

November 10, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mrs. Shuey. Mrs. Shuey led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present. Also present were Mr. Watkins, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Minard, Mr. Mullett, Mrs. Badry, the kindergarten teachers, the business department, patrons, and a news media representative.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Ms. Rice, the Board unanimously approved the agenda, the memorandum of October 13, and the personnel report as presented.

PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Joe McCormick - retirement - PJHS Social Studies teacher, effective February 20, 2015 - 45 years experience
2. Vickie Ash - retirement - 6th grade G/T teacher, effective end of 2014-15 school year - 40 years experience
3. Bryan Edwards - resignation - PJHS football coach, effective immediately
4. Mike Gapski - resignation - 7th grade basketball coach, effective immediately

B. LEAVES

1. Ellen Terry - PJHS music teacher - November 3 - 21, 2014
2. Kathy Powell - PJHS science teacher - January 5 through end of the 2014/15 school year

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITION - no business

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Robin Roush - Title I temporary tutor
2. Megan Simpson - PHS yearbook sponsor
3. Teresa Pier - Accounts Payable Coordinator - effective November 17, 2014, starting pay \$15.50 hrly, effective July 1, 2015 \$16.50 hrly.

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Chris McKinney - JV/freshmen head wrestling (lay) coach and PJHS wrestling (lay) coach
2. Brett Worden - JV/freshmen assistant wrestling (lay) coach and PJHS wrestling (lay) coach
3. Kyle Bergin - PHS volunteer wrestling coach
4. Tom Brunner - PHS volunteer wrestling coach
5. Dustin Kern - PHS volunteer wrestling coach
6. Dustin Reich - PHS volunteer wrestling coach
7. Erica Buffington - assistant gymnastics (lay) coach
8. Paige Blanton - PHS volunteer girls' basketball coach
9. Ian Applegate - PHS volunteer track coach
10. Lizzy Curtis - PHS volunteer track coach
11. Mike Herrell - PHS volunteer track coach
12. Adam Zwiebel - PHS volunteer track coach

F. REQUESTS TO ATTEND CONFERENCES - no business

G. REQUEST FOR FIELD TRIP - no business

H. DONATIONS

1. \$150 to PHS Drama Club from Amanda Bashore.
2. \$6,000 to PHS athletic department for purchase of letter jackets from Rob & Lisa Stanfield

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - No comments.

II. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Watkins stated the boys' fall teams are leading the MIC in wins. The girls are in the middle of the pack and doing well.

Mr. Watkins recognized Jason Cary and the Miami County College Coalition Career Fair day at PHS. He noted students from Maconaquah and North Miami attended the career fair as well.

Mr. Watkins announced the new PHS band uniforms are in and are absolutely beautiful. He said the kids look great!

Mr. Watkins also extended kudos to the students in the Quigley Jazz Festival.

Mr. Watkins congratulated the PJHS kitchen staff for their 2nd place win in the recent Chili Cook Off at the Circus building.

III. PROGRAM

- A. ELMWOOD 6 + 1 WRITING TRAITS - Mr. Mullett gave the Board some background history stating in 2002 Elmwood was in school improvement. Teachers attended training for 6 + 1. Mrs. Badry stated our scores were flat lined at the time and kids could not come up with writing ideas. Mrs. Carol Gough became a writing coach to help the students and teachers. Mrs. Badry stated kids are now asking for another piece of paper to keep writing. The kindergarten students are beyond just drawing. Mrs. Badry shared a writing sample of a high school class and then a 3rd grade writing. The kindergarten teachers explained the six traits. Mrs. Weeks gave some background ideas for writing and the message and meaning. She stated they must first have a plan to get **'ideas and content'** to turn on the light bulb. Mrs. Byram shared the next step is **'organization'** of a story or sequence. Ms. Maxwell talked about the **'voice'** in the story. Mrs. Badry stated **'word choice'** is the next step in 6 + 1. Mrs. Martino said this is a way for the writer to help the reader get a picture in their mind. The students are encouraged to add words (adjectives) to describe their story. The teachers like the 6 + 1 traits because it helps the teachers empower the students. Mrs. Makowski talked about **'sentence fluency'** having the students write sentences in different ways, different lengths, and read the sentences out loud. Mrs. Snyder said there are five elements to **'conventions'** - spelling, punctuation, capitalization, spacing, and grammar/usage. Mrs. Badry stated the +1 of the traits is **'presentation'** - sharing and being able to present both the visual and text elements of the writing to someone. Mrs. Badry stated it is our job to teach them confidence. Good writers make good readers. Good readers make good writers. Mrs. Badry said these ladies (kindergarten teachers) start it all and do a wonderful job with our kindergarten students. Mr. Mullett stated 60 days ago these little kids couldn't find their names on a name plate in the classroom. These same students are now expressing themselves and writing. He added we can't be Four Star or 'A' schools without the students learning to read and write. He stated we need to ask ourselves who will share what writing looks like at the beginning of the students' educational careers to prepare them for ISTEP essay writing.

Mr. Watkins thanked the kindergarten teachers for all the work they do! He stated they hold the keys to the beginning of our students' education.

- B. PCS LETTER GRADE RATING - Mr. Watkins stated the Board is very proud of Peru's 'A' rating! Mr. Hanson stated we have known our grade for several months, however, the State did not allow the schools to discuss the grades until just recently. He noted the high school earned a 'B' with a 3.38. Mr. Hanson explained the breakdown of the grade for the high school as well as the jr. high school and elementary schools. He stated Blair Pointe earned a bonus point in every category and actually scored a 5 out of 4. He stated the current A-F model will be in place for another year but is being revamped. The baseline will change. He noted our teachers are anxious and nervous. He added all schools in the state are in the same boat. Our teachers have done their homework and are analyzing the data. He stated the biggest changes we will see are new testing questions. The end-of-course assessments will be eliminated. Students will take assessments in grades 3 through 10 every year. He added there will also be mandates for 11th and 12th grade students.

IV. BUDGET

A. CLAIMS - Mr. Hall introduced the business department staff. Mr. Hanson thanked Mrs. McKee for staying on until the end of the year to train Ms. Teresa Pier, the new accounts payable coordinator. Mr. Hall presented and reviewed the claims for Board approval. Mr. Stanton moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Comerford, unanimously approved as follows:

GENERAL FUND	80,394.58
CAPITAL PROJECTS	513.00
TRANSPORTATION OPERATING FUND	482.09
TRANSPORTATION BUS REPLACEMENT	215.00
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	42,040.28
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	1,129.32
TITLE II PART A TEACHER IMPROV	2,563.22
TITLE II-A 14/15 CFDA 84.367	500.00
FEDERAL TAX	54.78
SOCIAL SECURITY	69.17
GROUP INSURANCE	<u>3,468.76</u>
TOTAL	\$ 131,430.20

B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Hall stated we will receive \$441,000 in December to contribute to receipts. With property taxes recently paid, he noted we are pretty much on target for all funds. Mr. Comerford moved to approve the report, seconded by Mr. Stanton. Mr. Wolfe asked about the turnout for the evening meals. Mr. Hall stated he will send out numbers on the evening meal program. Mr. Wolfe also stated the AV for the city increased. He asked if we will see an increase. Mr. Hall stated he has not talked directly to Jackie Grey yet but by including the other districts he did not expect a significant increase. The Board unanimously approved the motion to accept the report.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. REQUEST TO USE FACILITIES -

1. Miami County Community Foundation - Peru Art Gallery - Fund Founder's Reception - November 20, 2014 - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Connie Cutler will be in charge.
2. Elks Hoop Shoot - Blair Pointe gym - Saturday, December 6, 2014 - 8:00 a.m. - noon
3. Peru Wrestling Club - Tiger Den, Tig-Arena, commons, and orange room - annual wrestling tournament - Saturday, March 28, 2015, until approximately 4:00 p.m. - set-up Friday evening, March 27
4. Biddy Basketball - PJHS & Blair Pointe gyms - Saturdays beginning November 15 through February 7, 2015 - BP: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and PJHS: noon - 7:00 p.m. Biddy Basketball will take care of snow removal and custodial charges.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, seconded by Ms. Rice, the Board approved the requests by a vote of 6-1 (Dr. Quin abstained).

B. PROJECT UPDATES - Mr. Hall updated the Board on projects. He stated the high school roofing project has been dragging on forever and is not done. The area over the kitchen has been scheduled for the week of spring break because there will not be any food preparation that week.

Mr. Hall stated a meeting with Heartland Career Center has been scheduled to discuss the feasibility of the trades class working on the new concession stand and restrooms.

Mr. Hall also stated a meeting has been scheduled next week with the architect on what they want to do in 2015 with the land that was donated for our sports complex.

Mr. Hanson stated he will be in Indianapolis later this week to talk about technology initiatives.

Mr. Wolfe asked about the fees for the architect. Mr. Hall responded we do not use architects for the smaller projects. He noted we want to start moving soil in the spring at the latest.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

- A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Watkins gave special thanks and recognition for our donations.

Mr. Watkins thanked the Peru Tribune for the positive press. He added we need that for our community to grow.

Mr. Watkins also thanked Mr. Mullett for hosting the meeting and providing refreshments.

Mr. Hanson pointed out the Veterans' Day program will be at PHS tomorrow. The student program is first at 10:00 a.m. with the public program to follow. The Board is welcome to attend.

- B. BOARD - Mr. Wolfe stated the PJHS NJHS induction program was very nice. He added he was pleased we offer this organization to the students.

Mrs. Shuey welcomed Daniel Herba from the Peru Tribune.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Stanton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Secretary,

Tim Comerford

/mm