

July 1, 2015

The special meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Mrs. Shuey. Mrs. Shuey led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present except Mr. Wolfe. Dr. Quin arrived after the votes were taken on the bids. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Hall, and Mrs. Minard.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Mr. Stanton, the Board unanimously approved the consent agenda and the public agenda.

PERSONNEL

A. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS

1. James (JJ) Burns - PHS Counselor - Master's degree with 0 years of experience
2. Amy Boswell - 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher - Bachelor's degree with 12 years experience
3. Gerri-Ann Braley - Blair Pointe nurse

B. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITION

1. Mike Saine - girls' tennis (lay) coach for 2014-15 season

C. DONATIONS

1. \$1,500 - Peru Bengal Backers for the purpose of helping with letter jackets and Winning Edge bill for PHS athletics - anonymous donor

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - No comments.

II. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. BOILER REPLACEMENT BIDS - Mr. Hall informed the Board two condensate boilers were bid, one at Elmwood and one at PJHS. He recommended the lone bid for the boiler replacement be rejected. He stated the architect estimated the cost at \$160,000. The bid came in at \$267,000. Mr. Comerford asked what problems are created by not replacing the boilers now. Mr. Hall responded the boilers are operational. They are just less efficient. He shared that Benchmark stated the control work was more money than they expected. Mr. Wagner asked how much savings we will see with an efficient boiler. Mr. Hall responded he did not know the answer to that question. He stated the boilers are not running during the summer. The condensation boiler will take moisture out of the air helping the comfort level in the building. Ms. Rice moved to reject the bid, seconded by Mr. Stanton. Mr. Comerford asked if have had discussion with the architect Kari Vilamaa that we continue to not have acceptable bids on this project. He questioned if we need another architect. Mr. Hall responded we are in a different bidding environment than we were two years ago. The report is the economy is booming and everyone has work rather than needing work. He stated we are looking at bidding in September. The Board unanimously rejected the bid as recommended.

B. ATHLETIC SITE BIDS - Mr. Hall recommended the lone bid for the project be rejected. The engineer's opinion of probable cost for the athletic site was \$845,000. The lone bid was for \$1,196,196. Mr. Hall stated one concern was with getting the work done within the time frame. Mr. Comerford moved to reject the lone bid, seconded by Ms. Rice. Mr. Wagner asked what the problem was with the time line. Mr. Hall responded the seeding of the grass seemed to be the issue. He talked with the architect. They thought rebidding in two months and leaving the time line more open by seeding in August of 2016 and playing on the fields in 2017 would help. He also noted the contractors are concerned about the soil. Ms. Rice asked if this was the second bid we rejected and if the concerns were the same or different. Mr. Hall responded they are over engineering, over protecting themselves. Mr. Hanson added Congresswoman Jackie Walorski is trying to help remove the flood plain zoning. He stated that would help. Pictures were taken of the property during all the recent rainfall we received. The property did not flood. He stated we feel sure

if it didn't flood then it won't flood. The Board unanimously approved the motion to reject the bid.

Mr. Watkins stated this project is worth doing and we will. He said the project will be good for our community. He noted we need to be prudent with the taxpayers' money.

#### IV. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

- A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Watkins thanked the Board for the patience in the bidding process.

Mr. Watkins complimented the iRead teachers and retesting the students. Seven out of ten passed iRead. He pointed out the high scores are not typical for schools our size and demographics.

Mr. Watkins gave a shout out to the Board stating all our staffing positions are filled at this time. He added that Marcia asked him earlier not to say that as he would jinx us!

Mr. Watkins stated he appreciates the donations we receive. The financial support from our community is huge for our programs and students.

Mr. Watkins reported the summer projects are going well. He stated there is a lot happening throughout the corporation.

Mr. Watkins noted we have several camps, athletic and music, going on keeping our youth active during the summer.

Mr. Watkins informed the Board we will have two billboards going up soon. One will be near the Dutch Café and Bob Schwartz. The other will be north of Peru on 31 near 600 N. The advertisement will be promoting out 'A' rated corporation and free transfer tuition. He shared a postcard draft that has also been prepared and asked for comments. He noted the postcard will be mailed prior to registration. He added we do not wish ill on the other corporations in the county, but we feel we do education well and want to promote that.

Mr. Hanson reminded the Board we will have a booth during the Circus City Days.

- B. BOARD - Mrs. Shuey asked how the auction went. Mr. Hall responded we got rid of a lot of stuff. He stated he paid six teenagers to move all the stuff and they were paid more than what we grossed.

Mrs. Shuey also pointed out the next Board meeting is July 20, not July 13.

Mr. Wagner asked if the architect could be here the next time we address awarding bids. Mr. Hall said he would invite the architect.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Stanton moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:31 p.m.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

/mm