2. Summer School instructional assistants:
  - IREAD - Mrs. Honn
  - Elmwood - Kdg. - Jenny Walsh, Tiffanee Kirk, & Dee Polk
    - 1<sup>st</sup> - Nicole Hilbun, Sandy Jones, & Peggy Brown
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> - Sandy Zak, Tracy Renfrow, & Danyell Hillman
3. Summer help at \$8.00 an hour - Mitchell Johnson, Malory Helvie, Deb Siders, Heidi Green, Mary Ann Hiers, Sharon Patterson, and Jeff Cox
4. Permission to advertise/post Public Relations/Grant Research position

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS - no business

F. REQUESTS TO ATTEND CONFERENCES - no business

G. REQUEST FOR FIELD TRIP - no business

H. DONATIONS

1. \$100 from Robert Arvin for band students spring event.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - No comments.

II. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Brimbury stated it was an honor to recognize our retiring teachers: Bill Anderson, Cathy DeWald, Jeri Monroe, and Mike Stewart with our traditional retirement bell. He shared where each teacher received their Bachelor's and Master's Degrees and the number of years of experience with Peru Community Schools: Mr. Anderson - 25 years, Mrs. DeWald - 37½ years, Mrs. Monroe - 29 years, and Mr. Stewart - 15 years. (Mr. Stewart had experience at three corporations prior to coming to Peru.) Mr. Brimbury stated the four teachers had a combined 106 years of teaching experience with PCS. Each teacher briefly reflected on their career with PCS stating they enjoyed their classes and colleagues and were looking forward to retirement. The Board thanked the teachers for their years of service and wished them

happy and healthy retirements.

III. PROGRAM

- A. PHS COSTA RICA TRIP SUMMARY AND REQUEST - Mrs. Smoker stated the last time she was here this trip was a dream. Three young ladies joined her for a trip of a lifetime. They shared a slide show on their spring break Costa Rica experience. Michaela Kirisits is a junior and stated she liked everything. Alivia Banks is a senior and said she really enjoyed zip lining and the monkeys. Jaeden Brown is a junior and stated the trip was a culture shock but very interesting. Ms. Smoker stated taking three students the first year was a good beginning experience for her and she learned a lot from the tour guide. She stated she has ten students interested going on the trip next year. Mr. Hanson asked why she chose Costa Rica. Ms. Smoker responded this was a cheaper trip with a wider variety of experiences. She added this was a safe place to visit. Ms. Smoker and Mr. Cary requested permission to plan the same trip for spring break of the 2014-15 school year. On motion by Mr. Wagner, seconded by Ms. Rice, the Board unanimously approved the request.
- B. PHS ACADEMIC HONORS NYC TRIP AND REQUEST - Mr. Cary and three students were present to share experiences from their NYC trip. Kristen Rice stated the group was on the go the entire time. She enjoyed the Broadway show Aladdin. Daley Wilhelm stated the trip was grueling but worth it! She stated her favorite experience was going to the top of the Rockefeller Center. Andrew Kuepper commented there was a diversity of sights to see. He said the Statue of Liberty was the most interesting part of the trip to him as well as the ancestry. Mr. Cary stated they had an excellent tour guide and requested permission for a 2014-15 trip noting they will ask for the same tour guide. Mr. Comerford asked how many students went on the trip. Mr. Cary stated there were 56 students. Mr. Stewart stated he chaperoned the trip again this year and added it was excellent. He noted on his bus he distributed the lyrics to "New York New York" and as soon as they saw the sky line they sang the song at the top of their lungs three times through!! On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Mr. Comerford, the Board unanimously approved the request. Mr. Hanson added we receive honors money from the State. He reminded the Board a portion of that money is expended to pay for half of each senior's expenses for the trip.
- C. PJHS ACADEMIC PROGRAM - Mr. Brimbury stated four years ago we pledged never to judge ourselves by state average again. We will judge PCS by 'Four Star' schools. He stated, "We can say we are a 'Four Star' school system!". It is an emotional time when you invest the number of hours to be the best school in Indiana. He stated achievement is through the roof; discipline is down. He noted it is proof positive that by hiring the right people and investing in our kids Peru Jr. High School at PCS is the BEST!! Mr. Hanson explained the difficulty attaining a Four Star status. He stated the State combines the passing percentage and then the percentage passing both English/Language Art and math. He agreed with Mr. Brimbury. We could not be more proud of the students, staff, and administration. Many schools attempt this achievement but fall short. Mr. Brimbury stated there are not many schools of our make-up with a Four Star status.

Mr. Watkins introduced Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Legg, and Mrs. Adelsperger. These teachers have built upon the successes with students at Elmwood and Blair Pointe. He stated they are anchor teachers! Mrs. Baker stated their focus is 1) be available, be where the students are in the community, 2) teachers must be on board, and 3) provide several interventions. Mrs. Adelsperger stated the interventions are important and are repeated until the students fully understand. She stated the teachers collaborate and look at data a lot. Mrs. Legg stated at PJHS the teachers are very data driven. She noted they have three levels of

intervention. She noted Tiger time is used to help remediate students. She added they make sure every student has an opportunity for remediation. She stated the teachers work as a team and sometimes even fight over who will get the students to help them. She noted the relationship they have with the students is awesome. The students have a relationship with the teachers at PJHS. Mr. Brimbury stated the expectations for the students are high at PJHS but the teachers are working alongside the students. The teachers agreed they have a great leader in Mr. Watkins. Mr. Brimbury stated the teachers look at who is in charge of the intervention, how long is the intervention, and what works and doesn't work for the intervention. Mrs. Baker stated she contacts previous teachers and charts the information for the students. Mr. Brimbury extended his utmost admiration.

- D. IREAD RESULTS - Mr. Brimbury stated we have another extraordinary program at Blair Pointe with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers, reading specialists, Mrs. Watkins, and Mrs. Badry. He stated we had to check our egos at the doors, pull the rope together, and achieve what no other district has achieved. Mrs. Watkins stated she was proud to represent the group who has helped the students achieve a 93% passing rate. The Reading Specialists are Linda Godfroy, Jo Touloukian, and Tonya Kercher. Ms. Godfroy stated they begin looking at data when the students are in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and have data meetings with the teachers. By the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade they know the students they need to service. She stated they have started data meetings with the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. Mrs. Touloukian stated they work with the students multiply. Everything they do is data driven. Ms. Kercher talked about the resources they use with the students. They thanked Mr. Hanson for purchasing additional resources. She noted the students are reading at grade level or higher when they leave 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. She noted the students get triple assistance with the teacher, instructional aide, and Reading Specialists. Mrs. Cox and Mrs. Roettger stated having the data before the end of the school year for the next year is awesome. They noted how much they appreciate the instructional aides. Mrs. Cox noted the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students have built in time every day to work with remediation or retesting. Mrs. Roettger stated every data received have files. Mrs. Wynn added the teachers work well together and are not shy about their data. Their efforts are about the students. Mrs. Mathews stated their meetings and communications are great. She noted the data can get overwhelming. She is thankful for the organization and the way the team works together. She thanked the Board for providing wonderful aides. Mrs. Badry stated it is very evident that communication is key. She stated the barriers are down and there is no fear. Their attitude is we, not me, and it is all about the students. She stated she provides additional resources for the teachers and additional opportunities for the students and their families. Mrs. Watkins stated the March scores speak for themselves. She stated the hard work and dedication have paid off. Mrs. Knox added the connection with the staff, kids, and families is very important. She stated there is mutual respect with the students and teachers. The teachers understand the environment some of these kids come from and deal with daily. Trust has to be built. She added the teachers enjoy what they are doing, helping the kids. Mrs. Yoars stated she enjoys the relationships and learning the value of those relationships. She added it has been a rewarding experience. Mrs. Watkins thanked Mr. Brimbury and the Board for working *with* these teachers. Mr. Brimbury expressed his sincere appreciation for the time, work, caring, and total commitment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade staff. Mrs. Shuey stated they should be called reading doctors as they diagnose, treat, and reap the rewards of the students' successes.
- E. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO GUIDE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS - Mr. Frye reported he met with the committee. He pointed out the proposed personal property and paraphernalia revisions. Mr.

Hanson stated cell phones are basically glorified computers. He noted instead of a mass policy to prevent the use, we will adapt the ways the phones can be used. He stated the nice thing about this policy it has been tried by other corporations. Mr. Brimbury stated the policy revision addresses the ethics of when and where to use the device. Mr. Frye stated if the policy is violated then Thursday school is given. The phone will be returned to the student at the end of the day. He stated the second attempt is ISS. Mr. Brimbury stated we are trying to teach time and place for proper use. Mr. Comerford asked about searching the phone. Mr. Frye and Mr. Brimbury stated we do not unless there is fear of imminent danger and counsel is contacted. Mr. Frye stated the revision to this policy was shared with the Student Council. He noted they were thrilled with the change in the policy. Mr. Frye also noted changes in the level of discipline between grade levels for paraphernalia noting the intent at the grade school level is different from the secondary level. Ms. Rice asked about the athletic changes that have been discussed. Mr. Brimbury stated Mr. Strong deals with the athletic changes which is another component of the handbook. Mr. Comerford moved to approve the changes as presented, seconded by Mr. Stanton, unanimously approved.

- F. 2014 G/T SUMMER ART PROPOSAL AND BUDGET - Mrs. Watkins reviewed the G/T summer art budget and proposal and requested permission to proceed with the 28<sup>th</sup> summer program. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the budget and request for the summer art program, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, unanimously approved.

Mr. Wolfe inquired about Cardinal Café. Mrs. Watkins stated May is School Board month for Cardinal Café which is the last Friday of the month from 11:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. She stated a new group of students comes through every 15 minutes. Lunch is provided by Mrs. Fuller as well as ice cream.

#### IV. BUDGET

- A. CLAIMS - Mr. Hall presented and reviewed the claims for Board approval. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Ms. Rice, unanimously approved as follows:

GENERAL FUND	172,045.10
CAPITAL PROJECTS	33,138.00
TRANSPORTATION OPERATING FUND	11,082.90
TRANSPORTATION BUS REPLACEMENT	215.00
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	44,548.27
INSURANCE WELLNESS CLINIC	1,909.17
KEYS ACADEMY	1,185.23
PARENT/STUDENT ACTIVITIES FUND	68.75
COLLEGE SUCCESS COALITION	189.72
TITLE I 2013/14	2,158.03
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	371.11
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION FUND	372.70
TITLE II PART A TEACHER IMPROV TOTALS	320.80
FEDERAL TAX	36,694.50
SOCIAL SECURITY	29,633.87
STATE TAX	24,980.24
LOCAL TAX	18,000.93
PERF	47.71
GROUP INSURANCE	3,244.90
ANNUITIES	12,646.68
AMERICAN FUNDS REPAYMENT	82.19
GARNISHMENT OF WAGES	192.12
RETIREEES-TERM LIFE INSURANCE	494.20
CHILD SUPPORT	1,052.00
TOTAL	<u>\$ 394,674.12</u>

- B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Hall reviewed the fund monitoring report for the month of April stating we are at 13.6% cash balance in general fund. He stated next year there will be better numbers since we will be receiving considerable relief on the circuit breaker. Mr. Brimbury added that was a lot of work on behalf of Randy Head, Bill Friend, and Mr. Hall which

has been nicknamed Stan's Bill 163. Mr. Stanton added Mr. Brimbury should be included in the thanks for addressing the concern and continuing to keep it in front of the legislators. Mr. Comerford moved to approve the report, seconded by Mr. Stanton, unanimously approved.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. REQUEST TO USE FACILITIES

1. Peru First Baptist Church - Elmwood gym for VBS basketball camp - three evenings during the week of July 7-10, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. - grades K-5th - Coach Metcalfe will be running the camp.
2. PHS choir room - 3 community choirs: children, youth, and adult - will begin in the fall (nights to be determined) - Mr. Gornto would like to offer this opportunity to supplement our curriculum and build a stronger K-12 feeder program.
3. Indiana State Police - Tiger Den and Tig-Arena - benefit dodge ball tournament to financially assist a fellow officer's family with a 3-year-old daughter who is battling a serious kidney disease - Saturday, June 21, beginning at 10:00 until tournament is over.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Ms. Rice, the Board unanimously approved the waiver of the facility rental fees as requested. Custodial expenses will be charged as incurred for each request.

- B. FIRST READING OF POLICY CHANGE ON FIREARMS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY - Mr. Hall stated the law changed on fire arms and thus we have the opportunity to simplify the policy. He stated recent Indiana code changes authorize a school resource officer who is an employee to carry a firearm. A firearm under this policy is described as any weapon that is capable of expelling, designed to expel, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by means of an explosion. A second reading and vote will be on the agenda for the June Board meeting.

- C. PERMISSION TO SELL BUS - Mr. Hall requested permission to sell bus #11 which is a 1999 model with more than 200,000 miles on it. He noted there are still five spare buses without this one. Mr. Wagner moved to grant permission to sell bus #11, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, unanimously approved. Mr. Hall reported we have 12 routes including Head Start.

- D. PERMISSION TO BID FUEL, MILK, AND BREAD - Mr. Hall stated it is that time of the year to request permission to bid for fuel, milk, and bread prices for the 2014-15 school year. On motion by Mr. Comerford, seconded by Mr. Stanton, the Board unanimously granted permission.

- E. RECOMMENDATION FOR INCREASE IN LUNCH PRICES FOR 2014-15 - Mr. Hall stated in accordance with the Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 he recommended increasing lunch prices by five cents. This will increase prices for K-6 to \$2.25 and 7-12 to \$2.30. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Wagner asked if we had to increase our prices. Mr. Hall stated to receive Federal funding we must comply with Federal guidelines and increase the prices. The Board unanimously approved the increases.

- F. FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM REPORT - Mrs. Fuller reported on the changes in the food service program. She said pasta has been one of the grain changes she has found that the kids do not like. She stated companies are helping with trying to adjust their products. She noted the government has realized some of the changes are not producing the effects they were attempting and they are making adjustments to the guidelines. Mr. Brimbury thanked Mrs. Fuller for the fantastic job she is doing. She stated we will continue following the school guidelines for the summer food program. Mrs. Shuey thanked Mrs. Fuller and her staff for the extra hour they stayed and provided the additional snacks and food for the students when

we extended the school day to make up three days of school missed due to weather. She said the students really appreciated the food!

- G. ADA BID RECOMMENDATION - Mr. Hall shared the estimated cost was \$256,000. He recommended rejecting the bids for the combination of two projects: 1) hand rails and extra steps in the stadium and 2) adding some pavement on the rock area at the stadium and adding handicap parking for the baseball field and stadium. He stated we will go to plan C and rebid. On motion by Ms. Rice, seconded by Mr. Stanton, the Board unanimously rejected the bids. Mr. Comerford stated it does not seem reasonable to only be receiving two bids for the size of the projects. He noted we will not be meeting deadlines. He asked if we will be bidding the projects separately. Mr. Brimbury stated that is what we will do for the June meeting. Mr. Hanson stated the City is seeing the same high prices for their project as well.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

- A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Brimbury stated we had a fantastic night of celebrations! He stated our students are getting a very high level of education. We are getting extraordinary results from our staff.

Mr. Brimbury also stated it is critical that our students are traveling and having opportunities to experience cities within the USA and other cultures.

Mr. Brimbury congratulated Mr. Hall for receiving District Business Officer of the Year award from IASBO. Mr. Hall stated it is amazing what our teachers are getting done with our students. He said our AV is dropping. Our funding is down. We have fewer students. We are paying the teachers a little more. Yet we continue to achieve for our students. Mr. Stanton congratulated Mr. Brimbury for his leadership and hard work at the State House.

Mr. Hanson said we have been on the forefront of curriculum standards. The State adopted the new standards April 28. We will begin mapping. He noted this will be a very busy summer for the tech team with the new devices that have been delivered. He stated the staff has also been attending some Microsoft training. He said he feels very comfortable with where we are at. Mr. Brimbury stated the teachers are happy. Mr. Hanson invited the Board to join the next training at the new conference room at the jr. high school on Friday, May 23.

- B. BOARD - Mrs. Shuey congratulated Mr. Wagner on his retirement as the director of the Peru Public Library.

Mrs. Shuey congratulated the girls' tennis team. Mr. Comerford commented they suffered their first loss tonight. Sectionals will be next week.

Mr. Wolfe asked about the Tiger Leadership breakfast. Mr. Hanson replied it is scheduled for Thursday morning at 7:00 at the Fire House. He added the internship breakfast is the following Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. at Ivy Tech.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Comerford moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

/mm