

August 8, 2017

A work session of the Board of School Trustees was held at the Peru Civic Center at 5:00 p.m. All Board members were present except Dr. Quin and Mrs. Shuey. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Hall, Mr. McClure, and Mrs. Minard.

Mr. Wagner led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. On motion by Ms. Rice, seconded by Mr. Mullett, the Board unanimously approved the agenda.

Mr. Watkins welcomed the Board members and thanked them for their attendance this evening. He stated this year he wants to focus on our mission and vision statements throughout the corporation.

I. BUDGET -

Mr. Hall reviewed the following topics and welcomed questions.

- 2017-18 staffing changes
- Salary and Experience scattergram
- General Fund pie chart - 93% general fund goes toward salaries
- ADM and Enrollment history - only one count day this year
- Circuit Breaker - lost over \$5,000,000 since inception
- CPF Plan - keeping buildings maintained, technology, and utilities

Mr. Hall noted the serious problem with bank reconciliation, adding the State is behind in their audits but we will be cited for the bank reconciliation issues. The Board asked what the penalty would be. Mr. Hall responded future selling of bonds could be an issue with the sale of the bonds and an increase in the bond tax rate. Mr. Hall claimed other schools using the Skyward financial software are having issues too. The Board expressed their concern and encouraged Mr. Hall to talk with the State Board of Accounts. Mr. Comerford stated he would like to see Mr. Hall's plan in the next couple of weeks on how he is going to take care of this issue noting there has to be a solution.

II. TECHNOLOGY AND CURRICULUM

Mr. Hanson touched on the following:

- STEM lab at Blair Pointe
- Canvas
- Blended Learning Team

III. 2017-18 GOALS/REFLECTIONS

Mr. Watkins and Mr. Hanson reflected on the achievements of the school corporation, especially with the demographics of our students and economy. They touched on:

- Key Data with ISTEP score comparison back to 2014-15; AP, SAT, and iRead test score comparisons back to 2013-14
- Accountability Status - Final PL 221 Status, Graduation rate comparison, types of diplomas issued, and class size breakdowns
- Comparisons to Maconaquah and North Miami in the areas of Accountability History, Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate Trend, ECA Percent Passing Trend: English 10 only, iRead Passing, AP Test Score of 3, 4, and 5, and SAT average score of grads.
- College Readiness from Indy Star of area schools
- 2017.18 PCS Working Goals:
 1. Provide the best educational experience for our students in academics, fine arts, and athletics in Miami County
 2. Provide the best work environment for certified and classified employees of PCS.
 3. Continue to improve upon our Peru initiatives through a blended learning classroom environment:
 - ▶ Mapping/frequent assessment program in math and English
 - ▶ SAIP process at all buildings
 - ▶ PBIS at all buildings
 - ▶ Peru Academic Methods
 - ▶ Elementary reading focus

4. Academic focus:
 - ▶ Literacy, math, and STEM in the elementary Pre-K through 8th grade
 - ▶ Providing a more rounded educational experience at the jr. high school level
 - ▶ Focus on math, ELA improvement across educational sub groups-low, middle, and high (all schools)
 - ▶ Focus on NWEA student growth and grade level indicators - 2 through 9
 - ▶ DIBELS testing
5. People resources:
 - ▶ Focus on evaluations and positive relationships
 - ▶ Promote team building and best practices
 - ▶ Hiring and attracting the best possible candidates for Peru positions
6. Budget:
 - ▶ have a balanced general fund and food service
 - ▶ Keep PCS competitive in wage and salaries for all employees
 - ▶ Prioritize capital projects to ensure that facilities are safe, functioning, and aesthetically pleasing

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Watkins stated our climate is positive and he is proud of where we are starting the year. The Board mentioned an opportunity for staff to express their concerns. Mr. Mullett offered he recently helped with a climate control audit. He felt it was helpful for an outside firm to conduct the survey as the staff was more comfortable being honest and open. Mr. Watkins stated we may look into a climate audit.

Mr. Comerford reflected on last year's work session and asked Mr. Hanson if he was comfortable with the sustainability plan for technology. Mr. Hanson responded he is comfortable as the cost of technology is decreasing. He noted if finances became an issue, we could drop back from one to one. He felt confident though the plan for use of the devices and replacement cycle is a schedule we will be able to maintain.

Mr. Comerford stated a concern last year was the tenure of our staff. He felt we need to change the perception of salaries and encourage teachers to stay in teaching and make it attractive and affordable for them to stay.

With no further business to discuss Mr. Comerford moved to close the meeting, seconded by Ms. Rice, unanimously approved. The work session adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

/mm