

November 14, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Stanton. Mr. Stanton led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Board members were present except Mrs. Shuey. Also present were Mr. Brimbury, Dr. Thompson, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Minard, Mrs. Watkins, Mr. Cary, Mr. Downs (Board attorney), Mr. Wilson, Mr. Scott Thompson, patrons, and students.

On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Ms. Rice, the Board approved the agenda as presented, the memorandum of October 10 and 25, 2011, and the personnel report by a vote of 5-1 (Mr. Wolfe opposed).

PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS

1. Mark Ramsey - resignation as media coordinator effective October 12
2. Rochelle Fakes - resignation as varsity volleyball coach effective immediately

B. LEAVES - no business

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFIED POSITIONS - no business

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Irene Center - GT / LIFT instructor K-3
2. Donna Rairigh - Elmwood full time aide (was temporary)
3. Chris Butcher - media coordinator

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Mike Meeks - varsity head softball (lay) coach
2. Shannon Williams - junior class sponsor

F. REQUESTS TO ATTEND CONFERENCES - no business

G. DONATIONS

1. \$200 - PHS music dept - anonymous

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - No comments

II. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Brimbury congratulated PHS senior Amelia Jackson as Miami County's 2012 Distinguished Young Woman. Miss Jackson explained the process she went through for the pageant. She noted there were interviews, scholarship, Be Your Best Self, fitness, talent, and self expression with an on stage impromptu question. As Miami County's winner she will participate in the state pageant in February in Kokomo for one week with the same areas of judging. She stated while in Kokomo she will live with a host family. Mr. Brimbury asked Amelia to share her other accomplishments. She stated she recently received recognition as Academic All-State in golf. At PHS she is the student body president, member of student council, in Golden Guard, on Tiger Leadership, participates in Science Olympiad, Academic Super Bowl, and Spell Bowl, and is a PHS student representative to Miami County United Way Board. Outside of school she takes piano and dance lessons and participates in bible group at church. In her spare time she works part time. She would like to attend Notre Dame or Purdue and study biomedical. Mr. Brimbury commended Amelia for her outstanding accomplishments. He noted the Jackson family is a well respected family in the community and congratulated her parents Tim and Kecia as well.

III. PROGRAM

A. EAGLES PRESENTATION - Mrs. Watkins thanked the Board for coming. She asked the Board to think back to when they were in 2nd grade. She stated 60 students stay after school for additional instruction to receive help with their educational skills. Mrs. Boyer, Mrs. Roettger and Miss Ward took the Board and audience to the classroom and shared what

skills are reviewed during the after school program. They stated before the three 20 minute rotation sessions begin the students have a snack provided by the school. The essential skills sessions include language, math, and computer lab. The Smartboard is a large part of the activities. In the computer lab the students work with ALS and Education City on their essential skills. Each of the teachers demonstrated a lesson reviewed in class. Miss Ward stated she had the students complete a survey and found the snack time was their favorite part, but working with the Smartboard was a close second. She said the students are enjoying the additional instruction and time on the Smartboard and in the computer lab and don't realize they are receiving remedial instruction. The teachers agreed the Smartboard is a valuable teaching tool.

Mr. Brimbury stated he appreciates the teachers' passion for what they are doing to help the at-risk students. Dr. Thompson added engagement is key to keeping the kids learning. Mr. Maxwell stated we are in direct competition with technology. Mrs. Watkins thanked the Board for going back in time. She invited the Board members to visit one of the EAGLES after school sessions.

- B. PHS - PBIS DATA - Mr. Cary stated the high school PBIS team met November 2 for a half day with the director of W-MAP, Tony England. They wanted to know how they could do better and address their weaknesses. Mr. Cary stated the out-of-school suspensions compared to last year are down 47% and all office referrals are down 50%. He stated they identified three areas of weaknesses and formulated a plan and will share the plan with the staff at the December 2 collaboration. He stated the committee is excited with the high school vision. Mr. Comerford asked for an example of what they have done to make a difference. Mr. Cary responded the awards given to students have been popular, with ice cream being a big hit. He said they have taken the things that worked last year and made it better. Mr. Brimbury stated as kids become confident in their school, academics continue to grow. The staff is committed and thus continuing to see positive results. Mr. Brimbury thanked Mr. Cary for his administrative leadership and guidance.
- C. NEOLA - SECOND READING OF POLICIES/GUIDELINES - Mr. Brimbury stated he appreciated the special meeting we had to review the first reading of the policies. He stated he appreciated Dr. McKaig's time to explain the proposals. He asked if there were any further questions. Mr. Maxwell moved to approve the policies and guidelines as presented on October 25, seconded by Mr. Comerford, unanimously approved.
- D. CLASSIFIED SICK LEAVE BANK POLICY - Mr. Hall requested approval of this new policy which was first read and reviewed at a previous Board meeting. Mr. Maxwell moved to approve the new policy, seconded by Ms. Rice, unanimously carried.

IV. BUDGET

- A. CLAIMS - Mr. Hall presented and reviewed the claims for Board approval. Mr. Maxwell moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Wagner, unanimously approved as follows:

GENERAL FUND	255,958.53
CAPITAL PROJECTS	29,426.60
TRANSPORTATION OPERATING FUND	27,345.53
TRANSPORTATION BUS REPLACEMENT	809.25
DUKES FITNESS GRANT FUND	13,700.00
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	57,751.63
KEYS ACADEMY	726.56
DONATION/SPECIAL ED TEACHERS	197.50
PROJECT EXTENDED DAY	111.00
ACADEMIC MONITORING PACKAGE	77.75

CLASSROOM INNOVATION GRANT	67.43
TITLE I 2011-12	2,070.20
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	1,146.77
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION FUND	219.49
TITLE II PART A TEACHER IMPROV	479.00
TITLE I STIMULUS-GRANTS TO LEA	9,118.52
EDUCATIONAL JOBS FUND	4,886.46
FEDERAL TAX	39,510.06
SOCIAL SECURITY	22,393.98
GROUP INSURANCE	2,320.79
ANNUITIES	12,441.02
HARTFORD LOAN REPAYMENT	41.22
RETIREEES-TERM LIFE INSURANCE	527.48
CHILD SUPPORT	<u>394.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 481,720.77

B. FUND MONITORING REPORT - Mr. Hall pointed out the correction to the September report. He reviewed the fund monitoring report for the month of October. He noted all ending balances are positive and the general fund is at 9.4%. Mr. Comerford moved to approve the report, seconded by Ms. Rice, unanimously approved.

C. CAPITAL PROJECTS SHORTFALL - Mr. Brimbury stated due to the circuit breaker we will have a shortfall in the Capital Projects Fund. He emphasized the purpose of the discussion this evening was not to request permission for a bond issue, however, the Board's approval is necessary to move forward for consideration of a bond issue to cover CPF shortfall. Mr. Hall shared with the Board the updated cost estimates stating we will need four million dollars in roofing work alone. He shared a list of projects that need to be addressed. He noted requesting 8.6 million dollars is unrealistic. He stated Mr. Brimbury, Dr. Thompson, and he have met numerous times to prioritize projects and came up with an A and B list. The question is how do we pay for this. Mr. Hall introduced Rod Wilson from City Securities. Mr. Wilson reviewed a potential bond issue budget. He stated the Board can define the \$2,000,000 project. He shared a repayment schedule with a 4.5% interest rate over a period of 13-15 years. On a \$100 assessed value, that would equal 5.2 cents. For a homeowner in the Peru, Erie Township, and Peru Township areas that would be from \$17.29 to \$14.82 for a \$100,000 value. Businesses and landlords would have a bigger increase but still under \$55 for a \$100,000 value. He presented a time table which would allow the project to begin in the spring or as soon as school is out. He noted the Board must have a 1028 hearing. Mr. Comerford asked given the financial status of schools in Indiana if Mr. Wilson was comfortable with the interest rate. Mr. Wilson responded they estimated the rate high and explained the reasoning. He stated he was very comfortable with the interest rate.

Mr. Brimbury asked for a motion to continue to review options to deal with the Capital Projects shortfall. He again noted the motion is not to approve of a bond issue, just gather information. Mr. Maxwell moved to approve the motion, seconded by Mr. Comerford. Mr. Comerford asked if any of the repairs could be done with our current Capital Projects. Mr. Hall responded we would eliminate little things from the Capital Projects lists such as piano tuning, reducing technology, and shift more utility costs to general fund. Mr. Hall stated after the circuit breaker and reduction for pension debt we will only have \$850,000 - \$900,000. Our history has been 1.2 million dollars with the same assessed valuation. Our tax base is not growing. The Capital Projects fund is tight. The motion was unanimously passed.

V. OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

A. REQUEST TO USE FACILITIES

1. Elmwood gym - Jr. Achievement - zumba-a-thon fundraiser

to raise funds for local youth projects - Saturday, January 28, 2012 - 10:00 a.m. noon. Mr. Mullett has volunteered to supervise.

2. Blair Pointe gym - Elks annual hoop shoot - Saturday, December 10, 2011 - 8:30 a.m. - noon.
3. PJHS gym, stage and café - Boys Scouts of America Troop #501 - annual New Year's Eve eve lock-in - Friday, Dec. 30 at 8:00 p.m. - Saturday, December 31 at 8:00 a.m.
4. Elmwood and South Peru gyms - YMCA - youth basketball leagues - November 21 thru March 2012 - Monday thru Friday from 4:00 - 8:00 (days school is in session).

Ms. Rice moved to approve the requests, seconded by Mr. Wagner, unanimously approved.

- B. FEASIBILITY STUDY - Mr. Brimbury stated he has looked for some time to maximize use of facilities and staff. He stated we have potentially looked at moving the South Peru pre-K and kindergarten to Elmwood, 3rd grade to Blair Pointe, 6th grade to PJHS in a separate wing, and then KEYS Academy and the wellness clinic to South Peru. He stated after Mr. Hall speaks he will request permission to hold public meetings to explain the study and review the latest information. Mr. Brimbury stated with the shortfall in general fund and transportation we need to think outside the box to save money. This idea would help with those shortfalls and yet not affect education of our students. Mr. Hall stated operating costs would be reduced, the number of teachers may possibly increase by one with the addition of a KEYS teacher, although there may be some reduction of support staff and one administrator. Mr. Hall stated we could potentially reduce \$200,000 in operational costs. Mr. Wolfe asked if this could be done separately from the bond issue. Mr. Brimbury responded he did not want to strap capital projects any more than it is. Mr. Wolfe stated this has been discussed in the public and he has not heard negative comments. Mr. Maxwell moved to move ahead with the feasibility study planning, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, unanimously carried.

VI. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

- A. SUPERINTENDENT - Mr. Brimbury welcomed new varsity softball coach Mike Meeks and wished the team success. He thanked Mr. Meeks for his continued support of the athletic program.

Mr. Brimbury stated the consortium will front the cost for a wellness clinic which will be run by Novia. This clinic will not cost the district money. The Consortium has not decided where the clinic will be established. If Peru gets the clinic, it will not only benefit the employees of Peru Schools but also employees of the Peru Public Library, Miami County and Peru City, Heartland Career Center, and North Miami Schools.

- B. BOARD - Mr. Stanton stated the Board was been provided with a copy of the latest minutes of the Art Collection Advisory Board. He asked them to review the minutes at their convenience.

Mr. Wolfe stated on the front page of the Kokomo Tribune it mentioned Eastern School opening a clinic. Mr. Brimbury stated there are several schools doing this to help defray the rising insurance costs to the corporations and employees. He stated he anticipates seeing fewer absences as well.

Mr. Wolfe commented he has had the opportunity to ride a few school bus routes. He complimented our drivers stating they are doing an exceptional job.

Mr. Maxwell thanked the School Board for the opportunity of having the Veterans' Day program at Peru High School. He also thanked Mr. Cary for his help.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Maxwell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Secretary,

Lowell Maxwell

/mm