

May 19, 2020

The regular virtual meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Mullett. Mr. Mullett led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Durrwachter, Mrs. Conley, Mr. Morris, Mr. Frye, Ms. Spiker, Mrs. Watkins, Mrs. Eddy, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Moon.

On motion by Mr. Comerford, seconded by Mr. Ellis, the Board approved the public agenda, the memorandum of April 21, 2020, and the personnel report with one change (D.2. replace permission to hire with Megan Reel, start date June 8, 2020, pending background check) by a vote of 5-2, Dr. Quin and Ms. Justice opposed.

PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Kylie Reading - resignation as high school English teacher, English dept. chair, English data coach, head speech and debate coach, effective pending other school Board approval on May 20, 2020. Resignation of high school trainer, effective upon completion of summer training at PCS.
2. Shannon Butte - resignation as PJHS and PHS nurse, effective May 31, 2020.
3. Tiffany Whittaker - resignation as PJHS special education aide, effective May 11, 2020.
4. Brenda Butt - retirement as Blair Pointe Elementary teacher, effective end of 2019-2020 school year (22 years of service).
5. Diana Tschiniak - retirement as Blair Pointe Elementary teacher, effective end of 2019-2020 school year (16 years of service).
6. Amy Boswell - resignation as Blair Pointe girls' basketball coordinator, effective April 13, 2020.

B. LEAVES

1. Rachel Clark - JH math teacher - Leave of Absence, first semester of 2020-2021 school year.

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS

1. Summer School -
Elmwood Summer Reading - Stacy Makowski, Allison Matthews, Jennifer Hoover, Aime Black, Emily Truax
PHS Credit Recovery classes - Daric Fuller, Randy Lancaster, Chris Makowski, Zach Leffel, PE - Romison Saint-Louis
(all positions are as needed with a 1 to 15 teacher to student ratio requirement)

- D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS
 - 1. Summer School -
Elmwood Summer Reading aides - Adela Wegert, Laura Hughes,
Julie Worland, Darlene Shank
 - ~~2. Permission to Hire:
Coordinator of Human Resources and Payroll Delete~~
 - 2. Megan Reel - Coordinator of Human Resources and Payroll,
pending background check
- E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS - no business
- F. REQUEST TO ATTEND CONFERENCE - no business
- G. DONATIONS - no business

- I. PUBLIC COMMENT - no comment
- II. RETIREMENTS/RECOGNITIONS/BLACK & GOLD AWARDS - Mr. Watkins made the following comments:

Retirements: Diana Tschiniak - 16 years of service and Brenda Butt - 22 years of service. Thank you for your years of dedication to Peru Community Schools!

Congratulations to our end of year award receivers:
Building Level Teacher of the Year: Elmwood - Emily Truax, Blair Pointe - Diana Tschiniak, PJHS - Katrina Baker, PHS - Tim Conner
Corporation Teacher of the Year: Diana Tschiniak
Administrator of the Year: Greg Badry
Director of the Year: George Morris
Counselor of the Year: Jessica Jones Head
Custodian of the Year: Brad Dillon
Classified Staff of the Year: Elmwood - Marie Guyer, Blair Pointe - Suzanne Gray, PJHS - Tiffany Whitaker, PHS - Heather Muzzillo,
Educational Technician - Dave Moon, Transportation - Julie Hamman, Food Service - Linda Fuller, and Maintenance - Carl Philpot

Mr. Watkins wished our Cole Porter Scholarship Nominees the best of luck. Up for nominations are Chloey Darnell, Hailey Ewer, Medora Oliver and Jimmy Murphy.

Dr. McCormick named all Indiana teachers as Teacher of the Year. Mr. Mullett congratulated Mr. Thompson and all Peru teachers on receiving the award.

- III. PROGRAM
 - A. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR PUBLIC AGENDA - no Business
 - B. GRADUATION - Mr. Watkins recommended the Board to change Peru Community Schools' graduation date from May 29, 2020. Through the discussion at previous administrative and corporation

meet and discuss meetings, the first choice was July 31, second choice July 24 and third choice July 17. A student poll was also held. Mr. Frye stated that the student body chairs reported that 63 out of 85 responses wanted to postpone graduation to hold a traditional graduation. Mr. Frye also held a second poll and that indicated that the Seniors choice was July 17, followed by the 31st and then the 24th. Mr. Thompson wanted to note that the festival is still going and will be going during the date that the Seniors had chosen. Mr. Thompson also had concerns of having a very small time period to put together a quality program for live music. Mr. Frye also stated that the last two dates would have the office staff back from summer break to ensure that graduation will go as normal/traditional as possible. Mr. Frantz, our school attorney, had advised that if we hold a graduation prior to June 30, 2020, it would need to be offsite. Mr. Thompson's date recommendations are, in the order of first choice to last choice, July 31, July 24, and then July 17. Discussion continued.

Mr. Watkins recommended to change the graduation date to July 31, 2020.

On motion by Mr. Wagner, seconded by Ms. Justice, the Board approved changing the graduation date to July 31, 2020 by a vote of 6-1, Dr. Quin opposed.

- C. 2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR UPDATE - Mr. Watkins stated that due to the calendar changes from Covid-19, it is required for the Board to approve the changes.

On motion by Mr. Comerford, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board unanimously approved the calendar update.

- D. ESSENTIAL SERVICES DESIGNATION - Mr. Watkins gave the following recommendations to be designated as essential for Peru Community Schools:

- Allow custodians, technology, and maintenance to start back to work no more than 2 days a week starting June 1 on a voluntary basis to start summer cleaning. Room cleaning will be selective due to teachers not being allowed back until June 30.
- Allow teachers to return on a voluntary basis to clear their room, bag up student desk and materials starting May 20.
- Administrators/Office staff will continue to work from home but can come into the buildings for essential office needs to fulfill contract.

- The Adult Education Program can start after May 20 at South Peru Campus for testing only.
- Allow bus drivers to return on a voluntary basis for training and testing after May 20.
- No students will be allowed to enter any PCS buildings until June 30.
- PPE's will be required for all the above recommendations.

On motion by Dr. Quin, seconded by Mr. Ellis, the Board unanimously approved the essential functions designation.

- E. PERU PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT - Mr. Watkins stated that Mrs. Anna Jo McKaig's term would be ending on May 31, 2020. Mr. Watkins recommended Laura Berryman for the new appointment.

On motion by Mr. Comerford, seconded by Ms. Justice, the Board approved Laura Berryman as the new library board appointee by a vote of 6-0-1, Dr. Quin abstained.

- F. NEOLA SPECIAL UPDATE COVID-19 SECOND READING - Mr. Watkins reviewed the policy for a second reading.

On motion by Dr. Quin, seconded by Ms. Justice, the Board approved the NEOLA Covid-19 update by a vote of 6-1, Mr. Wagner opposed.

- G. 7-12 PROGRAM - Mr. Watkins gave a program update and stated that the program is a work in progress. Work as continued with Mr. Durrwachter, Barton Co., and Jay Ryals. The next work session will not be scheduled until we have been released to meet in person. More discussion continued.

- H. MIAMI COUNTY ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM GRANT - Mr. Watkins stated that he works with Susan Shannon on our adult education program. She has been fighting for the program and the grants to keep the program going. We support Shannon and the program fully. Mr. Watkins thanked the Board for allowing them to continue using our facilities for the program.

- I. SPRING SPORTS LETTERING RECOMMENDATION - Mr. Watkins stated this request comes from the high school athletic department. Mr. Watkins recommended the following:

1. All Senior athletes/managers will letter. If it is their first as an athlete or second as a manager, they will receive their earned letter jacket. Following school policy, this will also allow us to award senior 4 year "P blankets".

2. All Underclassman on the roster will receive the same award this season as they receive next season in the Spring. No letters to 9-11 given out until next year.
 Example- Jr baseball player letters as a junior will receive two letters next year for their jacket. If they are JV next year and do not letter - they receive two JV participation awards.

On motion by Dr. Quin, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board unanimously approved the Spring sports lettering recommendation.

IV. BUDGET

- A. CLAIMS - Mr. Durrwachter presented and reviewed the claims for Board approval. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Comerford moved to approve the claims, seconded by Mr. Wagner, approved by a vote of 6-1 (Mr. Wolfe opposed), as follows:

EDUCATION FUND	265,347.03
DEBT SERVICE	1,500.00
OPERATING FUND	80,741.25
CONSTRUCTION 2016 GO BOND	41,500.00
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	26,492.41
TEXTBOOK RENTAL FUND	69.54
REIMBURSEABLE FUND	620.43
DONATION/SPECIAL ED TEACHERS	175.90
KROGER REWARDS	205.00
SPEC ED MKP	17,717.40
TECHNOLOGY FUND	2,804.50
TITLE I 19/20	334.88
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	20.55
TITLE IV A	167.67
TITLE II-A	44.90
GROUP INSURANCE	132.30
RETIRES-TERM LIFE INSURANCE	501.15
FRINGE BENEFITES	340,956.17
BOOK RENT	30.00
TOTAL	779,361.08

- B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Durrwachter highlighted the education fund and tuition support. He stated that everything is coming in on time. Grant monies were delayed, but we are receiving the full amount. The education fund is close to where we were last year. The operation fund is being watched closely. We did receive part of our taxes but have not received our property taxes yet. We may have a resolution for next month depending on when the funds come in. Our interest rate that we receive on our accounts is going down. He stated

that we will continue to monitor it closely and how it will impact our revenue. Our school lunch ending balance is over \$100,000 which is a positive. With school being out, were having a revenue of upwards of \$40,000 - \$50,000. He stated that we are doing well. Mr. Durrwachter also stated that we could possibly start looking into upgrading our food and giving raises to food service staff.

On motion by Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Ellis, the Board unanimously approved the fund monitoring report.

- C. HEARTLAND CAREER CENTER - Mr. Watkins stated that HCC has applied for a \$5 Million-dollar grant. They want to construct a 35,000 sq. ft. building. The building and equipment could be used by our students to expand their programs and equipment. The five original school members must come up with one million dollars for them to receive the grant. Mark Hobbs has been working on fundraising and has raised a large amount of money. If they receive the grant and the full one million was not raised, then we would need to come up with the remainder of the funds. It would cost PCS money, but we are not sure how much at this time. Mr. Wagner stated that this is really the only chance at upgrading the program. The new building will not be connected but will be on the same property. Dr. Quin commented and feels that the extra space is going to be needed.

- D. ADMINISTRATOR ASSISTANCE CONTRACT - Mr. Durrwachter stated that due to the approval of the new payroll and benefits coordinator, he would like to use their assistance in training. Mr. Durrwachter stated that he did receive two recommendations from two different schools to use them for this contract. Mr. Mullett is a member of Administrator Assistance. He stated that they work with many schools throughout the state.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board approved the Administrator Assistance Contract for the month of June by a vote of 4-1-2, Mr. Mullett and Dr. Quin abstained, Mr. Wolfe opposed. A copy of the contract is in Supplementary Minute Book #15, page 31.

- E. COVID-19 BUDGET FORECAST - Mr. Watkins and Mr. Durrwachter reviewed the forecast for the PCS. He stated that he does not plan on having to RIF this year. Mr. Durrwachter reviewed the CARES Act that will help offset educational loss. He also stated that the budget has been forecasted on an adm of 1880.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

- A. COPIER RECOMMENDATION - Mr. Morris stated that he called and checked on a co-op. He called and check with three copier companies. The companies stated that it would not save us money. Mr. Moon stated that we received six proposals. He

stated that they are recommending Toshiba. He stated that the Toshiba machines will be much faster, and we will save \$1,345 per month in our payments. We will also be able to print from multiple devices including cell phones. Mr. Moon stated that they investigated 3-year contract prices as requested, but it nearly doubled the monthly payment.

On motion by Dr. Quin, seconded by Ms. Justice, the Board unanimously approved the new copier recommendation.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Watkins expressed his gratitude and made the following comments:

- Viewing of virtual goodbyes, parades, and concerts.
- Mr. Watkins read Mrs. Guyer's thank you letter to the Board.
- Golden Baton Pass:
PJHS - Annamarie Harmon to Ann Simbeck - I will be passing the Baton to Ann Simbeck. She is hard working & dedicated, (even though she would say different). She has also worked the lunch program, as many others have done. She cares about our students and will go the extra mile for them. Thank you Ann for all you do.
- Thank you to Terry Fuller and food service for your continued excellence!

B. BOARD MEMBER - Mr. Mullett stated that Mr. Frye did a wonderful job getting the Seniors posters together.

There will be a parade for our seniors as well.

Dr. Quin stated that he has had a lot of community members and others that have been supportive of and thankful for the food program.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Dr. Quin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m., unanimously approved.

Secretary,

Charles Wagner

/dc