

October 17, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Mrs. Shuey. Mrs. Shuey led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present except Mr. Wagner. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Minard, Ms. Spiker, Mr. McClure, Mrs. Overdorf, Mr. Wyant, Mrs. Watkins, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Frushour, several students, teachers, patrons, and local news media representatives.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Mr. Comerford, the Board approved the public agenda, the memorandums of September 12 and September 28, and the personnel report with one deletion by a vote of 4-2 (Dr. Quin and Mr. Wolfe opposed).

PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Joyce Kellems - retirement as PHS custodian, effective October 31, 2016
2. Daniel Wyant - resignation 5th grade basketball coach, effective immediately
3. Kelly Fishback - resignation as instructional aide at Elmwood, effective October 7, 2016
4. Kellie Lukowiak - resignation as PJHS Student Council, effective August 12, 2016
5. Larry Gulley - resignation as PJHS SRO, effective October 14, 2016
6. Samantha Smith - resignation as PHS CDC secretary, effective October 28, 2016

B. LEAVES - no business.

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS - no business.

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Amber Flatland - Blair Pointe café, from sub to full-time
2. Marissa Michner - bus monitor/Tiger driver
3. deleted
4. Chaleah Jackson - Elmwood instructional aide
5. Permission to hire PHS CDC secretary prior to November 14 School Board meeting.

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Daniel Wyant - 7th grade assistant basketball coach
2. Brent Touloukian - 8th grade assistant basketball (lay) coach
3. Chris McKinney - PJHS assistant wrestling (lay) coach
4. Stacey Swinford - volunteer PHS girls' basketball assistant

F. REQUEST FOR CONFERENCE

1. Katie Wyant - Hoosier Association of Science Teachers annual conference, "2017 Conference Theme: Science for a Healthy Indiana" on February 2, 2017. Registration \$120, meals \$40, lodging \$200, (no mileage) paid from Title IIA.
2. Kenny Hanson - HECC Conference in Indianapolis November 11 and 12. Registration is \$325, lodging \$379, parking \$50.

G. DONATIONS

1. \$200 - \$100 each to PHS band and choir - anonymous donor

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - no comments.

- II. RECOGNITIONS and BLACK AND GOLD AWARDS - Mr. Watkins stated the following three boys were nominated by Mrs. Watkins for their outstanding leadership and inspiration: Noah Rassner, Lakendrick Forrest, and James Baker. Mr. Watkins stated Mrs. Makin, Blair Pointe special needs teacher, coordinated a cross country meet at Blair Pointe. James has difficulty in running, but didn't give up. As everyone else was finishing their two laps around the school, James was still out running but couldn't be seen. Noah and Lakendrick had finished the race and decided to find James. They cheered James to the finish line by running along side him,

encouraging him to get up when he fell, and letting him know he wasn't alone. Mr. Watkins stated he has never been moved so much at an athletic event. He thanked the three boys for teaching him a lesson that day. Mrs. Watkins, Blair Pointe Principal, stated usually they have fun runs and this time had an actual competition. She was concerned when she didn't see her number one runner and then realized he was helping a friend instead of taking the number one position. She thanked the parents and grandparents and asked them to come forward to stand with the boys for a picture. Mrs. Watkins noted James ran to the meeting tonight because he didn't want to miss the presentation. James said he learned that teamwork is about helping your friends. Even though Noah and Lakendrick were done, they came back and encouraged him with kind words to get up and finish. He said that is what gave him the courage to get up and finish and he will never forget it! Mr. Watkins said he couldn't follow that and thanked the boys and their families for coming this evening.

Black and Gold awards are a way for the Board and Superintendent to say thank you and honor accomplishments like this. Mr. Watkins stated he will never forget what he saw that day at Blair Pointe.

III. PROGRAM

A. PJHS PRESENTATION - Ms. Spiker stated they have switched to a seven-period day with 48 minutes per class. She said although the schedule has been an adjustment, trying, the teachers are doing their best. Some of the teachers took additional testing to add licensures to their teaching licenses. Mr. Wyant added Careers Class and Digital Citizenship. Mrs. Overdorf added physical education. Mr. Wyant explained the careers class is an exploration of career clusters. The class focuses on researching the careers and expanding the options, opportunities, and educational requirements the students need to focus on in school to prepare themselves to pursue the careers. He stated the students separated into groups and did a group presentation and then had class discussions after the presentations. Through the discussions, additional career options were mentioned. The Digital Citizenship class talks about the use of social media and using their device appropriately. He is also focusing on how to use word processing correctly and thus develop problem solving skills. Mr. Wyant thanked the Board for the opportunity to offer these classes to the students. Mr. Hanson pointed out Mr. Wyant is a first year teacher. He said basically he was given a subject to teach and he ran with it. He said it is important not only to offer the devices to the students but to give them the proper instruction on how to use the devices and the programs. Mr. Hanson stated he is very pleased with the way Mr. Wyant is presenting the material for these classes. Mrs. Overdorf stated she teaches three sections of 8th grade science as well as three 7th grade coed PE classes and one section of 7th/8th grade all girls PE class. She said she is trying to expose them to as many varieties of activities so they find something they enjoy doing as they go into high school. She said the coed curriculum focuses on physical activity and growth. She stated they also focus on encouraging each other, setting goals, and nutrition. She noted one day a week they do not dress out and talk about nutrition and her favorite quote 'You can't outrun a bad diet.' She noted she is exposing them to a variety of sports, dancing, zumba (which the boys are now requesting), and even yoga. She wants them to be physically active and take something with them for years to come that they enjoy doing. She stated she is also talking to the kids about what it takes to make them happy. As we have heard many times, the happiest people in the world don't have anything. They are talking about life styles, families, relationships, and kindness. She said she is including a beautiful campaign in her girls' class about self esteem, looking beyond the outward appearance and looking inside, and talking about inspirations. She added that science class rocks too! The Board suggested adding square dancing to the list of dancing. She noted even the staff members join the

Zumba classes on their prep hours. These are new electives PJHS is offering to students. Mr. Watkins thanked Ms. Spiker and her staff. He said we have some unbelievable teachers! Ms. Spiker informed the Board PJHS also has an all girls' weight training classes. She stated they actually have a waiting list.

- B. REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONF.- Mr. Watkins stated Mrs. Erin Brindle, JAG instructor, requested JAG students Abby Sutton, PHS JAG President, and Alan Cunningham, be given permission to attend the 2016 JAG National Student Leadership Conference on November 9-13, 2016, in Washington, D.C. Expenses will be paid by JAG. Mr. Watkins stated this is an integral program at Peru. On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Dr. Quin, the Board unanimously approved the request.
- C. NEOLA POLICIES SECOND READING - Mr. Thompson stated when we first contracted with NEOLA he and Dr. McKaig agreed all the policies should be reviewed in a Meet-and-Discuss prior to implementation. He stated through that process they found some in violation of the Master Contract and some even legal violations. He stated since then NEOLA has become more sophisticated, however, he pointed out that anything that pertains to professional staff should be scheduled for a Meet-and-Discuss. Mr. Watkins stated the recommendations are federal and state mandates. He stated he did not have an issue with speaking with Mr. Thompson about the NEOLA policies and asked if this was for these policies and has we move forward. Mr. Thompson replied yes.
- po3419.01 - Privacy Protections of Self-Funded Group Health Plans
 - po3419.02 - Privacy Protections of Fully Insured Group Health Plans
 - po4419.01 - Privacy Protections of Self-Funded Group Health Plans
 - po4419.02 - Privacy Protections of Fully Insured Group Health Plans
 - po3430.01 - Family and Medical Leaves of Absence ("FMLA")
 - po4430.01 - Family and Medical Leaves of Absence ("FMLA")

Mr. Stanton moved to approve the policies, seconded by Ms. Rice. Dr. Quin asked if this was the end of the NEOLA policies. Mr. Watkins replied he is about 75% complete. The Board unanimously approved the policies.

- D. WELLNESS POLICY FIRST READING - Mrs. Shuey stated Mr. Thompson asked to speak on the Indiana Model School Wellness Policy on Physical Activity and Nutrition. Mr. Thompson stated there are some very scary implications within this policy. Mr. Watkins stated he has some concerns about the policy as well. He read the first paragraph of the policy which states. "The intent of this model school wellness policy is to provide language for physical activity and nutrition for a school corporation that aligns with best practice recommendations. It is the ideal school wellness policy. It is not expected that your corporation will be able to use all the best practices as written. Please use the model guidelines that are feasible or revise them to meet the needs and priorities of your school corporation and community." Mr. Watkins stated he feels that statement gives us the latitude to modify this policy. He noted as we put the coordinated advisory council together, we will put in place the policies that are doable and workable for our corporation and then take that to a Meet-and-Discuss. Mr. Thompson asked if the intent would be to take this to the advisory council first and let them work with this document and then bring it back for a second reading. Mr. Watkins replied yes and added this will not be like NEOLA and come back to the Board at the next meeting for approval as it will take longer to review and revise. Mr. Thompson stated that was his concern. Mrs. Shuey noted that is why this is informational this evening and just a first reading.

IV. BUDGET

A. CLAIMS - Mr. Hall presented and reviewed claims. A few questions were asked and answered. Dr. Quin asked about HCC bus replacement claim. Mr. Hall replied this is the mini bus used for the students to go to and from Heartland to a work site. Mr. Comerford asked about NoWak Supply for the fire alarm inspection. Mr. Hall stated another company quoted twice as much for the inspection. This is not an inspection the fire department can perform as it pertains to the sprinkle system and the alarm systems which are tied into the security system. Mr. Hanson stated Mr. Moon oversees this. The inspection is not cheap. Mr. Hall stated he also supplied a breakdown of the corporation credit card. The Board asked for explanation on a couple charges and questioned the finance charge. Mr. Hall stated he would check on that. Mr. Comerford moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Stanton, unanimously approved. Mrs. Shuey asked the Board to please call Mr. Hall ahead of time to explain the claims so additional time is not taken at the meetings.

GENERAL FUND	327,315.49
CAPITAL PROJECTS	135,268.51
TRANSPORTATION OPERATING FUND	12,032.87
TRANSPORTATION BUS REPLACEMENT	226.00
POST-RETIREMENT/SEVERANCE FUND12	12,607.85
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	88,563.61
TEXTBOOK RENTAL FUND	10,849.41
INSURANCE WELLNESS CLINIC	2,815.00
DONATION/SPECIAL ED TEACHERS	16.85
PBIS	9,474.44
PARENT /STUDENT ACTIVITIES FU	23.98
GIFTED AND TALENTED 15/16	507.82
STATE CONNECTIVITY FUND	12,407.60
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	551.46
TITLE I 2016-17	2,547.45
TITLE II 2015-16	105.00
TITLE II-A	134.76
RURAL AND LOW INCOME 2015-16	360.00
FEDERAL TAX	1,766.44
GROUP INSURANCE	15,654.01
ANNUITIES	68.19
RETIREEES-TERM LIFE INSURANCE	1,292.20
FRINGE BENEFITS	640,315.07
TOTAL	<u>\$ 1,274,904.01</u>

B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Hall reviewed the fund monitoring report for the month of September. He noted the general fund deficit year to date is bigger because there were three payrolls in September. He stated the school lunch does not reflect the reimbursements that came in the first week of October of \$121,000 for the summer and August. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the fund monitoring report, seconded by Mr. Comerford. Mr. Comerford asked Mr. Hall when he expects the cash position to be back to 10% or higher. Mr. Wolfe asked if balances will look better in December when we get our tax payment. Mr. Hall replied property taxes do not go to the general fund. The September enrollment count was below the projection so part of what we are up against is the state will decrease our tuition assistance in November and December to make up for the number of students we thought we would get but are not here. Therefore he is not sure when we will get back to the 10%. Dr. Quin asked about the utilities being paid from the Rainy Day Fund. Mr. Hall responded that was the money transferred out and back to cover transportation costs. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. RESOLUTION - Mr. Hall stated this is an opportunity to gain a little bit of revenue from using credit cards. He requested the Board approve a resolution for a credit card from the Bank of Montreal. This card will replace our Wells Fargo credit card. Mr. Hall noted there are two differences with this new card: 1) it has a cash back amount currently at 1.1% and 2) it is customizable for our needs. The credit limit could be increased for large purchases and then dropped back down to

the regular credit limit. The card is designed for schools and is currently in 15 states. Ms. Rice moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Comerford. Mr. Comerford asked about internal control procedures. He asked what the procedure would be for increasing the limit. He wanted to be sure there were checks and balances. Mr. Hanson stated he recently had to increase the balance and the request had to go through Mrs. Mongosa in the business department. He noted more and more vendors are not accepting purchase orders. Mr. Comerford asked there be at least two people signing off on an increase of \$10,000 or more on the credit limit. Dr. Quin asked Mr. Hall if he talked with any companies closer to home about the credit card options. Mr. Hall responded he did but thought these features were customer friendly. Mrs. Shuey noted IASBO sponsors this credit card. The Board approved the resolution by a 4-2 vote (Mr. Stanton and Mr. Wolfe opposed). A copy of the resolution is in the Supplementary Minute book #14, page 50.

- D. PERMISSION TO BUY ONE SCHOOL BUS - Mr. Hall requested permission to buy a school bus from the Wilson Education Center IAESC (Indiana Approved Educational Shopping Cooperative). The cooperative has already bid for buses and has found the best price at Kerlin Bus Sales. This will be a 78 passenger conventional diesel bus. The cost of the bus is \$85,872. Mr. Wolfe asked how the decision is made as to which bus is replaced. Mr. Frushour responded he replaces the oldest bus in the fleet. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Wolfe. Dr. Quin asked if this is on the bus replacement plan. Mr. Hall replied it is. Mr. Frushour stated we have 16 working buses, three spares, and three little white buses. The Board unanimously approved the recommendation.
- E. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX RATES, CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND PLAN, AND BUS REPLACEMENT PLAN - Mr. Hall reviewed the ADM, 2033.18, stating count day was September 16th. The projection was 2068.44. He stated knowing our current kindergarten enrollment is 131 students, he has revised the way he will project future kindergarten enrollment. He stated if this holds up, we will be less than 2000 students at the February 2018 count day and in February of 2020 we will be less than 1900 students. He stated the outlook is bleak and we need new industry to attract workers and families. Mr. Watkins stated on a positive note we have 168 transfer in students which has been a big help. Mrs. Shuey said it would also be interesting to find out how many students are not going to public education. Mr. Hanson stated he is looking at a virtual school option for our students. Mr. Hall stated in terms of budget, ADM is a driver for the general fund.

He stated the Board is also asked to approve the Capital Projects plan and the Bus Replacement plan this evening. He noted in the CPF there is a chiller replacement at PJHS as well as plumbing. The CPF sets the ceiling on how much we can get for our levy. He stated in the Bus Replacement plan he is asking to replace two buses.

Mr. Hall directed the Board's attention to the funding comparison report for the general fund. He stated the state is funding dollars for ADM at a higher rate, \$6,970 vs \$6,793 this year. However, we will have a decrease of approximately \$100,000 because our enrollment is down. He stated we also have a decrease in career tech funding because fewer credits were earned. He stated he should have revised special education as we have fewer students with IEP's this year. Mr. Hall stated the bottom line is we will have less funding for the general fund by approximately \$86,000 or more next year than this year.

Mr. Hall then reviewed the estimate on tax levy and tax rates. He asked the Board for approval of the following 2017 levy estimates.

Debt Service	\$3,151,995
Capital Projects	\$1,287,493
Transportation	\$568,769
Bus Replacement	\$147,747
Total	\$5,156,004

He stated it is less than in 2015 but more than last year. He noted the biggest difference is the Debt Service which he is trying to stabilize at \$3.1 million although he could have asked for more. He added the county certified \$312 million for the state for the assessed valuation down which is down from \$325 million. He fully expects that to be the amount certified for the budget order. He stated the city's AV is up so our value outside the city must be down dramatically. He stated he is projecting a tax rate of \$1.64. Dr. Quin asked if we paid off some of the debt service to lower the amount. Mr. Hall responded the four cents for the school pension bond went away but is layered with the amortization schedule on debt service. The only advantage there was we had to offset either CPF or Bus Replacement by four cents and now we don't have to. Dr. Quin asked why we are increasing taxes by 16%? He responded the rate will go up from last year but should be less than 2015.

Mr. Hall asked for the Board's approval for the Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates.

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Tax Levy</u>	<u>Tax Rate</u>
Rainy Day	\$278,000	\$0	0.0000
General Fund	\$14,410,609	\$0	0.0000
Debt Service	\$2,844,730	\$3,151,995	1.0685
Capital Projects	\$1,705,047	\$1,884,500	0.6388
Transportation	\$569,943	\$774,082	0.2624
Bus Replacement	\$153,420	\$180,707	0.0613
Total	\$19,988,749	\$5,991,284	2.0310

He reminded the Board \$1 million comes off the top of the tax levy from the circuit breaker credits. He noted the three columns are maximums. The Department of Local Government Finance may come back with a lower amount when they do our budget order. Mr. Hall stated this budget allows us to do business next year. Mr. Comerford moved to approve the resolution and tax rates, seconded by Ms. Rice. Mr. Wolfe asked about the debt service yo-yo effect. Mr. Hall responded we were permitted in 2015 to ask for 100% of what we needed for our cost of 2016 plus the first six months of 2017 as a band-aid for the circuit breaker. He said we did that and then they said we had too much cash on hand so they didn't give us the levy we requested, thus the two extremes. Mr. Comerford asked if the projected Debt Service levels will be \$3.1 million. Mr. Hall responded it will be \$2.8 million. He added in reality we will not get 41 cents on the Capital Projects plan. He stated it will be more like 32 or 33 cents. The Board voted 4-2 (Mr. Wolfe and Dr. Quin opposed). A copy of the resolutions are in the Supplementary Minute book #14, page 51.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. REQUESTS TO USE FACILITIES

1. Psi Iota Xi - Blair Pointe kitchen and cafeteria - November 5 and December 3, 2016, 5:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. with set-up on the Friday before each date from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - annual cheeseball making project
2. Bidy Basketball - PJHS and BP gyms - November 12, 2016, through February 11, 2017, PJHS noon - 7:00 p.m. and BP 8:00 a.m. regular season plus February 18-19 tournament - noon each Saturday except Nov. 26, Dec. 24, and Dec. 31.
3. YMCA - youth basketball league - Elmwood (ages 4-7) and South Peru (ages 8-12) from November 28, 2016 through March 14, 2017 - Monday thru Friday 4:00 - 8:00 while school is in session. Season tournament at Tig-Arena on Saturday, March 11, from 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
4. Kiwanis - PJHS gym - November 4 and 5 - Coats for Kids distribution (17th year) - Friday setup at 5:00 and Saturday distribution 9:00 - noon

5. Girls Scouts - Blair Pointe and PHS - permission to use café or library for girl scout meetings through June 2, up to two meetings a month. Blair Pointe grades 3-6 from 3:15 - 4:30 and grades K-2 at PHS from 4:00 - 5:15. Parents are transporting girls.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Dr. Quin, the Board unanimously approved the request to use the facilities with a waiver of the facility rental charge. Mr. Hanson noted in the event we have issues with our gym space, our schools have priority.

- B. AWARD CHILLER QUOTE - Mr. Hall stated the chiller at PJHS is 20 years old and at the end of its expected life. A complete replacement would be more than \$100,000. He recommended replacing the compressors and other key parts to extend the life of the chiller. The work would be done this winter with funding from the Capital Projects Fund. He received two quotes: Trane for \$51,513 and Quality Plumbing and Heating for \$63,946.96. He recommended to accept the Trane quote. Dr. Quin asked about longevity after the work is completed. Mr. Hall responded they expect it should get another 10 years. Mr. Wolfe asked about the warranty. Mr. Hall said it would be five years and is included in the quote. He noted there is also a separate service agreement for \$2,100 a year. Ms. Rice moved to approve the chiller quote to Trane, seconded by Dr. Quin, unanimously approved.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

A. SUPERINTENDENT -

Mr. Hanson read three student testimonials about our teachers. Mrs. Boswell and Mr. Mathews, both 6th grade teachers, and Mrs. Psimos, 5th grade teacher.

Mr. Watkins recognized PHS for organizing the annual county career fair. It was an unbelievable event.

Mr. Watkins was pleased we could host the Court of Appeals recently at the high school.

Mr. Watkins recognized the outstanding homecoming week with a football win at the end of the week.

Mr. Watkins recognized Blair Pointe for raising for raising more than \$13,000 for their 1st annual Read-a-thon.

Mr. Watkins recognized the fall coaches, Coach Saine and the tennis team for back to back TRC championships. He stated it never gets old to thank Coach Saine. Ben Van Baalen and Sean Smith were duo sectional champs and advanced to regional. They were also voted All District III by the IHSAA tennis coaches. Coach Rob Hileman and the cross country team had a very successful season. Jaleb Richardson, Adam Garner, and Isaiah Hollis advanced to regionals. He thanked the high school varsity coaches for their dedication to our programs and their support and mentoring of our students. He also acknowledged football - Coach Bob Prescott, volleyball - Coach Katie Wyant, boys' soccer - Coach Jerry Przybyszewski, girls' soccer - Coach Kelsey Lilla, girls' golf - Coach Clint Mathews, cheerleaders - Coach Jennifer Lorona. He also thanked the band leaders Diane Haley and Scott Thompson. He thanked the athletic directors for their sacrifice of time Chuck Brimbury, Brady McClure, and Dan Durrwachter.

Mr. Watkins gave a special recognition to Peru High School and the entire PCS family for posting a 97.92% graduation rate for the 2015-16 school year!! He stated he is very proud of that accomplishment.

Mr. Watkins reminded the Board sectionals for volleyball (at Western against Twin Lakes) and football at Maconaquah are this week.

Mr. Watkins thanked the Board for their vision, guidance, and support for all we do.

Mr. Hanson stated our own Mr. Applegate, torch carrier, and band participated in the Bicentennial torch relay last week.

B. BOARD -

Mrs. Shuey stated she thinks the students and staff enjoyed the full week fall break last week. She received several positive comments.

Mrs. Shuey invited the Board to the Silent Hero show the first weekend of November. She said it is a great show honoring our veterans. She thanked Mike Applegate and his art department for their help in building the set and painting. She noted all monies raised will go to a veteran's program. Veterans will be admitted free.

Mrs. Shuey stated she received a lot of nice comments for the North Miami football. She said it is nice to receive comments from people outside our community.

Mr. Wolfe stated he went to the School Board Convention. He said it is neat to see what other school corporations do. He stated education changes now more than ever with technology involved. Mrs. Shuey stated she also attended and it felt good to have people come to us (Peru) and ask questions. It is very gratifying to know we are doing things right and other schools are taking note of it.

Mrs. Shuey thanked Ms. Spiker and Mr. McClure for hosting the meeting this evening.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Stanton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

/mm