

August 12, 2019

A work session of the Board of School Trustees was held at the Peru Community School Administrative Center at 5:30 p.m. All Board members were present except Ms. Justice. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Durrwachter, Mr. Morris, and Mrs. Conley.

Mr. Watkins opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance. He stated that they have presented folders to the Board members with snapshots of pertinent data to initiate discussions and questions. He stated that we have had a great start to our school year. Mr. Durrwachter stated that our enrollment numbers are up and we are going to end up much better than expected.

I. Corporation Data - Mr. Watkins reviewed corporation data with the Board and welcomed questions. He stated that we may be going to the SAT as an indicator for our growth. Mr. Durrwachter stated he can provide data comparisons for staffing, testing and other areas with his Forecast 5 subscription. As of right now, the 2017 is the most current data available. We can compare within our corporations plus other corporations in our area. Mr. Watkins stated that we have work to do in our Math, English, and Science as he would like to see our corporation at the top of the list. Mr. Watkins continued with our school grades. Last year we were high rated across the school corporation.

II. HOUSE BILLS - Mr. Watkins reviewed the following house bills:

- HB 1001
- HB 1003
- HB 1021
- HB 1005
- SB 132

III. 2020 PROPOSED BUDGET - Mr. Durrwachter reviewed the 2020 proposed budget and welcomed questions. He reviewed the following topics and answered questions:

- Budget schedule
- Fund pie chart and 2019 adopted budget pie chart
- Education Fund estimate and worksheet
- Education Fund, Debt Service, and Operations Fund revenue and disbursement

IV. STAFFING UPDATE - Mr. Watkins reviewed the staffing update for our 2019-20 school year. He stated that we now have two band directors for our entire school corporation. Ms. Rodeck teaches our 6-12 program. Mr. Durrwachter stated that we have rewritten a couple of our grants to include some of our teacher salaries. Mr. Watkins provided the Board with a staffing update of teachers that have resigned, RIF positions, retirements, new teachers, and teacher salaries that have been transferred to Title grants.

V. PEER COMPARISONS - Mr. Durrwachter provided the Board with salary comparison sheets and reviewed the comparisons in transportation, food service, custodial, aides, teachers, and administrators. Mr. Watkins stated that overall, Peru Community Schools is competitive in our pay and salaries. He stated that he is very proud of that.

VI. STRATEGIC PLANS - Mr. Watkins provided the Board with the corporation strategic plan:

- PCS will ensure educational excellence & equality for every student.
- PCS will provide a safe, positive, and effective learning environment(s) for all students & staff.
- PCS will strengthen school, family, and community engagement(s).
- PCS will have an effective, integrated technology infused climate for management, communication, and classroom instruction.
- PCS will maintain and improve upon our Response to Intervention (current SAIP) practices and expand student interventions for academic and social/emotional growth.
- PCS will fully implement the new Indiana graduation pathway requirements.
- PCS will maintain fiscal integrity and competitiveness in wages and salary and benefits for all employees.

Mr. Watkins asked the Board if they feel we are in need of a revamp or is there something missing that they would like added. He stated that he feels our goals are still viable. Each building builds their strategic plans with the corporation goals as their base. The Board asked if the strategic plans are being followed through. Mr. Watkins said he would like to see our family engagement grow more than it has in the past few years. Mr. Watkins stated he would like to help this growth by writing in a community engagement liaison into one of our grants. Mr. Watkins stated that he feels we do have work to do on some of our goals. He stated he wants our corporation to continue making positive growth.

VII. CAPITAL PROJECTS PLANS - Mr. Durrwachter reviewed the capital projects plans with Board. He specifically touched on the HVAC and roofing issues we have been experiencing. He provided them with detailed paperwork and tables. Mr. Durrwachter stated that he has been working closely with Mr. Hight. Mr. Hight has provided him with a list of general needs and individual building needs. He stated there are a couple of big-ticket items, one being updating an entry way at the high school. Barton Co did a building study for us. Mr. Durrwachter also touched on vehicles and equipment needs. Mr. Durrwachter also reviewed the remaining bond debt that we have left. Questions were asked and answered.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Watkins stated that he is very happy with the position of Peru Community Schools.

With no further business to discuss the work session adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

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